



Doug Bruggeman presented an overview of 7 Habits of Highly Effective People for the Community of Pelican Rapids on November 13th. The Leader in Me™ is an innovative, school-wide model that emphasizes a culture of student empowerment and helps unleash each child's full potential.

21st Century Skills

I try to keep up on current events and what is happening in the workforce in order to ensure that the Pelican Rapids School District is preparing students for the future. Having said that I have to admit I was a little taken aback to hear that California passed a law to allow autonomous vehicles on state roads and highways. In other words they are allowing driverless cars on the highway. California joined Nevada and Florida which already have similar laws. This information may be a bit scary but it is also a bit exciting to think of the possibilities of what might be next.



Superintendent
Deb Wanek

At one time the United States was well known for its innovation and design. In the late 1950s, Sputnik was the big concern and America feared falling behind Russia in the race to the moon. A great deal of pressure came from the President of the United States all the way down to the general public for schools, universities and companies to create, design and innovate to build an infrastructure that would keep our nation on top.

The United States leaped forward under this pressure. The capstone of this era was the accomplishment of putting a man on the moon but there were many other innovations that happened during that time. Our country found new and better ways to strengthen our defense system, our economy and our way of life.

In the 1980's schools began to feel the pressure of standardized tests. The push for innovation was replaced with pressure for the United States to have the highest test scores. In the early years of 2000 uncertain economic times and threats of national security forced us to once again to feel the pressure of global competition. The need to add creation, design and innovation back into schools, universities and companies is once again very strong.

You may hear these skills referred to as the 21st Century Skills and can be summed up with the "Four Cs," Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Communication, Collaboration and Creativity and Innovation.

So the good news is...the Pelican Rapids Schools is incorporating many of the 21st Century Skills into the daily curriculum for students Pre-K-12th grade. I hope you can grasp the importance of this news. Instead of just mastering core courses the new work force is calling for 21st Century Skills, and the Pelican Rapids Schools are weaving many of these skills into the curriculum.

The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People® and the Leader in Me™ programs, which are new this year, foster collaboration and communication. Critical thinking and problem solving are also evident in many classes. These skills will certainly help our students as they enter the workforce. We continue to keep our eyes on the future and prepare our students for their next steps. Pelican Rapids Schools, We Learn not for School but for Life!

"Where are they now?"- PRHS Graduate Yusuf Abdi

What Post-Secondary education institution did you attend and what degree did you earn?

In 2010, I graduated from North Dakota State University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Computer Science minor. I also received Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) accreditation as a legal representative from Department of Homeland Security.

Describe your career choice and what you enjoy about your career?

I always knew that I wanted to work in a field where I would be able to make a positive difference in people's lives. I have great passion in serving others that need the most. After I graduated from NDSU, I began working full time for Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota as a Program Manager in the Immigration Legal Services. I'm a Board of Immigration Appeals accredited representative as a result I work extensively with refugees and immigrants from many different countries and represent them in immigration matters. I am also an activist and a leader in the Somali community. Having an official position in a resettlement program and being a member of the community puts me in a unique position to serve my fellow new Americans and assist people seeking to live and work in community with dignity and hope.

How did PRHS prepare you for college?

I received solid education background and world experience from PRHS. I am very grateful to the wonderful teachers and faculty of PRHS for giving me such wonderful opportunity. PRHS values diversity and there are many cultures represented very well in Pelican Rapids. Many schools lack this lack this opportunity and in college it's certain that you'll meet many people with a

diverse backgrounds that you will interact with and I believe PRHS graduates already have that experience under their belt! During my senior year at PRHS I participated the Post Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) at Fergus Falls Community College and I believe this program helped me get ready for college courses.

What extracurricular activities did you participate in while you were at PRHS?

I participated in cross country, track & field, and soccer. I held few officer positions in various student organizations. I performed many hours of volunteer work in the community which helped me gain some leadership skills.

Do you have any special memories of your time at PRHS that you would like to share?

There are countless great memories from my years at PRHS and in Pelican Rapids in general that I will always cherish. One that I would like to share is when I was selected to be the MC for the prom night during my sophomore year. It was fun & learning experience for me. I've met many great people and created lifelong friendships at PRHS.

Any words of wisdom you would like to give the students in Pelican Rapids?

Enjoy your high school years! Participate in student organizations, sports and volunteering opportunities in the community! Embrace the diverse student body PRHS offers!



Yusuf Abdi
Class of 2000



Beginning With the End in Mind

Viking Elementary students and staff have been learning about the **7 Habits of Highly Effective People** by Stephen Covey. These habits are intended to promote skills for life and to help develop students into leaders. Habit 2 is the practice to **Begin with the End in Mind**. Basically, this is the ability to know what it is you want to accomplish before you begin. Viking Elementary has been working especially hard on this habit for the last year as we have worked to develop a clear focus for the most important learning outcomes at each grade level.

While all teachers are expected to develop and deliver curriculum based upon Minnesota academic standards, educational research indicates that it would take 23 years to teach all of these standards. If you do a basic math problem, you will quickly recognize that our K-12 system is only 13 years long. Therefore, it is clear that teachers simply cannot cover it all in a meaningful way. Therefore, each grade level has been identifying which reading and math standards are the most essential for ALL students to learn. We call these our Essential Learning Outcomes and teachers share this information with parents and students. When Essential Learning Outcomes are clearly identified, we achieve greater equity across each grade level. Teachers continuously work together to assess student progress towards mastery of these essential outcomes and collaborate on instructional strategies to help students who may be falling behind.

Although we emphasize student learning of these essential learning outcomes, the other standards are still taught. However, we want to provide every student the opportunity to deeply learn what is most important at their grade level. By using a team approach to identify those standards that have the most endurance, leverage, and ability to ready students for the next level of learning, we believe we have a better chance of achieving this goal for ALL students. **Beginning with the End in Mind** improves our focus on the most essential learning outcomes across grade levels.



Elementary School
Principal
Sheila Flatau

Young Leaders and Their Amazing, Technicolor T-Shirts

by Louis Hoglund (used with permission of The Pelican Press)

All the colors of the rainbow brightened the Pelican Rapids Viking elementary school Sept. 25, as students and faculty joined in an enthusiastic rally celebrating leadership. The event kicked off the “Leader in Me” initiative, which aims to develop leaders “one child at a time.”

Each student wore “I See A Leader” t-shirts, which are theirs to keep—and will be worn for other special occasions. Faculty and staff wore black t-shirts, also bearing the leadership message that is a schoolwide message.



Joining the party were Pelican high school student athletes and the famous “Superfans,” who staged their antics to a delighted gym-full of young spectators. Orchestrating the upperclassmen at their appearance at Vi-



king school was student council faculty advisor Doug Bruggeman. He stressed the importance of leadership, while inviting all the youngsters to homecoming festivities at the high school—including the tailgate party, which featured games and activities for younger students.

The event’s goal was to built enthusiasm for education program based on the “7 Habits of Highly Successful People.” Viking elementary school Principal Sheila Flatau said that the “Leader in Me” kick-off was an opportunity to celebrate student leaders from the high school, while promoting a connection to Homecoming week.

•Habit 1: Be Proactive® You’re in Charge

I am a responsible person. I take initiative. I choose my actions, attitudes and moods. I do not blame others for my wrong action. I do the right thing without being asked, even when no one is looking.

•Habit 2: Begin With the End in Mind® Have a Plan

I plan ahead and set goals. I do things that have meaning and make a difference. I am an important part of my classroom and contribute to my school’s mission and vision, and look for ways to be a good citizen.

•Habit 3: Put First Things First® Work First, Then Play

I spend my time on things that are most important. This means I say no to things I know I should not do. I set priorities, make a schedule and follow my plan. I am disciplined and organized.

