

# The Pocca Middle News

Poca Middle School  
PO Box 647  
Poca, W.V., 25143

Phone: 755-7343  
<http://putnam.schoolspan.com>  
November, 2007



## NOVEMBER CALENDAR

November 2 – ice cream social for perfect attendance

November 7 – report cards go home

November 12– Veterans Day – no school

November 19-23 – Thanksgiving break

## THE BEST

The West Virginia Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance held their annual convention in Charleston, October 11-13. At the awards dinner, our very own – **Ms Brenda Marshall** – was named the **Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year**. Ms. Marshall was also recognized as the Coordinator of the Year by the American Heart Association for her work and support of the "Hoops for Heart" fund raising event held annually in public schools. Ms. Marshall received her B.S. degree in Health and Physical Education at West Virginia State College and her Master's degree at West Virginia University. **GO MOUNTAINEERS!!!** She began her teaching career at G.W. Elementary School. After one year, she came to Pocca elementary school where she taught for 26 years. Ms. Marshall started teaching at Pocca Middle School in 2005. She commented, "I love the students and working with them. I want them to stay healthy, active and fit for the rest of their lives." When not working at school, Ms Marshall works as a realtor for Real Estate Central with offices in Cross Lanes and Teays Valley. **Ms Marshall, we are proud of you!!!!**

## FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES

I would like to thank all the staff, administration, and students who have participated and supported the Friday meetings of the FCA. The Pocca Middle School chapter of FCA received one of the highest awards that the FCA organization gives out. Our FCA was voted the Huddle of the Year in West Virginia! I would also like to give a special thanks to Samantha Parkins and Tanner Sigman for leading the Huddle each week; they are doing a wonderful job. The FCA Huddle at Pocca Middle averages 210 students a week, which is far more than our local high schools, and we are only in our second year! I want to continue to encourage the student body to keep attending the Huddles each Friday!

T-shirts - We have had an overwhelming interest in the FCA T-shirts. I currently have a couple of mediums, larges, and extra larges. We have ordered more mediums and smalls. When they come in I'll make an announcement. For those interested they are \$5.00 and can be bought before or after school from Mr. Rinick. Again, thanks for your support.

Dan Rinick

## *ART*

*The Art department still needs magazines for projects. If you have any magazines you would like to dispose of please send them to Mrs. Inghram at Poca Middle School. Thanks.*

## *EIGHTH GRADE*

*The eighth grade students in Mrs. Stewart's Language Arts class will be starting on their research projects. The research projects will be mainly completed in school. The students are to choose a topic they are interested in and want to learn more about. Hopefully, this research paper will encourage the students to take an objective approach to learning and do their best work possible. This work will also help to prepare students for a successful high school career.*

## *SIXTH GRADE NEWS*

### *Field Trip*

*October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 we took a field trip to the mountains of West Virginia. We visited the Sandstone Visitors Center, Droop Mountain Battlefield, Beartown State Park, the Falls of Hills Creek, and the Cranberry Glades/Visitors Center. Overall, the students were well behaved and showed good manners while in public. The fall colors were beginning to show and while not at peak, they were still beautiful.*

### *Student of the Week*

*The student of the week award is presented to a student in the sixth grade each week. This student has demonstrated good manners with teachers and other students, completed all his or her work, and have not had any violation or detentions. This student will leave early for lunch with a friend all week. We will display his or her picture on our student of the week bulletin board. This weekly award is something to be very proud of and should be sought after by your child. Congratulations to all those students who have already obtained the student of the week. Keep up the good work.*

### *Team I*

*On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will be having our violation free party for those students who have three or less violations for the entire school year. We will do this at the end of each nine weeks. However, after the second nine weeks we will only allow 2 or less violations, after the third nine weeks only 1 or fewer violations, and at the end of the year it will be people with zero violations during the last nine weeks. Your child has the opportunity to start over each nine weeks in order to enjoy the parties we have for those students who meet the requirements.*

## *SPANISH NEWS*

*Spanish students (2007 and 2008), are you interested in going to Spain for spring break? Miss. Woods held a meeting for all Spanish students and their parents who are interested in a trip to Spain. The meeting was held Tuesday, October 30 at the school. Details of the trip will be in next month's newsletter.*

