

PIEDMONT FOCUS

MONTHLY NEWS & UPDATES FROM PIEDMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS





PIEDMONT

Public Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION OCTOBER 12, 2022 MEETING UPDATES

ROLL CALL

Mr. Layne Jones - Present
Mr. Steven Cox - Present
Mr. Greg Duffy - Absent
Mrs. Katie Cornman - Present
Mr. Derek Jones - Present

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Piedmont Public Schools Board of Education heard suspension appeal of C.A., a student at Piedmont Public Schools in executive session. After returning to open session, the board voted to uphold the suspension.

Suspension appeal hearing of C.D., a student at Piedmont Public Schools, was not held. This appeal is scheduled to take place at the next board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA

Piedmont Public Schools Board of Education unanimously approved the following:

- Sections 11 & 12 of board policy manual to be effective upon completion of entire manual.
- Changes to Procurement policy.
- Bid from All Hours Locksmith/Trinity Doors for replacement of MS doors
- Consent Agenda

OTHER ITEMS

An Energage employee survey has been sent out to all PPS employees. The survey closes October 16th.

The 2022 District Planning Document slated under "Board Reports" will be discussed at the next board meeting when all members present.

PRINCIPAL REPORTS

ELEMENTARY FOCUS: CULTIVATING VIBRANT PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES



NORTHWOOD ELEMENTARY

At Northwood, we have been working as a Professional Learning Community for the past several years. Teachers are proud of the progress that they have made throughout this process.

Collaborative team time allows us to utilize our HMH Into Reading weekly common-assessment data to drive discussions about student learning. Teachers are using this data to form differentiated interventions across the grade levels. This allows our team to share ideas and collaborate on specific needs in our school - academic, behavioral, emotional, etc.

PIEDMONT ELEMENTARY

Each week at Piedmont Elementary, we have weekly Collaborative team time meetings with all of our grade levels. Meeting time includes discussion regarding specific needs of our students and best practices in teaching.

Looking to the future, our goals for our collaborative team time include:

- Reviewing data from iStation, common assessments, and teacher input to identify areas for improvement.
- Once an area for improvement is identified, students will work in small groups with teachers from their grade level to provide intense interventions to expand each student's knowledge.
- Teachers will discuss, demonstrate and share ideas on best teaching practices so all team members can implement them in their classrooms if needed.
- At the end of each nine weeks, we will look back at the entire quarter to identify successes and areas of weakness to help both students and teachers.

STONE RIDGE ELEMENTARY

Stone Ridge Elementary PLCs have a focused intent when each team meets during weekly team collaboration time. Grade-level teams meet a minimum of once a week, although most meet multiple days to plan and prepare their best instructional practices. One of the most important aspects of professional learning communities is creating collective efficacy among our entire staff.

After our professional development over PLCs, our teams have a better understanding of effectively planning together. During the first week of October, our teams focused on documenting reading interventions for students who need extra support from grade to grade. In our next team collaboration meeting, we will review the latest ISIP data and develop interventions for students who need additional support.

We are eager to grow together as a school community to best serve our students!

PIEDMONT EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

The staff at ECC is focusing on three ideas of our Professional Learning Community:

1. Focus on Learning
2. Collaborative Culture and Collective Responsibility
3. Result Orientation

ECC teachers meet to collaborate every week and individual teachers from each grade level facilitate each meeting. Everyone on our ECC educator team attends collaboration meetings. They are encouraged to be prepared to participate in the united effort for successful results.

After completing the training last week, we are focusing on student learning and results. Our focus is asking, "What do we want our students to learn?"



"Team collaborations give me a valuable opportunity to listen to other viewpoints or perspectives and get new ideas for teaching, which is always a benefit for my students!"

- Kimberlee Morrison, Piedmont Early Childhood Center



PRINCIPAL REPORTS

SECONDARY FOCUS: DATA MEETINGS & STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Data Meetings are in full swing, and core departments are diving into student assessment results from our new assessment tool, Mastery Connect. Teachers have partnered with our Secondary Curriculum Director, Instructional Resource Specialists and building administrators to plan and review assessment information and plan for instructional direction.

PRE AND POST ASSESSMENT MEETINGS

Data Meetings provide structure and organization with a set agenda, providing educators with productive, student-focused discussion.

