



Pine Valley Central School District Newsletter

Volume 47, Issue 1 • September 2024

A Message From the Superintendent

Greetings Panther Families!

With summer ending, I hope it was restful and you had the opportunity to make many fun family memories. The start of the 2024 – 2025 school year has been great thus far. It's always exciting getting back into a routine with the students and staff in the buildings and the halls humming with renewed energy.

I'd like to thank the community for the positive start here at Pine Valley. My focus this year is centered on three main areas. The culture within a district is so important. I will continue to build relationships with the board, district and community. This includes increasing the level of communication with our staff and community. By increasing communication and asking for your feedback on new programs and opportunities available for students, we can continue to build a strong foundation for our students. We will establish a district-level committee focused on the mission and vision of the district. It is also critical that we assess and articulate the effectiveness of instructional programming with a focus on growth. Look for survey opportunities coming from the district this fall. I want to hear your thoughts and ideas and encourage you to participate.



On December 13, 2023, the Pine Valley Central School District voters approved the referendum budget of \$9,100,000 for the 2023 Capital Improvement Project. We've submitted our design plans to SED for approval. The schedule has the majority of construction work starting in 2026. The Bus Garage electric service will be upgraded to accommodate future electric vehicles, miscellaneous heating and exhaust upgrades and replacing the windows. At the Junior High School, interior scope includes installing the new kitchen and relocating the faculty room, sound and lighting upgrades in the auditorium, new ADA seating in the auditorium, a privacy wall in the girls locker room and miscellaneous plumbing upgrades. A new door will be installed at the Press Box and fall protection will be added around the roof hatch. At the Water Treatment Building, new exterior restrooms will be installed. Highlights include the installation of the new Early Learning parking lot, replacing the asphalt access to the playgrounds, site drainage improvements, adding air conditioning to the elementary office suite, replacing the baseball, softball & modified field fencing.

As you may have heard in the media, our district has been selected as the recipient of EPA funding toward the purchase of eight buses. The current state mandate requires that all purchasing of buses will be zero-emission by 2027 and that all school buses be zero-emission by 2035. Part of this work includes collaborating with utilities. NYSEG is a part of the shared utilities piece and we will be pursuing additional funding through them. We are also a part of a second feasibility study. Oftentimes, we hear about unfunded mandates in education. This funding will help us to move closer to meeting the requirements of the mandate and reduce the impact on our community. Know that we will still continue to purchase diesel vehicles until we are no longer able to do so.

I'm very pleased to share that this school year, we were able to help families with elementary students decrease their costs of purchasing school supplies by providing most of the supplies needed. These items were included in our budgeting process for this school year. We plan to continue to assess what school supplies we require for students and continue to be mindful of the cost for families. It is essential to our administrators, our board of education, and myself that we are not burdening our families with the cost of school supplies.

Don't forget to join us on September 17 for our Outside Open House again this year (Rain Date is September 25) There will be tables from all grades, teachers, special areas, and departments. We look forward to welcoming families to join us for this special event.

Sincerely,

Shanda DuClon, Superintendent – Pine Valley Schools

Jr./Sr. High School News

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

Hello Panther Families!

I hope that everyone took some time to relax, recharge, and enjoy their summer! I cannot believe that we are entering our fifth school year together. This year is going to be one of the best years as we continue to work together to raise the bar for all around us.

We will continue to focus this year on our **Panther Pack**. All our students are in our **Pack**, and we want to continue to build an unstoppable and incredible **Pack**. We are all on the same team and will achieve greatness when we all work hard, believe, reflect, set goals, and, above all else, be kind to one another. In addition, we will continue to focus on the concept of **"Owning It."** Everyone needs to own their day and own their year by first showing up daily, actioning up with their behavior, and then leveling up with their grades. With a focus on these three things, each of our students will have a fantastic year!

As we prepare for the upcoming school year, I would like to review some of our incentives and procedures within the Jr./Sr. High School. More detailed information is on ParentSquare.

