



Pana Junior High
Juletta Ellis, Principal
Report to Board of Education
August 2019

Estimate of Enrollment:

6th Grade: 99

7th Grade: 97

8th Grade: 94

Total: 290 (May 2019--293)

Nearly all anticipated students have registered as of this week.

Thank you to the registration workers: Lisa Mayhall, Sarah Crosby, Stacey Spears, Amy Christian, and Tina Ambrose. Registration ran smoothly and had a steady stream of families and students come through all day long. Special thanks to Amanda Skinner and Scott Savage for prepping the online registration process.

There are not enough words to say how hard the custodial and maintenance staff worked this summer to move, clean, prepare, repair, and move again! The building looks AWESOME and we are so excited! Special thanks to Jeff Stauder who was in the building daily to see the progress and was in constant communication about the project.



We have five new staff members this year: Britany Watrous (7th grade Math), Shelby Bayless (6-12 Music), Cindy McKinney (8th grade Math), Erin Nicolas (Special Ed), Brooke Brandis (P.E.). Mr. Justin Matthews is returning from Lincoln to teach 6th and 7th grade Social Studies.

New Teacher Orientation was held on Friday, August 9th and all new teachers have been assigned mentors to help them be successful. In addition, many staff members attended the Unpacking Party and New Teacher Shower. We had a pizza lunch under the front canopy and staff members brought “teacher staple” gifts and words of wisdom for the new staff members. Everyone enjoyed the meal and the opportunity to reconnect after the summer.

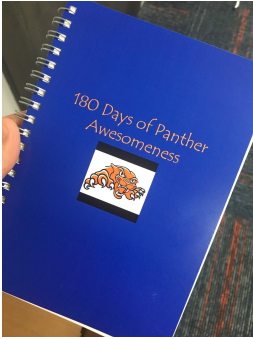
Special thanks to the committees that have worked so hard this summer: Student Support and Family Engagement. This summer we have been reflecting upon and revamping some initiatives for students and families.

- The Student Support Committee has been meeting throughout the summer. They have planned a Bootcamp to help all students become acclimated in the first two weeks of school. Topics include expectations, manners,

conflict resolution, motivation, and grit. The Bootcamp will conclude with a “Crushin’ It” celebration on Friday, August 30th.

- The Family Engagement Committee has been working on revamping Open House. This year’s Open House will include parent/guardian education sessions on topics such as Lumen, communication, aptegy, and ways to get involved.

Sixth grade orientation was held on Monday, August 12th. In addition, Ms. Skinner met with new students and parents to review the chromebook policies. Students were able to meet teachers, get schedules, learn locker combinations, and tour the building. Parents and guardians met with Mrs. Ellis for an overview of PJHS policies, procedures, and values. Special thanks to the 6th grade team for planning the night and for the assistance of Bonnie Sowarsh and Title Teachers Susan Ade and Dena Smith.



Teacher Opening Day was held Friday, August 16th. Part of the building meeting included a discussion on “Telling Our Story,” which emphasized sharing the good we do each and every day in our building and promoting our profession to build relationships and build mutual respect. All staff are reminded to celebrate the awesome of everyday (small or large) and to take care of one another.

Students returned Monday, August 19th. The day was devoted to reviewing policies and expectations. Students were also divided into smaller groups for handbook review and kickoff message with Mrs. Ellis during “P.E.” time. Mr. Lee and Ms. Brandis led them in a game to promote cooperation and teamwork.