Pine City Public School District Newsletter

February Edition

February 2026

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

Pine City High School

2025-26 Yearbook

Go Dragons!

Order Here!

www.tinyurl.com/pchsyearbook2025-26

From the Superintendent's Desk

February rolls in as the shortest month of the year, but it never feels short in our schools. We pack a lot of learning and activities into these 28 days. Our classrooms are staying busy as students dig into new topics, read new books, and practice new skills. Our educators are keeping the energy and learning high, even when the temperatures drop below zero.

We are looking forward to Parent-Teacher Conferences over the next couple of weeks. Conferences are a great time for our educators to share information, progress, strengths, and goals with families. Conferences are also a great opportunity for families to ask questions, provide feedback, and celebrate growth. Conversations at conferences are one of the best ways to strengthen the bridge between home and school. A 20-minute conversation can spark real growth.

During January and February, our staff have continued their learning journey. During recent professional development days, teachers have been learning about high-leverage practices, problem-solving strategies, updates to the math curriculum, ways to integrate art across subjects, and effective family communication. Great teachers never stop learning. They refine skills and bring fresh energy back to students.

After a few cold and snowy months, the winter days are starting to feel long. Yet, in February, the sun starts shining longer each day. This short month reminds us that progress does not require a long runway.

Thank you for partnering with us.
Spring is not far off. Let's keep the Dragon Pride high, the momentum strong, and make this shortest month count.

– Superintendent Stolp



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Upcoming Events

- **School Board Meeting**
  Monday, 2/23 - 6:30-8:00pm
  HS Boardroom
- **Parent Teacher Conferences**
  Th 2/19 - HS 3:00- 6:30pm
  T 2/24 - Elem 3:00-6:30pm
  Th 2/26 HS & Elem 4:30-8:00pm
- **No School**
  Friday 2/27
- **School Board Meeting**
  Monday, 3/16 - 6:30-8:00pm
  HS Boardroom
- **Spring Break**
  Monday 3/23- Friday 3/27

ALC J-Term Opportunities

Full-time students at the Pine City Area Learning Center had the opportunity to participate in a J-Term learning event in January. Students chose from a variety of experiences, such as business tours, taking a tour of Pine Tech to learn about post-secondary education opportunities, mastering the culinary arts, learning new card games, hosting a first responder to learn about opportunities in the medical field, completing service learning, and completing many project-based learning projects, including woodworking. The goal of J-Term was to provide students with experiential learning opportunities they might not otherwise have.



Rick's Auto and Jeff's Outdoor Services hosted business tours for students. They shared their experiences with owning and running a business, as well as what skills employers are looking for when hiring employees. Jeff and Rick both shared life lessons with the students and the importance of being a productive community member. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church opened its doors for students and staff to bake and cook, as well as practice the important skill of cleanup. Jeff Espeseth shared with students his adventures as a first responder and what it means to give back to the community. Another group of students spent part of a morning at New Horizon Thrift Store organizing items and learning about its mission in the community. Students toured Pine Technical & Community College and were treated to a pizza lunch hosted at The Rec Center. Teachers were creative, offering opportunities to learn a new game, learn woodworking skills, make a tie-blanket, and practice social skills.









The ALC would like to thank those community members for opening their doors and supporting the students in their education journey during their J-Term adventures.



Elementary News

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Upcoming Events at Elementary School

- **No School**
  Monday 2/16
- **2nd Grade Program**
  Thursday 2/19 ~ 6:30 PM
  High School Auditorium
- **4th Grade Program**
  Thursday 2/19 ~ 7:30 PM
  High School Auditorium
- **Elementary Conferences**
  Tuesday 2/24 3:00 - 6:30pm
  Book Fair - ES Media Center
- **Elementary Conferences**
  Thursday 2/26 4:30 - 8:00pm
  Book Fair - ES Media Center
- **No School**
  Friday 2/27
- **Kindergarten Circus**
  Friday 3/13 ~ 6:30 PM
  High School Auditorium
- **Spring Break**
  Monday 3/23- Friday 3/27

Elementary Honor Choir

Pine City Elementary is hosting a Elementary Honor Choir event on March 14th! Students in grades 4, 5, & 6 from the Pine City school district will join forces with students from Braham, Mora, Princeton, and Milaca as well.

