A Note from the Superintendent

It is hard to believe I am writing this on the last day of January. Where has the school year gone? Once we get through the month of February, we just have a few short months until summer. We are on the downhill slide to warmer weather.

We have missed two days because of winter weather. Those will be made up at the end of the school year. We may adjust the calendar a bit to equal out 3rd and 4th quarters so stay tuned. We will get information out soon after our February Board meeting.

As the legislative session is in progress, in Des Moines, please take a moment to support public education. To locate the senators or legislatures to contact, go the following web page: https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators/find You can then click on their name to get contact information. For several years now the Iowa Legislature has underfunded education. This year will be no different unless we advocate for public education. Recently, the governor requested a 1.5% increase to education, which equates to around 55 million across the state. The House just presented a bill which would give schools only 33 million or about a 1% increase. Please call or write you elected officials to request more from our State government.

The Winter athletic season will soon be coming to an end. Both the wrestling and basketball teams will be entering tournaments soon, however, we do have some great fine arts groups that are still going strong. The Jazz Band is just starting competitions with the hopes of qualifying for the State Jazz Band competition and we have several small group speech groups performing at State Speech. We will be hosting a Fine Arts night this spring to showcase these Speech students for all the great work they are doing, along with showcasing some art and other projects.

Thanks again for the continued support you have all shown during this past year. We are truly blessed to have such wonderful community.

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Elementary Comments

- Mr. Wiese

A majority of parents have signed up for the JMC On-Line Parent program offered by the school district. Attendance and lunch balances (plus you can pay on-line too) can be monitored with internet access. For 3rd grade and above, parents can also monitor the academic progress of their child. If you would like more information about this feature, please contact the school! Also, the school calendar on our web site is a very helpful tool with upcoming activities: www.k-pcsd.org.

Your child at some point this school year has probably mentioned our “Box Tops 4 Education”. Numerous companies offer these “coupons” on their products. Our school can turn in these items and receive money to benefit our students. Thanks for your help again! The “Box Tops” can be turned in twice a year. The second deadline is March 1, 2018 (if you still have some please send to the school).

Once in a while the flu bug hits the school. We ask that you do not send your child back to school until she/he has been fever free and/or stomach flu free for 24 hours. Secondly, we want all students and drivers to be safe in the parking lot before and after school. Please personally escort your child to the parking lot and do not have them run across the busy street/lot.

Our annual “Kindergarten Round-Up” takes place on a Friday in either March or April. There is an “AM” and a “PM” session offered for parents and the “Class of 2031” kids! That makes me feel old!!! Regular kindergarten students do not have school this day!

Please remember our upcoming Parent-Teacher Conferences are in March. Effective in 2015-2016, all students in grades K-4th grade take the FAST assessment test. Round one was in the Fall 2017 and the Winter session happens in early February. Information may be shared with you about these tests at conferences. Thank you for your continued support! Remember there is No School on Monday, February 19!

Exchanging Knowledge

The 7th Grade Social Studies students enjoyed a first hand learning experience about Europe courtesy of KP’s foreign exchange students. This past month, Mrs. Boustead’s 7th graders have been learning about different European countries. Learning topics have included land, climate, economy, history, and culture of the different countries. Students each researched their assigned countries and completed a Europe Backpacking project that involved giving presentations to their classmates about their researched countries.

However, the best learning opportunity came in the form of mini presentations put on by Elisa Scognamillo, Jamie Zunft, and Maria Colino Parra on Wednesday, January 31. (Due to illness, Kristine Stromnes was unable to join the presenters.) The KP School District has had the pleasure of hosting four exchange students for the 2017-2018 school year: Elisa from the Italian island of Sardinia, Jamie from Germany, Maria from Spain, and Kristine from Norway. The girls graciously gave up part of their school day and, under the direction of

"It is the policy of the Kingsley-Pierson Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact Rob Wiese, 322 Quest Ave. 712-378-2861, rwiese@k-pcsd.org. The Kingsley-Pierson Community School District offers career and technical programs in the following areas: Agricultural Education, Business Education, and Industrial Education."

