



Good evening PSPA Middle Grades Students and Parents,

Thank you to everyone who came out to our PBL Showcase last Tuesday. We had an incredible turnout of parents, community members, board members, prospective families, and current and former students. That is one of my favorite nights of the year as we get to show off all of the amazing projects our students are able to create facilitated by our staff. I hope you enjoyed it and look forward to making it even better next year and beyond!

Here are some updates for this week:

iREADY/DELTA MATH/IXL

I know we are getting close to the end of the school year, but we are still working hard on our individual instructional plans with iReady/Delta Math/IXL. Please continue to encourage your child to complete the modules they are assigned. Thanks!

BATTLE OF THE CLASSES

This Thursday is our annual Battle of the Classes. Pioneer Time classes in each grade level will compete to see which is the most dominant in a variety of activities for students of all ability levels and interests. Your child should know what color to wear that day and it does not need to be uniform, but it still needs to be school appropriate.

BUSCH GARDENS-HEALTH FORMS NEEDED

Just a reminder that the 8th grade trip to Busch Gardens is this upcoming Friday, April 25. If you have not already turned in your child's medical form, it needs to be in ASAP. This is for all students, regardless of if they take medication or not.

EVENING ACTIVITIES

The next few weeks we have a plethora of events in the evenings to recognize our students. In addition to our Spring Sports finishing out the regular season, we have our Spring Music Concert this Tuesday at 6:00pm in the gym, our Athletics Recognition Celebration on Wednesday at 6:00pm in the gym, and the rescheduled Pioneer Palooza carnival on Friday in the middle school lower parking lot. Come out and support our Pioneers for their hard work and dedication.

PARENT MENTAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

From our School Counselors, Ms. Breslin and Mr. Windbush

We wanted to reach out and let you know that the Poe Center will be leading a parent meeting on **April 28th from 5:30pm-7:00pm**. We'll be splitting into two separate groups for that event, K-4 in the Elementary school gym and 5-8 in the middle school gym. Our goal is to equip families with skills for teaching their children about self-advocacy, mental health awareness, and resiliency. Here is a brief description:

#YouthCulture: Brain Development, Technology, and Coping Strategies

This program explores how adolescent brain development impacts decision-making and online behavior, particularly in relation to social media. Participants will learn about the latest research on risk and protective factors, and how to support youth in making healthy, empowered choices. The session also addresses the effects of stress on mental, physical, and emotional health, offering practical strategies to build resilience and promote wellness. Attendees will leave with tools and resources to support ongoing conversations with youth.

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.

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 22-Spring Music Concert
April 23-Athletics Recognition Night
April 25-PTO Spring Carnival (Rescheduled)
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.

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 **Purpose**. Purpose means having beliefs about the meaning of life and feeling that your life has a purpose. It's about wanting to be part of something bigger than yourself.

People with a sense of purpose believe they are here for a reason. That reason can be different for everyone — it might be inventing something new, bringing joy through art or music, or raising kind and responsible children.

Having a clear purpose helps people stay strong and courageous, even in difficult times. It also encourages them to act with kindness and love, even when it's hard. When people feel connected to something greater, their lives have more meaning and fulfillment.

To practice and encourage the character strength of purpose 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,

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[8th Grade Plan Book](#)

[7th Grade Plan Book](#)

[6th Grade Plan Book](#)