These students will rehearse musical selections during the day and perform for the public at 3:00pm the same day. Don't miss the chance to see these talented students!



National School Breakfast Week

National School Breakfast Week highlights the importance of the School Breakfast Program and the nutritious meals served to students each morning. This year's theme, "The Quest for School Breakfast", encourages students to participate in school breakfast while exploring new menu items and enjoying special guest servers at the elementary school. The elementary will also host a Lucky Tray Giveaway, where selected trays will include a Golden Ticket for a small prize.



A healthy breakfast supports student focus, learning, and overall success - we encourage all students to join us each morning for school breakfast!

National School Breakfast Week - **March 2nd - 6th**



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.

High School News
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Upcoming Events at the High School

- **No School**
  Monday 2/16
- **HS Conferences**
  Thursday 2/19 ~ 3:00-6:30 PM
- **HS Conferences**
  Thursday 2/26 ~ 4:30-8:00 PM
- **No School**
  Friday 2/27
- **SH March Concert**
  Monday 3/2 - 7:00pm
  High School Auditorium
- **JH March Concert**
  Thursday 3/5 - 7:00pm
  High School Auditorium
- **Spring Break**
  Monday 3/23- Friday 3/27

JH All Conference Honor Band

On February 7th, 19 Pine City Band students in grades 6-9 participated in the first ever Great River Conference JH All Conference Honor Band! Students from 9 schools in our conference were nominated to participate in two different honor bands.

They got to rehearse all day with amazing clinicians. Milaca HS band director Andy Nelson, and Princeton band director James Baxter. The concert at the end of the day was full of energy, wonderful musicianship, and support from so many friends and families.





Students split into Two Bands

Back Row:
James Hanson, Makenna Shepard, Ingrid Espeseth, Annabelle Schultz, Sienna Ganote.

Front Row:
Myles Groe, Victoria Steltenpohl, Alexis Root, Hazel Olson, Ayla Kunze, Annabelle Mishler





Left to Right:
Madelyn Nichols, Ava Dutcher, Isabella Charles, Gus Erickson, George Crandall, Vincent Root, Tino Sylvester

PCHS Snow Week
Feb 15-20 2026
Dress up Days & Activities

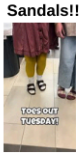
SUNDAY
6PM
HS GYM
$2



DODGEBALL

FINALS
THURSDAY
7TH HR
HS GYM

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Toes out Tuesday- Wear your Sandals!!	Wednesday, Feb. 18th Blue Collar Day - Dress as a blue collar career	Anything But a Backpack Day: More information about the guidelines will be found in the student announcements and Dragon TV	Jersey Day









PEPFEST - FRIDAY - 8TH HR - HS GYM

Pine City Public Schools

Preparing Our Students For The Future

Upcoming Events
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Congratulations to the School House Rock Live Jr. Cast!

This year the 5th & 6th grade students at Pine City Elementary had the opportunity to audition for this year's musical. Congratulations to all of the students that took part in this opportunity and challenged themselves to try something new! We are excited to get rehearsals started and will be learning choreography for this show! We look forward to performing for the community on Friday, April 24 at 7:00 PM. Save the date!

Abby Y.	Eleanor N.	Lorelei M.
Aliyah S.	Emma S.	Mercedez P.
Amiah M.	Emma T.	Meryl A.
Aurora S.	Ethan W.	Nadia P.
Baylie D.	Evelyn A.	Neva K.
Beatrice P.	Jace O.	Nicholas K.
Braedon B.	Josephine M.	Olivia D.
Brelynn L.	Josiah H.	Parker T.
Charles A.	Knut E.	Rowan K.
Charlotte M.	Leighton R.	Sabastian W.
Clayton C.	Leo A.	Theodore C.
Dru J.	Lilly N.	Vaughn C.

We still have a few spots open on the CREW for 5th & 6th grade students. Deadline to submit your application is NOON on Friday, February 13th.

Click this link to complete the online application with your student account.

