Pine City Public School District Newsletter

January Edition

January 2025

320-629-4000 * isd578.org * @isd_578

Welcome to Pine City Public Schools!

Find the Latest News for the District on our website at isd578.org with new posts each week highlighting our students, staff and the great things happening in Dragon Territory!

#DragonPride
#RollDragons

A Fresh Start and a Great Year Ahead

January marks a fresh start. It's a month of resolutions, new routines, and a chance to reset after a busy holiday season. In our schools, we welcome that same energy. We believe every new year brings new potential for students, staff, and our whole community.

Our district resolutions include remaining committed to continuous growth and improving the learning experience for every student. We want our schools to be places where students feel safe, supported, and challenged. We also want them to feel seen. Every child deserves a strong education and strong relationships with the adults who guide them.

This year, we will keep expanding educational opportunities across the district. That includes building strong early learning foundations, strengthening reading and math supports, and offering more chances for students to explore career pathways and hands-on learning. We also continue to grow programs that meet student needs—whether that means enrichment, intervention, advanced coursework, or added support services.

At the same time, we stay focused on what matters most: great teaching and learning every day. Our staff works hard to improve lessons, use data wisely, and partner with families. We know students succeed when schools and homes pull in the same direction.

Families play a huge role in student success. Your encouragement, your check-ins, and your involvement make a real difference. If you're making resolutions this month, consider one that supports learning at home: reading together each night, checking homework routines, limiting screen time before bed, or simply asking, "What did you learn today?"

Thank you for trusting us with your children. We take that responsibility seriously. Together, we can make 2026 a year of growth, progress, and strong outcomes for every learner.

Here's to a great start—and a great year ahead.

– Superintendant Stolp



On Thursday, January 8th a group of 6th graders traveled to St. Cloud State University with Mrs. Blake and Mrs. Adams to participate in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Conference. Students made lures, built structures, learned about amethysts and other rocks, the science behind the yo-yo, and maybe even tasted a cricket. It was a great day of learning.

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Upcoming Events

- **NO SCHOOL Teacher Workshop**
  Monday 1/19
- **End of Quarter 2**
  Friday 1/23
- **NO SCHOOL Teacher Workshop**
  Monday 1/26
- **NO SCHOOL Teacher Workshop**
  Friday 2/13
- **No School**
  Monday 2/16

33rd Annual District Spelling Bee

On January 23 at 3:30 p.m. in the Elementary Media Center, Pine City Schools will host the 33rd Annual District Spelling Bee. Students from grades 5–8 who advanced in earlier rounds of competition will compete to determine who will represent Pine City Schools at the Regional Bee in February at St. Cloud State University. The public is welcome to attend and support our spellers.



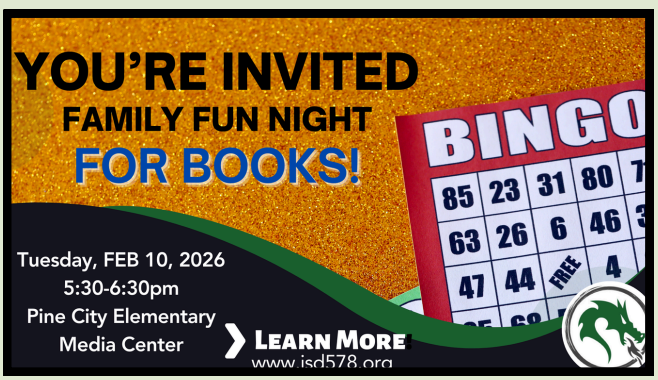
VFW Essay Contest for 6th Grade

Forty sixth grade students participated in the Patriot's Pen Essay contest. This is a national essay contest by the VFW. Students are asked to write a 300- 400 work essay on a specific patriotic theme. This year the theme was "How Are You Showing Patriotism and Support for Our Country?".





Congratulations to 1st Place Collins, 2nd Place Keegan, 3rd Place Neva, 4th Place Nick.



After School Enrichment Classes



Do you like to play board games? If so, this class is for you! Students will learn how to play board games like chess, cribbage, Chinese checkers and more!

Upcoming dates: February 17, March 17, April 14. Each class is $5. Must register individually for each class.
Use this link to visit the registration page.

Elementary News

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Upcoming Events at Elementary School

- **NO SCHOOL**
  Teacher Workshop
  Monday 1/19
- **4th Grade Program**
  Thursday 1/22 ~ 6:30 PM
  High School Auditorium
- **End of Quarter 2**
  Friday 1/23
- **NO SCHOOL**
  Teacher Workshop
  Monday 1/26
- **1st Grade Program**
  Thursday 2/5 ~ 6:30 PM
  High School Auditorium
- **PTO Movie Night**
  Friday 2/6
  elem Auditorium Gym
- **NO SCHOOL**
  Teacher Workshop
  Friday 2/13
- **No School**
  Monday 2/16
- **2nd Grade Program**
  Thursday 2/19 ~ 6:30 PM
  High School Auditorium

February is "I Love To Read" Month!



