Pellston Community,

We are beyond excited at Pellston Public Schools to welcome you to the 2020-21 school year. Whether you are joining us for face-to-face instruction or are a virtual learner, you are a part of the Hornet Nation and we are honored to have you.

It was a busy summer in the district preparing to make sure our students and staff are as safe as possible. We also completed a long list of Sinking Fund projects, and the district looks incredible. Know that I am here to serve our students, families and community. Please never hesitate to reach out to me with questions or concerns.

With kind regards,

Stephen Seelye • sseelye@pellstonschools.org
Superintendent, Pellston Public Schools

Photo courtesy of Petoskey News-Review
Greetings, Hornet families!

I am looking forward to the 2020-21 school year as your middle/high school principal. We are excited about our work to improve our school and the programming we provide to our students and their families.

Our school has much to be proud of, and I, along with our staff, look forward to the challenges and successes that will come our way. We value the opportunity to work with and serve the Pellston community. Let’s have a great year!

Sincerely,
Mr. Enos Bacon • ebacon@pellstonschools.org
Middle/High School Principal

Welcome back, Hornets!

I cannot wait to work with each and every one of you as your school counselor during the 2020-21 school year! I hope you have had an excellent summer and that you are ready and recharged for the new school year. With such an abrupt end to the school year in the spring, we are so excited to have you back in the building to share all of our improvements with you. This year will be a little different as I am expecting my first child in early October. I will be gone for a portion of the school year, but we are planning to have a substitute counselor available for all of your needs while I am away. I look forward to being back with you!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Jennifer Dilworth • jdilworth@pellstonschools.org
Middle/High School Counselor

NEW! CTE Public Safety Course

Pellston Public Schools is prepared to train the next generation of public safety professionals with a new Career and Technical Education (CTE) offering beginning in the 2020-21 school year. The Public Safety course will be offered at the high school to primarily juniors and seniors and instructed by Duane St. Amour. The course has been developed over the past several months in partnership with the district, the Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District’s Career and Technical Education Department and North Central Michigan College, which has provided curriculum assistance, equipment and training.

Growing minds & bodies with new hoop house

In late May, a crew of local volunteers constructed a new 30 x 72 ft. hoop house on the southside of the elementary school building. The new hoop house will produce food for the community and school lunch programs. Teachers also have the opportunity to integrate the new addition into their curriculum. Local farmers have volunteered to keep the hoop house in production beginning this fall and are available to assist teachers in utilizing Pellston’s newest addition.

Food Corps partnership

PPS has been a partner with Groundwork and FoodCorps since 2017, and is now entering its fourth year as a FoodCorps partner, with Food Service Director Sherry Sedore as school advisor.

Hornet Health Center

Please stop into the Hornet Health Center today and invite your parents and friends! The Hornet Health Center staff is here to provide you with quality health care geared toward meeting the needs of young people.

Hours: Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Phone: (800) 432-4121 or (231) 539-8550

Graduation & Honors Diploma

Pellston Middle/High School will continue to follow the Michigan Merit Curriculum in granting students high school diplomas. We will now be offering students an option for graduating with an Honors Diploma that is based on specific coursework being completed in multiple disciplines. Stop in to see Mrs. Dilworth or Mr. Bacon for more info!
Welcoming new staff to the Nest!

**JOHN CHANDA, Middle/High School Intervention Specialist**
Hello, my name is John Chanda, and I am a Pellston alumnus. I will be serving the students of Pellston as an intervention specialist in the middle/high school.

**JENNY CRAWFORD, Middle/High School Intervention Specialist**
Hello, my name is Jenny Crawford, I am the proud mother of 7 amazing children and wife of 25 years! It has been my privilege to be a part of the Pellston Public Schools staff since 2017. I am excited to start a new chapter as an intervention specialist for Pellston Middle / High school this year. My heart is for all children! I have worn many hats, including worship leader, office manager for a private golf club, and serving our school in the food service department. I will always say that the most important job I will ever have is loving, raising and helping children. I look forward to serving this community in this new position!

**MARIE FLORENSKI, Sixth-Grade Teacher**
My name is Marcie Florenski. I was born and raised most of my life in Northern Michigan. I have two wonderful kids; one out of the nest and the other is a senior this year. I love the outdoors, camping, backpacking, yoga, gardening, cooking, canning and just generally learning new things. Just recently we started fostering dogs and brought Buddy into our home. I am excited about my new role as a sixth-grade teacher. I spent many years as a Title Director and Intervention Specialist working with students in math and reading. I have been working hard in my new classroom all summer and look forward to meeting my fellow Hornets.

