



# The RIDGE



November 2016

Hello Families,

We cannot believe it is November already! Thank you for your support at our Halloween parties and the Optional Choice that was provided to our students at PR. It was a fantastic day, and I loved the BAND!

We are enjoying our time speaking with you regarding the progress of your child(ren). The growth from where your young Rangers started the year to where they will end the year is paramount. Please know that communicating with you will always be a priority at Pine Ridge.

We officially launched our PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support). Last Thursday, our entire staff wore our PTO sponsored T-shirts to kick off this commitment to being intentional and focused on our behaviors as Rangers in a multitude of settings (lunchroom, recess, bus, playground). It is critically important to teach the behaviors we want to see in all areas. We selected the hallway as our first area for teaching. See our hallway RangerBilities below. Please ask your young Ranger how they interact with these expectations.



### Pride

- Walk in a straight line on the right side of the hallway
- Keep the halls clean



### Respect

- Walking feet
- Stick with your group
- Use quiet voices



### Responsibility

- Follow adult directions
- Do the right thing regardless of what other kids are doing
- Stay focused on where you are going
- Keep hands and feet to self
- Walking feet (no running)

Stay tuned for our next area of focus...

Tamasha James  
#wearePR

### Coming Up



- Nov. 11 Veteran's Lunch
- Nov. 14 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Nov. 15 Miller & Lareau to Hatchery
- Nov. 18 Lloyd & Townsend to Hatchery
- Nov. 21 Board of Education Meeting  
CW - 7:00 PM
- Nov. 21 AAA - The Great Disconnect  
7:00 PM - FAC
- Nov. 23-25 Thanksgiving Break

### Looking Ahead



- Dec. 2 Half Day for Students  
School dismissed at 11:55 AM
- Dec. 3 Ranger Breakfast- 8:00 - 10:00 AM
- Dec. 7 PTO Meeting & Lunch - 12:30 PM  
Pine Ridge Media Center
- Dec. 8 Cookie Dough Pick Up  
3:45 PM to 6:00 PM - By the Gym
- Dec. 9 Kindergarten Candy Houses
- Dec. 19 Board of Education Meeting  
KF - 7:00 PM
- Dec. 21 Winter Service Projects  
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM
- Dec. 23 - Jan. 2 Winter break. School resumes on  
January 3.



## Ranger Breakfast

The Ranger Breakfast is Saturday, December 3. It is a 32 year tradition and we hope you make plans to attend! It is \$10 per family. Send in your reservation slip so we are sure to have enough food ready!

## Lost and Found



The Lost and Found is FULL and overflowing. Please take a look any time you are in the building! It is located back by the gym and music rooms. If items are labeled with the student's name, we do our best to get them back to the owner. Labeling helps! Any unclaimed items will be donated during the winter holiday break.

## Board of Education Meetings

November's Board of Education Meeting will be held November 12 at Central Woodlands at 7:00 PM

December's Board of Education Meeting will be held on December 19 at 7:00 PM at Knapp Forrest.

## Principal Text Messages!

How to join "Pine Ridge Remind" -

- Prepare to send a text message
- In the "To" field enter: 81010
- In the "Message" field enter:
- @cf492g

Don't have a smart phone? Go to [rmd.at/cf492g](http://rmd.at/cf492g) on a computer to sign up for email messages.

## Be Prepared for the Weather

It is hard to believe but the cold weather and snow might be coming soon. Please stay informed about the day's forecast and send your students with the appropriate clothing for the day. Be aware of big forecast changes. If there is snow on the ground, and students do not have boots and snow pants, they are required to stay on the paved areas.



## Spanish Note from Mrs. Saladin:

*Many people think that studying a second language is unnecessary, but maybe you will change your mind after you read the following:*

*Want a bigger, better brain? Study a second language!*

*According to the website "Science World Report," a previous study conducted by researchers at Lund University showed that learning a new language actually makes parts of the brain grow....According to the study, the task of acquiring a second language after infancy fuels a novel neural growth and links among neurons similar to the one observed at the time of acquiring complex motor skills." So, feed your brain a second language and get ready to reap the benefits!*

## Half Days

We have several half days of school on the calendar this year. On the dates listed below, school will be dismissed at 11:55. All buses will run like normal, leaving about noon as opposed to 3:50 PM. Please make a note of these dates!

12/2 - 1/19 - 1/20 - 3/17 - 3/30 - 5/12 - 6/8- 6/9

### Notice of Nondiscrimination Policy

Forest Hills Public Schools is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, height, weight, marital status, genetic information, or any legally protected characteristic in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities. Any questions concerning compliance issues with Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, including athletic issues, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, or inquiries related to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap, should be directed to:

Christine Annese, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources  
Forest Hills Public Schools  
6590 Cascade Road SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
616-493-8805

# The Art Corner

## Foundation Gala Centerpieces

Every year the Forest Hills Education Foundation asks the Art teachers to create centerpieces for their annual banquet. Sometimes they give us a specific “assignment” and sometimes they just turn us loose. This year is kind of a combination of the two. They gave us some tall, glass vases and some round pieces of paper to act as a base. The vases are to be placed on the paper, and then a tree will be put into the vase. The rest is up to us, we may decorate as we see fit, no rules. Here’s what we did:

I drew up a design of flowers and hearts swirling upward in a spiral, and ran off three copies of it. The papers were rolled up and inserted into the vases, facing outward. We then traced the designs with acrylic paints and removed the paper. Finally, I sprayed the inside of each vase with white enamel to create a frosted look.

For the base I sketched up a design with the Pine Ridge name emblazoned over a row of pine trees with a dramatic sunrise in the background. The design is loosely copied from Peter Max and anime art. We colored them in with sharpies. A special shout-out for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade volunteers who helped with this project.



## Featured Artist

Now that Original Works is finished (at least from my perspective) it is time to begin the Featured Artist program. As our students generate more wonderful art, various pieces will be framed and hung around our building. When a particular student’s work is chosen, a note and a certificate will be sent home to help the family celebrate.



## “Permanent Clay”

We have started working with clay with the Kindergarten classes. This is a Big Deal! We start by learning basic shapes using modeling clay, which does not dry out. I tell the students this is “practice clay”. They learn to make a ball, rope, bar, cone, cookie and cube, ending with a pinch pot. The rest of the hour is spent making whatever they want, using their new-found skills. The following week we get out the real pottery clay and make pinch pots. When these have dried thoroughly they will be fired, then the kids can paint them. The entire process takes 5-6 weeks.