•Habit 4: Think Win-Win® Everyone Can Win

I balance courage for getting what I want with consideration for what others want. I make deposits in others’ Emotional Bank Accounts. When conflicts arise, I look for third alternatives.

•Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood® Listen Before You Talk

I listen to other people’s ideas and feelings. I try to see things from their viewpoints. I listen to others without interrupting. I am confident in voicing my ideas. I look people in the eyes when talking.

•Habit 6: Synergize® Together Is Better

I value other people’s strengths and learn from them. I get along well with others, even people who are different than me. I work well in groups. I seek out other people’s ideas to solve problems because I know that by teaming with others we can create better solutions than any one of us along. I am humble.

•Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw® Balance Feels Best

I take care of my body by eating right, exercising, and getting sleep. I spend time with family and friends. I learn in lots of ways and lots of places, not just at school. I take time to find meaningful ways to help others.

Covey, Stephen R. *The Leader in Me: How Extraordinary, Everyday Schools Are Inspiring Greatness, One Child at a Time*. New York: Free, 2008.





Amazing Opportunities for Kids in Grades K-8!

by Candace Roesch, School Age Program Coordinator

We are so happy and proud to be able to offer some amazing programs for students again this fall! Some of our programs had reached capacity but we were able to add some great student helpers to our staff to assist with all the participants. I will continue to take registrations for our programs throughout the semester as long as we have the staff to cover the activity. You can get registration forms in the elementary office. It is important to note that this year we offered the activities that YOU wanted to see back and, see new. We have, on occasion, sent out surveys to our participants and their parents to get feedback and we've heard some great things and some things that we could improve upon. We value your opinion! Keep the great suggestions coming!

Here are some more amazing opportunities you can find through our school age programming at Viking Elementary. Coming soon-Partnerships with Prairie Wetlands learning center and Maplewood State Park! We have partnered with them in the past and the students have benefited greatly from the experiences! It gives them a chance to get off campus, be a part of and have an impact on the world they live in, and gain new experiences with their friends!

We visited the Buffalo River Pumpkin Patch on October 22nd and we had 58 students participate that day. We are planning another field trip on November 12th to the Perham Area Community Center. Later on in the year we might go to Andes Tower Hills in Alexandria or Skate land in Fargo! We are able to offer these field trips with only a small fee.

Most of our programming this year is offered to you at little to NO cost. There was a huge need from the community to have more free programming and we've been able to offer Magnificent Mondays FREE from 8:00-3:00! There is still a need for supervision during the early morning and late afternoon and our club vikes staff have that covered. We are open at 6:30 am and stay open until 6:00 pm. Club Vikes does come with a small fee, however, this fee can be a burden for some families and we are open to offering a scholarship for students to participate in the extended hours school age care if needed. Please contact us if you feel the need.

As you can see, communication is key in everything we do. Here is our contact information:

- Jake Richter-Program Director
863-5910 x4372
- Candace Roesch-Program Coordinator
863-5910 x5022
- Program cell phone-218-341-6739 (this is a great way to leave a message or text for Club Vikes, Magnificent Monday or after school program staff)
- Email croesch@pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us

We also reach out to the community in many ways. Club Vikes has a page on FACEBOOK. "Vic the Vike" carries some of our messages out on twitter. Our programs have multiple pages on the school's website. Our school newsletter reaches over 7,500 households and goes out 4 times a year. A smaller newsletter for school age programs is available at the elementary school in the club vikes room once a month as well.



After School FUN for Students in Grades K-8

In the past we have sent out forms for new activities at the change of the trimester. This year we will only be sending out new forms after the holiday break in January. Certain activities will stay the same throughout the school year, and you will not need to re-register for these activities. These activities include but are not limited to; Art Zone on Tuesdays and African Drumming on Fridays.

Here are some descriptions of the types of things we offer now and will continue to offer next Semester:

African Drumming: If your child has an interest in a new music experience, I would suggest signing up for African drumming. They meet for their drumming circle every Friday after school with GERALYN Lyseng. On November 9th the members of the group traveled to Fergus Falls for a drumming workshop!

Creative Cool Craft Zone: Students are crazy about the crafts they get to do with Julie Severson in 'craft zone.' Duct tape crafts are all the rage right now along with holiday themed fun! We plan to open up craft zone to more age groups starting in January.

Homework Help: This is an opportunity that all of our after school participants can take advantage of without missing out on any of the other stuff that's going on. Homework help is offered at 3:45-4:30 in the Library. After 4:30 students can join one of our other activities that are available until 5:15. It is available on a drop in basis as needed, as long as the student has written permission to stay after school.

Science and Engineering Zone: We use a fun hands-on curriculum brought to us by NPASS, National Partnerships for Afterschool Science. We spent the first 9 weeks learning about elements of heating a house and an oven. We plan to move into working on paper bridges next and later working on rockets.

Art Zone is an after school art club that meets every

Tuesday from 4:00-5:15. Most of the students are 4th-8th grade but K-3 are warmly welcomed. The students choose art projects and media that they want to work with. We also do community art projects such as painting the VES front steps and painting a mural for the outside wall on Mercantile on Main. We have worked with clay, acrylic paint and designer duct tape. The upcoming projects include origami, watercolor and sculpture. We practice first things first. Homework help comes before art projects. Homework can be done during snack break from 3:45-4:00pm.

Club Vikes is our on-site school age care program. If you are in need of some extra hours care for your student this is the place for them. The fees are low, and they receive care from our fun and caring staff. Club Vikes is hosting their 4TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY on Monday, December 17th, 2012 at 3:45-6:00 in the club vikes room. Anyone is welcome to come!

NEW!! Pay your club vikes fees online! We can make that happen for you! Click on the PAYSCHOOLS icon on the schools webpage. It looks like this:



If you already use PAYSCHOOLS, just click on the tab that says club vikes tuition. Billing statements will still come out every other Tuesday. Payment will still be due every other Friday. I can email you your billing statement if you provide me with your email address.



Magnificent Mondays:

We started our Monday programming on Monday September 10th. We had a great turn-out. 33 students attended. 10 of them rode the bus that we now are happy to provide through 21st Century Grant funds. We are up to an average daily attendance of about 50 now. 37 of them riding the bus! We offer help with Language skills, computer time, homework help, and enrichment activities. Targeted Services is also available from 9:00-11:30. Both targeted services and 21st Century grant activities offer highly qualified staff to help your student succeed. Our staff is able to incorporate 7 Habits learning as well!





Fun Fridays

- Friday mornings from 9:30-10:45am
- This class is for ages 0-5 (not yet in Kindergarten)
- Parents and children will enjoy free play, art activities, and circle time

Art is Awesome!

- Tuesday nights-March 12th, 19th, & 26th from 6-7:30pm
- This class is for ages 3-5 (not yet in Kindergarten)
- Parents and children will create wonderful works of art, using many different art materials. We will also enjoy freeplay and circle time.

Winter Open Gym

- Monday, January 14th from 6:30-7:30pm
- Thursday, February 21st from 6:30-7:30pm
- This class is for ages 0-5 (not yet in Kindergarten)
- Make a special holiday project to take home

Please Note:

- All ECFE classes are held in the ECFE classroom in the Kindergarten wing.
- You must register for all class offerings.
- You can reach Terra Fitzsimmons and Megan King at 863-2911 ext 5393

ECFE Winter Classes



Pelican ECFE loves families!

Here's our staff:

Terra Fitzsimmons
Coordinator, Parent Educator, Viking Preschool
Email: tfitzsim@pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us
Voicemail: 218-863-5910 ext 5393

Megan King
ECFE/Viking Preschool, Teacher,
Caring Connections Visitor
Email: mking@pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us
Voicemail: 218-863-5910 ext 5569

Janet Woolever
Bright Start Child Care Home Visitor

Kimberly Hernandez
Viking Preschool, Spanish Translator
Email: khernand@pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us
Voicemail: 218-863-5910 ext 5393

Debbi Kunz
Viking Preschool Para

Cindy Hart
MN Reading Corps Preschool Literacy Tutor

ECFE REGISTRATION FORM

Please register for all classes that your family wants to attend.

