

## Extended School Year (ESY) Information

READ PG 4 FOR MORE



DON'T MISS 5 WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH VOCABULARY AT HOME! PG 4

## Kindergarten Registration Information

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION ENDS MAY 31ST!



DON'T MISS THIS MONTH'S SCHOOL CALENDAR

# POLLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MR. DONTAE WILSON, PRINCIPAL

2875 WELSH ROAD, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19152 ~ (215) 400-3210

## Message from the Principal

This month, we wanted to focus on three important aspects of our school community: attendance, breakfast, and the school budget.

### DAILY ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance at school is absolutely essential to receiving a high-quality education. When a child is absent, he/she misses that day's instruction, a precious opportunity is lost. Even if a student completes the homework assigned that day, it is not a substitute for the direct instruction provided by the teacher. To function and succeed in life, our children must receive a high-quality education. Attendance at school every day is the key to school success for every child.

Our average daily attendance is 94%. Our school goal is 95%. There is still time for us to improve our attendance and ensure that each student attends school at least 95% of the time. Thank you to parents and guardians who ensure that their child arrives every day and on time. It helps set the foundation for learning.

### EAT BREAKFAST AT SCHOOL!

Please remember that breakfast is served at school every day from 8:00 - 8:30 in the cafeteria. School breakfast will give your child a healthy start to the day. A nutritious breakfast helps students be more alert so they can learn more in class. Breakfast has vitamins and nutrients for a strong and healthy body. Help your child start the day right with school breakfast! Please remind your child that a healthy breakfast is the first step to ensuring a productive school day.

### SCHOOL BUDGETS FOR 2018-2019

The school budget for next year must be submitted by Wednesday, March 28, 2018. We are conducting several meetings to inform school staff, parents, and community partners about the budget process. Therefore, on Tuesday, March 20th we will conduct a Spring Title One Input Meeting and Budget Workshop for Parents at 9:00 a.m. in the library. The meeting will highlight some of the major funding sources of the budget as well as a preliminary version of the budget. Please join us to obtain more information regarding the budget process and initial recommendations. Copies of the budget will be available on the school website at a later date.

Please remember to look at the calendar at the back of the newsletter to consider important dates and events throughout the month of March. As always, please call the main office if there are any questions or concerns.



## Message from the Assistant Principal

Ms. Lakisha Baxter, Assistant Principal

March is here! Spring is near!

March starts an exciting time of year for us all. Spring is fast approaching and the beautiful weather brings the excitement out in our students. As the weather changes please remind students to eat healthy breakfast and lunch so they are better equipped to remain focused during the day. This is our last full month of school before the PSSA and students in grades 3-6 need to buckle down and focus on their instructional practices to do their absolute best. This month we will be celebrating **Read Across America Day at Pollock on Monday March 5th**.

In addition this month students will be honored at our 76ers club celebration, participate in our technology expo, awarded certificates during our honor roll assembly, and so much more. Please check our March school calendar for exact days and times. Returning again this year, students who have scored 76% or higher on all four benchmark exams so far this year will also be rewarded with two tickets to the Sixers game. Here at Pollock we love to celebrate the achievement our students make, we will continue to hang rising stars outside of classrooms for students who make progress on the STAR test each month. Please contact your child's teacher if you have questions about ways you can support your child's progress at home.

Lastly, we wanted to take this opportunity to once again congratulate our **Leader In Me** poster contest winners.

**1st Place**- Ebdiel Martinez room 107

**2nd Place**- Hailey Munguia room 112

**3rd Place**- Shane Geogory room 2

**4th Place**- Elissa Mezieche room 12

**5th Place**- Yashua Thompson room 11

Have a great month!



## Kindergarten Registration Information

Kindergarten registration is open from **January 6, 2018 - May 31, 2018**.

Registration hours at Pollock are from 9:30 am - 1:00 pm daily

All children must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2018

Register at your neighborhood school (to find your neighborhood school, go to <https://www.philasd.org/schoolfinder>)

### Documents that Parents **MUST** Bring:

- Your child's up to date immunization record
- Parent/Legal Guardianship Identification: Current Drivers/Non-Drivers License, Federal/State/Municipal photo identification, or Passport
- Child's birth certificate (additional accepted documents can be found on the school district website)
- Two current proofs of address in the parent or guardian's name. (a list of accepted documents can be found on the school district website)

### Important Dates

- Kindergarten Open House Day: March 6, 2018
- An additional Open House will be held the week of May 7th (date to be determined)

### Reminders

- Register Early!
- Be sure to bring all documents required, to avoid delay in registration.
- Main office phone number is 215 400-3210 for any questions about registration at Pollock School

For more Kindergarten registration information, please visit:

<https://www.philasd.org/kregistration>

## Dean of Students

Mr. Diggs, Dean of Students

Hello Pollock Leaders,

Have you ever had a disagreement with a friend? How did you feel after the argument? Were you happy when you "won" the argument and your friend lost? How did you feel when you came out on the losing side of the argument? Wouldn't it be great if we all could come out of every disagreement as winners? In March we will be focusing on Habit 4 to Think Win-Win. There are times when we will have conflicts and disagree with people, but instead of getting angry and lashing out, remember these key points. 1. Consider other people's feelings when you do not understand their position. 2. Think how a win can mutually benefit everyone involved. 3. Conflict and disagreements are not bad, the key is how we handle them. 4. We are all on the same team. Let our motto be for March in everything that we do that it will either be a Win-Win or no deal.



