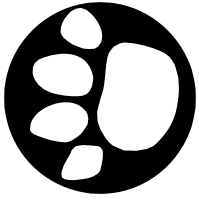
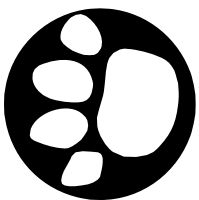


PAU-WA-LU MIDDLE SCHOOL
701 Long Valley Rd.
Gardnerville, NV 89460
Phone: 775-265-6100 Fax: 775-265-1653
www.dcsd.k12.nv.us/pwmlms



PAW PRINTS



Principal's Message

By: Keith Lewis, Principal

Dear Parents,

Happy Holidays from all of us at Pau-Wa-Lu Middle School. It's hard to believe, but we are quickly approaching the end of the first semester. I want to remind all parents that tutoring is offered every Tuesday and Thursday for students who need additional assistance. If your child is struggling or has missed school time, please encourage them to take advantage of this additional opportunity. I also want to remind you that finals will be held on January 18-10 with each day being a half-day for students.

I would like to thank all of you who supported our recent Micro-Elective Day. As a school, we raised approximately \$8,000 dollars; all of which will go towards student activities. We certainly appreciate your generosity. Due to the variety of activities and program we provide our students, we will hold an additional school-wide fundraiser in the Spring. We will be selling Yankee Candle products, and our fundraiser will be scheduled so the items will be delivered prior to Mother's Day. Again, we need and appreciate whatever support you can provide.

I would also encourage you to attend the Pau-Wa-Lu Winter Concert, which will also be held in the Cafeteria on December 14th at 6:30 PM. Under the guidance of Mrs. Tammy Owens, our students have demonstrated outstanding musical talents that will provide an entertaining evening of choral and instrumental music.

As most of you know, the 2nd semester involves a lot of our standardized testing for students. The 8th Grade Writing Assessment will be held in mid to late February. The 7th and 8th Grade CRT Assessments will be held on April 16-20. It is important that students be in attendance during all of these assessment days. We ask you to please plan accordingly so that your child can participate. In addition, we appreciate your support in helping your child understand the importance of these assessments and the impact they have on their own education. We do have online resources to prepare your child for the CRT assessment. If you are interested in the school developing a personalized online opportunity for your child, please call your child's counselor.

In closing, I do hope that your holidays are truly happy. Have a restful and relaxing winter break with your child, even though I'm not sure child goes in the same sentence as restful and relaxing. I do want to note, that due to New Year's Day falling on a Sunday, Monday, January 2nd is a holiday. Students will not return from Winter Break until January 3rd. I look forward to welcoming everyone back in January and preparing for Finals and our upcoming high-stakes assessments.

My Best,
Keith Lewis
Principal

Upcoming Events

- December 17—January 2nd Winter Break
 - January 18th—January 20th Minimum Day, Semester 1 Finals
 - January 16th No school, Martin Luther King Day
 - January 23rd No School, Teacher Work Day
 - January 25th Semester 1 report cards mailed home
-

Visit Us on the Web!

On the Pau-Wa-Lu website, you will be able to access forms, handbooks, newsletters, and other information regarding what is going on at PWL. You will be able to access our Powerschool Parent Portal to access your student's grades and attendance. Check out our website for the new look and updated information at www.dcsd.k12.nv.us/pwlms.

Student Store

The student store is open before school and during lunches for students to purchase school supplies at very reasonable costs. Please see the display across from the front office for items available.

Yearbooks

Yearbooks are on sale so make sure you reserve your copy today. The starting price for a yearbook is \$35.00. This price will go up to \$40.00 at the end of the first semester and will be \$45.00 after May 26th. You may also purchase a yearbook online from the Pau-Wa-Lu website. If you have any questions regarding yearbook, please contact Ms. Schnaare at cschnaar@dcsd.k12.nv.us or 775-265-6100 x 332.

You Say You Need Help?

Late buses have begun so students can receive help from teachers in all subject areas. The buses that are available to students for a ride home then become the late bus, which is the elementary run. A student can receive tutoring on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:15 p.m. to 2:50 p.m.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to help your student understand the information presented in class completely. There is no reason to fail when there is so much help available to all of our students. Take us up on a great offer or schedule time with a teacher, counselor, or administrator to address academic concerns.

Leadership News

Leadership is putting on its holiday door decorating contest. Prime times are asked to create a school appropriate door that is a December holiday theme. The school will provide the large paper only; the students and faculty are responsible for bringing in the rest of the materials. Good luck to all Prime Times; your doors will be judged on December 13th.

