

# **Powell Middle School Monthly Newsletter - January 2026**

## **Parent Portal & Canvas**

The Infinite Campus parent portal is used to view attendance and to put money on your student's lunch account. To view grades and assignments, the Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) is used. Please visit the website at <http://www.pcsd1.org/> to access both the Infinite Campus parent portal and Canvas Learning Management System. Activity schedules, lunch menus, school calendars, and weekly announcements are located on the district website. If you have not been able to access the parent portal, please call our office at 764-6185 to receive your activation key.

**Viewing Semester Grades:** Semester 1 and quarter 2 grades will be ready for viewing on the Infinite Campus parent portal at <https://pcs1.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/park.jsp> by Friday, January 23rd. Please note that any attendance reported reflects individual period attendance.

**Lunch Account Balances:** As always, you can access your student's lunch account through the Infinite Campus parent portal at <https://pcs1.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/park.jsp>. To pay on your student's lunch account, sign-in on the Infinite Campus parent portal and click on "Food Service" (found along the left side of the screen). Please refer to the link [Unpaid Student Meal Debt](#) (on the PCSD1 website) to view the district's policy on negative balances.

**2025-2026 Yearbooks:** If you would like to purchase a yearbook, you may order one (see Mrs. Catlin or Mrs. Morrow) in the Learning Commons for \$10.00.

**Young Authors Club:** Our last meeting of the Young Authors Club will be January 12th from 3:30 - 4 pm. Submissions for Young Authors Club are due on Friday, January 16th by 1 pm. Digital submissions can be made on the Young Authors Canvas page and paper submissions can be turned in to composition teachers or Mrs. Lange. Thank you!

**A Friendly Reminder About the Swimming Unit for 6th and 7th Grade Students:** Our swimming unit runs from Monday, January 12th through Thursday, January 29th. The students will need a swimsuit (1 piece or tankini), towel, shower items/toiletries, and a bag to carry their belongings in. Please note, mask goggles are not allowed. Students MAY bring the following optional items: swim shirt/shorts, goggles, nose plugs, and a hair cap.

**Challenge of the Books:** The annual competition will be held in Basin, WY, on Tuesday, February 24th.

**Calling All Panther Chefs:** Get your recipe on the school menu! PCSD#1 presents Panther Chef 2026 - Champion Series. Panther Chef is a recipe challenge that is open to students in grades 5 through 12. Recipes are due on January 23rd. To find more information, please go to the [PCSD#1 Food Services](#) webpage.

## **January Digital Wellness: Helping Students Reset**

After the holidays, students may return to school feeling digitally overwhelmed. The New Year is a great time to help your child reset their screen habits and refocus on learning, sleep, and well-being. Here are a few simple, supportive strategies to help them ease back into a healthier routine:

1. **Digital Detox Challenge:** Set a 24 hour no-social-media challenge, screen free evenings, or "no phones at meals" week. Even the short breaks can make a big difference.
2. **Mindfulness and Focus Apps** like [Headspace](#), [Calm](#), [Insight Timer](#), or [Forest](#) can help students pause, breathe, and reduce device hopping.

**Encourage Regular Screen Breaks** by stretching, moving or switching to an offline activity. Notifications trigger dopamine hits that can keep us checking our phones or devices. Taking breaks can help the brain rebalance, improve focus, sleep, and reduce anxiety.

# January 2026

| Sunday        | Monday                                                             | Tuesday                                                                  | Wednesday     | Thursday                                                                                                        | Friday                                                                                     | Saturday                                                             |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
|               | Winter Break                                                       | Winter Break                                                             | Winter Break  | Winter Break <b>1</b>                                                                                           | Winter Break <b>2</b>                                                                      | <b>3</b>                                                             |
| <b>4</b>      | Winter Break <b>5</b>                                              | <b>6</b><br><b>School Resumes</b><br>Semester 2<br>(Quarter 3)<br>Begins | <b>7</b>      | <b>8</b>                                                                                                        | <b>9</b><br><b>BLACK Schedule</b>                                                          | <b>10</b>                                                            |
| <b>11</b>     | <b>12</b>                                                          | <b>13</b>                                                                | <b>14</b>     | <b>15</b><br>8th Boys BB<br>- 4:15 pm > Powell<br><br>7th Boys BB<br>- 4:15 pm<br>> Worland                     | <b>16</b><br><b>ORANGE Schedule</b>                                                        | <b>17</b>                                                            |
| <b>18</b>     | <b>19</b><br>Boys BB<br>- 4:15 pm<br>7th > Powell<br>8th > Lovell  | <b>20</b>                                                                | <b>21</b>     | <b>22</b><br>8th Boys BB<br>- 2:15 pm > Powell<br><br>7th Boys BB<br>- 4:15 pm > Cody                           | <b>23</b><br><b>BLACK Schedule</b>                                                         | <b>24</b><br>Boys BB Quad<br>- 10 am<br>7th > Powell<br>8th > Cody   |
| <b>25</b>     | <b>26</b><br>Boys BB<br>> Cowley<br>8th - 4:15 pm<br>7th - 5:30 pm | <b>27</b>                                                                | <b>28</b>     | <b>29</b><br>NAEP Testing for<br>8th Grade Students<br><br>Boys BB<br>- 4:15 pm<br>7th > Powell<br>8th > Laurel | <b>30</b><br><b>ORANGE Schedule</b>                                                        | <b>31</b><br>Boys BB Quad<br>- 10 am<br>7th > Lovell<br>8th > Powell |
| <b>Feb. 1</b> | <b>Feb. 2</b>                                                      | <b>Feb. 3</b><br>Boys BB<br>> Powell<br>8th - 4:15 pm<br>7th - 5:30 pm   | <b>Feb. 4</b> | <b>Feb. 5</b><br>Boys BB<br>- 4:15 pm<br>7th > Laurel<br>8th > Powell                                           | <b>Feb. 6</b><br><b>BLACK Schedule</b><br><br>Boys BB > Powell<br>8th - 2 pm<br>7th - 3 pm | <b>Feb. 7</b><br>Speech & Debate<br>> Cody - TBD                     |

## Mornings Before School

Wednesday > MATHCOUNTS - 7 am > Mr. Estes (room 5226)

## After School

Monday > Girls Who Code - 3:25 - 4:20 pm

AND Tuesday > Science Bowl - 3:25 - 4:40 pm > Mrs. Hanks (Tech Garage)

Wednesday > Lego Club - 3:30 - 4:15 pm > Mrs. Giltner (da Vinci Lab)

Park County School District #1 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment of employment in, its educational programs or activities. Inquiries concerning Title VI, Title IX, Section 504, and ADA may be referred to Park County School District #1, Ginger Sleep, Civil Rights Coordinator, 160 North Evarts, Powell, Wyoming 82435, or the Office for Civil Rights, Region VIII, U.S. Department of Education, Federal Building, Suite 310, 1244 Speer Blvd., Denver, Colorado 80204-03582, (303) 844-5695 or TDD 303-844-3417.