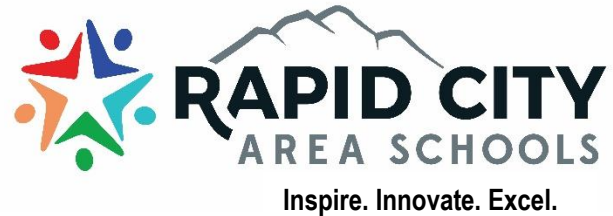


Pinedale Elementary

4901 West Chicago Street
Rapid City, SD 57702
605-394-1805



Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is that time of year when our students squeeze every last bit out of summer while at the same time making that transition back into the classroom. It has been a very eventful summer with a few changes; however, some of the changes are unique to our Pinedale building.

While we wait to see what this Delta Covid Variant is going to do for school plans this year, I'm working with our PTA to plan for a more normal year for student activity and parent engagement. My fingers are crossed! I would like to share with you all a couple of other changes that will take effect this fall at Pinedale.

Due to smaller class size in 2nd grade, Ms. Reichert was transferred to a position at South Canyon Elementary. There, she will be a teacher in the Learning Center. This leaves a gap in 2nd grade, leaving just two sections of 2nd grade. We wish her well in her new adventures there. She will be missed and is always a Panther. Mrs. Debi Besmer in our Learning Center has taken employment with Fit-N-Fun. If your child attends there, they will see her there. A replacement for her will soon be announced. Mrs. Besmer will be missed as well. Of course, I cannot forget our Secretary, Mrs. Cathy Zastrow. If you recall, she retired from RCAS after 32 years last spring. She takes with her a wealth of experience, and her ability to know everyone and their families was a remarkable asset. She will be greatly missed, but a very capable and friendly Mrs. Anna Klinski will take the lead role in the office! Please congratulate her when you next see her! To her right, she is joined by Mrs. Miranda Kitterman. She comes to us from the office at Black Hawk Elementary. She had her kids pass through Pinedale and is a long-time member of the Panther nation. We are glad to have her join our school family again! Welcome her when you get a chance!

Classes will begin for our students on Tuesday, August 24th with the first bell ringing at 7:55am and the tardy bell ringing at 8:05am. Please do not drop off your child prior to 7:35am. There will not be supervision until 7:45 on the playground. Students will be expected to line up at their respective outside entrances at the 7:55 bell. Students that arrive at or after the 8:05 tardy bell should come in through front entrance for a tardy pass. New for this year, students will be presented a free breakfast in their classroom. Students may still opt out of participating in the free breakfast each day. If your child would like a breakfast, they must take 3 items (even if they only want just one or two) and the rest is thrown out. Parents may not join their child for breakfast due to it being in the classroom when instruction and the day's events begin. However, parents may again join their child(ren) for lunch.

The staff and I want the 2021-22 school experience to be a positive, easy-flowing experience with smiles on the faces of children. I believe it is important to communicate with all parties involved at the school. Therefore, if you need or want to speak with me, you may do so with an email, phone call, or class dojo message. If you're "old school" like me, I Invite you to come see me. Of course, I can still be reached at any time at school at 394 – 1805. You can email me at chip.franke@k12.sd.us. I will do my best to be quick with a response. So, it will be my great pleasure to see all of you again in what I hope is a more normal year!

Your friend in education,

Chip Franke

Pinedale Principal, Mr. Chip Franke