## *NEW FACES*

*Mrs. Phyllis J. Gibson is one of the new aides in Mrs. Hanson's. Mrs. Gibson, the mother of six children, grandmother of seventeen children, and great grandmother of fourteen children, resides in Poca She is a graduate of Poca High and has worked for the Putnam County school board for sixteen years. About PMS Mrs. Gibson said, "I think it's a great school. I had six children and eleven grandchildren attend Poca Middle School." Welcome aboard!*

*Denise Winter is the new PMS day custodian. She replaced long-time employee, Alan Cawley. Mrs. Winter and her husband David reside in the Poca subdivision. A graduate of Poca High School, Mrs. Winter has worked for the Putnam County Board of Education for 19 years: two years at PMS, four years at Hometown Elementary and thirteen years at Rock Branch Elementary. She has now returned to Poca Middle. Mrs. Winter says, "I love Poca Middle, there are great kids and teachers and everyone is very friendly." Welcome!*

Mr. Jeffrey Armstrong is a new aide in Mrs. Hansen's room. He is replacing Mr. Taylor and will be working one on one with a student. Mr. Armstrong is a native of Cabell County where he graduated from Cabell Midland in 2003. He attended Marshall University then worked three years at WalMart. He has substituted in Putnam County since last November and was hired full time to work at PMS. He says, "Poca Middle has made me feel like family. It is a great place to be." Glad to have you Jeff!

### **BOOSTERS**

The Booster's have been busy sponsoring activities for PMS students. On October 25 students could spend the Dot Dollars they had earned at the Dot Dollar store. October 29 the Boosters sponsored a Halloween dance in the school gymnasium. November 2, the ice cream social for students who have perfect attendance since the beginning of school will be held in the cafeteria.

The cookie dough fundraiser kicked off October 19<sup>th</sup>. The Boosters would like to thank all of the students who participated. This participation helps continue activities like the Dot Dollar store and the ice cream social. The cookie dough sale will end on Friday, November 2. All sales must be turned in that day. A magician show has been scheduled for December 11<sup>th</sup>, at 10:45 to reward all the students who sold 5 or more items.

The Boosters wish to thank everyone for their support for all the fundraisers held through out the year. They also would like everyone know that saying "no" is an option. While fund raising is an ongoing project, the Boosters understand that parents can not buy everything offered. They do want all to know how much the support is appreciated. The next Boosters meeting will be held November 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Come join us.

### **SCHOOL JACKETS**



With the cooler weather now upon us, it's time to get your winter jacket! The boosters are taking orders for school jackets. They are red nylon and lined like a gray sweatshirt. This could be a great Christmas gift for your child. Jackets are \$58. A name can be added to the front for an additional \$7. There is a sample hanging in the office. Mrs. Parkins has an additional jacket in her room to try for size. Any orders sent to the school should be given to Mrs. Parkins.

### **SCHOOL PICTURES**

Make up pictures will be taken on Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. Any student who was absent on picture day needs to have his or her picture taken for the yearbook. Portrait envelopes are available in the office. If a student wasn't happy with his or her portrait, the photos may be returned for a retake. School pictures may be ordered up until the end of the school year.

## YEARBOOK

Just a reminder . . . you will be getting information in the mail about purchasing yearbooks. We have decided to make this year's yearbook a "complete year" book. That means it will contain images from the entire school year, and will not be delivered until the fall.

### TECH CLASS RACE



At the end of each nine week grading period, Mr. Bannister takes his eighth grade Technology Education classes to compete in the CO2 car races. The students build the cars to certain specifications during their Tech Ed. class. This nine weeks, the races were held at Hurricane Middle on Friday, October 26. PMS students raced against a variety of cars built by students from the other three middle schools in Putnam county. Harley Willard won third place with a time of .804. First and second place winners were both from Winfield Middle. Congratulations to everyone who participated. It was fun watching everybody race and cheer for their car. The second nine weeks Poca Middle will host the CO2 races for the county middle schools. Good luck to the students in Mr. Bannister's Tech Ed classes.

Submitted by: Deanna Sprouse

### CHEERLEADERS



The PMS cheerleaders are working hard to prepare for the cheerleading competition in January and to get ready for the coming basketball season. The girls began learning their routine for the competition last Friday and will be working with the choreographer five more times before competition. Each practice will last four hours, so along with learning new cheers and stunts, the girls are making a real commitment to doing their best. There is an entry fee for competitions and expenses with being a member of the squad. The girls have been doing some fund raising projects to help defer the cost for the parents.

