

# THE PORTVILLE PANTHER

“ A   C o m m i t m e n t   t o   S u c c e s s ”

The Newsletter of Portville Central School

September 2008, Vol. 7 - Issue 1

## BACK TO Class



◆ The opening day of the 2008-09 school year is Tuesday, September 2, for students. Teachers will report August 27 and 28 for two full days of workshops and preparation for students.

◆ Students who are new to the district may register any time before school starts. The administration and guidance personnel will be available to assist you in your placements and schedules. If you are registering a kindergarten student, you must have the student's birth certificate and proof of immunizations when they arrive for the first day of school. Students who need schedule changes will be able to make changes after the start of school.

◆ All students are required to take physical education unless they have a medical excuse. Shorts and sneakers must be provided by the students.

◆ All students participating in athletic programs are required to take physical examinations. These physicals are given before the sport begins. If a student is injured in an athletic event and must see a physician, it is necessary for the physician to release the student before they continue in their program.

## PCS Names Tom Simon As New Superintendent

My most sincere thank you to all who have welcomed me to Portville Central School; it has been a very pleasant transition because of your help and support. As a former student teacher, teacher, and coach at Portville Central School it has been nice to come back and get reacquainted with the faculty and staff. I have been impressed with the loyalty and commitment that the faculty, staff and community have for the children who attend Portville. It is this “attitude” that will be the cornerstone of moving forward as a school community to best serve our kids.



I have had the opportunity to meet with almost every faculty and staff member at the school. For each group I met with I asked, “What are those things we should continue doing, and doing well, and what are those things that we need to improve upon.” You will be happy to hear that each group took this task very seriously and talked sincerely about the areas they felt we could do better. They did this with openness to the issues we face as a district, and a willingness to participate in the solutions to these problems. To continue in building our goals for improvement over the next several months, please do not hesitate to set up a time to come speak to me regarding your outlook on the district.

# CURRAN'S CORNER

by Kevin Curran  
7-12 Principal



All of us here at school hope that your summer has been an enjoyable one. I can say for myself, that I'm looking forward to the start of another exciting year here at PCS.

A large amount of time has been spent on the 2008-2009 school calendar. Every effort was made to be as accurate as possible. When you receive this year's school calendar, you will note that we again included athletic contests. Be aware that schedules do change throughout the school year. For the most up to date information, go to [www.portville.wnyric.com](http://www.portville.wnyric.com)

go to athletics and click on sports schedules. Then click on the panther, then enter Portville in the search schools box.

## New Faces at the Secondary Level

We are pleased to have one new addition at the secondary level. Vince Pascucci has been hired as a special Education teacher. Vince lives in Olean with his wife Monica and two children. Also at the secondary level, Cheri Thomas will be filling the English 7 position vacated by Mike Struchen. Cheri has served the past two years as an ELA and AIS teacher.

## Lunch Detentions to be Utilized

We will again be utilizing Lunch Detentions this year. Students assigned Lunch Detention will be required to report directly to the assigned room. Student lunches for those in lunch detention will consist of a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, fruit, veggie, and milk. This lunch meets the requirement for a Class A lunch. No other food or drink items will be allowed in the room. These bagged lunches will be handed out in the detention room, so students will not be going to the

Cafeteria for any reason. Students will be responsible for the cost of their lunch.

## Release of Junior and Senior Directory Information

Upon request, military recruiters, institutions of higher learning, and other organizations are to have access to junior and senior student's names, addresses and telephone numbers. Parents have the right to refuse the release of this information. If you choose not to allow the school to release the requested information, please inform the Guidance Office, in writing prior to the last school day in September. If the District does not receive a response by this date, student information will be forwarded as requested. Notification, in writing, following the September date will halt any release from the date received.

## Pesticides

School law requires that the District maintain, on an annual basis, a list of parents who wish to receive advance notice of pesticide applications at the school their child attends. To have your name included, a formal request must be submitted. Forms are available in the District newsletter or can be obtained by contacting the school.

## Points of Emphasis for Grades 7-12

**Attendance:** There are a few areas which will be points of emphasis this year. In regards to attendance issues, we will focus from the beginning of the school year on written excuses, tardy students and individual course attendance.

**Tardies:** Students who are tardy should arrive with a written excuse as to the reason for the tardy. If the student has none, then a written excuse should be brought in the following school day. Students with unexcused tardies will receive a lunch detention.

**Early Excusal:** Students who are to be excused during the school day should take their written excuse to the nurse's office prior to first period.

## Daily Time Schedule

Period 1 .....	7:55-8:40am
Period 2 .....	8:44-9:26am
Period 3 .....	9:30-10:12am
Period 4 .....	10:16-10:58am
LUNCH Period 5 ....	11:02-11:32am
Period 5/6 .....	11:02-11:44am
Period 6/7 .....	11:36am-12:18pm
LUNCH Period 7 ....	11:48am-12:18pm
Period 7/8 .....	11:48am-12:30pm
Period 8/9 .....	12:22-1:04pm
LUNCH Period 9 ....	12:34-1:04pm
Period 10 .....	1:08-1:50pm
Period 11 .....	1:54-2:36pm

The schedule is on a 6-day cycle with each day labeled "A-F"

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**Absences:** For students who were absent from school, a written excuse stating the reason should be taken to the nurse's office prior to first period on the day of return to school. When a student is absent, we ask that the nurse's office be notified prior to 8:00 a.m. This will save the nurse the time of contacting you and may prevent you from being interrupted at work. The High School Nurse's Office phone number is 933-6708.