- Student agendas will be provided to all students. The agendas will serve as an organizational tool for each student and will also serve as hall passes.
- We will continue to provide additional attendance support. We want to increase communication with families around attendance. Each family will receive, at minimum, a quarterly postcard that reflects the number of days your child has missed. In addition, we realize that there are times when students will need to be out of school. To support each student academically, we will continue implementing what we will call the "Purple Sheet." The purpose of the Purple Sheet is to support each student academically, hold high standards of accountability, and increase communication with families.
- We will be hosting two Principal Incentive Days this school year. The Principal Incentive Days aims to promote high achievement, regular attendance, and remarkable behavior throughout the year.

We will be hosting four Incentive Days this school year. These Incentive Days aim to promote good academics, behavior, and attendance.

I am very excited to have our students back on campus for an incredible 24-25 school year!

Go Panthers!

Mrs. Kourtney Almeida

WNY College Representatives Visiting PV Juniors and Seniors



This event is for our Junior and Senior students to meet with college admissions representatives from 19 WNY Colleges. Students explore college academics, athletics, extracurricular opportunities, and more by speaking with each representative face to face. The visit will take place at the High School on September 25th. The colleges they will be able to speak with are:

- Alfred State College
- Alfred University
- Bryant & Stratton College
- Buffalo State University
- Canisius University
- Daemen University
- D'Youville University
- Erie Community College
- State University of New York @ Fredonia
- Genesee Community College
- Hilbert College
- Houghton University
- Jamestown Community College
- Niagara County Community College
- Niagara University
- St. Bonaventure University
- Trocaire College
- University at Buffalo
- Villa Maria College



FAFSA

Attention all Seniors! It is expected that you will be able to file your 2025-2026 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as early as October 1, 2024. This means college applications must be completed and sent in before you begin the financial aid process. Students should be ready to start completing college applications this September. Although many schools will accept later applications, it is very important to apply on time to receive the most financial aid available. Counselors will be meeting with each Senior to discuss their plans.

Financial Aid Night:

October 2, 2024 | 6:00 PM

The Counseling Department at Pine Valley will provide helpful information to the families of students in grades 11 and 12 planning to attend college. The presentation will include information and assistance on completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and searching for scholarships. The meeting will take place in the high school, room 125.

2024-2025 Pre-College Testing for PSAT, SAT, ACT, & ASVAB

PSAT at PV:

For Juniors-

October 16 | 8:00 AM

Students will be given information about the exam in September. For the 2024-25 school year, the cost of the exam will be covered by the school. The exam will be given in school and will take approximately 2 hours. Students will be dismissed from morning classes but will attend afternoon classes.

The PSAT is a preparation test for the SAT. It also helps students measure their understanding of critical reading, mathematical reasoning, and writing skills that are important for success in college. Pine Valley strongly encourages all juniors to take the test on October 16th.

There are test prep sites and materials to help assist the students with the format of the test. The Khan Academy offers a free resource online at khanacademy.org/sat.

PV HS Code (CEEB):

335260

If you would like help with the registration process for the SAT or ACT, you may request a pass to the Counseling Office during a study hall. We also have study guides available!

SAT School Day for Seniors:

This exam will be given on Thursday, October 24, 2024. Students must register with the Counseling Office prior to this exam. Deadline for registration is Friday, September 13, 2024. The cost of the exam is \$68 and a check must be made payable to Pine Valley Central School. Your child may qualify for a waiver fee. Please complete the free/reduced lunch form, located on the Pine Valley webpage: Departments>Cafeteria Services>Forms for Free and Reduced Lunch>Household Eligibility Form. Both checks and forms can be turned into Mrs. Youngberg in the Counseling Office.

Continues on pages 4-5

SAT:

Cost: \$68 fee waivers available for those who qualify. Late fee cost: +\$34

SAT Registration: Registration can only be done online at www.sat.collegeboard.com. Students may request an appointment to meet with their counselor to assist in registering online. However, if they do not qualify for the fee waiver, they will have to finish registration at home with a parent (due to the payment portion).

The fee for this exam must be paid online. Students who are on Pine Valley's free or reduced lunch program may request a fee waiver from the counseling office.

Saturday exams are given at area high schools (not at Pine Valley). Students can choose their test locations during registration. Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from the actual exam. Pine Valley may offer an in-school exam when possible.