From January 3rd through the 14th, leadership will be holding a PWL "Box Tops for Education" drive. The Prime Time that brings in the most box tops will receive a fun reward, so bring in those box tops you've been saving between 1/3 and 1/14.

Attendance Appeals

Students that have missed 10 or more days this semester will need to fill out an appeal. The appeals will be mailed out AND a copy given to the students on January 3rd. If you have not received a 10-day letter for your student's absences, then you will probably not need to fill out an appeal. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Shelley Alexander, Attendance Secretary, at 775-265-6100 x224. Appeals are granted based upon the reason for the absence, if the work in the classroom has been made up from those absences, and grades. If you are concerned about your student's grades coinciding with the appeal process, please contact the counseling office. Thank you and have a wonderful break!

Semester Class Changes

Schedule changes for second semester, which begins January 24th, will naturally occur for the majority of students throughout the school (7th-9th grade). In some small instances, changes may appear more complex. Hence, if your child requires a change where a class cannot simply just trade places with another class, they may have to endure a multiple change to their schedule. This is uncommon, and for the most part, the normal changes should reflect one semester course replacing another semester course during the same period.

Parent/Student requested changes that have not been pre-approved will more than likely not occur. The student count and seat numbers for each period have been determined by the master schedule before the beginning of the year. This master schedule was built to suit the initial choices of the students/parents, and is now, for the most part, unable to incorporate much flexibility.

In some instances, a number of students may find themselves with mandated changes in which they did not choose. These schedule changes are a direct reflection of the SAP and SIP subcommittees/task forces, which are elected to brainstorm ways to assist those students with deficiencies due to low ALT scores or unmet competencies. These students have been identified by either their test scores or through an audit of their Star-Folder.

November Students of the Month



7th Grade
Students of the Month
Jake Rouse
Isabelle Peterson

Citizen of the Month
Justin Dragoo

8th Grade
Students of the Month
Jared Mora
Heather Vo

Citizen of the Month
Zack Ingrey

9th Grade
Student of the Month
Riis Irving-Peterson
Lindsey Adams

Citizen of the Month
Kali Sargent

December Students of the Month

7th Grade
Students of the Month
Tre Jackson
Madelyn Landerfelt

Citizen of the Month
Kaylee Pierce

8th Grade
Students of the Month
Kaleb Morris
Jordyn Voss

Citizen of the Month
Audrey Miller

9th Grade
Student of the Month
Jason Frogget
Karla Meza

Citizen of the Month
Kaleb Foster



Technology Club News



Technology club meets just about every Tuesday during tutoring. This year we are finally Podcasting! . Two 9th graders, Ross and Kasey, have been producing a show called the “Intellectual Show.” They have written and rewritten their scripts to hone them into a near perfect production. The first cast was about Steve Jobs, the second which is even better than the first is on the Nintendo 3DS. Not only do they have a great ‘back and forth’ on their broadcasts, but they have consistent theme music mixed to just the ‘right level’. They are working with a free program for sound editing called **Audacity**. Soon there will be a direct link to the podcast page from the Pau-Wa-Lu page. You can find their Podcasts by going to the Pau-Wa-Lu website: Teacher Websites, Baumann, Computer Literacy and click on the link to the podcast.

Other students from the 7th and 8th grade are working on learning how to build websites and building projects using another free piece of software called ‘**Scratch**’ developed by MIT to teach programming to students. Students will also learn to use **Anime Studio and Pencil** to do some simple animation.

Old phones, working or broken digital cameras or video cameras? Empty or unused Ink Jet cartridges?



Tech club is collecting these for a company that offers recycling services as a fund-raiser for schools. Tech club will be able to use the money for their projects and software. Your items do not need to be working. Please remove your ‘sim’ card from your phone or my tech club students will remove and destroy them. Please include the chargers and the batteries even if they do not work. We can also accept old laptops (they don’t have to be working), but not desktops or monitors. We can only recycle ink jet cartridges, no laser toner please! Your student can bring items to the front desk where there will be collection boxes beginning Monday November 21st.

Second semester we will try to do a little robot work! All students are welcome to come to tech club on Tuesdays as long as they are passing their classes. We do not play games on the Internet during tech club...students can do that at home! We do plan to have students build some games using a new computer program beginning in January.

