

Secondary Principal Board Report

May 11, 2021

Summer School 6-8

Plan for summer school: This would be the Week of August 9 to August 20.

Days of the Week: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

Time: 8:30am to 11:30am

We would continue intervention work with 6th grade. 7-8 we are exploring the use of Acellus program that we use for credit recovery.

The biggest challenge right now is making sure that we can find staff to implement the program.

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Empowering students with knowledge and skills to succeed

May 12, 2021

Parents and Students:

We have some exciting developments regarding this year's graduation ceremony: Because of changes in state guidelines, we will be recommending to the school board at its next meeting that the number of guests at the June 6 ceremony no longer needs to be restricted. The three-step plan recently issued by Governor Walz removes capacity limits on indoor spaces effective Friday, May 28. It is important to note, though, that other guidelines which are still in effect on June 6 will be firmly enforced.

This reduction in restrictions does not apply to the school day or to school events held prior to June 6, so the long-standing elements of the state's **Safe Learning Plan**, including social distancing and wearing masks, will remain in effect for other upcoming activities.

For the sake of our students and their families, we are excited about this change in regulations. However, we continue our dedication to keeping people safe at school events. For these reasons

- Face coverings must be worn throughout the event by all in attendance.
- As guests arrive, they will be expected to take their seats immediately and to refrain from moving about or mingling with others.
- A professional photographer has been engaged to take photographs during the diploma distribution. Photos will be provided to families at no cost. For this reason, individuals will not be allowed to leave their seats to take photographs.
- At the conclusion of the ceremony, guests will be released by sections to avoid creating a mass crowd near the gymnasium exits.
- After the ceremony has ended, graduates will be able to stand in their traditional receiving line outside to be greeted and congratulated. Those greeting them are asked not to shake their hands or engage in physical contact. The street will be closed off at this time to allow the crowd to spread more widely.

We also wish to remind everyone that all our plans for graduation are at risk if there is a local wave of Covid infection. We urge students and their families to take all feasible measures to avoid being exposed to disease. All policies regarding isolation and quarantine remain in effect through June 6.

- Any student found to have been in close contact with an individual who tested positive will need to quarantine for a minimum of 14 days.
- If a quarantine begins on or after Monday, May 24, the student will not be allowed to participate in the June 6 graduation ceremony.
- During the quarantine period, the student will not be allowed to enter the school building or participate in school-related activities.
- If a student tests positive, he or she will be prohibited from attending school or taking part in activities for a minimum of 10 days from the onset of symptoms. He or she may not return until symptom free.

We are delighted that the members of our senior class are benefitting from this recent change in rules. We look forward to an event which can be far better than we originally conceived. Please feel free to contact either of us if you have any questions or need more information. Further information will be shared as needed in the coming days and weeks.

Sincerely,

David Bunn, Principal

Deb Bently, Senior Class Staff Advisor

Panther Den Success Stories from Mrs. Eder and Mr. Strina:

Story #1

One student had Ds and Fs in his core classes-math, science, and language arts. He started coming to Panther Den consistently and we worked together on his work. One day in class, he showed me his grades after coming to Panther Den and he ended up having As and Bs at the end of quarter 3.

Panther Den Success Stories:

Story #2

In the February conferences, I had a challenging conference with a student and a parent. The student was doing well behavior wise, but was struggling academically because of the technology distractions. It was an emotional conference for all parties involved because we knew the student had the potential but he wasn't achieving. He started coming to Panther Den every Tuesday and Thursday. His grades and attitude about school changed. We had the April conference and it was about the complete opposite of the February conference. It was all good stories about coming to Panther Den and how it boosted his grades. We decided this student should keep coming to Panther Den so they can keep up the good work.

Panther Den Success Stories:

Story #3

Another student I had was struggling to ask for help in class. She knew she needed help but didn't know how to ask for it. I invited her to Panther Den and she originally turned it down. Then I mentioned it at conferences and then she started to come. Since then, the Panther Den helped her out a lot. The best part about Panther Den is working one on one with a student. I think sometimes students fall through the cracks in class; they have questions, but are too shy to ask for help. Furthermore, we were able to take a little bit more time that we wouldn't have in class to work on math problems.

Panther Den Success Stories:

Story #4

This is probably my favorite success story from the Panther Den. I had one of my SPED students who was struggling to do any work. At the February conferences, mom asked, "what do we do now? I have tried everything." I recommended the student show up for Panther Den. Originally, he was apprehensive about coming. After the first Panther Den, Mom told me he loved it. The reason he enjoyed it so much was because of the one on one time to work together on school work and build a strong connection. Oftentimes, we will joke a lot but then take care of business when it comes down to crunch time. It even improved his motivation, after not doing so well in quarter 1 and quarter 2, he told me his goal was to get straight A's in quarter 3. He ended up earning mostly B's and has turned his 6th grade experience into a positive one.

Panther Den Success Stories:

Story #5: I have been working with a couple of students who were struggling in their classes this year. One student earned a D and D+ during the first and second quarters of her math class this school year. She started coming to the Panther Den for help and ended up with a C- for the 3rd quarter and is at a solid B this quarter. Another student was struggling completing his assignments and turning them in on time and he went from earning Ds and Fs to currently having As, Bs and one failing grade.