Photo identification is now a requirement for registering and taking the SAT. When you register online, you will be required to upload a photo of yourself. This photo must meet their requirements: photo shows only you, facing the camera, head and shoulders only, nothing obscuring your face (hair, hands, shadows, glare, sunglasses), and photo is focused (not fuzzy or grainy). If you need assistance with this, the counseling office can assist.

Make sure you choose to share your SAT Score with Pine Valley. This is important if you would like your score on your high school transcript.

After you complete the registration process, you will be directed to print your "**admission ticket**". This is very important and should be stored in a safe place and taken with you to the exam. More directions and expectations for your test date are also outlined on this admission ticket.

Test Dates	Registration Deadlines	Late Registration
August 24, 2024	August 9, 2024	August 13, 2024
October 5, 2024	September 20, 2024	September 24, 2024
October 24, 2024	September 13, 2024	*PV In-School Test Day
November 2, 2024	October 18, 2024	October 22, 2024
December 7, 2024	November 22, 2024	November 26, 2024
March 8, 2025	February 21, 2025	February 25, 2025
April 3, 2025	TBD	*PV In-School Test Day
May 3, 2025	April 18, 2025	April 22, 2025
June 7, 2025	May 22, 2025	May 27, 2025

ACT:

*Cost: \$69 (No Writing section) or \$94 (Includes Writing section). Late fee cost: +\$38.
Fee waivers are available.*

ACT Registration: Registration is very similar to the SAT. Students must register for the ACT online. Test centers include Dunkirk, Fredonia, Hamburg, JCC, Olean, and Pioneer, to name a few. The fee for the exam must be paid online. Students on Pine Valley's free or reduced lunch program are eligible for a fee waiver but must request one from their counselor. Make sure you choose to share your ACT Score with Pine Valley. This is important if you would like your score on your high school transcript.

Test Dates	Registration Deadlines	Late Registration
September 14, 2024	August 9, 2024	August 25, 2024
October 26, 2024	September 20, 2024	October 7, 2024
December 14, 2024	November 8, 2024	November 22, 2024
February 8, 2025	January 3, 2025	January 20, 2025
April 5, 2025	February 28, 2025	March 16, 2025
June 14, 2025	May 9, 2025	May 26, 2025
July 12, 2025	June 6, 2025	June 20, 2025



ASVAB Career Exploration Program for Sophomores:

For Sophomores-

November 7 | 8:00 AM

Our goal at Pine Valley is to provide quality career planning resources, such as the ASVAB CEP. When students can connect their present education to their future plans, they select the best-suited classes for themselves, participate in more career exploration activities, and see more relevance for the need to get a good education and take the next steps for a satisfying career. We are excited to continue offering the ASVAB Career Exploration Program (CEP) to our sophomore students on November 7th starting at 8:00 am.

The ASVAB, the world's most widely used aptitude battery, is comprised of eight subtests that yield three Career Exploration Scores (Verbal Skills, Math Skills, and Science/Technical Skills). These three scores, combined with the results of an interest inventory, will assist students when exploring a wide variety of educational and career options. No one "passes" or "fails" the test because the results represent how well they have developed academic and occupational skills in addition to their capacity to learn a particular type of work or potential for general training. There is a misconception that the ASVAB is only for those planning to join the military. However, our focus is to aid in career exploration, and students' scores will not be released to the military. Letters will be mailed home to families as we approach this test date.

This exam is meant to assist students in career exploration by matching their academic skills and strengths to potential careers. Students will be given more information about the exam in November. There is no fee for this exam.

Websites and Tools for Students and Families to Prep for College and Careers:

www.pval.org/hsguidance- Pine Valley Counseling Department's page- we try to post news, events, scholarships, links to pertinent sites, etc.

www.collegeboard.org- PSAT, SAT, and AP information and registration.

www.actstudent.org- ACT information and registration.

www.khanacademy.org/sat- Official SAT Practice website (after students take the PSAT, this site becomes more custom fit to their needs).

www.asvabprogram.com- information about the ASVAB exam (a great career exploration tool).

www.fafsa.ed.gov- the official Federal Student Aid website.

www.hesc.ny.gov- Higher Education Services Corporation- information about how to prepare for college and gives information about how to pay for college.