Calender & Activity Pages

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





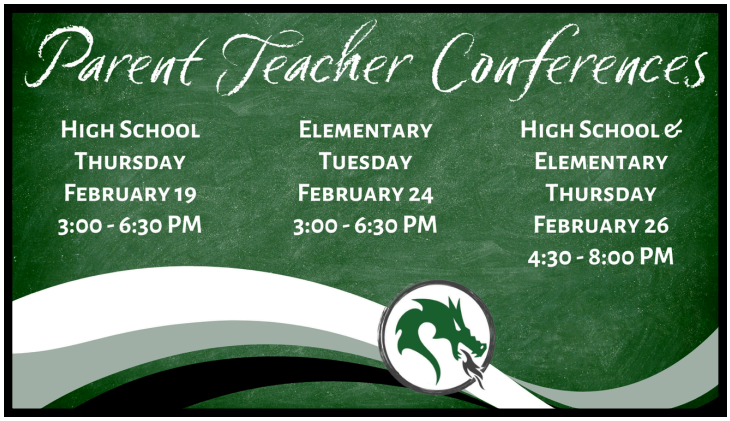


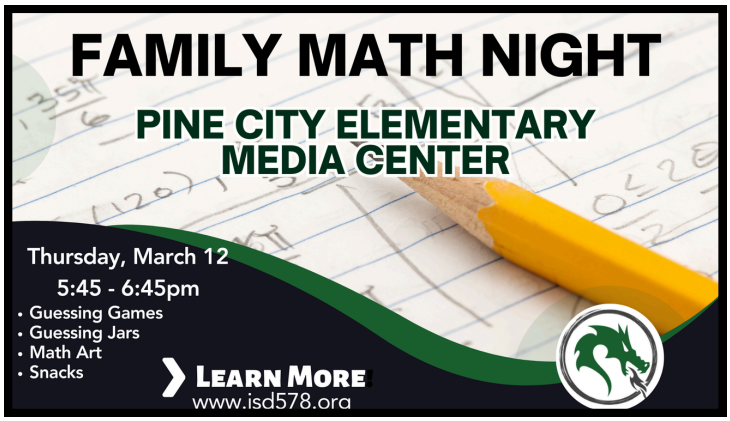


Upcoming Events
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Dragon Sister Night

The Girls Basketball team held a dragon sister night, where our High School Dragons got to show off and celebrate their younger dragon sisters. It was a fun night of basketball!



Do you Have a Senior?

Seniors, Parents, Guardians,

PC Parents 4 Grads is a Pine City non-profit organization that supports the community recognition of your senior.

Senior Year is a big event with lots of things happening. Our hope is to provide you with this information so that you can plan ahead.

With a deadline of **April 1st**, the PC Parents 4 Grads team requests your prompt response as they begin preparing to celebrate our seniors.

Head to the News section of our website to learn more!

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		

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

Mar 10,17,31 (No class Mar 24)
Apr 7,14,21,28
May 5,12,19,26



Elementary School-Media Center (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)*

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 Annual

CARNIVAL FUNDRAISER

February 27, 2026 5-7:30 pm Enter Door 17

Preschool- 6th Grade

Children must be accompanied by an adult

ADMISSION:
FREE- EACH CHILD GETS 5 FREE GAME TICKETS
EXTRA TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FOR $1 EACH
****CASH ONLY****

BALLOON ANIMALS/GAMES/
BOUNCE HOUSE/CRAZY HAIR BY DAPPER & DIVINE/
FACE PAINTING/TATTOOS
****RAFFLES $1 PER TICKET****

CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE:
PIZZA PUB PIZZA, NACHOS, POPCORN, COTTON CANDY, CHIPS, CANDY, POP, WATER, GATORADE

Community Ed Events

Celebrating Life Long Learning! **Spring 2026**

Precision Driving Center | 55+ Driver Discount Program

Any driver 55 and older are invited to take the Driver Improvement class through the Precision Driving Center. This course will save you 10% on your auto insurance for three years. (Prior to taking the class, please confirm with your insurance company that they honor this discount.) There are no written or behind the wheel tests. NEW: The Refresher AND Beginner Classes are now both four hour classes. Classes are offered in-person or as an online self paced course or a virtual meeting. Please contact www.stcloudstate.edu/precisiondrivingcenter/ and click on "55+ Driver Discount Program" to start an online class or call 1-888-234-1294 to reserve your seat in an in-person or virtual class.