## Counselor's Corner

Mrs. Wenzel, School Counselor grades K-3 — Ms. Bryant, School Counselor grades 4-6

The PSSAs are coming! The PSSAs are coming!

Attention all parents of students in grades 3 through 6. The PSSA testing begins in April. The schedule for testing is as follows:

- April 9, 10, & 11      ELA
- April 16 & 17      Math
- April 23 & 24      Science (4th Grade only)

We have only one month left to prepare our students for this important test. Our teachers have been hard at work preparing your children since September so that they have the academic skills necessary to ensure success; we are depending on you to help your children Be Proactive in getting ready for this test as well!

Get enough rest: Don't wait until April to start. Have your child put their tablets, phones, or other activities away at least 30 minutes prior to bed. Encourage your child to get to bed early so they get a full night's sleep and they are ready to start their day on a positive note!

Get to school by 8:35: Students MUST be in school prior to the start of testing or they will have to wait in the auditorium until the testing session is over. Students who come to school late will take their test later in the day - this means that they will be missing valuable instruction.

Eat a good breakfast each and every morning: Another great reason to bring your child to school prior to 8:35! We have a free and healthy breakfast available from 8:00 until 8:30 for every student.

More information will be coming over the next few weeks about the PSSA testing. Please help your child ensure that they do their very best, not just on the PSSAs but everyday at school!

Mrs. Wenzel

Hello Leaders!

As we move into March, it is important to remember what we have learned about the 7 Habits. We have been going over the habits during morning meetings to refresh our minds and remind ourselves about how we can apply the 7 Habits to our lives.

For the month of March, let's remind ourselves about the following two habits of the Leader in Me program. Habit 4: Think Win-Win and Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood. Each of these habits may be difficult at first for students to learn and apply, but by bringing the habits home, students are much more likely to accept the habits as part of their thinking process.

If your child has siblings, they make perfect practice partners for both habits. Guide your children to working out their conflicts by thinking "win-win," where both children are happy with the result and both feel like they won, rather than making someone give up something to please the other.

You can also help your child by helping them to understand why their siblings or friends are upset before they share their feelings. Both, understanding others and sharing in a positive way, are important skills for anyone to learn! Bring the habits home this month and see the leader in each of your children!

As always, feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns! I can be reached by email at [cbryant@philasd.org](mailto:cbryant@philasd.org) or phone (215) 400-3210 x1.

Ms. Bryant



## Love for Literacy

Mrs. Marchino, Literacy Lead

Vocabulary refers to the words we must understand to communicate effectively. Vocabulary plays a fundamental role in the reading process, and contributes greatly to a reader's comprehension. A reader cannot understand a text without knowing what most of the words mean. Here are some suggestions to work on vocabulary at home with your child:

- Engage your child in conversations every day. If possible, include new and interesting words in your conversation.
- Read to your child each day. When the book contains a new or interesting word, pause and define the word for your child. After you're done reading, engage your child in a conversation about the book.
- Help build word knowledge by classifying and grouping objects or pictures while naming them.
- Help build your child's understanding of language by playing verbal games and telling jokes and stories.
- Encourage your child to read on his own. The more children read, the more words they encounter and learn.

## Volunteer Opportunities & Chaperone Information

Whether you are volunteering at our school or chaperoning your child's school trip, all parents, guests, and chaperones need to have up to date clearance information. Clearances MUST be updated annually and are only valid for one year from the date on the clearance. If you are planning on chaperoning a class trip at any time this year, please take the time to update your clearances as needed.

### The required clearances are:

- The **PSP Criminal History clearance** costs **\$0** visit <https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp>
- The **Child Abuse certification** costs **\$0** visit [www.dhs.state.pa.us/findaform/childabusehistoryclearanceforms/index.htm](http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/findaform/childabusehistoryclearanceforms/index.htm)
- The **FBI Federal Criminal History certification** costs **\$25.75**, please visit [https://www.pa.cogentid.com/index\\_pdeNew.htm](https://www.pa.cogentid.com/index_pdeNew.htm)

## Special Education Department

Mrs. McGrath, Special Education Liaison

### Extended School Year, 2017-2018

**Dates:** June 26, 2018 to August 2, 2018

**Days:** Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

- If your child qualifies for ESY, then Transportation forms will be coming home with your child this month. Even if your child is NOT attending ESY you must complete and return the form indicating whether or not your child WILL or WILL NOT attend the program.
- If your child WILL attend the ESY program, please indicate if your child needs transportation or if you will pick up and drop off your child.
- If you are not sure whether or not your child will attend the program, please indicate YES on the form and complete and return the Transportation Form to school. It is easier to remove your child from the program towards the end of the school year rather than adding your child to the list.

## Health Room News

Ms. Gall, School Nurse

Dear Parents,

I'd like to remind you of the state mandates for physical and dental exams for Pennsylvania.

All student must have a physical and dental examination upon entry to school. That means either in kindergarten or at the time they are entering a Pennsylvania school for the first time. After those entry level exams, physicals are again required in 6th and 9th grade in Philadelphia. In other parts of the state the high school physical is not required until 11th grade. After your child's entry dental exam, additional dental exams are required in 3rd and 7th grades.

I hope this information is helpful in your planning for your child's doctor and dental appointments. The required school district forms will be sent home with your child in June if they are entering into a grade that requires an examination in the following school year. Please call me if you have any questions.

Respectfully,  
Nurse Gall

## One School, One Book

A New Book is Coming! A New Book is Coming!

We can't wait to hear the announcement of which book we will be reading for our next One School, One Book! Stay tuned to hear!