The next fund raiser will be the build-a-bear program just in time for the Christmas holiday. Information will be given each student about choosing a bear, the clothing and any accessories. Orders will be returned to Mrs. Stewart or Ms. Paugh and must be pre-paid. A representative will bring all of the materials needed to fill all orders and will set up a place to complete the bears. A special Poca Dot t-shirt is available to have a Poca Dot bear. The cost of the Dot bear is \$20.00 while the cost of others varies depending on what is ordered. So guys and gals, **this would be a great Christmas gift for your sweetheart!!** Look for the info on ordering soon. A sample of the Poca bear and a cheerleader bear may be seen in Mrs. Flippin's office and in the library. Also, if there is someone else in your family, be sure and share this with them.

The cheerleaders will also be selling chances on a diamond dinner ring. The ring has been appraised at a value of \$500.00. Chances will be \$5.00 and they will be sold until the first home basketball game. The winning ticket will be drawn at halftime of the game. This would also make a wonderful Christmas gift so take a chance. Someone is going to win and it could be you.

### DDR

Ms. Marshall's Exploratory, Dance, Dance Revolution, has spent the first nine weeks working on their speed and coordination. The routine, set to music, is a DVD that the student watches. The directions are in the form of flashing

arrows that the student must repeat on an exercise pad in front of the screen. Their score is based on the correct moves they make.

Each step in the program increases the speed and difficulty of the routine. The DDR Exploratory champion for the first nine weeks is seventh grader, Natasha Moore. Congratulations!

### **Reminder**

Students at PMS will start in new Related Arts classes on Tuesday, October 30. Eighth grade student will also switch their Social Studies and Science classes. Report cards will be sent home Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. Check next month's newsletter for the Honor Roll list.

Reminder #2: Poca Middle School dances are sponsored by the Boosters and are scheduled to be over at 8:00p.m. Parents need to pick the students up at that time. Also, parents must come to the front door of the gymnasium to get the students. This is for the safety of the students.

Reminder #3: The Boosters provide extras for the entire school and all of the students. They will need help in the concession stand for the upcoming basketball season. Anyone who can help should come to the next meeting, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 4p.m. in the school cafeteria

### **FOOTBALL**

As all things must come to an end, football season is sadly over for the Poca Middle School Dots. Leading the team this year were the awesome power of the eighth graders, of which there were 12. The boys ended the season with a not-so-great record (1-7) however, there is always hope for next season. The Dots were led by 8<sup>th</sup> grade quarterback Ricky Riggall. Other 8<sup>th</sup> grade players included: running backs JR Sisson, Suil McClanahan, JD Bush,; wide-outs Tanner Sigmon and Triston Wolfe; lineman KC Dodd, Tanner Neal, James Hackett, Zach Milbee, Dylan Good, and Matt Peck. The boys enjoyed the season and were thrilled with their 8-6 victory over GW Middle School half-way through the season. The team would like to thank Coach Bailey and everyone else who made this an enjoyable season. Also, the boys would like to encourage any boys interested in playing football to try out for the team next year.

JR Sisson

### **BASKETBALL**

#### *Girls*

Try-outs for the PMS girl's basketball team began Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup> in the school gymnasium. They will be held Tuesday and Wednesday from 5:00-6:45p.m. and Thursday and Friday from 3:30-5:15p.m. All girls who try out must have a physical before June 1, 2007. Shorts, tee shirts and tennis shoes are to be worn for try-outs. The team will be posted at a later date.

#### *Boys*

New coach, Mr. Buckley, will have try-outs for the PMS boys' basketball team November 5-7 from 3:15-5:00 in the school gymnasium. Boys interested in trying out for the team must have their physical exam form, team rules form and parent permission sheets on file by October 31. The number of boys who have signed up to try-out is forty-five. There will be twenty boys selected for the team. Emphasis for making the team will be on attitude, effort or intensity, defensive skills and team play. There will be an informational meeting for the parents all boys interested in trying out for the team on Thursday, November 1 at 4:00p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Both the boys and girls teams will begin play in December. Hope everyone will come out and support the Dots!!