**Other Items:** For additional attendance information, including the definition of excused absences and tardies, please refer to page 7 of the School Calendar.

## **Electronic Device Policy**

Students will not misuse personal electronic devices (cell phones, iPods, palms, mp3 players, etc) in classrooms, study halls, computer and science labs, the gym, library, testing areas, etc.

- ▶ Cell phone usage will be allowed in the hallways (between classes) and during lunch. At all other times, cell phones must be turned off and concealed.

- ▶ Cell phones must be turned over to the instructor or proctor during exams. Cell phones will be labeled and returned at the completion of the tests.

- ▶ Personal listening devices are not to be used in the hallways.

Misuse of an electronic device during the academic day will result in the device being confiscated and/or a lunch detention. Repeated infractions will result in additional lunch detentions, ISS and the parent or guardian being required to personally pick the item up in the high school office.

## **Student Driving Privileges**

Students who are licensed drivers have the privilege of driving to and from school. To do so, they must register their vehicle with the main office. Students have designated areas in which to park and once parked, students are not to return to their cars during the school day. A school parking permit does not allow students to drive to BOCES. Failure to follow student driving rules may result in loss of privileges. A complete listing of student

driving regulations can be found on page 17 of the school calendar.

## **Cafeteria 'No Charge' Policy**

This is a reminder that we have a "No Charge Policy" in effect in our school cafeteria. Our computerized registers and photo ID system afford the convenience to pre-pay on accounts much like a debit card. The Cafeteria system is not designed for, nor is it staffed for, being a lending institution. Additional responsibilities of overseeing outstanding balances and trying to collect on debts takes time and ultimately will lead to increased prices.

Students that get a full or reduced price meal should; 1) pre-pay / maintain and account balance, or 2) bring money daily, or 3) bring a meal from home. Students who were approved for free or reduced meals for the 2007-2008 school year will continue their status for the month of September.

- ▶ Again, parents and students will be allowed to pre-pay on accounts. Charging will not be allowed.

- ▶ Should a student not have money in their account, pocket money, or a meal from home, that student will be afforded toast and juice for breakfast and a sandwich and milk for lunch. These will be provided at no cost to the student

for a period not to exceed (10) ten school days.

- ▶ If after (10) ten days, a parent continues to send a child to school without either food from home or the means to purchase a meal at school, the school will contact the appropriate agency to see that the child's needs are properly cared for. At no time will a student be allowed to go hungry. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

## **Free and Reduced Meal Applications**

Applications need to be completed before free or reduced status can be determined. For the free or reduced meal status to continue, a new application must be received and approved before October 1, 2008. Please take the time to complete and submit an application even if you are not sure if you will qualify or even if you do not plan on taking advantage of the program. A number of funding sources such as State Aid and grants utilize the percentage of students eligible for free and reduced meals when determining allocations. In reality, the more students we have who are eligible, the more money the District could receive.

Applications for the free and reduced program are included in this newsletter.



Diane Haggerty, High School Main Office Secretary, is shown preparing mailboxes for teachers for the new school year.

## Board Meeting Dates Set

Meetings of the Portville Central School Board of Education are usually held the first and third Tuesday of the month, unless otherwise noted, in the board room. Dates for the 2008-09 school year are:

July 9, 2008  
August 5, 2008  
August 19, 2008  
September 2, 2008  
September 16, 2008  
October 7, 2008  
October 21, 2008  
November 4, 2008  
November 18, 2008  
December 2, 2008  
December 16, 2008  
January 6, 2009  
January 20, 2009  
February 3, 2009  
February 17, 2009  
March 3, 2009  
March 17, 2009  
April 21, 2009  
May 5, 2009 Public Hearing  
May 19, 2009 Annual Meeting  
June 2, 2009  
June 23, 2009

## School Policies Outlined

### Review of Jr./Sr. High Excuses

- **Sickness:** When a student is absent from school, the school nurse should be notified the morning of the absence. The excuse should include an explanation of the absence, the dates of the absence and the parent's or legal guardian's signature.
- **Excused Early:** Students are to bring in the excuse to the nurse before the start of school. The excuse should state: what time the child will be excused, who will pick up the student, and the signature of the parent or legal guardian. If the student does not have an excuse, the parent or legal guardian must come in to the office to sign out the child. Telephone calls cannot be accepted. (All students must sign out before leaving.)
- **Tardy:** Students tardy to school should bring an excuse stating why the student is late, the date, and have the parent's/legal guardian's signature.

### Sexual Harassment Policy

The Board of Education affirms its commitment to nondiscrimination and recognizes its responsibility to provide for all District students and staff, an environment that is free of sexual harassment and intimidation. Sexual harassment is a violation of law and stands in direct opposition to District policy. The Board

prohibits and condemns all forms of sexual harassment by employees, school volunteers, students, and non-employees which occur on school grounds and at all school-sponsored events, programs and activities. Generally, sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature.

