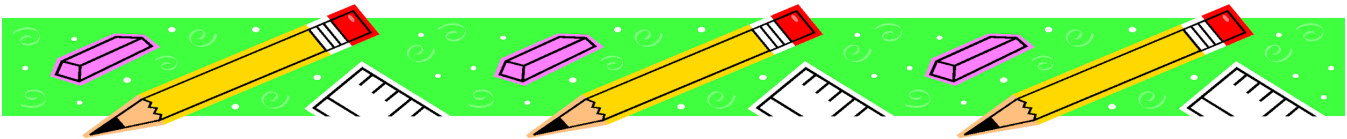


MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Pine Grove Area Middle School Fifth Grade is to provide our students with organizational skills, technological and multisensory resources, and a learning environment that encourages independent lifelong learning and responsible cooperative citizens capable of adapting to changes in society.



Dear Fifth Grade Students and Parents,

The Fifth Grade Team is looking forward to working with you during the 2023-2024 school year. School supplies which will prove to be helpful throughout the school year include:

Basics

Box of Pencils (Preferably 12 or 24 Pencils)

• Headphones/Earbuds

Pencil Pouch

Highlighters

2 Dry Erase Markers and Eraser

Tissues

Classes

1-One inch Binder (Social Studies)

1-One inch Binder (ELA)

1- One subject Notebook (Mathematics)

Date for 5th Grade Open House is Monday, August 21 @ 4:00-6:00 pm

4:00pm-5:00pm- Student Last Name Beginning with A through K

5:00pm-6:00pm- Student Last Name Beginning with L through Z

Welcome to Open House!

Monday, August 21, 2023



Organize folders daily

Parent Student Portal link – Grades On-line

Examine calendars daily

November 9th PM & 10th AM – Parent/Teacher Conferences

Homework assignment page should be checked daily

Office notes - student's first and last name, ID#, and parent signature

Use e-mail or telephone voice mail to contact teachers

September 7th – Picture Day

End of the marking period report cards are sent home with students and not to be returned



MEET THE TEACHERS!



My name is Mrs. Daubert. This is my 5th year teaching in the Pine Grove Area School District. I graduated from Pine Grove Area High School, and I earned my bachelor's degree in elementary and special education from Lebanon Valley College. I have been teaching for a total of 11 years. I will be the learning support teacher for 5th grade this year.

My husband Matt and I live in Pine Grove with our four children. We have a 17 year old daughter, Rayna, a 10 year old daughter, Emalyn, a 4 year old son, Fletcher, and a 3 year old daughter, Vanessa. When I am not teaching, I love spending time with my family, watching/coaching sports, reading, and shopping!

I am excited to meet our new 5th graders, and I am looking forward to a great school year!

My name is Mrs. Lesher. This will be my second year of teaching at Pine Grove Area School District. I graduated from Upper Dauphin Area High School, then went on to graduate from Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC) and Bloomsburg University in Elementary Education. I am currently working on my Master's degree through Wilkes University in Literacy. I will be teaching Language Arts and Reading on the fifth grade team.

My husband Dylan and I are high school sweethearts and have a dog named Chloe. We love hiking, kayaking, and going to the beach. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family, reading, writing, and crafting. I look forward to meeting you and experiencing the creativity you bring to our classroom this year!

My name is Miss Rudy. This is my 26th year teaching in the Pine Grove Area Middle School. I am teaching science. I graduated from Blue Mountain High School and Kutztown University with a degree in Elementary Education and have received my Master's Certificate. I am a co-advisor for the yearbook.

In my free time, I enjoy listening to music, watching movies, cooking, shopping, and traveling. I am a member of The Polar Bear Swim Club in Barrow, Alaska. I survived a shark dive with Great White Sharks while on safari in South Africa and Guadalupe Island, Mexico. I was in a cage, of course! Some of my other adventures include sand boarding down the world's largest sand dunes and riding a camel in Namibia; fishing for Piranha, tracking Jaguar on a safari, and holding a Three-toed Sloth and an Anaconda in Brazil; cave tubing, exploring Mayan Ruins, and swimming with Nurse Sharks and Stingrays in Belize; and rappelling down a 200 foot waterfall in Costa Rica! This summer I swam with Whales Sharks at Isla Mujeres, Mexico. What amazing experiences!

I look forward to joining you on your adventure to wonderful discoveries in science!

