

PLENTYWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

100 East Laurel Ave.
Plentywood, Montana 59254



Rob Pedersen, Superintendent/K-4 Principal
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Dear Parents and Students;

Welcome Back! The new school year is here. Classes will begin on August 26th for students. I would like to welcome our returning students and parents as well as offer a special greeting to students and their families who are enrolling in our school district for the first time. Plentywood is a challenging academic setting with a professional group of staff members. We look forward to having a productive year of school.

Changes:

1. Vo-Ag/Industrial Arts Teacher – Our new teacher in the Vo-Ag building is Mr. Jonathan Fox who recently retired from Michigan. Mr. Fox will also oversee the FFA organization and we can't be more delighted to have him join us!
2. HS Science Teacher – We are very fortunate to have hired Mr. Christopher Hall as our new HS science teacher. Mr. Hall has relocated from Florida after teaching there successfully for the past 16 years in high school and middle school settings.
3. 7-12 Physical Education/Health Teacher – Quinn McGlothlin is joining our staff as our new P.E./Health instructor for grades 7-12. Quinn, a Sidney native, recently graduated from UM-Western and we are very happy that he has chosen Plentywood to start his educational career!
4. HS English/Language Arts Teacher – We welcome Mrs. Kimberly Olson to our staff to serve as our new HS ELA teacher! Mrs. Olson taught last year in Frenchtown and has recently moved to the area with her husband Logan!
5. Elementary Teacher – We are very happy to welcome a new 2nd grade classroom instructor to our fold, Mrs. Shavon Olson! Shavon recently graduated from Montana State University and has also relocated to our area with her husband Cooper.
6. Paraprofessionals – We welcome three new paraprofessionals, Miss Hannah Brensdaal, Miss Becca Laird, and Ms. Jill Tommerup, to our school. We are excited to see their enthusiasm, positive energy, and love for working with young people for our students' benefit!
7. Old Faces, New Positions ☺ - We have staff members who have made a change in title to pursue new passions. Miss Sara Marsh has moved to a 5th grade teaching position, Mrs. Marie Wangerin has moved to our K-8 Title I position, Mrs. Nancy Bennett has switched to a 4th grade teaching position, Mrs. Misti Murray is also joining Mrs. Bennett in the 4th grade, and Mrs. Ashley Kroeger has moved to become our new K-7 Special Education supervisor. We are delighted that they chose a new challenge with our students!
8. Student Teachers – We have two individuals who are student teaching in our school this fall semester. Mrs. Sandi Dixon is student teaching along with her paraprofessional duties and Miss Alexa Shipp is joining us through MSU-Billings to complete her student teaching experience with Mrs. Deann McCoy! Welcome and good luck!
9. Lunch Prices – Lunch has been raised a nickel to \$3.10 per meal. There are no changes to breakfast prices.

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Enclosed:

Enclosed in this packet are a number of materials to provide information concerning the policies and procedures of Plentywood Schools. **Please examine all materials carefully.** Handbooks for the Elementary, Junior High, and High School will all be available online at www.plentywood.k12.mt.us. Middle and High School students will be given a copy of the handbook on their first day of school.

As a reminder to all parents, the School Board Policies are available for review at the school. We keep a copy in the office and in the library should you have any concerns regarding a school policy throughout the year.

We have forms for you to read, sign and return on our school website. Please contact us if you have any concerns. Please read, sign and return the following:

1. Internet/Technology Use Agreement (Grades 5-12) -- your student needs this to be on the school network.
2. Emergency Consent Form (grades 5-12) – allows the school to seek medical attention for your child should you not be present. These are for activities, field trips, etc...
3. Parent/Guardian Contact Info Sheet – PLEASE fill out and return to main office. This information is vital in our communications with parents for emergencies and reporting of information.
4. Student Handbook Signoff Sheet – all parents and students need to sign off that they have read and understood our student handbooks.
5. (OPTIONAL), sign and return form #3600F2, “Student Information Release Notice”, ONLY if you do not want us to share any information publically about your student. This includes things like programs for athletics and activities, and Honor Roll for the paper. WE WILL NOT give out any student or family information to any outside entity without your approval no matter what is signed or not signed.
6. (OPTIONAL) – Free and Reduced Lunch Application – **Carefully review the Free and Reduced Meal Application and Guidelines** since participation in this program greatly benefits the student, their families, and the school district. Participation in the program is handled in a confidential manner under exact procedures in our office to protect your privacy. Please review this application to determine if your children qualify for participation. YOUR INFORMATION IS NEVER SHARED. Part of our school funding is based on our Free and Reduced numbers so even if you fill out the forms but do not accept the assistance the school benefits with more funding from the federal government.

Does your child need to take medication at school? I would also like to remind parents/guardians that district policy requires that any students who are to receive medication dispensed from the office during the school day must have a prescription and written permission from the parent/guardian on file in the office prior to any medication being taken during school hours. Forms are available in the office.

Do you need extra insurance? The School has purchased the Markel Basic School Time Accident Insurance Policy to cover students while here at school. Students may upgrade to Around the Clock Accident Policy or the Deluxe Plan by going online to the website <http://markel.sevencorners.com>. If you have any questions regarding this policy or its upgrades you can also contact the DeShaw Agency (765-1860).

Wildcat Booster Applications are enclosed as well. If you want to be a part of the Wildcat Boosters information is on the form.

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If you have any questions or concerns regarding any of the material in this packet, please feel free to call the school at 765-1803.

Have a Great Year!!

Rob Pedersen
Superintendent/K-4 Principal
Plentywood Public Schools

Materials ON SCHOOL WEBSITE (www.plentywood.k12.mt.us):

1. Free and Reduced Meal Forms (Optional)
2. Emergency Consent Form
3. Parent/Guardian Contact Info Sheet
4. Staff Lists
5. Elementary K-5 Class Lists
6. Student Information Release Notice (Optional)
7. School Calendar
8. Internet/Technology Use Agreement
9. Wildcat Booster Signup Sheet (Optional)
10. Student Accident Insurance Application
11. 5-12 Principal Letter
12. Superintendent Letter
13. Wildcat Booster – Wooden Sign Order Form (Optional)
14. Supply List
15. Student Handbook Parent/Student Signoff Sheet