A copy of this policy is available upon request to the superintendent. Any questions regarding sexual harassment issues should be directed to the superintendent.

### Gun-Free Schools Policy

No student shall bring onto school premises, or have in his/her possession on school premises, any "firearm" as defined in federal law. The word "firearm" is a very broadly defined word that includes any weapons that discharge projectiles, any "destructive devices" (e.g., explosives, incendiary, poison gas, bombs, grenades, rockets, etc.).

Very serious penalties are to be imposed on anyone found in violation of this Board of Education Policy. A copy of this policy is available upon request to the Superintendent of Schools. Any questions regarding this gun-free policy should be directed to the Superintendent of Schools.

## Asbestos Plans Available for Review

In compliance with Sections 763.85 and 763.93 of the Asbestos Containing Materials in Schools Rule, all facilities owned by the Portville Central School District have been inspected for the presence of asbestos-containing building materials. Asbestos management plans have been developed for all facilities and submitted to the New York State Education Department. Copies of the management plans are available for public inspection during business office hours in the district business office. For questions concerning the inspections and management plans, contact Tom Costa at 933-7127.

## School District Emergency Management Plan on File

The School District Emergency Management Plan represents a concerted effort by the school emergency planning committee to develop a school emergency management plan in compliance with commission of Education Regulation 155.13. The State Education Department's "School Emergency/Disaster Management Planning Guidelines – A Planning Manual" and the "School District Emergency Plan – Model" were used in developing this plan. The plan is developed in order to prepare for any

emergencies that might arise at the school or within the community.

The School District's Emergency Planning committee is made up of: Tom Costa – District Emergency Coordinator, Transportation, Supplies, and Emergency Repairs; Kathy Elser - Assistant District Emergency Coordinator and Information; Marilyn Greene - Food Supplies; and Marcia Adams - Medical.

Students and employees will be notified of an emergency via an announcement over the public address system and/or ringing of the fire alarm. Depending on

the type of emergency, one of the following actions may be taken: school cancellation, early dismissal, evacuation, and/or sheltering.

The following radio stations will broadcast information on emergency situations at Portville Central School: WMNS (AM)/WMXO (FM); WLSV (AM)/WJZZ (FM); WGGO (AM)/WQRT (FM); WHDL (AM)/WPIG (FM); WGR; and WKBW.

A copy of the District Emergency Plan is kept in the school's Business Office.



# Honor Roll Students for Grades 4-6

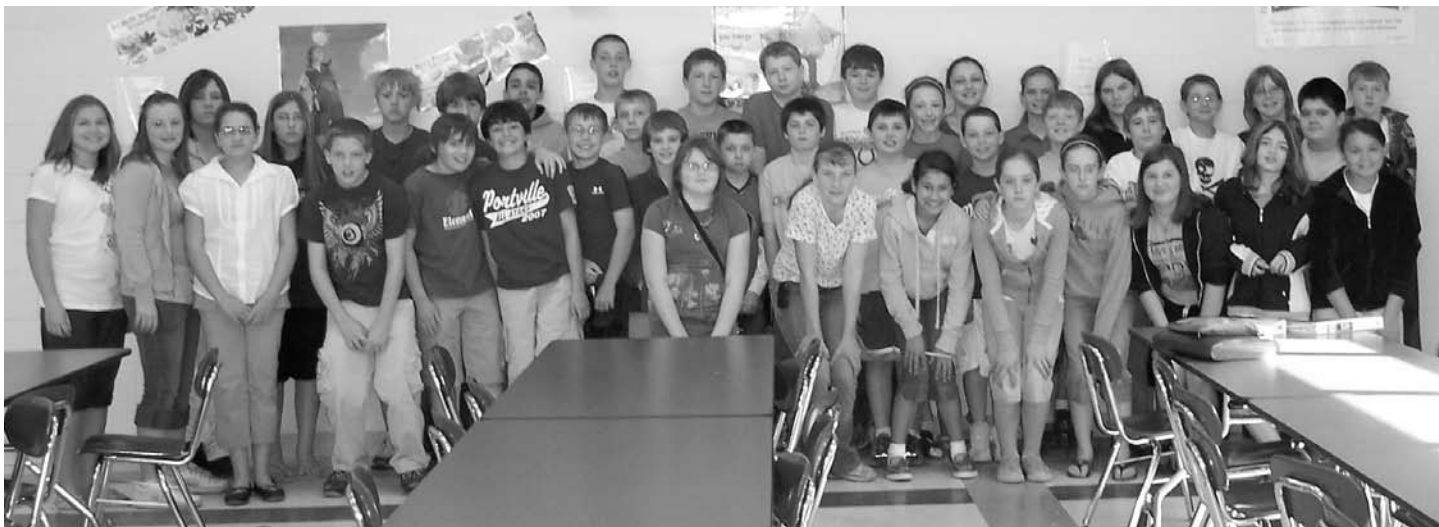


THE FOLLOWING FOURTH-GRADE STUDENTS were named to the Honor Roll during the third quarter of the last school year: Dominic Ambroselli, Samantha Bennett, Mariah Bloise, Melina Bossert, Courtney Chenetz, Alex Dean, Tyler Delaney, Emma Doty, Taylor Edwards, Jayce Freeborn, Emily Hall, Sean Harris, Seanna Jobe, Ryan Kent, Emily Losinger, Lydia Lukomski, Grant Milne, Cameron McCracken, Alec Moore, Adam Nudd, Kirstin Reynolds, Makayla Sargent, Marissa Seib, Siarra Shaw, McKenzie Skrobback, Darienne Slocum, Jordan Spielman, and McKenzi Welty. Fourth-grade Students of the Quarter were: Michelle DeYoe, Miranda Puccinelli, and Savanna Silvestri.