Hi! My name is Mrs. Sidleck. This is my sixteenth year teaching on the fifth grade team. I am an alumnus of Pine Grove Area School District. I attended Lebanon Valley College majoring in Elementary Education and Psychology. I obtained my master's degree in Educational Development and Strategies from Wilkes University.

My husband owns an all-terrain vehicle business. I enjoy cooking, gardening, reading, riding ATV's and spending time with my family. I enjoy spending most of my free time with my twelve year old son, William, my ten year old daughter, Madeline, and my five year old son, Cooper. I spent almost all my free time chasing after Cooper as he tries to get into a lot of trouble. I also enjoy reading with my children and playing board and video games with them. To add to the chaos of my three children, we also have a Persian cat named Calypso and we added to our family by getting an airedale puppy this past April named Firestorm.

I look forward to teaching social studies this year!

My name is Miss Sterner. This is my ninth year teaching at Pine Grove Area Middle school, and I am very excited to meet you! I will be teaching 5th grade math. I live in Schuylkill Haven, Pennsylvania. I graduated from Penn State with a degree in Elementary Education and a specialty in Grades 4-8 Math. I have also earned my Master's Degree from Walden University. In my spare time, I like to create art and jewelry for my craft business. My other hobbies include playing volleyball, watching movies, hiking, astrophotography, gardening, geocaching, and going on adventures. I'm looking forward to having a great year here at the Pine Grove Area Middle School. We will have a fun year together!

My name is Mrs. Warner. This will be my thirtieth year teaching in the Pine Grove Area School District. I graduated from Blue Mountain High School and Penn State University with a degree in Elementary Education. I will be teaching math.

I live in the Pine Grove area with my husband Randy. We have three children, a son-in-law, two daughters-in-law, and eight grandchildren (six girls and two boys)! In my spare time I enjoy having adventures with my family! I also enjoy reading, distance running (at a SLOW pace!), and gardening (even though I am not very successful!)

I am looking forward to a very enjoyable year with all my students!

My name is Miss Appleby. This is my fourth year teaching and my second year teaching in Pine Grove Area School District. I graduated from Greencastle-Antrim High School. In 2020, I graduated from Millersville University with a degree in Middle Level Education with a focus in ELA and Social Studies. I will be teaching ELA and Reading on the fifth grade team. I live in Lebanon with my fiancé Chris and our two cats, Beans and Weenie. Beans is friendly and outgoing while Weenie is a big scaredy cat. In my free time I enjoy reading mysteries/thrillers, crafting/painting, and listening to music. I also love traveling with my friends and family. Most recently, we traveled to the Outer Banks and Wilmington in North Carolina. I'm looking forward to having an exciting and successful year with all my students and can't wait to meet each one of them!

Dear Parents,

Your child must develop organizational skills. Each child will receive an assignment page to write down daily assignments. Homework is an important part of the learning process. It can affect your child's grade.

Fifth grade will be using a monthly management calendar as one form of parent-teacher communication. Students should have their calendar with them at all times throughout the school day. They also need to take the calendar home each night so parents can check the calendar daily. The teacher will mark the calendar if your child is having a problem in one of these areas. If a student receives six or less marks in a month, he or she will receive a reward.

When a student receives 7 marks or loses his or her calendar twice in one month, he or she will not receive the reward at the end of the month. If this reinforcement is not helping your child to be successful, the team will consult with you about additional ways to help your child.

If a student receives 3 Office Referrals (3 full calendars) or 2 suspensions, throughout the school year, he or she will not attend the End of Year Celebration.

If a student is referred to the Principal's Office for disciplinary action, he or she could lose the reward at the end of that month.

Management calendars must be signed by a parent or guardian at the end of each month and returned to the child's homeroom teacher.

The lines of communication are always open. If at any time a problem develops, please feel free to contact us either through a note, email, or a phone call. Thanks in advance for your support and help at home.

Sincerely,

The Fifth Grade Teachers




Behavior Calendar

Name: _____ Homeroom Teacher: _____

August/September 2023

Teacher Initials/Comments:

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. | 04 Parent Contact: | # Parent Contact: |
| 2. | 5. | 8. |
| 3. | 6. | 9. |
| 4. Lunch Detention | 7. Loss of Reward | 10. Office Referral: |

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|--|--|--|---|
|  |  | 23 First Day of School Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 24 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 25 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ |
| 28 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 29 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 30 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 31 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 1 Early Dismissal Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ |
| 4 Labor Day  School Closed | 5 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 6 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 7 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 8 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ |
| 11 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 12 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 13 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 14 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 15 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ |
| 18 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 19 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 20 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 21 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 22 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ |
| 25 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 26 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 27 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 28 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ | 29 Eng. _____ S.S. _____ Read. _____ Spec. _____ Math. _____ Other _____ Sci. _____ |

P – Promote safety

(I keep my hands & feet to myself, use items properly, walk in the hall, etc.)

