

August 6, 2020

Pine Ridge Elementary

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Please take time to visit the Newsletter page on the [Pine Ridge website](#) for information about the upcoming school year. There are previously sent newsletters and videos for students and parents to assist with procedures.

Also visit the Covid-19 Information link at the top of the Pine Ridge page for details about the upcoming school year. We will begin our first day of school in a modified blue stage. The Dubois County Health Department and the county superintendents created a plan to add additional safety procedures for students and staff.

It is highly recommended that all families review the [revised plan](#) for our first day. Please pay special attention to the last pages of the [Reentry Framework](#) that outline the policy if your child has Covid-19 symptoms or has been exposed to someone with symptoms. It is important that you have a plan in place if your young child becomes ill or is exposed to someone who is ill.

We must follow the 24 hour symptom free without medication guidelines before returning to school. For the safety of others, students and staff must abide by this rule and there are no exemptions.

Please review the revised [mask policy](#). When we move to blue or yellow, those expectations are what we will follow. Since we are in a blue stage for August 12th, we will be wearing masks in all classes when social distancing (3') is not an option in the classroom. Students will not wear a mask when eating lunch or at recess. All students on the bus must wear a mask. Please review the policy so you know of the disciplinary actions involved with not wearing a mask.

Parents must complete this [Google Form](#) if their child will ever be an afternoon **car rider**. We use this information to distribute a number that will be attached to your child's backpack. You will be given the same number to present at the car rider doors at pick up. You may give a number to anyone who will be picking up your child. This will greatly speed up the process of receiving your child at the end of the day. Without a number- and we don't recognize you as a pick-up person- you will need to present identification (drivers license) that can be checked against our information in Harmony. You must be a parent, an emergency contact, or possess the same number as the child to pick them up. If a parent calls in someone else to pick up their child, we will make a note for the child to take to dismissal.

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Please log in to Harmony Family Access and check your **online registration**. We had to post the Allowed Medication form recently to online registration since it was not rolled over in Harmony. You should have checkmarks in every box **except** the Opt Out form if attending school in person and Free and Reduced Application if you don't want to complete it.

2020-2021 BOOK RENTAL PRICES

Kindergarten.....\$135.82	Grade One.....\$159.75
Grade Two.....\$148.53	Grade Three.....\$134.80
Grade Four.....\$134.80	COVID Academy.....\$150.00

Online payment **credit card charges** have been waived until October.

If Ferdinand or Pine Ridge Elementary Schools move to a **red stage** and are closed by order of the Dubois County Health Department, **preschool tuition** for those instructional days will be 1/2 of the daily rate. Parents and students will be able to access preschool content virtually provided by their classroom teacher at their convenience. The two virtual days that are not in school days will be added to the total days. You will see an adjustment to the final yearly cost.

The **Covid-19 Online Academy** material pickup and information share will be on Monday August 10th from 1:00-5:00. More information on the process to receive Chromebooks and needed information will be sent to families who have signed up by Friday, August 7th. Parents must sign up students prior to participating in this event. Students signed up after Friday may experience a significant delay in receiving a device and needed information for the program. Please review [this document](#) on the event. Chromebook pickup for all online students will be at Forest Park.

Please welcome **Mrs. Tiffany Nicholson** to the Pine Ridge community. She will be a kindergarten teacher for the 2020-2021 school year. Mrs. Nicholson brings many years of kindergarten experience with her to Pine Ridge and is excited to be a member of the Pine Ridge team. We are very excited to have her here.

Be aware that we will **be in school** on September 4th and November 3rd. Our calendar was created last year when online learning was new. I think we are comfortable with online learning, and a lot of our first weeks of school will be. Our school board decided last night that it is better for us to be in school as much as possible since there is a possibility of schools being out due to Covid-19 illnesses. Dr. Pund sent a revised calendar today.

Please send in **Box Tops** if you purchase products that have them. It seems that the Box Top products are transitioning to a Box Top app. We greatly appreciate your willingness to download the app and scan your receipt. Box Tops historically generate thousands of dollars for Pine Ridge. Recently, our numbers are significantly down. Please help us reach our goal this year of 12,000 Box Tops.

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We are also collecting **PSC phonebooks**. We were not able to collect them last school year. If you have them in your recycling bin you are encouraged to send them in. We hope PSC brings this program back this year.

Paragon catalogues will be sent out in the middle of August. Please support your school and the PTO by participating in this fundraiser. We added new playground equipment last spring and paid for thousands of dollars of supplies with the funds raised last year. We greatly appreciate your support. We plan to add more playground accessories to the tag area and will continue to support the student focused activities at Pine Ridge with these funds.

We will not have a **snack cart** at the beginning of school. Sorry for any inconvenience.