8th Grade Transition Meetings

The counselors at Pau-Wa-Lu will be meeting with each and every parent/guardian and student of our current 8th graders to go over their child's future plans for the next four years of school. These **MANDATORY** meetings were built into this year's strategic plan with the intentions of each parent having individual time with a counselor to plan out their child's transition from middle school to the high stakes of high school. These meetings are a requirement in order to graduate.

During these ½ hour meetings, parents/guardians will go over credits, proficiencies, competencies, and all other requirements necessary for graduation from high school. Furthermore, your counselor will also present information, which may pose valuable for post graduation plans for your child. These subjects may include scholarship material, standardized test scores (ACT & SAT), Financial Aid, University admissions, requirements, etc.

Please look forward to signing up for your personal appointment with one of our counselors. Each 8th grade parent will receive a letter that will invite you to begin the process of setting up your personal appointment. Meeting dates are still to be determined and will be announced once they are set.

Transportation and Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather it may become necessary for Douglas County School District to call Alternate Bus Stops, One Hour Delay or a Snow Day. DCSD's first consideration in making these decisions is the safety of the students.

Alternate Bus Stops will be in effect when it is decided that it is safest to prohibit bus travel in certain areas. Buses will still pick up and drop off students however it will be at a bus stop on a safely accessible main street. Both pick up and drop off, may be at the alternate bus stops, depending on improving weather conditions. The Transportation Department will notify students and parents if an alternate stop is in effect.

One Hour Delay is called if it is determined that it would be safer if the buses picked up students one hour later in the morning and the weather conditions are such that the buses can make it home safely in the afternoon.

A **Snow Day** is called when it is decided that it is safest for DCSD students to not attend school due to weather or other conditions being unpredictable. If any Snow days are called during the first semester the days must be made up at the end of the school year and the DHS Graduation date will move the same number of days. If any Snow Days are called during the second semester the days must be made up at the end of the school year, however the DHS Graduation date will stay the same.

Determinations will be made as soon as possible but no later than 6:00 AM for secondary schools and 7:00 AM for elementary. Information on these changes can be located through the following:

Radio Stations

KCMY (99.1 FM) KBUL (98.1 FM) ****DO NOT CALL THE RADIO STATIONS!**

TV Stations (for one hour delay or closures only)

KNRV Channel 4 KOLO Channel 8 KTVN Channel 2

DCSD Webpage www.dcsd.k12.nv.us

"Snow Day-No School", "One Hour Delay" or "Main Bus Stops" will be posted by 6:30AM.

Automated Auto-Dialer system

The system will call student's home phone numbers and announce "Snow Day" or "One Hour Delay".

Please note:

- No message will be sent out if it is school as usual.
- *Alternate Bus Stop notifications will not be reported on the TV stations.*
- *No notification system is foolproof. Power outages and technical problems can arise.*
- *DCSD will do it's best to keep you informed.*
- Predicting the weather is always a difficult task. Conditions at one end of the valley can be quite different from the other and weather conditions can change very rapidly. All applicable factors will be taken into consideration.
- Decisions will be made with the safety of the students as the first priority.
- It shall be the ultimate responsibility of the individual bus driver to assess whether to travel into areas where road conditions may be hazardous to the safety of the students.



From the Attendance Office

If you are planning to take your student(s) out for more than two (2) days, please stop by the front office and pick up a Prearranged Absence form.

Once filled out, please turn the form into the attendance secretary, Shelley Alexander, so that your student can go around and collect work from their teachers.

HOLIDAYS/SCHOOL BREAKS

Veteran's Day	Nov 11
Thanksgiving	Nov 24-Nov 25
Winter Break	Dec. 19—Jan. 2nd
MLK Day	Jan 16
President's Day	Feb 20
Spring Break	Apr 2-Apr 9
Memorial Day	May 28



SCHOOL FEES

P.E. Uniform Shirt	\$7.00
P.E. Uniform Shorts	\$10.00
PE. Sweat Top	\$15.00
P.E. Pants	\$15.00
Activity Card (required)	\$7.00
Yearbook (8/22/11-1/13/12)	\$35.00
Yearbook (1/16/12-5/25/12)	\$40.00
Yearbook (5/26/12-6/1/12)	\$45.00

Non-Discrimination Policy

The Douglas County School District Board of Trustees supports equal educational opportunity for students free from discrimination based upon race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin (Board Policy No. 103). This concept of equal opportunity serves as a guide for staff in making decisions relating to school facilities; and selection of educational materials, equipment, curriculum, and regulations affecting students. In support of this policy and in compliance with the requirements of federal law, no student will be required to attend mandatory meetings solely based on the student's race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin.



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