<https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>- statistics, research and evaluations of colleges and universities by the Department of Education.

www.wnycollegeconnection.com- a good database of WNY colleges. Search degrees and careers to match up with colleges.

www.bls.gov/ooh/- Occupational Outlook Handbook- a guide to career information about specific occupations and their outlook.

THANK YOU TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORS!

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to our various local scholarship sponsors! Your generosity is deeply appreciated, and your contributions will absolutely assist our recent graduates in their endeavors at college. No matter how big or small, the gifts are helpful. For anyone interested in starting a new scholarship or memorial award, contact Debbie Youngberg in the high school Counseling Office by phone (ext. 4334) or email dyoungberg@pval.org



College Exploration Tasks:

We are strongly encouraging juniors and their families to start (or continue) the college exploration process. Many colleges are currently holding or will soon hold Open House events. It is as easy as a google search! Just search for the college you would like to visit, and then choose their Admissions page. It is a great idea for Sophomores and Juniors to start these college searches as soon as possible. You can no longer wait until senior year to start college and career planning. The college application and FAFSA application timelines have been moved up in the last few years, so we want to help you out with our tips!

Junior Year

Fall

- Start talking with your school counselor!
- Make sure your schedule is challenging and in line with your future goals.
- Attend the WNY College Consortium at PV in **September**. Meet college admissions reps from the WNY area.
- Take the PSAT in **October**.
- Attend college open house events to start your college exploration.
- Start developing your high school student activity résumé. We have templates to help guide you!
- Keep involved in extracurriculars and take on leadership roles.
- Do your best academically.

Winter

- Meet with your school counselor to plan for senior year and discuss your future.
- Continue researching colleges.
- Register and take an SAT or ACT.
- Look into summer programs at college campuses.

Spring

- Attend the National College Fair with us in **March** (if available).
- Narrow down your college choices with more research.
- Think about a summer job or internship
- Start asking teachers for letters or recommendations (which you will need for your college applications coming up). Be sure to have your résumé ready to give to them (this will help them write you an awesome letter).
- Start planning and researching the financial aid process. The FAFSA is a major part of your college application process.
- Register to take an SAT or ACT. You may get a better score the 2nd time.

Summer

- Continue investigating colleges and start looking at their application processes. You should start applying in August!
- Apply to a variety of college choices- “safe” schools, “reach” schools, and “realistic” schools- to keep your options wide open.

Senior Year

Fall

- Meet with your school counselor to ensure your coursework is still in line with your future goals.
- Stay focused on your academics and do your best- senior year is not for slacking and taking it easy!
- Stay involved in extracurricular activities and take on leadership roles.
- Take another SAT or ACT if you need to improve your scores.
- Finish up college applications. Competitive colleges have fall deadlines!
- Start the FAFSA on October 1. Submit it before the end of the month for the best financial aid opportunities.
- Order your graduation cap and gown!

Winter

- Continue doing your best academically
- Enjoy your extracurriculars for this last year of high school.
- Finish up any college applications, if necessary.
- Some colleges will have acceptance deadlines in the Winter so be ready to make decisions regarding your college choice.

Spring

- You are almost there- but don't stop pushing yourself!
- Finish your academic year strong and do your best. Your academic transcript isn't complete yet!
- Make your college choice and attend their accepted student events!
- Attend graduation!! YAY!

Summer

- Enjoy your new path as a high school graduate!
- Get a summer job to start building up your spending money.



2024 Drama Club Camp



The Junior High Drama Club enjoyed another successful summer camp season! In just two weeks 38 cast and crew members produced the classic story of James and the Giant Peach. From memorizing music and dialogue, to completing production projects, to mastering the art of puppetry, the PV Drama Club learned first-hand what it takes to produce a show. This season was particularly special as Senior High and recently graduated PV Drama Club members eagerly assumed directing roles. Costume design was executed by Muriel and Kieran Zollinger and drama direction was given by Madison Ebel and Damien Stanfield. The junior high students were thrilled to learn and work with such experienced and passionate theater lovers. "It's amazing to see an entire show come together in just two weeks," says director Mary Kay Himes. "The students worked tirelessly to ensure the best possible performance for their patrons. However, my favorite moment of the camp was right before calling 'places' of Closing Night. As the auditorium filled with an excited audience, the cast and crew members sat in a circle backstage listening to stories about the legacy that has become of Drama Club. The aspiring performers shared their hopes and excitement to continue the legacy in the years to come. Witnessing an ignited passion for theater is what this program is all about!"