Upcoming in-person classes in Pine City:

Tues Mar 17	9:00am-1:00pm	High School Boardroom	$24
Tues Apr 21	9:00am-1:00pm	High School Boardroom	$24
Tues Apr 21	5:00pm-9:00pm	Elementary Media Center	$24
Tues May 19	9:00am-1:00pm	High School Boardroom	$24

Firearms Safety Training

Firearms Safety Training classes take place in April. No pre-registration is required prior to class but must arrive the first night of class no later than 6:00pm to register. A parent/guardian must be present to register child and are encouraged to attend with the child. *Students must be at least 11 years old at time of class*. The Firearms Safety Certificate becomes valid at age 12. DNR Firearms Certification is required of anyone born after December 31,1979 to purchase a hunting license in Minnesota.

Questions? Contact Dan Saumer at 320-364-3698 or email dan.saumer@icloud.com

Can't attend this class? See other options at: dnr.state.mn.us/safety/firearms/index.html

Class Dates: Tuesdays-April 7,14,21,28
Class Time: 6:00-9:00pm
Location: Pine City High School - 7th Grade Commons
Field Trip: Saturday May 2 from 8:30am-Noon-More Info @ Class
Class Fee: No fee for classes and field trip. There is a $7.50 DNR course fee payable online after successful completion of course requirements.

Let's Talk About Medicare

As you get closer to 65, the amount of information you get concerning Medicare can make the process of applying very confusing. This is an educational meeting about Medicare and Medicare insurance that will answer your questions. We will discuss what Medicare covers, what it costs, and how and when to enroll. We will also review the types of Medicare insurance available and the factors to consider when deciding what type of plan is best for you.

Tuesday, April 14
6:00-7:00pm
Pine City Elementary Media Center
This is a free event but we ask that you please pre-register by calling 320-629-4030

TruePartners Insurance Brokers

Tom Hill and Jill Ehrman-Licensed Medicare Insurance Brokers

Flowstate Somatic Breathwork

Level 2: Activation and Integration

Instructor: David Jackson, Functional Breathing Instructor

Wednesdays: April 1,8,15,22
5:30-6:30pm
$80 (4 classes) ***please pre-register at isd578.ce.eleyo.com***
Prerequisite: Completion of Flow State Healing's Level 1 Oxygen Advantage Class or instructor approved

Elementary School-Room #102 *(please enter main elementary door and follow signs)*

This next-level class builds on the foundations of functional breathing and nervous system regulation. You'll learn how to work with breath to gently awaken stored tension, connect with deeper parts of yourself, and support real healing through the body. We'll explore powerful techniques like pendulation breathwork and body-based mapping to help you move safely through activation and into balance.

Important note: *Before starting the functional breathing program, individuals who are in their first trimester of pregnancy, have severe COPD or asthma, or have a history of epilepsy or seizure disorders should consult a doctor. These conditions could make the breathing exercises potentially harmful without medical supervision.*

Community Education

700 6th Ave. S.W. Pine City, MN 55063 320-629-4030

Check out upcoming Community Ed classes at **isd578.ce.eleyo.com** Please check back often!!

Community Ed Events

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

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 **6:00-7:00pm**
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 **7:00-9:00pm Open Play (Any Level)***
Players are encouraged to group themselves on the courts with players at their level or play down so that all players have the opportunity to play.

Dates: Most Fridays February 6-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 PlayTime scheduler, conflicts for instructors or inclement weather.

High School Trap League

It's time for you to join Minnesota's safest and fastest-growing high school sport! Pine City High School Trap Team! Trap Shoots are scheduled for **Sundays** at **Wings North**. This schedule is meant to not conflict with other dragon sports.

Deadling to register is March 22nd.

Follow the link below for more information.

Contact Brendt Nelson (brendtnelson@yahoo.com) or Cindy Stolp (cstolp@isd578.org) with questions.

Use this link to visit the registration page.



PINE CITY HIGH SCHOOL TRAP SHOOTING TEAM

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.

Thursdays
5:00-6:00pm

Mar 5,19 *(no class Mar 12 and Mar 26)*
April 2,9,16,23

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!