PB THUNDER HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Superintendent's Message

As we begin the second semester, I want to share some updates about what we have in place this year and what you can expect moving forward. I am using this as an opportunity to 'tell our story' so you know the great things that are happening at our high school.

District Update

Our district has also joined the North Dakota **Personalized Learning Network,** helping us better individualize learning for students. We are aligning curriculum to **Standards-Based Grading,** ensuring we are teaching ND Priority Standards, but also being clear so our students know exactly what they are working toward. Increasing student engagement, choice, and overall experience remains a top priority. Our teachers have worked to plan lessons that incorporate these strategies in each lesson.

Teacher Update

Our high school teachers have spent this year strengthening curriculum and using new student-engagement strategies (Catalyst, Science of Reading, and Avid) to improve classroom learning. Their focus has been, and will continue to be, **high quality instruction in every grade level and subject area. Our kids deserve the best regardless of what pathway they take.**

Student Update

We are expanding opportunities for students, including:

- College Credit options (in-person) in English for students who have met all Core requirements.
- Speech/Debate participants will have a credit option for those students who meet course outcomes.
- Work-based learning/Work Experience/Work Seminar Credit for all seniors.
- More students then ever taking college-level courses within the school day- this will be an option for all 10th -12th Grade students who have met the grading criteria.

New and Exciting Opportunities

- **National Honor Society- being formed in February 2026**
- **Student Council-** Student executive board has been formed.
- **In-Person Agriculture classes and FFA program** beginning in 2026-27 in partnership with Jamestown Schools.
- **Chemistry, College Algebra, and Pre-Calculus** in person options for college-bound students.

Students are selecting **Choice Ready Pathways** aligned to their interests and career goals. Many of our seniors have applied for the **North Dakota Scholarship,** which can provide up to $6,000 for in-state college. We want 100% of our students to be Scholarship eligible.

Final Thoughts

We will continue balancing strong in-person instruction with online options and college-level options to increase rigor and opportunity. I will also continue meeting individually with students (including 8th grade) to plan personalized pathways based on their strengths and interests. The size of our environment allows us to individualize plans for our students, this has been going on throughout the school year.

Our high school reamains commited to strong relationships, student voice, and helping every student build a meaningful path toward their future.

I welcome parents or community members to visit some of our classrooms and tour or buildings. Please call me if you would like to do this.

Sincerely,
Chris Triggs
Superintendent