



# Eagle's Cry

The Paonia Elementary School Newsletter

August 28, 2018



## Mark Your Calendar

### August

**8/31– Summer BINGO Forms Due**

### September

**9/3- Labor Day Holiday  
No School**

**9/12– 9:00 Lock Down Drill**

**9/13- Student Pictures**

**9/14- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Midterms**

**9/17- 6:00 PPO Meetings**

**9/18- Field Trip: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Cottonwood Days**

**9/20- Field Trip: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Swietzer Lake**

**9/22 – PHS Homecoming**

## School News

### Colorado Succeeds Prize

PES is a top-three finalist for this year's Colorado Succeeds Prize for Transformational Impact at the Elementary Level. We were selected as a finalist due to our demonstrated impact on student learning shown by student gains on standardized test scores; our innovative approach to school program design and implementation; and our demonstrated impact on growing the whole child through fostering a love of learning, acquiring diverse skills, and supporting well-rounded interests. Several employees and community members will be travelling to the awards ceremony on September 18<sup>th</sup> to see if we are selected as the \$15,000 prizewinner. Wish us luck!

### PPO Mountain Harvest Fest 5K

Paonia Elementary School in conjunction with Mountain Harvest Festival is hosting a FUNraising FUNrun/walk 5K! This is an event for everyone, whether you're a competitive runner or want to enjoy a walk/jog around scenic Paonia. The event will be professionally timed. Strollers and walkers welcome! Course starts and ends at the heart of all the Mountain Harvest Festival and runs by the Elementary School and loop around town. There is a short (~500') section of well-maintained gravel road that is stroller friendly. Online registration form: <https://form.jotform.com/81777581122157>.

## Information in the Office

There are flyers available at the front office for the following programs:

- ✓ Pee Wee Football registration forms for 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> graders
- ✓ Free/Reduced Lunch Application Forms

### Message from the Cafeteria

Please send in your completed free and reduced meal applications as soon as possible. The end of the grace period for free and reduced meals from last year is October 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have not filled out a 2018-2019 application you will be responsible for any lunch charges your child incurs. Please check your Tuesday Express folders for low or negative lunch balance updates. Even if you qualify for free and reduced you may only receive a free milk if you take a full meal. If you bring lunch from home you must pay \$0.50 for milk.

## Attendance Policy

At our annual Back to School BBQ, I mentioned our School District's new attendance policy. Here are some of the changes that all parents should be aware of:

- School attendance is mandatory for children six years of age and older by Colorado State Law.
- For attendance tracking purposes, an absence is counted, whether it is excused or not.
- An absence occurs when a student misses more than 45 minutes of a morning or afternoon learning period.
- After 4 absences, the school will mail a letter to families notifying them of the number of absences.
- After 6 absences, a meeting will be scheduled with the principal and family to create an Attendance Improvement Plan.
- After 9 absences, a meeting may be held with the family and the School District Attendance Review Board.
- A tardy occurs if a student arrives between 8:05 and 8:45, or leaves between 2:40 and 3:25.
- Families are encouraged to provide the school with documentation of doctor's appointments when students are absent for health appointments.
- Families are encouraged to meet with the school administration prior to any extended family vacations in order to complete the Attendance Improvement Plan.

The purpose of these changes is to ensure that students are present at school to the greatest extent possible. We want to work with families to reduce the amount of absences, and ensure the greatest amount of learning for all of our students. Please let me know if you have any questions about the attendance policy changes.

## Title I School

All PES parents need to be informed annually of our Title I status. PES is a Title I school, which means we receive federal funds since more than 40% of our students receive free and reduced lunch. Title I funding supports all day kindergarten, parent involvement in the school, as well as professional development for our staff. In September, as the staff and PPO develop our school's Unified Improvement Plan, we will identify parent involvement activities and professional development that target the academic needs of our students.

Additionally as a Title I school parents have the right to request information about the qualifications of our professional teaching staff concerning their highly qualified status and the right to timely notice from the school if their child has a teacher who is not highly qualified.

## Parent Involvement Drawing

After reading this *Eagle's Cry*, please fill out the coupon below with the names of each child in your family and return it to school. PPO sponsors this drawing to encourage parent involvement. Each child in the winning family receives \$1. Thanks for being a faithful reader!

Please cut off the coupon on this line.

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I've read the August 28<sup>th</sup> Eagle's Cry. Please enter this coupon in the newsletter drawing.

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(Names of children)

(Parent signature)