



Good evening PSPA Middle Grades Students and Parents,

Here are some updates for the week:

COMPUTERS OVER SPRING BREAK/YOUTUBE ACCESS

Just like we did at Winter Break, students will be asked to leave their computers here at school over Spring Break. We will have students shut them down before the end of the day on Friday and have them place their computers in their lockers. The teachers have been asked not to give work to students over the break, and all access to their computers will be shut down at the school level as well. We did not have many issues returning from Winter Break, and we do not foresee issues over Spring Break.

Also, as a school we have decided that the academic positives that can come from YouTube are overshadowed by the negatives of students watching videos at inappropriate times. Therefore, we will be shutting down access to YouTube for all students as of next Friday. If there is a need for a student to watch a video, they will need to do so on a home computer.

2026 8TH GRADE WASHINGTON DC TRIP

We will hold a meeting for interested parents of current 7th graders who would like to hear information about the 2026 Trip. That meeting will take place virtually this Tuesday, March 25, at 6:00. Here is the information if you wish to attend that meeting.

2026 Washington DC Trip Parent Meeting

Tuesday, March 25 · 6:00 – 7:00pm

Time zone: America/New_York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/una-crqe-rvx>

Or dial: (US) +1 252-656-5514 PIN: 235 958 730#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/una-crqe-rvx?pin=9034624314768>

YEARBOOK SALE ENDING THIS FRIDAY

If you are interested in buying a yearbook, the deadline to make a purchase is this upcoming Friday, March 28. [Click here](#) for ordering information.

SUMMER BABYSITTING CLASS

Nurse Brothers will be offering babysitting classes in June. Students will learn CPR, basic first aid skills, fire safety, water safety, and learning about how to take care of a newborn up to

school aged children. If you are interested in signing up your child, please refer to this [online intake form](#) for more details. The cost is \$65 per student (\$60 for multiple siblings discount). The class is open to rising 6th-9th graders. If you have any additional questions, feel free to contact Nurse Brothers at lbrothers@pinespringsprep.org.

PSPA PIONEER PAGES (READ-A-THON) UPDATE

We're seeing a lot of students carrying books around school, and we're already seeing flat donations coming in from across the country (e.g., Texas, New York, South Carolina, Georgia, just to name a few). It's so exciting to see sponsors, whether they be family or friends, encouraging students to read. Remember, donations are due by Friday, March 28, and all donations must be made through our online donation form at pinespringsprep.org/donate. Please do not send cash or checks. Don't forget, all donations are tax-deductible.

A great way to maximize donations is by checking with employers to see if they offer a donation matching program. Many do! Some employers even offer a 1:1 match up to a certain amount. If you're unsure whether your company offers this program, be sure to ask - it could make a huge difference! You can also search for employer matching programs [HERE](#). If your employer has a matching program, we may be listed as Triangle Education Organization in their database. Please try searching for this name.

[Pioneer Pages Read-a-Thon Information](#)

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about our PSPA Pioneer Pages fundraiser, please feel free to reach out to Craig Tucker, Director of Strategic Partnerships (ctucker@pinespringsprep.org).

FROM THE PTO

PSPA Alumni!

We would love to see you back at our 4th annual Pioneer Palooza to help us put on another great carnival. Please see the sign up for opportunities to volunteer your time and earn some service hours on Friday, April 11th 5pm-8pm.

Each shift is 1 hour. Please feel free to sign up for more than one slot and/or to ask a PSPA alumni friend to sign up together for the same time slot and activity. Can't wait to see you there!

Sign up to volunteer here: <https://bit.ly/43MKP4L>

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at info@psppto.org.

Sincerely,

Michelle Starnes
PSPA PTO Family Events Coordinator

END OF YEAR EVENTS

As we are getting closer to the end of the year(!) I wanted to make sure you had some specific dates on your calendar for upcoming evening events.

April 11-PTO Spring Carnival
April 15-PBL Showcase
April 22-Spring Music Concert
April 23-Athletics Recognition Night
April 29-Spring Night of the Arts
May 1-NJHS Induction
May 2-8th Grade Semi-Formal
May 22-8th Grade Promotion Ceremony

Please keep an eye out for information about each of these events, including time and location.

iREADY CHALLENGE

Hopefully, your child has informed you about our iReady Challenge that we implemented recently. If not, please be sure to ask them about it. There are some cool rewards for meeting their goals, such as a Dress Down Day ticket, a PJ/Cozy Dress Day, and a Jam Session/Game Time period. Students need to get their logs signed on Tuesday or Thursday morning to get credit for their hard work. The last day to earn rewards is Thursday, March 27.

RAMADAN

As Ramadan is going on, we would like to offer the opportunity for students who are observing to spend lunch time in a place separate from their peers if they so choose. If your child would like to be a part of this, please have them come to the main office at the beginning of lunch, and they will be able to sit in the conference room for the duration of lunch.

ATHLETICS

We have a number of Soccer, Softball, and Baseball games this week. Please come out to cheer on our Pioneers!

<https://www.pspaathletics.org/>

FROM OUR PBL COACH-Updated as of 2/25

Please click on the [linked document](#) to view the current Project-Based Learning units our students are working on.

POSITIVITY PROJECT

This week, our school community will focus on the character strength of ***Humor***. Humor means enjoying laughter and bringing smiles to others.

Humor helps us see the lighter side of things, making tough times easier and more fun. It doesn't mean you have to tell jokes, but people with humor often notice the funny moments in life and share them with others. Humor can lift people's spirits and help them through challenges. It's important to help students understand how to use humor in a kind way, to lift others up, and never at someone else's expense.

To practice and encourage the character strength of humor at home, please visit The Positivity Project's mobile-friendly P2 for Families (available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)), where you will watch a video together and discuss a quote and three questions.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Glenn Dansky
Principal, Middle Grades
gdansky@pinespringsprep.org

Lauren Johnson
Assistant Principal, Middle Grades
ljohnson@pinespringsprep.org

[8th Grade Plan Book](#)

[7th Grade Plan Book](#)

[6th Grade Plan Book](#)