

PLEASANT VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HOOFBEATS

November 2025

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Well...the calendar says it is Fall but depending on the day it feels like Summer or even Winter at this point! But, based on the colors of the leaves and the sudden absence of light when school is out each day it must be the beginning of Fall!

If you didn't see or hear...your very own Pleasant Valley Elementary School was honored with a 5-star rating for the 2024-25 school year by the State of Nevada and received Washoe County School District awards for "Sustained High Growth Across Subjects" and "High Achievement Across Subjects." This is a credit to our entire school community: teachers, staff, students, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and anyone else who spent some time here, sat with a student to help study, volunteered, contributed financially or any of the other million ways to help to grow our students socially and academically. Well done, Pleasant Valley Community!

We had an amazing first third of the school year! For a peek behind the educational curtain...our teachers have participated in professional development and are implementing some "new" research-based teaching strategies (Teacher Clarity strategies) and some cutting-edge Literacy Curriculum (Heggerty) this year. We genuinely believe the hours and hours of professional development and planning time we have done over the last 12 months will take our already awesome student growth and achievement results to an even higher level! We cannot wait to see how much our students continue to grow!

Outside of the classrooms, our Stampede Carnival was amazing (thank you PTA, Stampede Committee and all those who donated, volunteered and attended), we're getting some satisfied feedback from some full bellies about the district's new food provider, our student attendance rates are climbing and ultimately our academic performance is growing along with it!

I want to wish you all the best during the Holiday Season! Stay well, stay healthy and stay happy!

Derek Cordell, Principal

FIVE-STAR SCHOOL



NEVADA DEPT. OF EDUCATION RATING

LOOKING FORWARD

- 11/26-11/30: Thanksgiving Break, No School
- 12/19: Teacher Workday, No School for students
- 12/19-1/5: Winter Break, No School
- 1/5: Staff PD Day, No School for students
- 1/19: MLK Jr. Day, No School
- 2/16: President's Day, No School

For up-to-date information about the happenings and current calendar information at Pleasant Valley Elementary School, please visit our website at:

<https://pleasantvalley.washoeschools.net/>

LIBRARY

Dear Families,

As many of you are aware, the school district no longer utilizes Accelerated Reader. Pleasant Valley Elementary is excited to have our new Reading Program in place for 3rd through 5th Grade students, Book Taco! 

Your upper grade students have an account that their teacher has, or will, set up for them. They can access their account through Clever from home or other destinations. Ask your student to show you this exciting new program that is used to help our upper grades stay motivated to read, set goals, and aim to reach The Million Word Club by the end of the school year!

Once you are in your student's Book Taco account, from the Home Page, click on the Reading Center to see their word count, number of books read, number of quizzes passed, and so forth. Some classrooms have chosen to use the Virtual Pet feature, so ask your student to show you if they have one. Have fun exploring this exciting program with your student!

Teachers and I hope this will help with the magic of reading, especially to keep students reading over winter break!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lazzari, PVES Librarian



COUNSELOR'S CORNER



Welcome back to the Counselor's Corner! Just a few updates! One of the best measures of a student's long-term success is how well they can manage themselves. For the fall semester, for their guidance lessons students have been working on the seven learning progressions of self-management. They've learned about how to recognize and regulate their emotions, relieve stress, set goals, get motivated, manage time and get organized as well as the importance of being responsible overall. Finally, thank you so much for your kind donations to the food drive! On behalf of the Student Leadership Team and myself, thank you for your generosity!

Chelan Williams, PVES Counselor