

Hello Powell Families and Friends,

The following are Powell's points of pride. Enjoy!

We are putting the finishing touches on the 3rd quarter of the school year. Let's help our students finish this quarter strongly and spring-board into the final stanza of the year with the momentum to complete their best year yet at Powell Middle School.

With the completion of yet another grading period, Parent/Teacher conferences will soon be here. Powell's student-led conferences will be held on Wednesday, March 6th, from 4:30-8 pm, with the doors closing at 7:30 pm. Student-led conferences are open to all students and parents to attend. We look forward to seeing you here! Fourth quarter classes begin March 11th. It is hard to believe the end of the year is almost here.

I want to take this opportunity to remind families of the responsible use and care for our Chromebooks. Our students have grown comfortable with Chromebooks and have become somewhat casual with their safekeeping and use. Please remind them that these devices are for school work and little else. Also, remind them that these devices are not disposable and will be needed again next year. With your help, this initiative will prove to be successful for many years to come. Thank you for your support.

As spring approaches, we see an increase in students leaving school for appointments and other activities. Where sometimes appointments during the school day are unavoidable, I am asking that they be made after 3:50 pm, or on days when school is not in session. Interruptions to a student's day can negatively impact their education. I appreciate your attention to this matter.

The Powell NJHS (National Junior Honor Society) is concluding their annual fundraiser: Pennies for Patients. This fundraiser helps raise funds for, and awareness of, cancer's impacts on children and their families. Please consider supporting our students and greater Powell community by contributing to this wonderful cause. There is a donation link on our website if you cannot donate in person.

As we look forward to next year, Powell has had to make some difficult decisions. Our enrollment has declined and unfortunately, we have a few positions we are unable to renew for the 2019-2020 school year. Where much of Powell will remain as it has been, there will be a few changes next year. One change I wish to share with everyone is the decision to move back to a more traditional schedule. Where the "rotating" schedule (one that allows students to see their teachers at different times during the day) has had many benefits over the past 5 years, it does have some downfalls and with a reduction in staff, we will not be able to employ it next year.

Please know that all students will still receive the same quality education we have grown accustomed to providing, complete with 4 Core classes and at least 3 Elective/Exploratory classes. We will be studying potential schedule options over the next school year to see what will best meet the needs of our students for the foreseeable future. Thank you for your understanding and as always, your questions are welcome.

Thank you for your investment and involvement in our students' lives.

As always, It's a great day to be a Puma!

**Steve Wolf**

Steve Wolf, Principal