G – Give respect

(My actions, words, & attitude respect others, myself, my school, property, etc.)

A – Accept responsibility

(I am prepared, on time, do my work, keep cell phone in locker, show integrity, admit mistakes, etc.)

W – Teacher Warning

Rewards & Consequences

0-6 marks

Reward 😊

4th mark

Lunch Detention

7th mark

Loss of Reward

10th mark

Office Referral

Suspension = Loss of Reward

Second Lost Calendar = Loss of Reward



Parents: Please sign at the end of the month. _____ Date _____



Student Expectations

1. *Read and follow the guidelines in your Middle School Handbook. If you have any questions or don't understand something, ask for help.*
2. *Management Calendars will be distributed to the students each month. Calendars must be kept in a sheet protector in the front part of binders at all times and be shown to a parent/guardian daily. Calendars must be signed by a parent/guardian and returned at the end of each month. A loss of a Calendar is a loss of the reward.*
3. *Textbooks need to be covered at all times. If the cover becomes damaged or torn, it needs to be replaced immediately.*
4. *Complete all required assignments neatly and accurately and hand them in on time. Be sure you understand what is to be done.*
5. *If a class is missed for any reason (absence from school, instrumental lessons, a visit to the nurse, special activity, etc.) the work must be made up. It is the student's responsibility to find out what work was missed and then hand in the appropriate assignments to receive credit.*
6. *Become involved in your school and participate in social as well as academic events. Share what is happening in school with other members of your family.*





DAILY RESPONSIBILITIES

MORNING

1. When dismissed from the lobby, go to your locker. Take everything out of your book bag.
2. Put book bag, jacket or coat, and lunch box in your locker and report to homeroom.
3. Sharpen your pencils, gather materials needed for the day, and use bathroom facilities.
4. Write down homework assignment in your assignment book as it is given to you.
5. Deposit money in your cafeteria account (if needed). Eat breakfast if desired. Take instrument to the band room.
6. Sit quietly and listen for the announcements.

DURING THE DAY

1. Be prepared. Bring books, notebooks and several sharpened pencils to class.
2. Have a Free Read book at all times.
3. Report to class on time. Go directly to your seat and get out the materials you need for class.
4. File all handouts in the binder under the correct colored subject folder.
5. Wait to be dismissed by the teacher at the end of class.

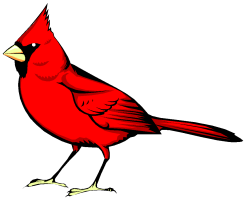
END OF DAY

1. You will go to your locker at the end of MTSS to get your book bag, jacket, lunch box, and books/materials to complete homework.
2. Students will be dismissed at the end of MTSS.



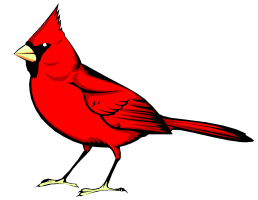
ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR

1. *Follow the Cardinal Rules.*
2. *Raise hand and wait to be acknowledged.*
3. *Walk quietly and orderly through halls and into the classroom.*
4. *Show good manners.*



Cardinal Rules

1. **Be on time and prepared.**
2. **Be respectful to others.**
3. **Be responsible.**
4. **Follow directions.**
5. **Keep hands and feet to self.**



Consequences may include:

- *A verbal reminder.*
- *Circling of the management calendar.*
- *Individual conferences with teacher.*
- *Time-out in classroom or in another team teacher's classroom.*
- *Parent contact.*
- *Office/Guidance Referral.*



SUGGESTIONS FOR GOOD STUDY HABITS

Student who studies well:

- Brings notebooks, paper, pens or pencils and other materials necessary to class.
- Is an active participant in the classroom, listens well, and takes part in discussions.
- Asks questions if he/she doesn't understand the discussion or if he/she has a problem.
- Plans his/her work and schedules time for homework each day, making sure he/she understands the assignment before he/she leaves class.
- Uses what he/she learns and sees how each subject applies to others.
- Strives to do his/her best and not to settle for anything less.