THE FOLLOWING FIFTH-GRADE STUDENTS were named to the Honor Roll during the third quarter of the last school year: Elizabeth Augustini, Jessica Barber, Chelsea Beemer, Madison Clark, Jillena Dushaw, Allison Eaton, Magdalena Ehmann, Colin Evans, Megan Fitzsimmons, Drew Griffith, Joshua Hall, Matthew Hinz, Cal Hollamby, Delaney Kalsman, Taylor Lee, Joseph Lengvarsky, David Long, Samuel Parker, Todd Russell, Madalyn Simon, Brady Stein, Rheannon Stonemetz, Bayli Studley, Elizabeth Tkacik, Kodi Wedge, Brittany Williams, Morgan Wilson, Jamie Wyant, Galen Ziaggi, and Lukas Zink. Fifth-grade Students of the Quarter were: Jeffrey Lampack and Jordan Shoff.

**Grade 6 on Next Page . . .**



THE FOLLOWING SIXTH-GRADE STUDENTS were named to the Honor Roll during the third quarter of the last school year: Clarice Ambroselli, Ellen Bossert, Codie Bowen, Nick Carapellatti, Zach Carapellatti, Garrick Childs, Alassia Cousins, Kailyn Delaney, Justus Elliott, Kevin Flaig, Joshua Foster, Zack Foster, Ryan Frair, Jeremy Freeborn, Jenna Gillespie, Megan Gray, Bridget Grisewood, Kali Gross, Travis Groth, Brent Hollamby, Brienne Jordan, Garrett Kunselman, Brooke Lewis, Tyler Long, Shawn Magara, Brett Marcellin, Rachel Meyer, Cody North, Kiel Platt, Shaine Putt, Benjamin Reynolds, Daniel Richardson, Raechel Rowley, Dylan Schoonover, Billy Shaffer, Brooke St. Clair, Ryan Thierman, Benjamin Waugh, Makayla Wells, Jenna Wright, Justin Wyant, and Trisha Zegers. Sixth Grade Students of the Quarter were: Linsay Napoleoni and Austen Sallazzo.

## How to Reach Your Board of Education

We would like to take this opportunity to invite and welcome you to the Portville Central School Board of Education meetings. The Board meets twice each month, on the first and third Tuesdays at 7 p.m. It is the goal of the Portville Central School's Board of Education to work together with the community to provide a quality educational program for our students. For your convenience, we are providing you with this updated list of the current Board of Education members:

Tom Rowe, President  
158 Brooklyn St.  
Portville, NY 14770  
933-0280  
Term Expires: 7-1-2011

Steve Andrianoff  
1239 Promised Land Rd.  
Olean, NY 14760  
373-3979  
Term Expires: 7-1-2011

George Nuffer  
9583 Deer Creek Rd.  
Portville, NY 14770  
(585) 933-7066  
Term Expires: 7-1-2013

Paul Ambroselli,  
Vice President  
1662 Haskell Road  
Olean, NY 14760  
372-0808  
Term Expires: 7-1-2009

Karen Cornell  
1692 Haskell Rd.  
Olean, NY 14760  
373-6236  
Term Expires: 7-1-2012

William Shaffer  
110 Brooklyn Street  
Portville, NY 14770  
933-6416  
Term Expires: 7-1-2012

Emily Woodhead,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
9 Temple St.  
Portville, NY 14770  
933-7168  
Term Expires: 7-1-2013

Doug Doty  
1676 Portville-Obi Rd.  
Portville, NY 14770  
(585) 933-6359  
Term Expires: 7-1-2009

James Tkacik  
8 Wellington Drive  
Portville, NY 14770  
933-7879  
Term Expires: 7-1-2010

# About Free & Reduced Price Meals . . .

Marilyn Greene (Local School Food Authority) today announced a free and reduced price meal (Free Milk) policy for Portville Central School children.