Child's Name: _____ Age _____

Child's Name: _____ Age _____

Child's Name: _____ Age _____

Parent's Name: _____

Phone Number (day): _____ (evening): _____

CLASSES:

Class Name	Days/Times	✓ box to register
Fun Fridays	Fridays 9:30-10:45am January 4th-March 22nd	
Art is Awesome!	Tuesdays 6-7:30pm March 12th, 19th, 26th	
Winter Open Gym	Monday, January 14th 6-7:30pm Thursday, February 21st 6-7:30pm	

Please contact me about receiving home visits:

_____ Caring Connections _____ Bright Start

To Register or if you have questions:

Call Terra at 218-863-5910 ext 5393
or Email: tfitzsim@pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us
or Mail registrations to: ECFE PO 642
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572



Viking Preschool



Viking Preschool ages 3-4

- Child must be 3 by September 1, 2012 to enroll.
- Wednesdays beginning September 19th.

Viking Preschool ages 4-5

- Child must be 4 by September 1, 2012 to enroll.
- Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning September 18th.

All preschool sessions:

- 8:00-11:00am or 12:30-3:45pm
- Includes either breakfast or lunch
- When our target number of 24 is reached, the afternoon session will be opened.



Our Programs

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE)

ECFE is Pelican Rapids' birth through kindergarten entry program that provides outreach, support, and education to our families. Sign up now for fun connections that can be made between you and your child. Come and meet families who are in the same stage!

Viking Preschool (School Readiness)

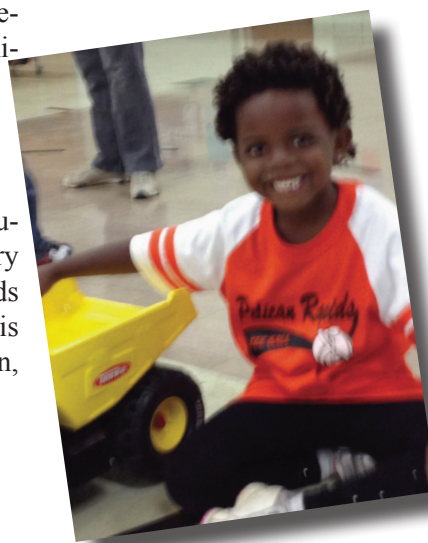
We use the math and language pre-k curriculum incorporated throughout Viking Elementary K-6. It is integrated in an age appropriate hands on pre-k experience. Our preschool program is supported by local levy, community education, and parent tuitions.

Bright Start Child Care Home Visits

Are you providing care for children? If you are interested in having a licensed teacher come to your home with activities, please indicate on the registration. This home visiting program is supported by ISD 548 ECCE, United Way of Ottertail County and Child Care Resource & Referral.

Caring Connections

Caring Connections is a home visiting program to support first time parents in Ottertail County. We do get referrals from Fergus Falls and Detroit Lakes hospitals, but do not get referrals from Fargo. If you are interested in this fantastic support system, or have a friend who just delivered, please contact the ECCE staff.



FREE QUILT AND BOOKS

SPONSORED BY THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY AND LAST TUESDAY QUILTERS.

BABY BUNDLES

A cozy welcome to our community extended from the Public Library. Babies born in the last 6 months are eligible for this free gift. Contact Jerri Baker, email: are-jay@arvig.net 218-849-2322 or 218-342-2618.

You may also bring in this coupon to the public library and Jerri will be in touch. What a nurturing way to introduce your new baby to books and language!

Friends of the Library Baby Bundle

Baby Name _____

Male _____ Female _____ Birthdate _____
(check one) (must be 6 mths or younger to be eligible for free gift)

Parent Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____



Community Ed Fall Class Schedule

Technology

Smartphone's: Learn the Latest and Greatest Technology

Sponsored by
Arvig Communication Systems
Tuesday, February 5th 5:30-7:00pm
Location: PRHS Media Center
Entrance: Library-West side of Building
Fee: Free

This class will cover the options and features of today's latest Smartphones. Topics to be covered include downloading and utilizing apps, social networking, using email and calendars, personalizing settings and more. Bring your Smartphone if you have one, otherwise demonstration phones will be available for use. Each participant will receive a \$25 store gift certificate for redemption at the Arvig/Verizon Wireless Store in Pelican Rapids.

Fitness

Zumba Fitness

Tami Seifert
December & January
Mondays 5:30-6:30pm
Thursdays 6:30-7:30pm

Location: PRHS Upper Study Hall
Entrance: Library-West side of Building
Fee: \$25.00 per month

Are you ready to party yourself into shape? That's exactly what the Zumba Fitness program is all about. It's an exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness-party for people of all shapes, sizes, and ages. No dance experience necessary...just come and have fun!

Personal Interest

Home Buyer Education (HOME STRETCH)

Rosy Hjermstad
Housing Advocate MMCDC
Wednesday, March 27th
5:00-9:30pm
AND
Thursday, March 28th
5:00-9:30pm
Class location: PPRHS Media Center
Entrance: Library-West side of Building
Fee: Free
To Register call: 218-847-3191

The Home Stretch workshop is offered throughout the state of Minnesota and covers start-to-finish, the entire home buying process. The workshop offers objective, practical information to help you get on the path to homeownership. It will be fun and informal with food and prizes, while providing important information to help homebuyers make housing decisions that are best for them. Invited presenters include local lenders, real estate agent, insurance representative, closing agent, a money management expert and much more. Home Stretch is made possible by a grant from the Minnesota Home Ownership Center and Rural Lisc.

Cabinet Transformation

Home Depot staff
Monday, February 25th
6:00-8:00pm
Location: PRHS Media Center
Entrance: Library-West side of Building
Fee: \$20.00

Learn how to easily change the color and finish of your cabinetry using Rust-oleum Cabinet Transformations System. Transform the look of your outdated cabinetry with beautiful, professional-quality results, in days, at a fraction of the cost!

How to Build a Deck

Home Depot staff
Monday, March 25th 6:00-8:00pm
Location: PRHS Media Center
Entrance: Library-West side of Building
Fee: \$20.00

Decks are a perfect area for outdoor entertaining and outdoor relaxing! Learn about the different styles of decks, the materials you need to build one, and how to build it so you can be ready for Summer fun!

Cooking

Pressure Cooking

Coleen Guhl
Wednesday, February 6th 5:30-7:30pm
Location: PRHS Foods Lab Rm #416
Fee: \$15.00

Pressure cooking is making a comeback because it not only saves you time, money, but it also preserves valuable nutrients, enhances food flavors and it can all be done in minutes instead of hours. Coleen will be showing you how to make a main dish, soup, and a dessert. Participants will help prepare the food and eat the food that you make as a class. Please bring a container with you to bring home leftovers.

*You may bring your own Pressure Cooker but only if it has been tested for safety.

Christmas Candy

Coleen Guhl
Wednesday, December 12th 6:30-8:30pm
Location: PRHS Foods Lab Rm #416
Entrance: PRHS Administrative Doors (front)
Fee: \$15.00

Coleen will demonstrate how to make a variety of Christmas Candies just in time for the Holidays. She will be making fudge, homemade marshmallows, taffy, etc. Please bring a container to bring home the leftovers from class.