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Middle School Comments

- Mr. Wiese

Our annual “Fund Raiser” for Grades 5th, 6th, & 7th takes place Feb. 2-16. Any profits made go to our “Activity Fund” which provide equipment, uniforms, etc. for our athletic programs in the 7th & 8th grade. Requests have been made for various things in 2018/2019 (including new 7th/8th grade uniform tops for volleyball and 7th/8th grade football jerseys). However, our account balance is low and the kids have an excellent opportunity to “replenish” the fund! Thank you in advance for all of your help in this matter. Our candy should be delivered to the Middle School the week of March 19.

The wrestling season is off to a great start. Pep rallies are planned for February 22 and March 1.

MS Wrestling Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Feb 2</td>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>@ Akron</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Feb 5</td>
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<td>@ Sloan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Feb 9</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>@ R. Rapids</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Feb 22</td>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>@ Pierson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Feb 26</td>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>@ S. Bluff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Feb 27</td>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>@ Early</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 1</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>March 5</td>
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<td>@ Odebolt</td>
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Bullying and harassment is a hot topic for every school building in the country! This subject is being discussed in the Middle School multiple times throughout the school year by several people including teachers, counselors, and the principal. In particular, during the months of January and February Mr. Wiese has or will be talking to each grade again (5th-8th grades) about this important issue. We want all of our kids to make great choices! Please monitor what your child places on the internet frequently!

Please remember our upcoming Parent-Teacher Conferences in are March. A hand-out will be given showing the results of the Iowa Assessments taken in November 2017 (formerly called ITBS) by your child. Thank you for your continued support!!!

The highly acclaimed 8th grade “Hero’s Day” happens in Pierson in May 2018. Remember there is no School on Monday, February 19!
Mrs. Schroeder's first grade celebrates 100 Days of fun! They spent the day doing 100 exercises, writing 100 words, measuring how long their 100 items were, creating a 100 Day necklace, licking a lollipop 100 times, weighting 100 pennies, building a tower of 100 cups, eating 100 snack bites, and POPPING 100 balloons!

Feb 1st is National Read Aloud Day. Students in English 1 celebrated the day sharing their love of reading with the first-grade class.

Kindergarten Roundup

Register your child for kindergarten during Kindergarten Round Up! All children who are 5 years old on or before September 15, 2018 are able to attend kindergarten. The date for Kindergarten Round-Up has not been set, but it will be a Friday in March or early April. There will be a 9 AM and a 1 PM session. We request that you bring a copy of your child’s birth certificate and immunizations to registration. Once a date for registration is set we will make an announcement.
Middle School Instructional Coach: Valerie Sitzmann

Several members of the staff at Kingsley-Pierson are participating in a book study on Monday nights. In the past the Teacher Leadership Committee (Instructional Coaches, Digital Literacy Coaches, Mentor Teachers, Curriculum Director, and members of the WC TLC team) have read and discussed books Leaders Eat Last by Simon Sinek and Instructional Coaching and Instructional Coaching: The Moves by Jim Knight to prepare us for our new roles in the TLC positions.

Instead of reading and discussing another book this quarter about Instructional Coaching, we are reading The Gifts of Imperfection by Brené Brown. This book guides its readers to living a wholehearted life. Reading this book has been a break from our traditional book studies, but it has been a learning experience as well.

In the book, the author gives the reader ten guideposts for living a wholehearted life:

#1 Cultivating Authenticity
#2 Cultivating Self-Compassion
#3 Cultivating a Resilient Spirit
#4 Cultivating Gratitude and Joy
#5 Cultivating Intuition and Trusting Faith
#6 Cultivating Creativity
#7 Cultivating Play and Rest
#8 Cultivating Calm and Stillness
#9 Cultivating Meaningful Work
#10 Cultivating Laughter, Song and Dance

We find these nights valuable not only from the knowledge we glean from these books, but from the experiences we share with others.

High School Instructional Coaches: Jayne Vondrak & Kris Hackett

Student-centered coaching has been the focus of training for KP’s instructional coaches throughout the 2017-2018 school year. Coaches had the opportunity to attend workshops and a lab school at Sioux Center’s Kinsey Elementary. Around twenty Instructional Coaches observed a first grade classroom where a coach and teacher collaborated through small reading groups. Following the classroom observation, the group watched as the pair continued their coaching cycle with sorting data and making a plan for future coaching. The lab school ended with a debriefing session in which the observers shared what they witnessed and learned from the experience.