Local school officials have adopted the following family eligibility criteria to assist them in determining eligibility:

**INCOME CHART**  
Effective from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009

Household Size	Annual	Month	Twice Monthly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly
1.....	\$19,240	\$1,604	\$802	\$740	\$370
2.....	25,900	2,159	1,080	997	499
3.....	32,560	2,714	1,357	1,253	627
4.....	39,220	3,269	1,635	1,509	755
5.....	45,880	3,824	1,912	1,765	883
6.....	52,540	4,379	2,190	2,021	1,011
7.....	59,200	4,934	2,467	2,277	1,139
8.....	65,860	5,489	2,745	2,534	1,267
For each additional family member add.....	6,660	555	278	257	129

**Food Stamp/TANF/FDPIR Households:** Households which currently include children who receive Food Stamps or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) must complete an application listing the child's name, a food stamp, TANF, or FDPIR case number and the signature of an adult household member, or provide a Direct Certification letter from the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance. Children in the household with the same case number may be included on the same application. Separate applications are required for children in the same household with different case numbers. If the family does not list a food stamp, TANF, or FDPIR case number for all children for whom they are applying, then the application must contain all the information as required for "other households" as described below.

**Other Households:** Households with incomes the same or below the amount of money listed above for their family size may be eligible for and are urged to apply for free and/or reduced price meals (or free milk). They may do so by filling in the application forms sent home with a letter to parents. Additional copies are available at the principal's office in each school. Applications may be submitted any time during the school year to ILI in GYTQ'1,e,- (Title of Reviewing Official).

The information provided on the application will be confidential and will be used for determining eligibility. The names and eligibility status of participants may also be used for the allocation of funds to federal education programs such as Title I and National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), State health or State education programs, provided the State agency or local education agency administers the programs, and for federal, State or local means-tested nutrition programs with eligibility standards comparable to the NSLP. Eligibility information may also be released to programs authorized under the National School Lunch Act (NSLA) or the Child Nutrition Act (CNA). The release of information to any program or entity not specifically authorized by the NSLA will require a written consent statement from the parent or guardian.

The school district does, however, have the right to verify at any time during the school year the information on the application. If a parent does not give the school this information, the child/children will no longer be able to receive free or reduced price meals (free milk).

Foster children may also be eligible for these benefits. An application for a foster child must contain the child's name, the child's personal use income and an adult signature.

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## About Free & Reduced Price Meals - From P. 7

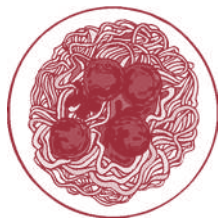
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Under the provisions of the policy, the designated official will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent is dissatisfied with the ruling of the designated official, he/she may make - a request either orally or in writing for a hearing to appeal the decision. Marilyn Greene (933-1170), whose address is 500 Elm St., Portville, NY 14770 has been designated as the Hearing Official. Hearing procedures are outlined in the policy. However, prior to initiating the hearing procedure, the parent or School Food Authority may request a conference to provide an opportunity for the parent and official to discuss the situation, present information, and obtain an explanation of the data submitted in the application or the decisions rendered. The request for a conference shall not in any way prejudice or diminish the right to a fair hearing.

Only complete applications can be approved. This includes complete and accurate information regarding: the Food Stamp, TANF, or FDPIR case number; the names of all household members; the social security number of the person who signs the form or an indication that the adult does not have one; and the amount and source of income received by each household member. In addition, the parent or guardian must sign the application form, certifying the information is true and correct.

**Nondiscrimination Statement:** This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D. C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY) . USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

A complete copy of this policy is on file in the office of the School Food Authority District Administrator where it may be reviewed by any interested persons.



## 2008-09 Cafeteria News

Lunch Price (K-12): \$1.35  
Breakfast Price (K-12): \$.85

The "Pause" Cafe will be open daily from  
7:15 - 8:00 a.m.


The Pause Cafe is located in the concession stand near the high school gymnasium. The cafe is open to students, faculty and the public. Menu items include smoothies, cappuccino, orange juice, fruit, granola bars, bagels, eggs, sausage, and much more.



# Breakfast Menu for September 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
You May Pay By the Month or Week NO CHARGING BREAKFAST Breakfast .85	1 Cereal Toast Juice Milk	2 Assorted Cereal Toast Juice Milk	3 Pancakes Sausage Juice Milk	4 Cereal Toast Juice Milk	5 Breakfast Pizza Juice Milk	6
7	8 Cereal Toast Juice Milk	9 French Toast Sticks Sausage Juice Milk	10 Cereal Toast Juice Milk	11 La Cinnamon Toast Juice Milk	12 Cereal Toast Juice Milk	13
14	15 Cereal Toast Juice Milk	16 Bagel Juice Milk	17 Cereal Toast Juice Milk	18 Assorted Donuts Juice Milk	19 Cereal Toast Juice Milk	20
21	22 Cereal Toast Juice Milk	23 Cinnamon Rolls Juice Milk	24 Cereal Toast Juice Milk	25 Pancakes Sausage Juice Milk	26 Cereal Toast Juice Milk	27
28	29 Cereal Toast Juice Milk	30 Breakfast Pizza Juice Milk				