Have You Been Volunteering This Summer?

If the answer is yes- we thank you!!! The summer is a wonderful time to volunteer for local organizations or to help some community members. If you have been volunteering, make sure you complete the log sheet and get it turned into Mrs. Chase in the counseling office when you return in the fall. Don't procrastinate- you don't

want to lose that verification of your hours worked! As usual, anytime we find out about a need in our community, we post the opportunity for our students to get involved. Pay attention to these announcements each day as well as your emails. Getting involved in these "sponsored" events will pay off in countless ways! And remember forms

and information are always available on the Community Service page of the school website.



Elementary School News

by Mrs. Brandi Meacham, Elementary School Principal

Hello Pine Valley Families!

I trust you have had a wonderful and safe summer! The elementary school has been buzzing with excitement these past few months! From Summer Enrichment, Extended School Year, Drama Club, Healthy Kids program, Little Love Bugs daycare, and all the cleaning done by our Building and Grounds team, we have kept the halls busy! Our Drama Club worked diligently to prepare their version of James and the Giant Peach in just 2 weeks! It was a wonderful performance that made all involved so proud! Summer Enrichment spent time swimming, reading, completing STEAM projects, and laughing! Our Extended School Year program made tie-dye shirts and went on a field trip every Friday! We love our programs, but we are lifelong learners who are always looking to grow and meet our community needs! If you have concerns, ideas, or positive feedback for any of our summer programs, please share your thoughts!

Families will find that this year's building schedules and curriculum will look very similar to last year. We are not making major changes to any one curriculum, but we are spending time to get better and better at what we do offer. You will see more hands-on science through Woz-Ed curriculum in Library and Technology. Our days will start with social-emotional lessons to build relationships and a sense of community for all. One change coming your way is the change in our communication platform. We have switched over to ParentSquare for all community all-calls and classroom communication. Please watch for future information regarding these changes.

In order to help with a smooth start to our new school year, please watch for a complete district communication packet and school calendar to come home. We still have open spots in our 4PK program this coming year. If you have a child eligible for this program, please call our Main Office to begin the registration process. Pre-registration for our 3PK and 4PK programs stays open all year! Contact our Main Office as soon as possible to ensure your youngster is on our list. For steady updates on what is happening in our school district, remember to follow us on all social media platforms. You can follow me on X using @MrsMeacham.

I look forward to seeing all our students back in school soon!

Thank you,
Brandi Meacham, Elementary Principal

Summer Enrichment Program at PVES

HANDS-ON SUMMER LEARNING:

First- and second-graders are pictured digging for dinosaur bones



during Summer Enrichment Program lessons at Pine Valley Elementary School.



Approximately 60 students entering first through sixth grades engaged in fun, hands-on

STEM and camp-like activities to reinforce skills in reading, math, and more. The program was led by four teachers and two aides, with students gathering Mondays through



Thursdays from July 15 to August 8, 2024.



Pine Valley Elementary School

Birthday Celebration Snacks

Healthy & Convenient

Why make a trip to the store to purchase a snack for the class? Let the PV Cafeteria help you!

- ❖ Order a special classroom birthday celebration for .75 per student.
- ❖ Orders will be delivered to the class on the designated day.
- ❖ Fill out the form below and return with payment to PVES Cafeteria.
- ❖ Orders must be submitted at least 10 days prior to the party.
- ❖ Substitutions can be made due to dietary restrictions.

Questions? Please contact Leslie Milliman at 988-3291 ext. 3321.

Healthy Snack Order Form

Please submit order at least 10 days prior to the party. Substitutions can be made due to dietary restrictions.

