



# PANTHER PTA



4901 W. Chicago Street, Rapid City, SD 57702

September 22, 2020

Pinedale Family and the Rapid City Community,

For 38 years the Panther PTA has proudly sponsored the annual Pie and Craft Bazaar. We don't know the PTA members who started this tradition so many years ago but we are thankful they did! It is a wonderful event that has brought our community together for years.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic there has been restrictions put in place limiting the use of Pinedale Elementary and other RCAS facilities. In the "Together Again – Back to School" Plan purposed by RCAS and approved by the Rapid City Area School Board there is a restriction that does not allow for the facilities to be used for activities outside of the typical school day use. It is our understanding that this unfortunately includes the use of the school for PTA sponsored events. With this restriction we are not allowed to host this event at Pinedale Elementary at this time.

We spent hours trying to come up with a different location or a completely different platform (a virtual bazaar). However, the logistics that go into making such a major event successful are complex. Given the current situation in the world today, we do not believe we could adequately address all the logistical issues and safety concerns of moving the event to a different location. Therefore, we had to make the difficult decision to cancel the annual Pie and Craft Bazaar that was supposed to take place on November 7, 2020. We know that it is a well-loved event and many will be disappointed. We are right there with you. These are tough times and this was a decision that was not made lightly.

We are hopeful for a brighter future and are already looking forward to the fall of 2021 when we hope to have another opportunity to come together for the bazaar again. Thank you for your understanding!

Sincerely,

Amber Oerline  
PTA President

Mr. Chip Franke  
Principal