- Pre-assessment meetings are spent planning for upcoming assessments by looking at test questions, and standards that are to be assessed, then building the questions together that will challenge our students and allow them to demonstrate their knowledge of the subject matter.
- Post-assessment meetings allow the team to identify student strengths and areas for growth. It also allows the team to discuss different instructional strategies that were successful and collaborate on ways to provide interventions to fill the gaps in the necessary areas.

“Data team meetings have been very beneficial. We have addressed the rigor of assessments and looked at what questions do & don’t work well and why. We are taking the time to go back and review tests and quizzes with our students. We can address misconceptions in lessons and address areas our students scored the lowest.”

- Blaire Dallis, Middle School of Piedmont

“Data meetings have made us a better content team. We do not have to pick and choose what we share. We can have honest conversations about how we teach certain standards and how we can remediate students who didn’t get it quite yet.”

- Heather Gilbert, Piedmont Intermediate



DISTRICT UPDATES

PPS SPECIAL SERVICES

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

Piedmont Special Services Department hosted the first parent information night with a special guest speaker. The topic was Addressing Challenging Behaviors at Home. A virtual option was provided for families who could not attend in-person due to childcare, etc. Five families attended in-person and 17 families attended through Zoom.

We are excited to continue hosting educational opportunities to help our families this school year!

NEWLY LAUNCHED

Piedmont Special Services Department has launched Special Education Teaching Certification Boot Camp. We have five teacher candidates participating in the program.

Special Olympics Events

- Sept. 20 - Kick Off Trip & Physicals
 - Twenty-two athletes participated and received a FREE physical from the SWOSU nursing program
- October 21, 2022 - Horseshoes in Yukon
- November 4, 2022 - Bowling in El Reno
- Special Olympics Features Chance Richardson as the PHS Wildcat Mascot



“This is my dream come true to be the Wildcat!”

- Chance Richardson



Callen Minard, Piedmont High School Junior, won Grand Champion Lamb at the Tulsa State Fair! He was awarded \$10,000 along with many other prizes for his hard work.

Madison Shout was awarded \$4,000 for her Reserve Breed Champion Charolais Market Steer.



Piedmont High School won the GreatSchools.org 2022 #CollegeSuccessAward for preparing our students for college and beyond! PHS is one of 90 Oklahoma high schools that received this award.



Mrs. Kim Richter, 6th grade Geography teacher at Piedmont Intermediate, has been selected for the prestigious K-12 Distinguished Teaching Award from the National Council for Geographic Education.

Congratulations, Mrs. Richter!

DISTRICT UPDATES

SECONDARY CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

EXTENDING CAREER TECHNOLOGY EXPERIENCES

Piedmont Schools partners with Canadian Valley Technology Center to offer career exploration opportunities and activities to a broader range of audiences.

We are excited to implement career interest inventories at Piedmont Intermediate in our character education classes. Students will have the opportunity to listen to various guest speakers in different career fields.

Students at Piedmont Middle School took a field trip to the technology center and participated in a program called Reality Check, where they chose a career pathway and had to manage the costs of living with the average income of that occupation.

Piedmont High School students will have the opportunity to attend three separate presentations per semester on career pathways. These presentations will cover a wide range of occupations and will be helpful to our students in making informed decisions on future career plans.

STUDENT FOCUS GROUPS

Student focus group meetings have begun at our secondary school sites. Students with varied interest levels and a range of involvement in school activities and programs are selected for these groups. The purpose of the meetings is to receive direct insight from students regarding what they enjoy about their experiences at PPS.

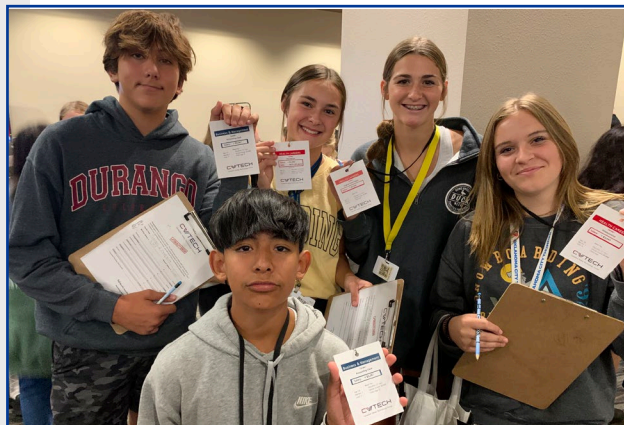
We hope students see these groups as a platform to communicate things they would like to see implemented at school, including new types of classes, clubs, or extra-curricular activities. Students can also share ideas regarding changes they would like to see.