Date of Celebration: _____

Student Name: _____

Teacher: _____ Grade: _____

Parent name: _____

Parent phone: _____

Number of snacks: _____

Price each: X .75

Total cost: _____

☐ Check enclosed (PVCS Cafeteria)

☐ Cash in sealed envelope

Select one:

- ☐ Sidekick Slushie Fruit Juice Cup
- ☐ Chocolate Chip Cookie & Milk
- ☐ Sugar Cookie & Milk
- ☐ Whole Grain Rice Krispie Treat & Apple Juice Cup
- ☐ Fresh Assorted Veggies with Ranch Dip and Bottled Water
- ☐ Fresh Assorted Fruit with Fruit Dip and Bottled Water
- ☐ Ice Cream Cup with Bottled Water

New Hire Highlights

Welcome to Pine Valley!

We are excited to welcome several new employees to our Panther family for the 2024-2025 academic year. And we are also pleased to re-introduce some longtime staff who have moved to different roles at Pine Valley Central School District. Hiring occurs year-round at Pine Valley CSD, where we strive to warmly welcome employees as they join our team throughout the academic year.



Stacy Chase



Stacy Chase, who has worked as an administrative assistant in the Counseling Office at the jr./sr. high school, is now a school counselor. “I look forward to supporting our students and families through the good times and the challenging moments,” says Chase, who loved working with students as a class advisor and as community service coordinator. “I hope our students had time to refresh and reset this summer, and I hope they are ready to come back to school with smiles on their faces and the drive to make this a successful year academically and personally.” She loves crafts, plants, cats, reading, walking outside, and enjoying time with family. Her husband, Jeff, is a PVCS graduate as are their two eldest sons, who graduated in 2017 and 2019. Their youngest son is a Panther in eighth grade. Chase attended Jamestown Community College, SUNY Empire College, and Capella University for a master's degree in School Counseling.



Paige Cobb



Paige Cobb is the new Director of Special Education and Curriculum for Pine Valley Central School District. “I have a strong passion for education, collaboration, and continuous growth,” says Cobb, who grew up in Western New York and has been an educator in the region for over a decade. “I fully believe that I can be a positive team member joining the Panther family and am looking forward to what's to come in the upcoming school year.” She and her husband, Tim, have 5-year-old twin daughters, Caroline and Aurora, who are going into Kindergarten next year, as well as two dogs. The family loves going camping and spending as much time as possible outside. Cobb's favorite thing to do during a quiet moment is sit on her porch with a cup of coffee and a good book. She earned a bachelor's degree in childhood and early childhood education in both general education and special education at St. Bonaventure University. She has a master's degree in educational technology from Arizona State University while

she began her teaching career as an integrated UPK teacher. Upon returning to New York, she taught UPK4, first grade, fifth grade, and sixth grade while also attending the Warner School of Education via the University of Rochester to achieve SBL and SDL certifications. Most recently, she was an instructional coach, curriculum coordinator, and UPK coordinator at Cassadaga Valley Central School District.



Lyndsay Feuerstein



Lyndsay Feuerstein is a new Special Education teacher at Pine Valley Elementary School. “I am most excited about the ‘small town feel’ of the district and getting to know more students and staff,” says Feuerstein, who says she has lived in the quiet town of Leon almost her entire life. Her three-year-old will be attending PVCS in the fall. Feuerstein enjoys spending time with her family. They have three wonderful daughters and the family loves traveling and exploring the world. Feuerstein has a bachelor's degree in educational studies in

special and elementary education. She recently had the pleasure of finishing the 2023-2024 academic year at PVES in the classroom where she will be teaching in September.

Nicole Kestler



Nicole Kestler is a high school biology teacher in the Science Department at the jr./sr high school. This is her second year teaching. Kestler is married with four children. They like to go on bike rides and play miniature golf together. She enjoys playing the WordScapes app with her 6-year-old. She earned an undergraduate degree in Adolescence Education in Biology and her master's degree is in Education.

Claudia Neu



Claudia Neu is a Pre-Kindergarten teacher in the 4-year-old classroom at the elementary school. She joined our Panther family in November 2023. "I am so incredibly lucky to continue working with such a wonderful community of educators," says Neu.