# Lunch Menu for September 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Portville Central School	1 Lunch Prices 1.35 Second Lunch 1.50	2 ** Pizza *Green Beans *Peaches NS	3 **Hamburg/Bun *French Fries *Pineapple *Carrots NS	4 HS ** Taco Bar El ** Soft Taco All Seasoned Rice *Peas *Pears NS	5 **Ham & Cheese/Bun * Sweet Potato *Wax Beans * Mix Fruit NS	6
7 	8 **Hot Dogs/Bun *Smiley Potatoes *Baked Beans *Mandarin Oranges	9 *Boneless BBQ Pork Rib *Mashed Potato *Broccoli *Pears *Roll	10 HS ** Deli Bar El ** Cheese Pizza All *Corn *Peaches	11 *Spaghetti & Meat Sauce *Green Beans *Mix Fruit *Homemade Wheat Roll	12 ** Toasted Cheese * Vegetable Soup * Applesauce Cookie	13
14	15 ** Cheeseburger/Bun *Oven Fries *Corn *Pineapple	16 **Corn Dogs *Macaroni & Cheese *Peas Apple Crisp	17 HS ** Meatball Sub El ** Cheese Pizza All *Wax Beans *Peaches	18 HS ** Taco Bar El ** Soft Taco All Seasoned Rice *Carrots *Pears	19 ** Fish Sandwich * Oven Fries * Green Beans * Mix Fruit	20
21	22 ** Ham & Cheese/Bun * Baked Beans * Mandarin Oranges	23 ** Hot Dog/Bun *French Fries *Pineapple Cake	24 HS ** Deli Bar El **Pizza All * Corn *Applesauce	25 * Turkey Ala King *Mashed Potato *Green Beans *Peaches *Homemade Wheat Roll	26 ** Pizza Sub * Mix Fruit * Wax Beans	27
28	29 *Chicken Nugget *Mashed Potato *Carrots *Mix Fruit *Roll	30 ** Sloppy Joe/Bun *Pasta Salad *Peas *Pineapple	ALL LUNCHES INCLUDE 1/2 PINT OF MILK. MILK CHOICES: SKIM, 1% LOFAT CHOCOLATE. NS= NO ELEMENTARY SALADS.	NO CHARGING LUNCH 7-12 CHARGING IN THE ELEM. ONLY UP TO THREE DAYS. PEANUTBUTTER AND JELLY SANWICH AND A MILK WILL BE PROVIDED.	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AVAIL- ABLE DAILY: PEANUTBUTTER & JELLY SANDWICH INSTEAD OF THEMAIN DISH. 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH GRADE SALADS. HIGH SCHOOL- PIZZA, NACHOS AND FRESH SALADS.	YOU MAY PAY BY THE WEEK OR MONTH

Progress on the new playground is moving rapidly. It will be ready for our students to enjoy in September!

Welcome Back to School!





# Body Mass Index Assessment Now Required for Physicals

According to research recently published in The Journal of American Medical Association, young children spend an extraordinary amount of time moving about: an average of three hours a day at age 9. But in just a few short years, all that childhood energy disappears. By the age of 15, daily physical activity is down to just 49 minutes on weekdays and about a half-hour on weekends.

Due to the rising problem of childhood obesity and the possible health risks associated with obesity, school districts in New York State are now required with the April 2007 passage of legislation amending Education Law Sections 903 & 904 to assess a student's body mass during the required health appraisals at school entry, pre-Kindergarten, and in grades 2, 4, 7, and 10.

This assessment is done as part of the school health examination. The student is weighed and his/her height is measured. These numbers are then used to figure out the student's body mass index or BMI. The BMI helps the doctor or nurse know if the student's weight is in a healthy range or is too high or too low. Selected schools will be asked to take part in a survey where no student names or specific information about individuals would be provided. If our school is selected, a student participation waiver is shown **AT LOWER RIGHT**. A similar form can also be obtained from the building secretary or nurse.

We have also printed some frequently asked questions **BELOW**. We hope they will answer any basic questions you may have about the new requirement. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to call your child's principal or nurse. Thank you in advance for your continued cooperation.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Why measure BMI and weight status in students?

◆ There is a strong and compelling need for obesity prevalence data of school-age children and adolescents at the local and state level. The information collected will be used to understand the severity and distribution of obesity among youth of various ages in

different regions of the state. This is a critical first step in targeting resources for childhood obesity prevention to high-risk communities.

◆ The information will also be used to evaluate whether actions taken by local schools and communities to improve access to healthy foods and to increase physical activity are making a difference and reducing childhood obesity rates.

**Does the legislation require that BMI or weight status data be reported to parents/guardians?**

◆ The new legislation does not require reporting of BMI or weight status category to parents or guardians.

◆ BMI and weight status category are to be added to the Student Health Certificate/Appraisal required by the NYS Education Law Sections 903/904. It is the responsibility of the healthcare provider who conducts the health examination to interpret the student's weight status category for parents/guardians as part of the routine preventive care, and to provide counseling, follow-up and referral as indicated.

***If you do not wish to have your child's weight status group information included as part of the Health Department survey this year, please clip and return the form below to: Jean Feely, RN, Elementary Nurse; OR Marcia Adams, RN, High School Nurse.***

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As part of a required school health examination, a student is weighed and his/her height is measured. These numbers are used to figure out the student's body mass index or "BMI." The BMI helps the doctor or nurse know if the student's weight is in a healthy range or is too high or too low. Recent changes to the New York State Education Law require that BMI and weight status group be included as part of the student's school health examination. A sample of school districts will be selected to take part in the survey by the New York State Department of Health. If our school is selected to be part of the survey, we will be reporting to New York State Department of Health information about our students' weight status groups. Only summary information is sent. No names and no information about individual students are sent. However, you may choose to have your child's information excluded from this survey report.