Community Ed Registration Information

Community Ed Registration Form

Class _____
Fee \$ _____
Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Cell _____
Email _____

Community Ed Registration Form

Class _____
Fee \$ _____
Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Cell _____
Email _____

Mail completed form to:

Pelican Rapids Community Education
PO Box 642
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

or call with questions or to register:

Julie Gamble at 218-863-5910 ext 4806
or Jake Richter at 218-863-5910 ext 4372
Tuesday-Friday
or Email commmed@pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us

Class Locations

Pelican Rapids High School

Administrative entrance on the east side (front) of the building or Library entrance on west side (back). Direction signs will be posted at both entrances.

Viking Elementary

Enter through the front doors on the northwest side of the building. Signs will direct you to your classroom.

Pelican Rapids Public Library

Parking lot is on the north side of the Library. Meeting room is on the south end of the building. Signs will be posted.

General Information

Enrollments are accepted on a first come, first served basis. Advanced paid registration is required. Deadline to enroll is 1 week before starting date of class, unless otherwise indicated.

No confirmations will be sent. You are enrolled in class once we receive your registration and payment. You will be contacted only if the class is cancelled. Refunds will be issued only if you withdraw prior to the first class meeting or if the class is cancelled.

Unless otherwise indicated, all classes offered are open to all adults.

Non-Discrimination Policy

It is the policy of ISD #548 to comply with federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination.

Storm Policy

If the Pelican Rapids School are cancelled or release students early due to bad weather, Community Education classes will not be held.



District Goals

“Study the facilities and plan for the future,” has been one of the Pelican Rapids School District goals for the last few years. In 2008 Roger Worner completed a thorough review of the finances, demographics, enrollment trends and facilities of the Pelican Rapids School District. Once the report was completed he led a Blue Ribbon Task Force through the findings. This community group was made up of people from various demographic backgrounds. One of the recommendations this group made to the school board was to, “Study the facilities and plan for the future.”

The first step of this plan was a review of the elementary building. After a complete study the task force reviewed the findings and recommended to the School Board to move forward and make Viking Elementary energy efficient. That project was completed in 2010. The next step was to have a community task force review the High School in 2010. The School Board made it very clear they were committed to the current site and charged the task force to review the High School building and bring their recommendations to the School Board. When the review was complete the Task Force made a list of recommendations.

The School Board reviewed these recommendations and the impact they would have on safety, education and the community. Rough cost estimates were gathered and the School Board asked the Task Force to prioritize the list. The Task Force prioritized the list, costs were reviewed and the project of 18 million was recommended to the School Board. At the October 16th School Board meeting the School Board made a motion to move forward with the planning phase of this project with the possible date of the referendum to be on or around March 11, 2013.

The next few stages will require approval by Minnesota Department of Education. Cost and tax impact will be reviewed and if the School Board chooses to move forward will make a motion late this year. This referendum will be for remodeling of the High School at its current site and is considered a building bond. The debt of a building bond is spread over all property, except where excluded by law. The operating levy tax impact did not include seasonal and agricultural property but the building bond will be spread over seasonal recreation and agricultural land as well as the property with referendum market value, as in the recent operating levy.

High School Building Update

by Trevor Steeves

The high school is putting the finishing touches on a new indoor air quality project that includes new ventilation units along with dehumidification and a new heating system. This project will bring the high school building in compliance with national air quality standards and improve energy efficiency. The Elementary building was upgraded in 2010 and has seen much improvement with indoor air quality, comfort and efficiency.

Minnesota State Math League

by Lisa Petznick

Pelican Rapids joined both the Minnesota State High School Math League for grades 9-12 and the Minnesota Junior High School Mathematics League for grades 7 and 8 this year.

In Junior High there are 1,383 students competing on 161 teams throughout the state. We are in the West Central division, which



includes 72 individuals on 10 teams. Our kids did well in their first meet, which was held October 3rd. In our division individually Mason Thornton was in a 3-way tie for 2nd place with a 24, and Brooklyn Korynta and Moriah Johnson tied for 5th with 22. In team competition, the Pelican Rapids Vikings team earned 1st place in our division! Team members were 8th graders Mason Thornton, Moriah Johnson, Emma Hoover, Bailey Shulstad, and 7th graders Brooklyn Korynta and Carlan Haugrud. We are looking forward to meet 2, which is coming up on October 31st.

The MSHSL senior high math league will start competition on Monday, November 5th. They will have a chance to earn a trip to state competition both individually and as a team. Currently there are over 3,000 students from 172 schools participating in the league.

Fourteen individuals from PRHS competed in a separate math contest at Bemidji State University on Tuesday, October 30th. The junior division was for grades 9 & 10, while 11th & 12th graders competed in a senior division.

In the junior division Guillermo Rosiles claimed 1st place out of 360 students with a very impressive score of 38 out of 40. Awards are given to the top ten individuals, but it is worth noting that Lincoln Haiby tied for 14th place with a 24, and Kaylee Resch tied for 31st place with a 21. Freshman Logan Knorr was just one point behind her. The average score for competitors in the junior division was 14.4, so all of our kids did far better than average.

Our junior high team dominated the competition by getting 1st place overall out of 24 teams from both division A and AA schools. Team members were Rosiles, Haiby, and Resch. This is the seventh consecutive year that a Pelican Rapids team earned 1st place at this contest!

Johanna Knorr earned 2nd place individually in the senior division with a score of 26. Emma Sjostrom and Reilly Knorr scored 23, which tied for 9th place

individually out of 373 people. Individual awards are not given separately for A & AA schools; all students are in one group. Therefore, it is impressive to place three students in the top ten when competing against kids from larger schools.

Our senior high team consisting of Johanna Knorr, Emma Sjostrom, and Reilly Knorr earned 1st place among A schools, only four points behind AA Bemidji out of 26 teams total.

PRHS has been attending this contest since 2004. During those nine years every team except two that we have brought has earned third place or higher! We have also brought home numerous individual medals every year. Congratulations to our mathletes!

The senior high math team had their first MSHSL math meet on Monday, November 5th. Unfortunately, we only had one Calculus kid and two Pre-Calc kids along, and only ten kids total because many had other commitments. Considering our small numbers, I was pleased with the results. In Math League, there are four separate tests including Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry/Precalculus, and Analysis. Each student takes two of the tests and four students from each team



must take each test.

Therefore missing juniors and seniors hurts the team score, as younger kids have to take tests on material they have not learned yet! I am hoping more juniors and seniors can make it to future meets so I don't have to make sophomores take the Calc test again! There is also a team test.

We are competing in the Northwestern Lights division, which includes ten schools. Individually, Guillermo Rosiles tied for third place, Logan Knorr tied for eighth place, and Johanna Knorr tied for 26th out of 239 mathletes.

In team competition, Alexandria achieved first place, Bemidji claimed second, Thief River Falls took third, and Pelican Rapids got fourth place out of ten teams. Team members were Guillermo Rosiles, Logan Knorr, Johanna Knorr, Emma Sjostrom, Lincoln Haiby, Kaylee Resch, Cody Bekkerus, and Josh Kunz. The disappointing part is that last week our math team with more members beat both Bemidji and Thief River Falls at the Bemidji meet. It was amazing that with so few competitors we still beat Breckenridge, Fergus Falls, Detroit Lakes, Moorhead, and others however!

This newsletter is funded by the
21st Century Grant, Cultural Collaborative
and Community Education.

Small School, Big Opportunities for Involvement

Pelican Rapids students emerge ready to excel and make a difference!

We learn not for school but for life!



New Parent Liaison-Your Connection to the School

by Porfirio Diaz

My name is Porfirio Diaz, a Pelican Rapids High School graduate. I'm excited to be the Parent Liaison for Pelican Rapids School District; I have nothing but great things to say about our schools and community. I want to inform the community about my role as a Parent Liaison, as well as a brief biography of myself.