**JOHN CHANDA, Middle/High School Intervention Specialist**
Hello, my name is John Chanda, and I am a Pellston alumnus. I will be serving the students of Pellston as an intervention specialist in the middle/high school.

**RHONDA GRANGER, Third-Grade Teacher**
I am Rhonda Granger. My family is from Northern Michigan. My husband’s family has been in Alanson/Pellston for many generations. My husband, Todd, and I have two grown children. When I am not in school, I am probably outside. I love to garden, mow, hunt, fish, and mostly spend time with my family and dog. I am excited to be teaching third grade. I love to inspire children to want to read and write! This is my 27th year of teaching. For the last 17 years I have taught fifth, sixth and seventh graders in Wolverine. I have been preparing all summer, and am anxiously awaiting your arrival.

**RAECHL KWIATKOWSKI, High School English Teacher**
My name is Rachel Kwiatkowski and I will be teaching English II, III, and IV in the high school. This is my 14th year teaching, and I have taught in Mackinaw City, Alanson, and for a virtual school. I have always been a Hornet at heart, graduating from Pellston in 2002. My husband and I live in Pellston, and I have a son, Matthew, in fourth-grade and a daughter, Anna, who will be two in a few months. I enjoy sports including softball in the summer, as well as spending time with my family at the lake, playing card and board games, reading, and watching my favorite shows and sports teams. I am so thankful to be a Hornet again and am excited to bring my passion and creativity to PHS!

**ANGELA SHACKLEFORD, Middle/High School Intervention Specialist**
My name is Mrs. Angela Shackleford. Originally from Southeast Michigan, but I've vacationed in the area all my life. Now we're thrilled to be residents of the area! I've worked with young people all my life, from being a nanny in college until today. I'm the mom of a U of M engineering student and have helped him and others through a robotics championship, Eagle Scout rank, Architectural Engineering Exploring group, among other activities. I've always been an active supporter of youth activities and look forward to working with everyone in Pellston schools. Here I am without my mask. Try and find me with my mask and introduce yourself!
PELLSTON ATHLETICS READY TO SOAR INTO A NEW YEAR!

Welcome back Hornet Nation! Our student-athletes and coaches have been working hard for months to make this Fall season a success. As of this writing, cross country and volleyball teams are in full swing, with football being postponed until the Spring. With COVID-19 impacting the MHSAA calendar, information and guidelines change rapidly. As always, the best place to find the most up-to-date information regarding any of these changes, or Pellston Middle/High School sports in general, is at www.pellstonhornets.org!

FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH FOR ALL ENROLLED STUDENTS!

We are pleased to inform our families that Pellston Public Schools will be participating in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) as part of the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program for the 2020-21 school year. ALL students enrolled in our district can receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at NO CHARGE to your household each day.

Please fill out and sign the Household Information Survey that has been mailed home; this form is needed for administrative purposes, not to determine eligibility. This survey allows our school to benefit from various state and federal supplemental programs and is critical in determining the amount of money the school receives from a variety of supplemental programs. All information on the survey is confidential. Without your assistance, the district cannot maximize utilization of available state and federal funds. This survey will also be available in both the elementary and high school.

REGISTER FOR ‘REMIND’ TO RECEIVE IMPORTANT DISTRICT NEWS AND UPDATES

Pellston Public Schools will continue to communicate important dates, closings, and happenings associated with school business using the Remind app. Remind allows parents to receive text messages or emails as things develop in real time. As our membership has grown, we are reconfiguring our Remind Classes in a different way and asking those who register for this service to do so with the Class that corresponds to their last name, as classes will now be arranged in alphabetically. In the event an announcement is sent out using this service, all members will receive messages in the same fashion as before, we are simply changing how we organize our memberships. We encourage parents, students, and community members to sign up for this service in order to stay informed of all things related to Hornet Nation! To join, simply download the Remind app and follow the directions for adding a class, or you may text 81010 and enter the specific code in the subject line of the text associated with your class (alphabetical by your last name) as follows:

Class A-F @4e394hc • Class G-K @k9d44b • Class L-P @78dek9e • Class Q-U @bh7fff • Class V-Z @ghhd2

Again, all members should sign up according to their last name as it corresponds to the classes listed.