Diane Sweeney, a consultant who educates, supports and provides feedback to instructional coaches, facilitated the two-day Student-Centered Coaching workshop and lab school setting. Student-centered coaching puts the needs of students’ front-and-center by taking the coaching focus off the teacher and placing it on student achievement. This change in focus allows Kingsley-Pierson Instructional Coaches to directly impact instructional practice and ultimately improve student achievement.

KP Instructional Coaches will have one more opportunity to participate in a third two-day workshop and lab school in March.

Digital Literacy Coaches: Jackie Lammers & Erin Hoffman

In December we gave a survey the Bright Bytes inventory. This inventory helps us to learn more about our students’ school and home technology use for learning. We administered the inventory to students in grades 4-12, teachers, and parents in the district. The goal of this inventory is to determine strengths and gaps in the current technology of Kingsley-Pierson. We are beginning to analyze the information we gathered. It will be used to drive instruction of our students. It will also be used to provide targeted services, programs, and professional development.
SPORTS SCHEDULES: #KPSTRONG!! Our Panthers are making us proud in the classrooms, music and drama competitions, wrestling mats and gym floors. Continue to be a positive supporter and cheer with our wonderful cheerleaders. Show your Black and Gold, Panther Pride in a positive way for our kids!!

Thank you for all the workers to make our KP Wrestling Invite a success. Gregg Roepcke, Chad Utesch, Kevin Seuntjens, Tim Reis and Brett Harvey at the scoretable. A special thanks to Val Sitzmann and Abby for running the tournament and Erin and Torey for running track-wrestling!

Thank you to our volunteers who also helped at our home wrestling tourney and CNOS for their Athletic Training coverage. Our regular seasons are winding down. Please check the Google School Calendar for updates, etc. and continue to show your positive Panther Pride!

Also, remember that during wrestling season, while the mats are down in the MPR, no one should be in there unless it is reserved for a specific group (i.e. youth wrestling). No one is allowed to use the PE equipment unless prior approval. We need to respect the equipment and mats in our MPR/wrestling room. Thank you!

Please utilize our Kingsley-Pierson website for updated schedules and gym times. You can locate gym times under the “community” link.

IMPORTANT DATES:
Sectional Wrestling: Feb. 3, 2018 @ MVAOCOU @ Mapleton

WV Conference basketball tourney Boys play @ Sloan vs. LB on Friday at 6pm on Feb. 2nd and Girls play @ Onawa vs. Westwood at 5pm.

Good Luck Panthers!

Track Parent Meeting: Feb. 23, 2018 @ Kingsley Auditorium 5:30pm

SAVE THE DATE: Panther Ball—March 17, 2018

PE NEWS: Elementary PE will be using the MPR when the wrestling mats are down. The students DO NOT wear shoes on the mats, but they MUST have socks on.

Also, remember if you child has seen a doctor and they are excused from PE for any medical reason, they will need a note from their doctor or from you, the parent/guardian, saying that they are OK to participate. Thank you for your cooperation!

Happy New Year! Hope you all had a wonderful break with your family and loved ones. I am amazed at how fast 3rd quarter is moving along already. It seems like we never have time even to catch our breath. At KP, the Instructional Coaches are almost finished learning about Student Centered Coaching for the year. This has been a huge commitment as we started last summer and then continued the training this school year 2 days every other month with 1 day being instruction and the 2nd day being learning labs. This has been very valuable and positively received by the majority of our staff.

In professional development the elementary continues to unpack the literacy standards and to share lessons they use in their classroom when teaching word work or vocabulary or a mini lesson. I love hearing the teachers collaborate and share ideas with one another. The secondary is continuing to score Authentic Intellectual Work (AIW) during their professional development time. They are currently bringing student work to their teams to score. The teachers typically bring 3 pieces of student work with them to be scored. They can bring one high, one low, and one medium or 3 pieces of average work the students turned in. Either way, they bring what they want the team to help them with. By looking at student work, we are able to go back to the teacher’s instruction to find where changes need to be made or something needs to be added. It is really powerful to walk into these team meetings and listen to the discussions they are having and the ideas they are sharing cross-curricular. I really appreciate our teachers having a positive attitude and a willingness to learn and grow during our professional development time.