Parent Liaison
Porfirio Diaz

As the Parent Liaison my role is to get parents involved in the activities of their children. I will be your connection to the school for any needs, to support and improve the education of your children. As the Parent Liaison I feel it is necessary to have a relationship between parents and the school; not only will it benefit your children but it will also benefit yourself and the district. I'm motivated to start working with students and parents in our community to help them succeed for the better of everyone and reach their goals. I hope to see parents get involved in the education of their children to make this possible.

Outside of Pelican Rapids, I feel proud to say I'm from this community. I believe that we have one of the best and most unique communities in the State of Minnesota. Our diverse community is wonderful, where one has the opportunity to learn from different cultures and at the same time share one's culture. I'm proud to say I'm a PR Viking, due to having a school district that offers excellent academics that challenge and prepare students for post-secondary along with great athletics that challenge and teach students to not only become successful in their sport but also in the classroom. Through all the great things that our district offers we see that it lives up to its motto "We learn not for school but for life," in the way that students are prepared for when they encounter the real world.

After graduating PRHS in 2008 I attended MState-Fergus Falls where I received my Associate of Arts degree in Business Administration. I then transferred to Concordia College- Moorhead to complete my Bachelors degree in International Business-Management. During my time at both institutions I participated in football. I also had the opportunity to study abroad in Mexico City during the spring of 2012, which was a wonderful learning experience. On my time off I enjoy coaching soccer to a great group of students from our community. I am looking forward to helping students improve academically as well as guiding them to become leaders. Go Vikings!

Transformación a una Escuela de Liderazgo

La Importancia de los Padres en la Educación de sus Hijos

by Porfirio Diaz

La educación de los hijos es una de las cosas más importantes en la vida, debería ser una prioridad para los padres ayudar y apoyar a sus hijos en el estudio escolar. Es importante que los padres estén al tanto de la participación de sus hijos en la escuela. Pueden comenzar por revisar las calificaciones y asistencia de su estudiante en la página de internet "Skyward" regularmente. Mientras usted cumple con la responsabilidad de padre/madre, el personal de la escuela cumplirá con preparar a su hijo/hija para ser líderes y tener éxito en el presente y en el futuro.

Es por eso que la directora de la escuela Deb Wanek cree que es necesario que las escuelas de Pelican Rapids implementen un componente de liderazgo. Wanek cree que es necesario que las escuelas cambien porque nuestra sociedad está cambiando. Albert Einstein observó que, "No puedes resolver problemas con la misma manera de pensar que los creaste." El distrito escolar se hace preguntas. ¿Cómo ayudamos a nuestros estudiantes a pensar de diferentes maneras, desempeñarse diferente y ser expertos en resolver problemas? ¿Cómo ayudamos a cada uno de nuestros estudiantes a ser líderes efectivos?

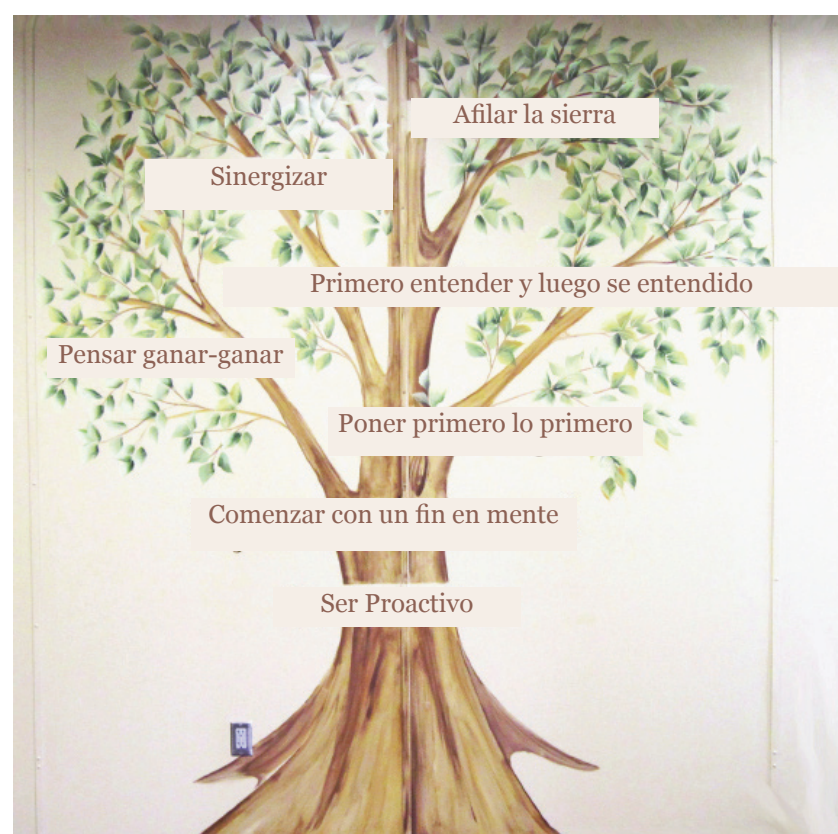
La filosofía de los 7 hábitos de liderazgo se implementará por primera vez en nuestras escuelas este año. Esta filosofía se basa del libro titulado Los 7 Hábitos de la Gente Altamente Efectiva escrito por Stephen Covey. El personal de la escuela terminó con el entrenamiento necesario en Mayo del presente año para implementar la filosofía de los 7 hábitos este año escolar. La filosofía reconoce que cada estudiante tiene virtudes y es un líder. Stephen Covey, el autor del libro, tiene una gran definición de lo que es liderazgo. "Liderazgo es comunicar a la gente su valor y potencial de una manera muy clara que lo pueden ver en sí mismos." Covey dice que cuando uno implementa los 7 hábitos en nuestra vida diariamente, se vuelven en nuestros hábitos y el nivel de efectividad personal progresa. Estos 7 hábitos son:

- **Habito 1: Ser Proactivo** – Tu eres el responsable
- **Habito 2: Comenzar con un fin en mente** - Tener un plan/objetivo
- **Habito 3: Poner primero lo primero** – Trabajar primero, después jugar

- **Habito 4: Pensar ganar-ganar** – Todos pueden ganar
- **Habito 5: Primero entender y luego se entendido** – Escucha antes de hablar
- **Habito 6: Sinergizar** – Juntos es mejor
- **Habito 7: Afilar la sierra**—renovación

Este programa ha sido implementado en 600 escuelas alrededor del mundo y los resultados en los estudiantes incluyen aumento en autoestima, trabajo en grupo, iniciativa, creatividad, liderazgo, solución de problemas, comunicación, rendimiento académico y mayor satisfacción de los padres. Nuestro objetivo es ayudar a cada estudiante a ver su valor y potencial y desarrollar sus habilidades únicas. Nosotros queremos que tengan habilidades de liderazgo y la voluntad de hacer este mundo un mejor lugar. El tema de nuestras escuelas ha sido "Nosotros aprendemos no por la escuela si no por vida" y es exactamente lo que tenemos planeado para este año. Creemos que hay un líder dentro de cada estudiante y esperamos un año emocionante de descubrimiento, donde cada estudiante comienza a identificar sus fortalezas y tiene la oportunidad de usarlas.

El apoyo de los padres es muy importante en la educación de sus hijos, les pedimos que continúen haciéndolo durante la carrera de sus hijos. Al mismo tiempo traten de implementar los 7 hábitos de la gente altamente efectiva en su hogar con sus hijos y familia.