Pine City Elementary is looking for community members that would like to share their love of reading with our students. If you would be interested in reading aloud in a classroom, please use this link to complete a form with your contact information and availability and a member of the staff will connect with you to confirm details.

CLICK HERE to complete the form.

Be sure to follow the district website during the month of February for more I LOVE TO READ announcements coming soon!

Book fairs, dress up days and opportunities for prizes will be shared for elementary students next month!

Coin Wars & Toys for Tots!

Pine City 6th graders raised money for Toys of Tots. They participated in Coin Wars where they competed against the other 6th grade classes to see who could raise the most money. 6th Grade student council members then used the $420.00 to shop at Walmart for the toys.



Pine City Public Schools

Preparing Our Students For The Future

Pine City High School News

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Upcoming Events at High School

- **NO SCHOOL**
  Teacher Workshop
  Monday 1/19
- **One Act Public Performance**
  Friday 1/23 - 4pm & 6:30pm
  High School Auditorium
- **End of Quarter 2**
  Friday 1/23
- **NO SCHOOL**
  Teacher Workshop
  Monday 1/26
- **NO SCHOOL**
  Teacher Workshop
  Friday 2/13
- **No School**
  Monday 2/16
- **HS Conferences**
  Thursday 2/19 ~ 3:00-6:30 PM

All Conference Band & Choir

On Saturday, January 10th, select students were nominated to participate in the Great River Conference Senior High All Conference Band and Choir at Mora High School. Guest clinicians rehearsed with students throughout the day, and performed a concert that evening. It was a great experience for all involved!











Iconic Signs - ASL 2

Students in ASL 2 have been thinking about the perfect sign for them to paint their hands. The chosen sign needs to be iconic, meaning that the movement and handshape resembles the actual action or item. They planned out their design and even had some help in painting the design on their own hands. It was a perfect activity to do before break.





Pine City High School
Upcoming Events
January Edition

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One-Act Performs January 23

This season the high school theater program is performing "The Night Witches" as their selection for the the one-act competition in MSHSL Region 5A. The play by Rachel Bublitz, tells the courageous story of the all female 588th Soviet Night Bomber Regiment in WWII.

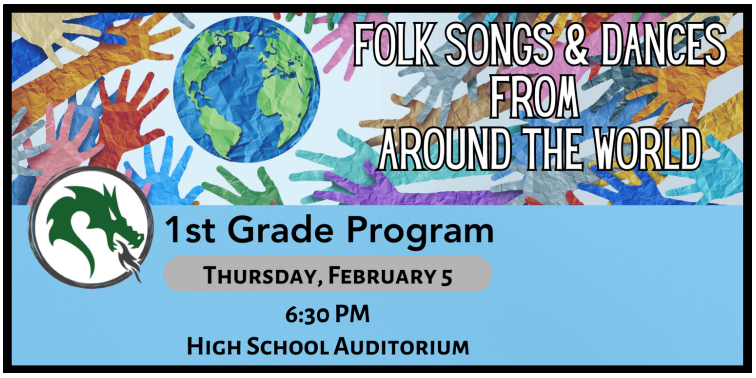
In preparation for the sub-section competition on January 24th, the cast will host a free public performance on Friday, January 23rd.











Calender & Activity Pages

Use This Link to get the most up to date schedules for all sports and more events!

ECFE News & Events

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) is excited to provide opportunities for our littlest learners and their parents through an array of exciting events throughout the year. We are located at the Elementary School Building at 700 6th Ave SW. Learn more about our current classes on the district website at: isd578.org/page/ecfe or contact us through the Community Ed Office at 320.629.4030.



Early Childhood years are an important time of rapid learning and growth. Screening is a quick and simple check of how your child is growing and developing.The best time to schedule a screening is when your child is 3-½ years old. ALL children must be screened before entering Kindergarten.

Call 320-629-4277 to schedule today!

AM OPTIONS		PM OPTIONS	
*Thu, Jan 22	8:00-11:00	*Thu, Mar 19	5:00-6:30
*Thu, Feb 12	8:00-11:00	*Tue, Apr 7	4:00-6:00
*Thur, Mar 19	8:00-11:00		
*Tue, Apr 22	8:00-11:00		

east central regional library

Preschool Storytime



Pine City Public Library
Fridays Sept. 26 - May 8
10:00-10:45 am

Storytime is every Friday and continues through the end of the school year at the Pine City Public Library. We welcome you and your child for stories, songs and a creative art project. Come for one or all sessions.

There is no cost or pre-registration.

*No class Dec 19,26,Jan 2,Feb 13,27,Mar 27,Apr 3

PINE DRAGONS PTO PRESENTS:

Free BINGO Night

Who: Parents/Guardians & Kids **Grades 2-6**
Date: January 16, 2026
Location: Elementary Auditorium

BINGO Prizes: $10 Gift Cards to LOCAL Establishments

2 Sessions available:
Session 1 5:00-5:45 pm
Session 2 6:00-6:45 pm
1st BINGO packet is FREE for children
(5 sheets per packet)
Additional BINGO Packets $2
Parents/Guardians can play for $2 a packet
--PTO will have concessions for purchase--
**Enter through Door 1 ONLY
Doors open @4:45 pm
Children MUST be accompanied by adult

Volunteering to help at a PTO Event: FAQ's

Why does the PTO need volunteers?
We are 100% volunteer-run. Without volunteers, we CANNOT have the events we love to provide!
We ask High School students to volunteer if they are able as well!