The information sent to the New York State Department of Health will help health officials develop programs that make it easier for children to be healthy.

**If you do not wish to have your child's weight status group information included as part of the Health Department survey this year, please print and sign your name below, clip and return this form to: Jean Feely, RN, Elementary Nurse; OR Marcia Adams, RN, High School Nurse.**

Please do not include my child's weight status information in the 2008 -09 School Survey.

Print Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# When You Ride the Bus



Please take a few moments to review the rules concerning dismissal for all students, both those who ride on a bus and those who walk.

## BUS RULES

The **bus driver has entire authority** while students are on the bus. Below is a list of school bus safety rules that all pupils should follow:

1. The student shall board a bus, take a seat, and remain in it for the duration of the trip.
2. Books, lunch boxes, feet, are to be kept out of the aisles.
3. Boarding and departing from the bus should be orderly.
4. No articles are to be thrown in or out of the bus.
5. Bus drivers may assign a definite seat to a student.
6. No unnecessary noise.

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*The bus driver has entire authority while students are on the bus.*

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7. Wrongful conduct or foul language will not be permitted.
8. Students should always cross the road 10 feet in front of the bus, and only when directed by the driver.
9. The destination will be the school in the morning and home at night. The only loading areas at which the students may board the bus are designated by the School Board. Only upon written request from parents may a student be picked up or discharged at a location other than home or school.

## FOR ALL STUDENTS

A written request from the parent must be sent to the teacher to cover any situation on the part of the student that is not ordinarily expected, such as:

1. Leaving with parents or relatives.
2. Going on another bus to visit friends in the district.
3. Going to music lessons, barber shop, doctor, dentist, etc.
4. Remaining after school or going to Cub Scouts, Bluebirds, Camp Fire, etc.
5. Riding a bicycle.

If a student walks to school, the request should be given to the teacher. If the student rides a bus, he or she should show the request to the teacher and then give it to the bus driver. School authorities are responsible for bus children from the time they get on the bus in the morning until their departure in the afternoon.

# Review of PCS Transportation Guidelines

## ROUTE SCHEDULES

The school day for students in grades 7 through 12 is 7:55 a.m. to 2:36 p.m. beginning Tuesday, September 2, 2008.

The school day for students in grades Pre-K through 6 is 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Buses will pick up Pre-K through 12 students between 6:50 a.m. and 7:40 a.m. Buses will depart the bus circle at 2:40 p.m..

All students in grades 4 through 12 who reside in the village are required to walk to school.

Because every year there are adjustments made to bus numbers, routes, and drivers, it is very important for the children to be at the bus stops a little early the first few days, so they don't miss their ride and so we can avoid delays in running our transportation routes.

Please be patient with our transportation program the first few days while we work out any bugs in the system. Safe and timely travel for your children is our top priority.

## CONDUCT ON THE BUS

The bus driver assumes the responsibility for the safety and welfare of the students riding school buses. If a student does not abide by the rules and regulations of bus transportation, then he/she could relinquish his/her privilege of riding the school bus. When misconduct occurs on the bus, the driver will report the incident through our "Bus Misconduct Report Policy" to the administration. The administration will follow up on the report and take the necessary action.

## NO PASSING – IT'S THE LAW!

Remember that it is illegal to pass a stopped school bus with its red lights flashing. This includes buses parked in SCHOOL PARKING LOTS AND PRIVATE ROADS. People in violation of this law will be turned in to the proper authorities. The minimum fine for passing a stopped school bus with its red lights flashing is \$150 and 5 points. This is the time when students are getting on and off the buses.



### **P.C.S. Direct Office Telephone Numbers**

<b>Superintendent's Office</b>	<b>933-7140</b>
<b>Elementary Main Office</b>	<b>933-6045</b>
Elementary Guidance	933-6042
Elementary Nurse	933-6013
<b>High School Main Office</b>	<b>933-6005</b>
High School Guidance	933-6760
High School Nurse	933-6708
Athletic Director	933-1147
Bus Garage	933-6709
Business Office	933-7126
Cafeteria Manager	933-1170
<b>Automated Telephone Service</b>	<b>933-6000</b>

### **P.C.S. – Contact Information**

In an attempt to respond to your questions and suggestions, we believe it is important to contact the individual who is responsible for the various areas of school operation. He or she has the most detailed information about his/her area of responsibility. If you have any questions pertaining to the school district or about your child's work, please do not hesitate to call. We encourage any and all questions from parents and residents concerning school matters.