Mi nombre es Porfirio Diaz, un graduado de la secundaria de Pelican Rapids. Estoy emocionado de ser el coordinador para los padres en el distrito escolar de Pelican Rapids. Quiero informarle a la comunidad sobre mi rol como coordinador para los padres. Como coordinador para los padres mi tarea es involucrar a los padres de familia en las actividades de sus hijos. Yo seré su conexión a la escuela para cualquier necesidad, para así apoyar y mejorar la educación de su hijo/a. Como coordinador de los padres y miembro de la comunidad, yo creo que es necesario que haya una relación entre padres y la escuela; no solo se beneficiara su hijo/a pero también se beneficiara usted y el distrito escolar. Estoy motivado para comenzar a trabajar con los estudiantes y padres en nuestra comunidad para ayudarlos a tener éxito por el bien de todos y apoyarlos a alcanzar sus metas. Espero ver que los padres se involucren en la educación de su hijo/a para hacer

esto posible. Afuera de Pelican Rapids, me siento orgulloso decir que soy de esta comunidad. Yo creo que tenemos una de las mejores comunidades que es única, en el estado de Minnesota. La diversidad en la comunidad es maravillosa, donde uno tiene la oportunidad de aprender de diferentes culturas y al mismo tiempo compartir la cultura de uno mismo. Estoy orgulloso de ser un Viking de Pelican Rapids, debido a que nuestro distrito escolar está a un nivel académico excelente. Académicamente el distrito reta y prepara a los estudiantes para sus planes después de graduación. Pelican Rapids también ofrece excelentes deportes que retan y enseñan a los estudiantes no solo a tener éxito en su deporte pero también en lo académico. Cualquier pregunta que tenga, siéntase libre de contactarme al 863-5910 extensión 4806.



The Multi-District Cultural Collaborative is Going 'Gangnam Style'

by Amy Buck

For those of you who haven't heard, "Gangnam style" is the new world-wide sensation that has hit stratospheric heights this fall. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon praised the South Korean rapper Psy's dance moves as a "force for world peace." It is with this panache of dynamism and gusto that we approach the multi-district cultural collaborative: there are reasons to dance together, and the opportunities we can create together are invigorating because we are **Keeping the End in Mind**. Ultimately, we want to prepare our students to be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete, thrive, and contribute to the 21st century world.



Cultural Collaborative
Amy Buck

The multi-district cultural collaborative gives all students in the school districts of Pelican Rapids, Battle Lake, Barnesville, Perham, Underwood, Fergus Falls, Detroit Lakes, Hawley, Lake Park-Audubon, and Frazee-Vergas school districts opportunities to work together in meaningful ways.

We hit the ground running this fall with Youth Frontiers. Youth Frontiers is a National organization that strives to improve the way students treat each other, fostering a safe, positive school community where students and teachers can thrive socially, emotionally, and, therefore, academically. On the third day of school, we took all 6th graders to a Kindness retreat with Lake Park-Audubon students. On the fourth day of school, all 12th graders attended a Responsibility retreat. 8th graders attended a Respect retreat in late September alongside Frazee-Vergas students. We look forward to bringing our 9th graders on a Courage retreat in January.

In early October, Mr. Holt took all of his 10th grade American History students to the Holmes Theater to watch the production, "Rockin' the American Presidents." This play covered all of the American presidents, from George Washington to Barack Obama. Mr. Holt confessed, "Since it is an election year, I couldn't pass this up." Through music and dance the audience was thoroughly entertained and informed.

Another new opportunity for Pelican Rapids students is to serve as a mentor for younger students in the multi-district collaborative. Currently we already have twelve students who are working with 3rd, 7th, and 8th grade students in Frazee-Vergas. Being a mentor carries some significant responsibilities, yet as many people can attest to, colleges and universities are impressed by such credentials. Furthermore, the experience is rewarding on a multitude of levels. All students are encouraged to obtain and submit a mentor application from Ms. Amy Lee Buck.

It has been an exciting start to the 2012-2013 school year. In two short months I have become a very proud member of a community that truly values diversity, places its priorities on education, and aims to make every citizen well-informed and supported through occasions to serve others.

"Gangnam style" does indeed reflect a passion and synergy---and this seems to encapsulate all of our goals and our outlook to the future in the multi-district cultural collaborative.



Pelican Rapids Junior High Knowledge Bowl Team Hosts Area Tournament

by Bridgette Holl

Last Monday nearly three hundred students from seventeen area schools filled the Pelican Rapids High School participating in a Junior High Knowledge Bowl Tournament. The Pelican Rapids 8th grade team ended up placing in the middle of the competition and members of that team included Drew Cowie, Preston Hart, Mason Thornton, Tianna Wald, Abby Johnson, and Jennessa Ballard.

The Knowledge Bowl season runs from October until April, with junior high teams participating in the fall. There are generally three to four tournaments for junior high participants. In October, the team traveled to Fergus Falls and they will complete their season on December 4 back in Fergus Falls.

Pelican Rapids has hosted a junior high tournament for a number of years. However, the last two years the number of area teams participating has increased from eighteen or twenty teams to more than forty. "Pelican Rapids is centrally located and area teams like Alexandria, Hawley, and Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton like to come," comments Kathy Knuteson-Olson, tournament co-host and former Pelican Rapids coach. "The tournament just seems to keep on growing and we are able to accommodate the large group of kids because the classrooms are not in use on the Monday we schedule the tournament, due to the four day school week," adds Bridgette Holl, tournament co-host and current Pelican Rapids coach.

Knowledge Bowl is sponsored by Lakes Country Service Cooperative. Susan Ward, an academics coordinator for LCSC in Fergus Falls, and her assistant, Monica Thompson, coordinate the tournament schedule and teams. Ward and Thompson provide all

questions for both the written and oral rounds, tabulate the results, and present the awards and ribbons at the conclusion of the tournament.

A typical tournament starts with teams competing in a sixty question written round. Following the written round, students take a break, resuming competition with a series of four oral rounds. Students continue to compete based on their written test score. Three teams compete in each round using electronic strips that record which team buzzes in first. Following each oral round of forty-five questions, teams are ranked again based on the score of each round. Teams rearrange themselves and float from room to room, based on their rank after each round of competition.

Competition concludes with an awards ceremony. Teams are recognized for their rank, but also for special achievements. For example, history questions may be identified throughout the written and oral rounds. A team may be recognized for how well they do on history questions only. Another example is when a team is recognized for making large gains in the ranking because they score average in the written round, but really score well in the series of oral rounds.

The knowledge bowl team practices daily. Members of the team practice with written round questions or participate with mock oral round questions recycled from tournament play in earlier competition.

Practice will begin with the Senior High Knowledge Bowl team the first week in December. The senior high team also practices daily, but attends more tournaments. At the conclusion of the season, the senior high team competes at the sub-region, region, and state level depending on their performance.

Parent Teacher Partnership

Members of the The Parent Teacher Partnership (PTP) were at the Elementary Parent Teacher Conferences on Monday, November 12th where they signed up parents, grandparents or guardians who are interested in volunteering at the Viking Elementary School (VES). Some of the requests from the VES teachers are to have volunteers who are interested in reading to students, helping with cutting out classroom projects or laminated items, helping with classroom parties or programs.

Call Staci Haiby at 863-2080, Judi Simpson at 701-261-2902, or Maree Pesch at 218-342-2619 with any questions or to sign up to volunteer at VES.

The next PTP meeting will be on Wednesday, January 9th at 6:00pm at Jimmy's Pizza. We welcome anyone with a genuine interest in our school system, who is forward thinking and who would like to collaborate as a group for the benefit of our schools and community to join our PTP group.



Strong Parent Involvement Key to Student Success

We have had a great start to the 2012-13 school year and appreciate your support that you provide your children at school. Strong parent involvement is a key component to the success of all students. Thank you for your dedication to your children and their education.



High School
Principal
Brian Korf

Students met with their teacher during Power Hour at mid-quarter to set academic and personal goals. Students discussed with their teacher the activities they are involved with, career and college goals, and set goals for each class. This will enable students to be more actively involved in reviewing their own academic progress and growth in each class. We ask that parents take time to discuss with their child about their current goals for each class and their career and college goals. Skyward is a great opportunity for parents to review their child's attendance and grades. I want to thank all of the parents who use this tool to help support your child. Please contact us at the high school if you do not have access to the internet and we will work with you to help you access your child's grades and attendance.