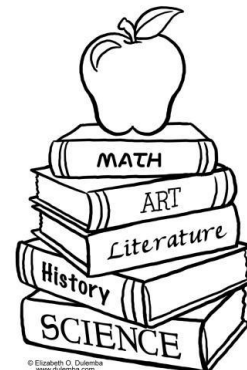
HOW TO STUDY

- Attitude is important - think positively and work independently or in groups when warranted. Seek help only when you have exhausted your own resources, and then ask questions of others.
- Learning requires concentration. Keep your mind on what you are doing. It will take less time.
- At home, have a defined, well-lit, quiet place to study. You will have to study at home each day.
- Read the entire assignment rapidly to grasp the basic content. Reread slowly to understand content, details, explanations and directions. If the assignment is not written, make notes for yourself. Then outline what you have learned.
- If the assignment is a long term project, do a little of it each day.



Student Grades On-line

Please set up an account using the instructions below.



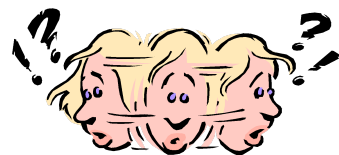
Pine Grove Area Middle School Parent/Student Community Web Portal: Creating a: “Parent Account”

Instructions:

1. Go to www.pgasd.com and click on the Parent/Student Portal link.
2. Click on the “Community Portal Application and Acceptable Use Policy Form” on the login screen under the Getting Started.
3. Select “OK” to the Pop-Up if it is correct.
4. At the bottom of the Acceptable Use Policy Form, Click “Yes” below “I have read and agree to the above policies.”
5. Complete the application with required fields. **(anything with the red asterisk symbol (*) is a required field)**
6. The System will send an application confirmation email to the District for approval.
7. The Middle School Office will verify the information and approve the account.
8. The System will send confirmation to the e-mail you provided on the account you created, with your PIN.
9. Save the email that provided your PIN in case you forget your password.



Frequently Asked Questions



Q: **WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN 4TH AND 5TH GRADE?**

A: There are many differences:

1. You are no longer in **ONE ROOM**, your classes are located in different rooms. You are **RESPONSIBLE** to get from class to class on **TIME**.
2. Your day is divided into an AM Homeroom, 3 blocks, Specials, and MTSS.
3. Since you will be changing classrooms all day, you need to be organized and prepared. Binders and textbooks are not left in the classroom but need to be carried around from room to room. **YOU** are responsible for bringing everything to class.
4. You will not have some classes every day; therefore, planning on your part needs to be done to make sure work is completed from class to class.
5. Lunch time rules and procedures are different.
 - a. You have a choice of a complete meal package or an a la carte lunch (buy individual items).
 - b. Examples of a la carte items include tacos, soups, and sandwiches.
 - c. Salads are also offered in the main meal line.
 - d. All fifth graders will eat at the same time.
6. Library rules are different. You may use the library during your classroom or homeroom. You must request permission from your classroom teacher. Since there is a limit on the number of students who may use the library at one time, preference will be given to those who have research work to do.

Q: **WHAT DO I DO IF I GET LOST?**

A: Hopefully you won't get lost. If you do, ask a teacher for directions, or try to find your way to the guidance office.

Q: **WHAT IS A GUIDANCE COUNSELOR?**

A: The guidance counselor is here to help you in whatever way she can. Her "role" is to help you be the best possible person you can be. She does **NOT** discipline or punish. Your counselor is someone you can go to when you have a problem or need to find some answers. **DON'T BE AFRAID TO STOP IN AND SEE HER.** She would love to hear how you are doing.

Q: **HOW DO OLDER STUDENTS TREAT 5TH GRADES?**

A: You have probably heard all the rumors of how the other students put 5th graders in the lockers or pick on them. These are nothing more than rumors. The older students have a lot of other things on their minds or things to do than pick on younger students. Fear not, it's not as bad as you think!

Q: **What are some of your feelings about coming to 5th grade?**

A: Some common feelings of nervousness, uneasiness and uncertainty make going to the 5th grade very difficult for some students. If you think like this, you could be experiencing what some people call "stress".

Coping Skills

There are things you can do or say that will help get you through stressful situations (like going to 5th grade). You can tell yourself the following things before, during and after a stressful event. Try these or other ideas you might have which could work for you.