CURRICULUM

Secondary Curriculum has built more than 160 assessments since the school year began in Mastery Connect. Our students prove they will rise to the challenge of more rigorous assessments and are working hard to prepare.

Michelle Jones, Director of Secondary Curriculum, and the Instructional Resource Specialists are working with teachers to set expectations for students to be more successful in the classroom daily. Educators are holding tutoring sessions during advisory, before and after school, and lunch to reteach standards students have not grasped. These same teachers are retesting students to ensure mastery.

Teachers are reevaluating teaching methods to ensure students are not only being tested at higher levels but learning at higher levels as well. Teachers have seen improvements in test scores over the past six weeks. Data is being collected using Mastery Connect, and we continue to let this data drive our instruction and improvement goals.



DISTRICT UPDATES

HUMAN RESOURCES

FALL 2022 ENERGAGE SURVEY LAUNCHED

Piedmont Schools has successfully launched the Fall 2022 Energage Survey. Almost one-third of our staff has completed the survey just two days after the launch. We are eager to see the results and compare previous data to make improvements across the district.

STUDENT SAFETY

RAVE MOBILE SAFETY PANIC BUTTON FOR ENHANCED EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Piedmont Schools is working directly with Piedmont Police, Piedmont Fire, and Rave Mobile Safety to enhance our security protocols. Rave Mobile safety has an innovation app that can be used by teachers and staff in any emergency - medical, fire, active shooter, etc.

With the press of a button on a mobile phone, the Rave Panic Button app gives the staff member a fast, direct connection to 9-1-1 and first responders. One click instantly alerts appropriate administrators, allowing the district to respond to the school site and alert PPS families of the emergency.



ENROLLMENT CENTER		8-4-2022	10-7-2022
	PIEDMONT ECC	576	600
	NORTHWOOD ELEM.	443	469
	PIEDMONT ELEM.	461	458
	STONE RIDGE ELEM.	587	594
	PIEDMONT INTERMEDIATE	755	758
	MIDDLE SCHOOL	794	773
	HIGH SCHOOL	1431	1422
	TOTAL	5047	5074

ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM



UNIT ASSESSMENTS IN MASTERY CONNECT

Third and fourth grade teachers/math leaders and Brenda Davis continue to work together to develop unit assessments for mathematics. Students will take these assessments digitally using Mastery Connect. In addition, these teams are evaluating and modifying math curriculum maps.



COLLABORATION THAT COUNTS!

Piedmont Early Childhood Center and our elementary educators participated in a day-long professional development on "A Look Inside PLC at Work" with Solution Tree Guest Speaker, Amanda Ziaer.

Main takeaways included:

- Building common language around collaboration and Professional Learning Community (PLC) practices
- Continuing to expand our collective knowledge and understanding of what a PLC is and does

DISTRICT UPDATES

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES



- Cheer finished 4th at their state competition
- Softball is hosting regionals after winning the district championship
- The band won Grand Champion at the Yukon Marching Band contest
- The band competed at the "Bands Across America" contest in Midland, Texas
- Football hosted their homecoming
- Volleyball celebrated senior night and holds the best record in Piedmont volleyball history at 23-8
- Cross country is number one for boys' and girls' programs
- Cross country girls' team finished in ninth place at the Chile Pepper Festival and the boys finished 14th
- Middle School volleyball won the Suburban Conference Championship
- Ninth-grade volleyball won the Suburban Conference Championship
- Football hosted "Senior Citizens Appreciation Night" at the September 30th home game
- Practices for swimming, basketball, and wrestling started
- Middle School softball finished third in the Suburban Conference tournament

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

WILDCAT ATHLETIC CENTER

- Gym floor is complete
- Telescopic seating installation begins this Wednesday
- Sod has been installed
- Basketball goals will arrive this week
- Pads for the wrestling room will be installed next week
- Exterior signage will be installed in two weeks
- Final stage of pre-punch list has begun
- Final layer of asphalt will go down next Tuesday
- Parking lot striping will begin the following week

MIDDLE SCHOOL OF PIEDMONT

- Working on the gym foundation - excavating and installing rebar
- Geopiers are being installed
- Site dirt work ongoing