Students and staff have been working hard and are excited for many more great learning experiences throughout the school year. Thank you for all you do for your child and helping us get off to a great start.



The Robotics team finished in first place at the Bison Best competition on October 20th. They will now compete in the Northern Plains BEST Regional competition on December 8th.

Notify Me!

**Email notification system for activities
or changes to activity schedules**

To register:

visit www.pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us
and click on the Activities Calendar.

Follow the simple instructions
and you will begin receiving email
notifications on changes in activity dates,
times, and locations.

PRHS Lighthouse Team Helps Create "7 Habits" Leadership Model

by Doug Bruggeman

A component of carrying out the "Leader in Me" program in the high school was the creation of a Lighthouse Team. The Lighthouse Team is a group of teachers and administrators who meet regularly and oversee school wide implementation of the "7 Habits of Successful Teens". Engaging students, staff, parents, and community members in the school's leadership model is a key goal for this group.

Another important aspect of the Lighthouse team is to support ongoing staff development in the "Leader in Me" process. A big part of that focus has been creating a leadership environment throughout the school building. We want the school itself to reinforce the leadership model we want to instill in our students. Below is a list of things that the Lighthouse Team has been doing so far to start the process of developing leaders at PRHS:

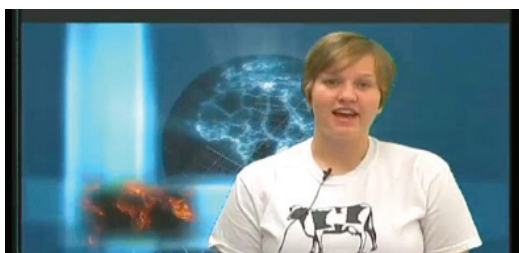
- Teachers were reintroduced to the 7 Habits during fall workshops.
- New Staff was trained prior to the start of the fall workshops.
- Students were introduced to the 7 Habits during first day assembly
- Teachers were asked to display the PRHS mission statement:



Pelican Rapids High School

AT PRHS EVERYONE IS A LEADER
AND EVERY LEADER VALUES INTEGRITY,
SHOWS RESPECT AND ACTS RESPONSIBLY.

- The board room was refreshed and reorganized to reflect the commitment that the school has towards the 7 Habits.
- Posters displaying the 7 Habits will be displayed in all classrooms.
- We are currently working on developing signs that reinforce aspects of the 7 Habits to be displayed in and outside the school.
- A presentation was done on November 13th to introduce the 7 Habits to the community.
- A classroom set of "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens" by Sean Covey were ordered and are being read in the Social Science classrooms.
- The morning announcements switched over from principal controlled to student led live television broadcasts that will be streamed through computers and watched by first hour classes.



- Staff members at PRHS all purchased a "Be the Water" shirt to demonstrate our commitment to Habit 1 – Be Proactive. Being proactive is understanding that "I control Me" which was printed on the back of the shirts.

The process of implementing the "Leader in Me" philosophy is not something that will occur in the blink of an eye. The school will take baby steps over the next couple of years as students, staff, administration and parents learn how to use the 7 Habits to grow a successful environment. Old habits are hard to break, new paradigms need to be created and students

need to learn how to live a "principle" centered lives.

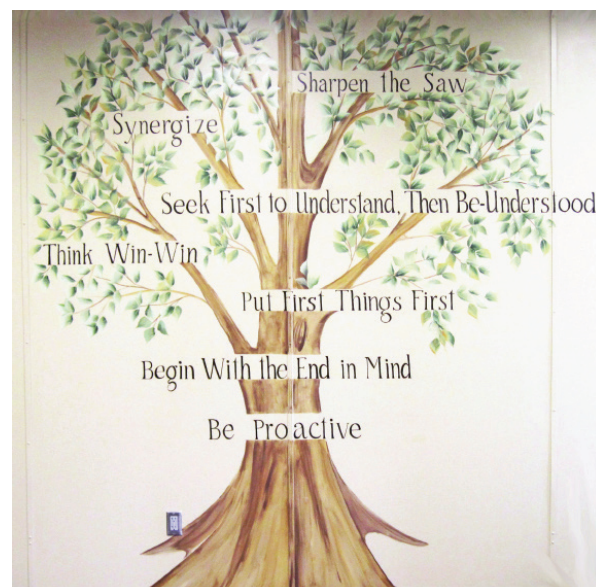
This is an exciting time of change and renewal at the high school. Students and staff are being asked to look at who they are in a more focused-result driven way. The focus is on creating a better "individual" by ultimately creating better core habits. We start by establishing strong roots with the first three habits; Being Proactive, Beginning with the End in Mind, and Putting First Things First. After we win the private



victory of taking charge of our lives, we move on to the next three habits that ask us to win a public victory by; Thinking Win-Win, Seeking to Understand and Synergizing. It is in these three habits that true leadership is shown. The PRHS Lighthouse team looks to keep this excitement flowing for years to come.

The following is a list of goals that we are working to meet:

1. Meet regularly and oversee school-wide implementation of the leadership model.
2. Get the school campus' environment to reemphasizes individual worth and leadership principles.
3. Help teachers integrate leadership language into school curriculum and instruction daily.
4. Help the staff collaborate and work together to effectively build a culture of leadership in classrooms and throughout the school.
5. Make sure students are provided with meaningful student leadership roles and responsibilities.
6. Help the parents of students understand "The Leader in Me" model and the "7 Habits" and be involved in activities that support the leadership model.
7. Put a system in place for setting and tracking school-wide, classroom, academic and personal goals.
8. The school sees improvements resulting from implementing "The Leader in Me" process, which includes measuring, collecting baseline data and tracking results to determine how the leadership model is bringing improvements.
9. The school holds events to share their leadership model with the community and other schools and hosts a mini or full Leadership Day or a similar event that includes parents, business partners and educators.





Successful Fall Sport Season

by Derrick Nelson

The fall sports season was very exciting for all the Pelican Rapids Cross Country, Volleyball, and Football teams. The PRHS cross country team enjoyed their most successful season in the programs history this season. The boys team won the Detroit Lakes Invite and the Milaca Mega Meet and finished runner up in Section 6A meet. They became the first cross country team from Pelican Rapids to qualify for the state meet where they finished in 12th place.

The girls team were runner-up in the Detroit Lakes Invitational and Pelican Rapids Invite. They placed 5th out of 46 teams at the Milaca Mega Meet and 3rd in Section 6A.

Individually, the Vikings boasted six All-Conference runners, four All-Section runners and one All-State runner. Emily Bakken was the Individual Conference Champ and Cody Bekkerus won the individual title at the prestigious Milaca Mega Meet. Cody was also named to the All-State team.

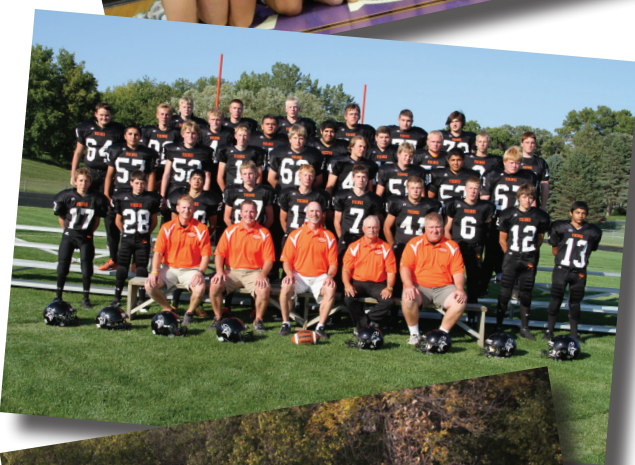
The Pelican Rapids volleyball team ended with a successful season with an overall record of 17-8 and 3-3 in the HOL conference. The Vikings took first place in the Pelican Rapids Invitational and fourth in the Fergus Falls Invitational. One of the many highlights was beating Perham for the first time in 27 years. The volleyball team was also seeded fourth in section 8AA, which gave the Vikings a home playoff game. The Vikings had two All-Conference players and two All-Conference Honorable Mention.

