

**Upcoming  
Events**

**12/4—12/15  
Canned Food  
Drive**

**12/9  
Middleton  
Chamber of  
Commerce  
Christmas  
Parade  
4:30 pm**

**12/19  
Citizen/  
Student of  
the Month  
Luncheon**

**12/22  
All School  
Christmas  
Sing Along  
9 am**

**12/25/17—  
1/5/18  
No School—  
Holiday  
Break**



# Coyote Courier



## From the Desk of Mr. Hopkins

Purple Sage Elementary was very proud to have had the opportunity to honor our nation’s veterans with an assembly and a celebration of their service. This was a fantastic opportunity to teach our children the importance of serving your country in a variety of ways. We created a wall of honor where students had the chance to share pictures and stories of family members who have served in the military. It was evident that we have many generous people in this community who have served our nation in so many ways and in so many places. It was wonderful to walk out of the office every day and to see students

and visitors looking at this wall of honor and I could see appreciation in their eyes and hear gratitude in their voices.

The assembly itself was moving and the engagement level of the students was truly amazing. In a time where displaying pride in America seems to be an option and not the norm, I was reassured that our children here understand the significance of service and understand what so many have done to preserve freedom and to defend not only this great nation but anyone who is oppressed and in need of aid. Thank you to the many veterans who at-

tended this celebration, it was an honor to be able to thank you in person and to share the gift of song with you.

Although our job as educators is complicated and at times daunting, if we can relay this message of gratitude and we can see evidence that our students understand the need to serve others, we have done an honorable thing. Purple Sage wishes to thank everyone who has served and who is currently serving this great nation in any capacity.

With Gratitude,  
Mark Hopkins

## Counselor’s Den

### What Bullying is... and ISN'T

It’s almost a daily occurrence that either a student comes to me and reports they’re being bullied, or a parent calls and says they’re child is being bullied in some fashion. My first response is always, “Tell me exactly what’s happening.” And more often than not, the story they tell me is not bullying. The second question I ask when someone is reporting being bullied is, “Did you ask them to stop?” Again, the answer is usually “no.” This usually leads to a quick lesson on what exactly bullying is and is not.



It’s easy for younger children to confuse mean behavior for bullying. They hear the word and believe that anytime another child is mean to them they’re being bullied. Most of the time, they just want the behavior to stop and know that the word “bully” is usually followed by action. They’ve learned that if they drop the word “bully” people tend to listen.

So when IS it bullying? When someone is being hurt either by words or actions, feels bad because of it, and has a hard time stopping what’s happening to them. Bullying can be physical such as hitting, pushing and shoving, fighting, tripping, yelling at someone, making rude gestures, or taking or breaking another person’s things. It can also be emotional such as name calling, making fun of someone, laughing at someone, leaving someone out on purpose, starting rumors or telling lies about someone, sending mean messages on a computer or cell phone, trying to make someone feel bad about who they are. And there’s cyber bullying which can involve texting, emails, and social media. ([www.pacerkidsagainstbullying.org](http://www.pacerkidsagainstbullying.org))

I have a sign in my office that reads, “Is it Bullying? When someone says or does something *unintentionally hurtful* and they do it once, it’s *rude*. When someone says or does something *intentionally hurtful* and they do it once, it’s *mean*. When someone does something *intentionally hurtful* AND they keep doing it even when you tell them to stop or show them you’re upset, that’s *bullying*.”

It’s important to remember that mean or rude behaviors are never okay, but also don’t qualify as bullying behavior because they happen once. In order to be classified as bullying the behavior must be deliberate, repeated, and involves a real or perceived power imbalance.

## Positive Behavior Interventions & Support Program

Our school is participating in an important initiative called Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS).

### *What is Positive Behavior Intervention and Support?*

PBIS is a process for creating safer and more effective schools. It is a systems approach to enhancing the capacity of schools to educate all children by developing research-based, school-wide, and classroom behavior support systems. The process focuses on improving a school's ability to teach and support positive behavior for all students. Rather than a prescribed program, PBIS provides systems for schools to design, implement, and evaluate effective school-wide, classroom, non-classroom, and student specific plans. PBIS includes school-wide procedures and processes intended for all students and all staff in all settings. PBIS is not a program or a curriculum. It is a team-based process for systemic problem solving, planning, and evaluation. It is an approach to



creating a safe and productive learning environment where teachers can teach and all students can learn.

### *What is PBIS at our school?*

As we move forward with implementing the PBIS framework at PSE, we will adopt a unified set of classroom rules. Similar to the Middleton District Code of Student Conduct, these rules define our expectations for behavior in our school. You will see these rules posted throughout the school and your child will be learning them during his or her days at school. Our unified classroom rules, found in every classroom and non-classroom setting in the school, are as follows:

**Coyote Conduct:**  
Respectful  
Responsible  
Ready to Learn

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## Students and Citizens of the Month – November

The following students were recognized in a special luncheon given in their honor:

### Citizens of the Month

1st Grade—Khloe Widmann, Gavin Lucore, Brandon Murray, Kessy Dickson

2nd Grade—Connor Escujuri, Michael Anzalone, Cosette Sharp

3rd Grade—Kamea Keliinoi, Megan Stewart, Bridger Miller, Lydia Hogg

4th Grade—Taylor Rollins, Hailey Hanson, Stella Moritz

5th Grade—Luis Duran, Noah Radford, Wyatt Topping

### Students of the Month

1st Grade—Quinton Hess, Calvin Larson, Bayleigh Berends

2nd Grade—Crystal Davila Hernandez, Lilliana Ireland, Addison Milburn

3rd Grade—Juan Buenrostro, Mikylee Apple, Taylor Martin, Roberto Madrigal

4th Grade—Mason Woodruff, Lily Wagoner, James Thornock

5th Grade—Sydney Parker, Will Chambers, Dylan Garrett-Wilson

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## Holiday Canned Food & Personal Necessities Drive

Purple Sage will be doing their annual Holiday Canned Food Drive, from December 4<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>.

Students are encouraged to bring in canned or non-perishable food as well as dish/laundry soap, toiletries and other household items. Collected items will go to the Middleton Food Pantry.

There will be a school-wide competition. If we reach our goal we will have a school-wide pajama day. Also, for each item a student brings in they will be given a ticket to enter into a drawing. Winners of the drawing will be invited to a hot chocolate and donut party.

### Please Donate:

- \* Canned fruits & veggies
- \* Cereal
- \* Paper towels/tissues
- \* Peanut Butter
- \* Canned meats & beans
- \* Toothpaste & toothbrushes
- \* Soaps & deodorant
- \* Laundry/dish soap
- \* Diapers
- \* Shampoo & toiletries



Let's make a positive impact on our community and help families in need!