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR A STRESSFUL SITUATION

Tell yourself:

- a) There is nothing to worry about.*
- b) I'm going to be all right.*
- c) I've done this successfully before.*
- d) What exactly do I have to do?*
- e) I KNOW I CAN DO THIS!*
- f) Tomorrow this will be easier.*
- g) Once I get started it will be easier.*
- h) Don't let negative thoughts creep in.*

WHAT YOU CAN THINK ABOUT DURING A STRESSFUL SITUATION

- a) Stay organized.*
- b) Take it one step at a time. Don't worry.*
- c) Look at me, I'm doing it!*
- d) I can only do my best.*
- e) Relax! Take a deep breath.*
- f) Keep my mind on what I am doing right now.*
- g) I've survived this and worse before.*
- h) It's OK to make mistakes.*

CONGRATULATE YOURSELF AFTER THE SITUATION

- a) I DID IT!!!*
- b) I did all right. I can handle it!*
- c) Next time I won't have to worry so much.*
- d) I'm able to relax away my worries.*
- e) I have to tell someone about this!*
- f) It's possible not to be scared.*

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS THINK, "I am not the only one who feels this way."

YOU ARE GOING TO MAKE A GREAT 5TH GRADER!



SOME OF THE ROOKIES THIS YEAR GIVE YOU THE FOLLOWING ADVICE



1. *Don't worry - everyone is scared the first day.*
2. *Don't be afraid of getting lost. The building may seem huge at first, but it really is not that bad! You'll learn to find your way around easily.*
3. *The older kids don't pick on you. They are more concerned with themselves, not fifth graders. They don't stuff you in the lockers.*
4. *Don't be afraid that you won't be able to get your locker open. If you can't, the teachers will help you.*
5. *The work isn't that hard. You will have to take a lot more responsibility though, since you will have to do more on your own. If you miss a day, it's your responsibility to go to your teachers and see what you have missed.*
6. *The teachers are friendly.*
7. *You can make friends easily.*
8. *The days go much faster at the middle school.*
9. *Keep your eyes open and pay attention. You'll do fine.*



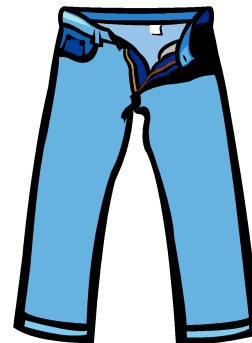
DRESS GUIDELINES FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Research indicates that a definite relationship exists between good dress habits, good work habits, and proper school behavior. Any type of attire which attracts undue attention to the wearer, and/or disrupts the educational process in the school, is in bad taste and not acceptable. All clothing is expected to be worn in a proper manner with an emphasis on good grooming and cleanliness.



*The following list contains examples of apparel which are **UNACCEPTABLE** during the school day:*

- 1) Tank shirts, spandex shorts, and pants*
 - 2) Bare midriff and back apparel*
 - 3) Coats, jackets, fatigue jackets, shirts and pants with holes*
 - 4) Apparel which refers to drugs, alcohol, sexual innuendoes, and satanic symbol*
 - 5) Skirts, dresses, or shorts which are above mid-thigh length or extreme tightness*
 - 6) Headbands, handkerchiefs, and neckerchiefs are not to be worn around the head, arms and legs, etc.*
 - 7) Flip-flops, clogs, and other footwear that would be hazardous to the students' safety*
 - 8) Sunglasses, gloves, and hats*
 - 9) Apparel that has rivets - may cause damage to school furniture*
-
- A. A teacher who feels that a student is not following our dress code would notify the office and the office will investigate the situation.*
 - B. The dress code committee will make a determination of the alleged infraction.*
 - C. If it is determined that appropriate attire is not being worn, the student will be isolated from the normal school routine, unless appropriate clothing is obtained.*
 - D. If repeated infractions occur, the principal may utilize one or more of the following:*
 - 1. Written notification to the parent*
 - 2. After - School detention*



Fifth Grade Contacts

- Mrs. Appleby – (570)345-2731 ext. #312 (Reading/ELA)
happleby@pgasd.com
- Mrs. Daubert– (570)345-2731 ext. #382 (Learning Support)
sedaubert@pgasd.com
- Mrs. Leshner – (570)345-2731 ext. #315 (Reading/ELA)
mlesher@pgasd.com
- Miss Rudy – (570)345-2731 ext. #314 (Science)
krudy@pgasd.com
- Mrs. Sidleck – (570)345-2731 ext. #311 (Social Studies)
jmsidleck@pgasd.com
- Miss Sterner – (570)345-2731 ext. #303 (Math)
msterner@pgasd.com
- Mrs. Warner – (570)345-2731 ext. #316 (Math)
cwarner@pgasd.com