"Being part of such a welcoming and loving community is wonderful. I can't wait to start the year off at Pine Valley and see my students grow from the very beginning." Neu loves to be outside whenever it is nice, especially at the beach. She is very crafty and loves to paint, crochet, and read. She has two cats and loves spending time with family and friends. She earned an associate degree in Early Childhood Education from Jamestown Community College then spent a semester working for Walt Disney World in the college program. She then earned a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood and Childhood Education at Fredonia State before earning a master's degree in Childhood Literacy at St. Bonaventure University. She previously worked as a substitute teacher, tutor, and as an ELA and social studies teacher.

Melissa Simonian



Melissa Simonian is a new Special Education consultant teacher for fifth grade and sixth grade at Pine Valley Elementary School. "I am most excited about being a part of such a positive and collaborative educational community," says Simonian, who grew up near the Adirondacks in Burnt Hills, N.Y., but has lived in Western New York for about 20 years. She has two children – Emma, 23, and Nathaniel, 20. She is an avid weekend warrior and enjoys triathlons, biking, hiking and kayaking. Her summer

playground is the Adirondacks, where she hikes the high peaks and works on the 46ers. Simonian began her educational career as a third-grade teacher in Andover, Massachusetts. She moved to WNY and taught mainly in the Amherst Central School District for 10 years before taking time off to raise her children. In the interim, she began a personal chef service, Fit n Fresh Catering, and sold organic energy bars until 2020. She returned to education as a Special Education teacher at Amherst CSD. She relocated to the southern tier and is thrilled to start this new chapter of her professional and personal life at Pine Valley CSD.

Kaylee Volpe



Kaylee is a school counselor for eighth grade, 10th grade and 12th grade students at the jr./sr. high school. She is excited about making meaningful connections with students and helping them be successful in whatever they do. "My advice is to come to school every day with an open mind and a willingness to try your best!" says Volpe, who loves to read novels, go for a run, travel, and spend time with family in her free time. Volpe is a 2018 graduate of Maple Grove Jr./Sr. High School and earned bachelor's and master's degrees at Kent State University in Ohio. She also worked as a graduate assistant advisor in the Honors College at Kent State.

Upcoming Events

SEP
17
5:00 - 6:30 PM
Outside Open House

SEP
25
5:00 - 6:30 PM
*Outside Open House
Rain Date*

SEP
26
Fall Picture Day

OCT
02
Fall Sports Pictures

OCT
08
Senior Formal Pictures

OCT
12
7 PM DANCE
Homecoming

NOV
01
NO SCHOOL
Staff Development Day

NOV
25
12-4 PM & 5-8 PM
*Parent/Teacher
Conferences*

NOV
25 & 26
Early Release





PLEASE JOIN US FOR:
OUTSIDE OPEN HOUSE

~ 5:00 - 6:30 P.M. ~

September 17

~WE LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING THE AMAZING THINGS YOUR CHILDREN HAVE BEEN DOING IN THE CLASSROOMS.

~YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET TEACHERS AND STAFF.

~TABLES WILL BE SET UP BY GRADE LEVEL AND DEPARTMENT ON THE ROAD LOCATED BETWEEN BOTH SCHOOLS.

~LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.

~ JJ BBQ'S FOOD TRUCK AVAILABLE ON THE 17TH, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ENJOY SOME BBQ

(THE FOOD TRUCK WILL NOT BE ON CAMPUS FOR THE RAIN DATE)

RAIN DATE: SEPTEMBER 25



**AWARD WINNING PROVIDER OFFERING CARE
FOR 16 YEARS WITH OVER 100 LOCATIONS
THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY & GROWING!**

Healthy Kids Programs @ Pine Valley Elementary



After School

Ages: Kindergarten–12 Years

After School: Pick up as late as 6:00pm



SOCIALIZATION

To promote connection



FITNESS ACTIVITIES

To get kids moving



ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

To complement what they are learning in class



S.T.E.M ACTIVITIES

To promote creativity & out-of-the-box thinking

**LEARN NEW SKILLS.
GET MOVING.
MAKE FRIENDS.
HAVE FUN.**



My kids have a blast with this program! Every day when I pick them up, they never want to leave! You have a great program and great staff! Thank you so much!"

