



Pana Junior High
Juletta Ellis, Principal
Report to Board of Education
August 2016

Rough Estimate of Enrollment:

6th Grade: 110

7th Grade: 83

8th Grade: 85

Total: 278 (up from 265 in May)

We anticipate more students will register in the week leading up to the first day.

Thank you to the registration workers: Sara Kallal, Sarah Crosby, Michelle Herbord, Amy Christian, Tina Ambrose, Jessie Miller, and Bonnie Sowarsh. Registration ran smoothly and had a steady stream of families and students come through all day long.

We have been holding department and committee meetings so I can familiarize myself with staff and programs here. I want to thank them for coming in during their time off to help me get acclimated.

This year we will be revamping and adding some initiatives for staff and students.

- The PBIS Committee met on August 9th and came up with a plan to have school wide expectations for students with the theme of "Protect this House." We also mapped out a first quarter plan to celebrate our successes.
- Students were given a survey at registration to choose their PBL classes. We have some unique, high-interest offerings that will foster student engagement as well as develop skills.
- The SAP team will be a resource for students once again this year. Teachers may refer students who are struggling socially, emotionally, behaviorally, or academically. The team will work to put a plan in place to assist the struggling student and communicate and collaborate with parents for that student's success.
- We have three new staff member this year: Lyndsey Godier (Special Education), Ashley Keeling (7th grade Science) and Jenna Wernsing (P.E.). They will attend a New Teacher Orientation on the 17th to help them become familiar with our district.

Thank you to Bonnie Sowarsh who has been working hard to learn student scheduling and get those in place. Thank you to everyone who has been willing to help and answer my endless questions. It has truly made the transition much easier.

Tina Ambrose has been doing a great job taking on her new role as building secretary. She takes initiative and jumps right in to get the job done. Wendy Zuber and Judy Scherzer have also been assets in helping to train Tina.

Jessie Miller has been doing a series of Tech Academies for staff, which have been loaded with valuable tips and tricks to use within the classroom. She has also begun Chromebook meetings with parents. Her efforts are much appreciated!

Meet the Principal nights have begun for families and students. These nights provide an opportunity for me to introduce myself as well as share expectations and philosophies regarding education here at PJHS.

On a personal note, I want to thank the district staff, community members, parents, and students who have helped to welcome me to Pana. It really has been a very positive experience for my family and me, and I am looking forward to all of us accomplishing great things here!