#### **Medical Concerns**

PreK-6 Mrs. Feely, Nurse, or 7 – 12 Mrs. Adams, Nurse

#### **School Difficulty** (marks, classroom behavior, etc.)

Teachers and Guidance Counselors: K-5 Mrs. Griffith, 6-8 Ms. Stromberg, 9-12 Mrs. Pascucci  
Building Principals: PreK-6 Mr. Hild, 7-12 Mr. Curran  
Superintendent – Mr. Thomas Simon

#### **Transportation Concerns**

Superintendent of Transportation – Mr. Costa, and Director – Mr. Pratt

#### **Business / Finance - Mrs. Elser**

Building Principal – Mr. Hild (PreK-6), Mr. Curran (7-12)  
Superintendent – Mr. Thomas Simon

#### **Special Education Concerns / Special Needs, K-12**

Special Education Teachers, and CSE Chairperson - Mrs. Latten  
Superintendent – Mr. Thomas Simon

#### **Curriculum (Class/Course) Concerns**

Teacher and/or Guidance Counselors  
Building Principal – PreK-6 Mr. Hild, 7-12 Mr. Curran  
Superintendent – Mr. Thomas Simon

#### **Budget Concerns**

Business Office - Mrs. Elser, or Superintendent – Mr. Thomas Simon

#### **Athletic Concerns**

Michael DeBarbieri, Director of Extracurricular Activities  
Superintendent – Mr. Thomas Simon

#### **Building Use Request** (scheduling events in school facilities)...

Activities Director – Michael DeBarbieri  
Building Principals - PreK-6 Mr. Hild, or 7-12 Mr. Curran  
Superintendent – Mr. Thomas Simon





## **Fun Filled Fall at the Portville Library**

Fun filled fall activities are being planned at the Portville Free Library by the library staff. Children's story times starts Friday September 5 at 10 a.m. and continues throughout the school year.

Register your youngsters for this exciting hour of stories and creativity on Friday mornings by calling the library at 933-8441 during library hours.

Have you ever wondered where you could have your child's birthday party locally? The Portville Library might be the perfect solution. We have a large community room with a refrigerator available. With advanced notice, the staff would be willing to share birthday stories and help you with fun activities. If this sound like something your child might enjoy, contact the library to work out the details.

The reading bug flourished at our library over summer vacation. Stop by the children's circulation desk to see what cool goings-on are in store for fall reading.



## **Need SPORTS Schedules?**

Here is a quick link to Portville's  
VIEW MY SCHEDULE:

[http://www.digitalsports.com/school/  
id/22050.aspx](http://www.digitalsports.com/school/id/22050.aspx)

or go to [leagueminder.com](http://leagueminder.com)



## **Adult Mentors Needed**

Where would you be, who would you be, without the people who taught you, believed in you, and helped you get to where you are? You'd be amazed at the number of children in your community who would benefit from having a positive and caring adult role model in their lives.

Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES Youth Mentoring Program is a preventative program with a positive youth development approach. Our site-based mentoring program aims to help young people experience a healthy adolescence and a successful transition to a productive adulthood. We are seeking volunteer adult mentors for our program and are calling on the support of community members like you!

We firmly believe that an "ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" and bonds formed in mentoring relationships have the power of prevention. Children participating in mentoring programs across the nation have shown improvement in academics and school attendance, and they are less likely to get involved in risky behaviors such as using drugs and alcohol. They also have more positive relationships with adults, and a better sense of self. Building on the skills of youth has a much more lasting effect on their lives than focusing on their weaknesses. The goal of this program is to provide relationships for middle school children with positive, caring adults. We aspire for these relationships to provide children with the tools to succeed in life. In addition, we hope this experience will help the mentees (kids) become aware of, and explore career possibilities within our local communities.

Be a nurturer of possibility; help build the future of your community one child at a time. Become a mentor to a child in your area. *For more information regarding the C-A BOCES Youth Mentoring Program, please contact Erica Fleischman at 716-307-8668 or email her at [Erica\\_Fleischman@caboces.org](mailto:Erica_Fleischman@caboces.org)*

Portville Central School  
500 Elm Street  
Portville, NY 14770  
[www.portville.wnyric.org](http://www.portville.wnyric.org)

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Thomas Rowe, President  
Paul Ambroselli, Vice President  
Emily Woodhead, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Steve Andrianoff  
Karen Cornell  
Douglas Doty  
George Nuffer  
William Shaffer  
James Tkacik

**CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION**

Thomas J. Simon, Superintendent of Schools  
Kevin L. Curran, Junior-Senior High School Principal  
Charles N. Hild, Elementary School Principal

**"A Community of Learners"**

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## Bike Rodeo in Portville

On Wednesday, August 6th the Portville Police Department, The Portville Summer Recreational Program and the Portville for Youth Program held a Bike Rodeo in the lower parking lot near the tennis courts. The Rodeo was open to all Village and Town children under the age of 14 and brought in approximately 35 participants.

A very enthusiastic Justin Smith, one of Portville's senior police officers led the program with help from officer Steve McPherson. Bikers learned the rules of the road, how to keep their bikes in good working condition and were given a test on bicycle safety. Bikers also competed for trophies in three different categories; (1) bike control and stabilization, (2) slalom, and (3) intersection knowledge.

Tim Emley, village Mayor, who represented the Portville for Youth Program was on hand cooking up free hot dogs and handing out free bottles of water to every bicyclist.



The event was a big success but the Portville police department would like to remind young riders to wear helmets and other safety gear such as kneepads and

elbow pads when necessary. Look for the Bike Rodeo again next year as part of the summer recreational program.