We have started another book study after school on Monday evenings from 4:00-5:30. The book we are reading and discussing is The Gifts of Imperfection by Brene Brown. The teachers are able to earn a renewal credit as well if they so choose. Currently, there are 7 teachers that are engaged in the book study each Monday evening. I can honestly say this book has changed how I think when faced with a decision. I am embracing living life wholeheartedly. I now say “yes” with authority and not with guilt. (The last part is easier than it sounds, but I am working on it.) I don’t want to feel resentment for taking on another task nor do I want to feel ashamed or guilty that I have to say “no” to something. There are many amazing Ted Talks on this book that we have watched as well. Even though we are only halfway through the book, I would recommend it to anyone that wants to let go of who you think you should be and embrace who you truly are!

I will be digging into our Iowa Assessment data more this spring. You will receive your child’s results at conferences in March like usual. Please feel free to call me at any time with concerns or questions about what we are doing as a district. I am truly thankful that our School Board reaches out to us a staff whenever they have a question. That partnership is invaluable for all involved- especially our students.
Speech Season in Full Swing

We started Large Group competitions last week and we had 14 participants. We took 5 selections to the district contest at Sioux City East High School on Saturday, January 20th. The Reader’s Theater group performed a piece called “WomanSpeak” by Gloria Goldsmith.

The group included Madison Wurth, Alex Thompson, Emily Kraft, Shelby Schweitzberger, Sadie Robbins, Kylie Beelner, Olivia Krohn, Emily Redinius, Emy Benson, and Abby Reinking. Olivia Krohn and Emy Benson participated in Radio News Broadcasting. These ladies composed a broadcast to raise awareness about Adopt a Pet month. Trent Lammers, Alex Thompson, Shelby Schweitzberger, and Emily Kraft were a part of the group improv contest. They acted out the scenario of trying to sell empty ketchup bottles which was the topic they drew out of an envelope. They then had 5 minutes to create their dialogue with actions. Camden Bainbridge and Connor Toliver acted out a small play in the ensemble event. Their selection was called “Don’t Be So Hard on Your Shelf” by Scott Haan. Camden played an avid reader who was having trouble with his bookshelf, Connor, that had a mind of its own.

We were able to use the new green screen for the TV News Broadcast event. Camden Bainbridge, Connor Toliver, and Jacque Laddusaw created a unique broadcast set back in 1989. Anchors Kate Perkins (Jacque Laddusaw) and Gary Magic (Camden Bainbridge) highlighted the events of that year with a New Year’s Eve special edition. The Ensemble and TV News Broadcast teams qualified for the State contest in Le Mars on February 3rd. If these teams qualify for the All-State contest that will take place in Ames, IA on February 17th.

The Individual Speech season will start on February 24th with our District Contest at Woodbury Central High School. Right now we have 16 students planning on participating!!

Great job and good luck to all of our speech performers!
AIW and TLC Improve Student Achievement

Jayne R. Vondrak

Acronyms. Education is full of acronyms. PD. IEP. FTE. HOTS. CIM. Sometimes, as educators, we forget that these abbreviations (made with the first letters of words) are not common language for the general public. In order to better understand two of Kingsley-Pierson’s initiatives, this explanation about AIW and TLC should clarify two systems of PD (Professional Development) which are impacting our students.

In 2014, Authentic Intellectual Work, also known as AIW, was introduced to a lead team of teachers as a focus for professional development for middle school and high school staff. The anchor team spent the first year gaining confidence with the core values and standards on which AIW was developed. Three components drive the conversations as teachers apply their learning: those three include teacher tasks/lessons, student work, and teacher instruction. In 2015, 5th through 12th grade teachers began to engage in the process by focusing on the tasks and lessons which they implemented in their classrooms. Over the next two years, we have moved from those tasks to examining student work and determining whether student products align with the expectations of the original tasks. Teachers take turns presenting lessons and student work to their teams as they work through the protocol to score. Besides scoring the artifacts, teams engage in focused conversations as they collaborate and share ideas for improving authenticity. Our goal is to commit more class time and class work to lessons which demand higher order thinking and critical thinking skills which apply to value beyond the classroom. Middle school and high school teachers meet once a month during PD days to apply their AIW learning.