What am I getting myself in to? And how long will I need to be there?
Well, for starters-- FUN! Our events are full of fun and energy! You will never be alone, you will help with whatever you sign up for, some examples are: Setting up events, running a game, applying tattoos, selling raffle tickets, serving staff members for an appreciation breakfast, handing out treats, tearing down and cleaning up after an event.

How long am I going to need to be there?
Times vary- but the Volunteer Coordinator will let you know exactly what is expected of you for each event!
Volunteer opportunities can last anywhere from 30 minutes to 3 hours.

If I have children, can they attend?
ABSOLUTELY! We love kids! Just be aware that if you are operating a game or station, you will need to focus your attention on that- so have a plan if your child is younger or may need supervision for the event.
Many older elementary/tween/teen kids love to help out as well!

What happens if the PTO cannot find volunteers?
Unfortunately, if we are unable to find volunteers for an event we will not be able to offer as many fun options as we would like. We also run the risk of not being able to host as many fun events that our students and community love so much.

New in 2026*
Every time you volunteer for a PTO event, your name gets entered into a drawing to win a Prize Basket for that event!
ALL volunteers are entered into a drawing to win a MEGA basket at the end of the school year!
*Summer volunteer names will be entered into the following year's drawing!

The Pine Dragons PTO is a fun and inclusive crew, please consider volunteering!

Community Ed Events

Pickleball

Pine City Area Pickleball in partnership with Pine City Community Education is offering two Friday evening pickleball classes!

Do you know Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the USA? It is fun and easy to learn! It is also a great way to meet new people and become engaged in our community!

If you'd like to see what this popular sport is all about or already know the sport and just love to play, you now have a choice between two sessions.

- Adult players only please!
- All equipment is provided including high end demo paddles thanks to the Partner's in Healthy Living grant.
- Participants should wear comfortable clothing and gym shoes

OPTION 1 **6:00-7:30pm**
Beginners, Newer and Low Intensity Players*
For beginner players who want to give the sport a try.
Beginner players may request two free classes.

OPTION 2 **7:30-9:00pm Open Play (Any Level)***
Open to players who already know the game.

Dates: Most Fridays January 9-May 29
Available dates are communicated through PlayTime Scheduler. When school is not in session, evening Pickleball is NOT played. Please see a detailed schedule at www.playtimescheduler.com

Location:
Pine City Elementary Multi *(enter in the main entrance of the elementary school and turn right. The multi door will be on the left.)*

Player Fee:
$5 per class paid to volunteer PCAP instructors.
Please bring exact change or check payable to PC Comm Ed.
*Please see below for details how to register for each class.

***Reserve your times to play using the free app PlayTime Scheduler or online at www.playtimescheduler.com.** You will find us listed under USA, MN, and lastly Pine City Area. Both classes cap out at 18 players. Priority will be given to those registering in advance using PlayTime Scheduler. Walk-ins will be taken when space allows. All players are required to sign a liability waiver. Please direct any question you may have to pickleball.pinecity@gmail.com or call Janet at 612-390-6928. **PCAP reserves the right to cancel sessions when there are insufficient sign ups in PlaytTime scheduler, conflicts for instructors or inclement weather.**

Strength & Mobility *with Hannah*

Build your strength and mobility with dynamic body weight exercises and versatile circuit workouts tailored for all fitness levels, from beginners to advanced. Join us for a 45-minute, energy-packed session with Trainer Hannah. Ready for a fun and empowering challenge? See you in class!



Instructor: Hannah Kloeckl, Certified Personal Trainer

Tuesdays
6:00-6:45pm

Jan 6,13,20,27
Feb 3,10,17,



Elementary School-Room #102 (Enter main front door, watch for signs)

$15 per class
No pre-registration required. *(please bring exact change or check payable to P.C. Comm Ed)*

YOGA

Beginner-Intermediate (Ages 16+)

Join us for a yoga practice suitable for both beginners and those with some yoga experience. This class focuses on building a foundation in yoga poses while progressing through more challenging poses and sequences. Classes will work to enhance mobility, balance and strength.

Whether you're new to yoga or looking to deepen your understanding and refine your practice, this class offers a supportive environment to explore and grow.

What to bring: comfortable clothing, water bottle, yoga mat and an open mind.

Instructor: Erin White

Thursdays
5:00-6:00pm

Jan 15,22,29
Feb 5,12,19



Elementary School-Media Center (Enter main front door, watch for signs)

$10 per class
No pre-registration required, drop-in works best with everyone's busy schedules! *(please bring exact change or check payable to P.C. Comm Ed)*

Community Ed Events

Use This Link to for the latest information for Adult and Youth Classes in Pine City!