The football team ended the season with a record of 7-3. The Vikings wins came against Breckenridge, Warroad, Staples, East Grand Forks, Roseau, DGF, and Prairie Valley. One of the highlights was a great come from behind victory at East Grand Forks. The Vikings also picked up a home play-off win against Prairie Valley. Five Vikings were named to the HOL All-Conference team.

The combined Pelican Rapids/Hillcrest boys soccer team ended the season with an 11-3-2 record; placing them 2nd in the Lakes to Prairie Conference. Three players from Pelican received All-Conference status and one received All-Conference Honorable Mention. The girls soccer team ended the season with a 4-8-1 record.



Activities Director
Assistant Principal
Derrick Nelson



School Board Changes

"I have learned a lot about our school during my years as a school board member, education is constantly changing and complex.

I am very pleased with the current focus on *The Leader in Me*, hoping that it will give all our students the confidence to set and achieve goals that will help them be successful.

I have enjoyed working with a great group of school board members, staff, and administration. I would like to thank Mike Forsgren for his willingness to become involved in the board, he will be a good addition to our school board."

Respectfully
Don Perrin

*We would like to thank
Don Perrin
for his many years of service
on the Pelican Rapids
School Board.*

Pelican Rapids School District #548

310 S Broadway
PO Box 642
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

Phone Number
218-863-5910

School Website:
www.pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us

School Board:
Charlie Blixt, Mike Forsgren,
Dena Johnson
Jon Karger, Mitch Monson
Kathy Ouren



FFA Members have had one set of contests so far and the Forestry team placed 4th advancing to the state FFA Convention. Team members were Chloe Evenson, Haley Evenson, Seth Carpenter and Andrew Buck. Photo above shows FFA Members from the 2011-2012 school year.



After School Programs Help Youth of All Ages

Middle School Youth and Their Families Need Afterschool Programs

Most families with children in the U.S. today need some type of afterschool services. The parents of 28 million children work outside the home. Nearly 4 million middle school youth are unsupervised after-school. The conventional wisdom is that by the time children reach middle school, they are old enough to take care of themselves and adult supervision is not as critical as it was when they were in elementary school. However, if left to their own devices, these young adolescents might not make the best use of the free time they have after school. In spite of the autonomy they may be given, middle school age youth need guidance and adult supervision to help keep them safe, engaged in school, and on the path to success in life.



Director
21st Century Grant
Community Ed
Jake Richter

The Benefits of After-School Programs and Homework Help

1. Provides supervision for parents who cannot regularly be with their children.
2. Programs and tutoring keep children away from trouble.
3. Improves personality and maturity.
4. Children get along better with other children as well as adults.
5. Provides children with prompt feedback on activities they regard as important.
6. Gives children additional certified adult guidance.
7. Helps develop self-confidence.
8. Helps youth to be more self-sufficient.
9. Children have fun.
10. Kids can learn more through after school programs and tutoring.

Afterschool Program: Supporting Career and College Pathways

Afterschool programs offer a key opportunity to expose students to higher education and career path options and to teach them skills that can unlock doors to future career prospects. During the afterschool hours, there is time for apprenticeships, guest speakers, college mentoring and project-based activities that are not always available during a school day focused on the core curriculum. Afterschool programs better prepare middle school youth for high school, college and careers, while also keeping them on track and engaged in school.

Middle School and Science Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)

The information economy of the twenty-first century is creating more jobs that require not only a college education, but also at least some expertise in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math, collectively known as STEM. In order to stay competitive in the global marketplace and provide our children with the best opportunity to succeed, we must get more students on the STEM path. Combining STEM learning with afterschool programming offers middle school students a fun, challenging, hands on introduction to the skills they will need in high school, college and the workplace. STEM afterschool programs for middle school youth give students time to develop an interest in STEM and inspire them to learn. Join the club "Get Sparked" offered every Wednesday after school.

Volunteer Mentor Program and the Fall Cleanup

This fall the Volunteer mentor Program did a trial run for a community cleanup. One cold rainy Monday we helped to haul some dirt for a flower bed then cleaned up a garden so it would be ready for spring. As I mentioned before this was a trial run. This spring we hope to do a Community Day of Caring. This will be a day when students and adult volunteers will give back to the community for supporting the school district. Be looking for info about that day in future newsletters and in The Pelican Press.

We also have many volunteer opportunities for adults to help in our after school and Monday programs. We could use adults that have a heart for children and youth. You can trust me when I say not only will you change a life, but yours will be changed also. We could use volunteers that are willing to help with reading or math, playing games,

talking, listening, and being a friend. Maybe you would be interested in teaching an after school enrichment class such as gardening, knitting, woodworking or another special skill. Some of these could be weekly commitments and some maybe once or twice a year. We would be very grateful for any amount that you would be willing to volunteer.

If you would like more information about volunteering at either the elementary or the high school you can contact Bob Kohler by email at Bkohler@pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us or by phone at 218-863-5910 x4065.



Volunteer Mentor
Coordinator
Bob Kohler

Rotary Interact Group Fundraisers

Interact completed their bingo and ladder golf fundraiser at the homecoming tailgate party. Donations went to the Stetz family. Thank you to all who played! In November Interact will be collecting spare change for the FoodShelf in Pelican. Change will be collected grade and the grade that donates the most change will have a party during power hour the week of thanksgiving. Thank you to Rotary for their donation and sponsoring this snack party!

RYLA aims to teach what it takes to be an effective leader. Every RYLA includes the following topics:

- Fundamentals of leadership

- Ethics of positive leadership
- Importance of communication skills in effective leadership
- Conflict management and problem solving
- Building self-esteem and self confidence
- Elements of community and global citizenship
- Rotary's purpose of service to the community and



HS School
Counselor
Lauren Runsvold



Magnificent Mondays is an Academic and Enrichment Program for Children in Grades K-8

Hours: 6:30am-6:00pm

Location: Viking Elementary

Food: breakfast, lunch and snacks will be provided

Registration required: call Candace Roesch at 863-5910 ext. 5022 to register.

Transportation: in town bussing will be provided

Fees: We are pleased to announce that Magnificent Mondays will be FREE of charge beginning September 2012

In the operation of USDA Child Nutrition programs, no participant will be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

Tuesday-Friday After School Activities

These activities are for students in Grades K-8 and are held at Viking Elementary

Snack & homework 3:45-4:15pm
Activity Time 4:15-5:15pm

Activity	Day(s)	Grades
Science & Engineering	Tues	3-8
Art Zone	Tues	5-8
Creative Cool Craft Zone	T-W Th-F	K-2 3-4
Homework Help	T-Th	K-6
Outdoor Game Zone	Wed	K-6
African Drumming	Fri	3-12
Fun Fridays	Fri	K-6
Boys Intramural Basketball	Wed & Fri Tues & Th	3-4 5-6

These activities are for students in Grades 7-12 and are held at the High School

Snack provided at 3:55pm in HS Media Center
After School Academic Help

- Homework Help & Open Media Center are 4:00-5:00pm
- Credit Recovery is in Rm #54 from 4:00-7:00pm

Before/After School Enrichment Programs

- All programs run from 4:00-5:00pm
- Open Gym/Weight Room
- Book Club
- Get Sparked (Science/Math)
- African Drumming
- Film Club
- Interact-during & after school
- Open Weight Room

21st Century Community Learning Centers funding for this program is provided by the federal government through the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and is administered by the Minnesota Department of Education