The second initiative, which has directly impacted instruction and student achievement, is Teacher Leadership (TLC). Initially funded through a grant, Kingsley-Pierson applied and was awarded funds based on student enrollment. Our Teacher Leadership must include 25% of the teaching staff. For the past two years, eleven staff have fulfilled the various roles: one Curriculum Director, three Model Teachers, two Digital Literacy Coaches, and five Instructional Coaches. Our Curriculum Director, Amy Benson, shares her time and work with Woodbury Central School. Model Teachers work closely with teachers who are new to the profession and new to the district. Michelle Schroeder, Chuck Hackett, and Mark Schroeder mentor teachers who are in their first two years of teaching. In order to implement new technology in our classrooms, the Digital Literacy Coaches provide professional development training as well as individual coaching, collaboration, and co-teaching. Our district is fortunate to have two knowledgeable coaches to assist with technology. Both Jackie Lammers and Erin Hoffman have supplied teachers with tools to enhance their instruction. Finally, the district employs Instructional Coaches who assist teachers with lesson/unit planning, align curriculum to Iowa Core Standards, provide strategies for engagement, co-teach, research and model, collect data, and support student-driven learning. Amy Bailey and Laura Bousted work with elementary teachers, while Valerie Sitzmann aids middle school teachers. At the high school, Kris Hackett and Jayne Vondrak share the coaching duties. With the exception of the Curriculum Director, all positions are filled by full-time teachers. All Teacher Leadership positions require training, extended hours beyond their teaching contracts, and time outside their classrooms in order to implement the initiatives. While acronyms may sound confusing, both AIW and TL work cohesively at the middle school and high school levels. Kingsley-Pierson teachers are collaborating and conversing, sharing and synthesizing ideas, learning and leading together. Through every initiative, Kingsley-Pierson remains committed to excellence.
St. Mary's, Remsen

West Harrison, Mondamin

@ St. Mary's, Remsen 2/15, 7:00 p.m.

@ West Harrison 2/12 7:00 p.m.

Whiting

@ Kingsley-Pierson 2/20, 6:30 p.m.

Westwood, Sloan

@ Westwood 2/15, 7:00 p.m.

West Monona

@ Sioux City, East 2/22, 7:00 p.m.

Kingsley-Pierson

@ Kingsley-Pierson 2/15, 8:00 p.m.

River Valley, Correctionville

@ Kingsley-Pierson 2/20, 8:00 p.m.

Woodbur Central, Moville

@ Kingsley-Pierson 2/15, 6:30 p.m.

Ridge View

Above pairings and time schedule established as directed by the Board of Control
Applications for Free and Reduced Price meals are available in all building offices. Questions, Comments? Brent Suing at 712-223-2209 or email: bsuing@lunchtimesolutions.com

Fruit and Juice Available Every Day

Breakfast is Good for Everyone!

Breakfast Meal Prices & Extras

ES/MS/HS Student Breakfast $2.00
Adult Breakfast $2.25
Extra Breakfast Entrée $1.00
Extra Cereal $1.00
Extra Milk $0.60

Menus are subject to change without notice.

Fruit & Veggie Bar & Milk Choices

Unlimited fruits and vegetables and choice of milk are included with the lunch meal everyday.

Each student is required to have 1/2 cup of fruits or vegetables on their tray.

Look for the Farmer’s Market Logo on this month’s menu for the featured Farmers Market selection.

Learn more about this month’s Selection on the poster in the dining area or at http://server.lunchtimesolutions.com:81/farmersmarket.pdf

Other Entrée Choices Available Daily:

C. Sub Sandwich Choices

Choices vary. See menu board for details.

D. Deli Wrap Entrées

E. Salad Entrées

Lunch Meal Prices & Extras

HS Lunch $2.75 Extra Entrée $1.75
Adult Lunch $3.50 Extra Milk $0.50

Questions or Comments? Brent Suing at 712-223-2209 or email: bsuing@lunchtimesolutions.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.