REGISTRATION
for the 2024–25 School year
NOW OPEN!

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Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)/Provision 2 non-base year Household Income Eligibility Form

Pine Valley Central School District is participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). All children in the school will receive meals/milk at no charge regardless of household income or completion of this form. This form is to determine eligibility for additional State and federal program benefits that your child(ren) may qualify for. Read the instructions on the back, complete **only one** form for your household, sign your name and return it to the school named above. Call (716) 988-3293, if you need help.

1. List all children in your household who attend school:

Student Name	School	Grade/Teacher	Foster Child	No Income
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. SNAP/TANF/FDPIR Benefits:

If anyone in your household receives either SNAP, TANF or FDPIR benefits, list their name and CASE # here. Skip to Part 5, and sign the application.

Name: _____ CASE # _____

3. Household Gross Income: List all people living in your household, how much and how often they are paid (weekly, every other week, twice per month, monthly). Do not leave income blank. If no income, check box. If you have listed a foster child above, you must report their personal income.

Name of household member	Earnings from work before deductions Amount / How Often	Child Support, Alimony Amount / How Often	Pensions, Retirement Payments Amount / How Often	Other Income, Social Security Amount / How Often	No Income
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	\$ _____ / _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Signature: An adult household member must sign this application.

I certify (promise) that all the information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that the information is being given so the school may receive federal funds. The school officials may verify the information and if I purposely give false information, I may be prosecuted under applicable State and federal laws, and my children may lose meal benefits.

Signature:

Date:

Email Address:

Home Phone

Work Phone

Home Address

Total Household Income/How Often:

Reduced Eligibility

Denied Eligibility

Household Size:

Annual Income Conversion (Only convert when multiple income frequencies are reported on application)
Weekly X 52; Every Two Weeks (bi-weekly) X 26; Twice Per Month X 24; Monthly X 12

SNAP/TANF/Foster Income

Free Eligibility
Signature of Reviewing Official

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE – FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY

Pine Valley Central School District
South Dayton, NY 14138
PV Junior/ Senior High School: 988-3276, PV Elementary: 988-3291
Website: www.pval.org/

ADMINISTRATION

Shanda DuClon, *Superintendent*
Paige Cobb, *Director of Sp. Ed. and Curriculum*
Nicole VerHagen, *Business Executive*
Kourtney Almeida, *Jr./Sr. High School Principal*
Brandi Meacham, *Elementary Principal*

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POWERSCHOOL PARENT & STUDENT PORTAL

The PowerSchool Parent & Student Portal is an online portal accessible anywhere on the web that parents can log in to and see all their children (those in grades 5-12) in one place: their grades, assignments, scores, attendance, and schedules.

Student accounts are automatically created when students enter 5th grade or upon enrollment. Parents need to create their own separate accounts and can obtain their student access codes from the Elementary Main Office (ext. 3306) or the High School Counseling Office (ext. 4334). Parent accounts only need to set up the account once and are good for as long as they have students in Pine Valley, with the ability to add students at any time.

Parents and students can access the following information through PowerSchool: schedules, class grades, individual assignment scores, absences and tardies, historic grade information, and report cards. This information can be viewed on a web browser or via the app. To get to the website, simply type "powerschool.pval.org/public" into your web browser's address bar. The app can be downloaded to mobile devices by searching for "PowerSchool Mobile" in your app store.

We have a document on our website that will help guide you through creating your account and will explain how to use the site- <https://www.pval.org/Page/2195>

No matter how you use it, this is a great tool to keep up with your student's academic grades and attendance!

PowerSchool App
image to look for in
your app store:



Little Love Bugs Daycare

Pine Valley's NYS-licensed daycare center provides services to children ages six weeks to 36 months. Parents can expect high-quality care, social and academic enrichment from CPR/First Aid certified staff, and daily communication via an app.



Offering before- and after-school care for Pre-K age 3 & 4 students. Full-day services when school has half-days and inservice days also available.

📞 1-716-988-3291, ext. 3416

7755 Rt. 83, South Dayton, NY 14138