

# PONDEROSA ELEMENTARY



*Ponderosa  
Elementary*

***Panther Pride***

*STUDENT HANDBOOK*

2009-2010

A GUIDE FOR STUDENTS  
AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS



September 8, 2009

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians,

The staff and I would like to welcome our new and returning families. We are looking forward to working with each of you as a partner in your child's education. The Ponderosa Elementary School staff is a caring and qualified team who strive to give the best to every student.

This handbook will give you the necessary information regarding the schedules, policies, and procedures at Ponderosa Elementary. These policies and procedures are common to all Post Falls Schools. We appreciate you taking the time to read and discuss the handbook contents with your child. Please keep this book for reference throughout the school year. In addition to this handbook, **look for the lunch menu to be delivered by your child the last school day of each month** as well as a monthly school newsletter to be emailed to your personal email account. These publications contain pertinent communication regarding activities, programs, and other school news.

Students do best when their attendance is prompt and regular. Please notify the secretary by 8:30AM in the event that your child may be absent or tardy and read the enclosed attendance policy on page seven carefully. Children may be on school property beginning at **8:25**. They must be lined up at their classroom door at **8:45**. School ends at **3:10**.

*All* visitors must enter through the front doors, check in, and sign out at the office and wear a visitor's badge at all times on our campus when school is in session. All visitors are also required to have their driver's license scanned *each* school year as an extra security measure to protect our children. We will keep your visitor's badge on file in the office during the school year for your convenience.

Please pay special attention to the parking lot pick up procedures for parents who wish to remain in their vehicles when picking up their children. **NEW:** All other parents picking up their child/ren after school will need to meet outside of our building by the picnic tables on the west playground. This is to reduce the congestion in the pick up area when the children are led outside.

For additional district information, monthly lunch menus, and access to all school district policies, please visit our website at [www.pfsd.com](http://www.pfsd.com). We are looking forward to working with you and your child.

Sincerely,

Kathy Baker

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# **Ponderosa Elementary School Directional Statements**

## **Post Falls School District #273 Mission Statement**

*All students will have the attitudes, skills, and knowledge to be productive and responsible citizens.*

## **Ponderosa Elementary Vision Statement**

*It is our vision at Ponderosa Elementary School that all staff and students demonstrate the traits integrity, responsibility, respect, and compassion while all students meet or exceed the state achievement standards.*

## **Belief Statements**

- A caring community in which students, staff, parents, and visitors feel welcome, safe, and respected, is essential to learning.
- Parents are the first and primary teachers and are responsible for their children's basic needs and values.
- Students have the right to learn and no one should interfere with that right.
- Home and school cooperation and agreement are conducive to student success.
- Students learn in different ways and should be provided a core curriculum with a variety of instructional approaches in an orderly, safe, comfortable, and disciplined environment.
- To enable students to become confident, self-directed, lifelong learners and responsible citizens, a commitment to continuous improvement is imperative.

## **School Report Card**

Parents may access our annual report card at [www.pfsd.com](http://www.pfsd.com) . Paper copies are available in the office.

## **PONDEROSA SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS:**

1. Increase student achievement as measured by the ISAT through the exploration of using formative assessment and clear objectives to guide instruction.
2. Increase the character education opportunities for children centered upon the traits of responsibility, respect, compassion, and integrity.

## **Title I School Wide**

Ponderosa is a "School Wide Title I" school. Children are given reading instruction based upon their instructional needs and flexible groupings are frequently used to accommodate those needs.

### **2009-2010 School Year Assessment Calendar**

September-June Weekly reading diagnostic assessments for targeted instruction students, grades 1-5

September-June Monthly progress monitoring of tier II students for intervention effectiveness, grades 1-5

September 9-11 Idaho Reading Indicator, grades 1-3 (initial identification of at risk readers; low scoring students will be given additional diagnostic assessments)

September 14-16 Oral Reading Fluency benchmark testing, grades 1-5

December 1 Direct Writing Assessment, grade 5

December 2 Direct Math Assessment, grade 4

January 26-28 Oral Reading Fluency benchmark testing, grades 1-5

February 2-4 Idaho Reading Indicator, grades 1-3

April 12-May 14 Idaho Standards Achievement Test, grades 3-5

May 18-20 Idaho Reading Indicator, grades 1-3

May 26-28 Oral Reading Fluency benchmark testing, grades 1-5



# **Ponderosa Elementary Staff**

## **First Grade Team**

Janet Gilbert, Paula Hearn, Stacy Smith, Jenny Seib, Jamye Loy, Michelle Barrett

## **Second Grade Team**

Dana Stiegemeier, Jen Cleave, Gail Campbell, Gail Teeter, Brenda Stiner

## **Third Grade Team**

Anne Bryan, Stacey Peppin/Willow Hanna, Brandy Gamet, Stephanie Burkhart, Rachel Reed,  
Jill Stowers

## **Fourth Grade Team**

Tim Rice, Sharon Wagner, Suella Graybill, Marie Hammon, Rhonda Babbitt

## **Fifth Grade Team**

Rachel Eifler, Anna Carpenter, Tammy Delbridge, Ayrha Ellis, Vee Webster

## **Resource Team**

Mary Gerringer, Pat Litchfield, Amber Lancaster, Lovonna Lee, Christina Strate

## **Title I Reading Team**

Kathy Wilkerson, Karon Brown, Eva McElmurray, Kathy Larson

## **Life Skills Team**

Maureen Smith, Carla Deuser, Marcia Hughes, Cindy Boyle, Rhonda Disrud

## **Gifted and Talented**

Karlicia Berry (Starburst Facilitator), Rhonda Babbitt

## **Therapists**

Edyie Kendall (PT), Heather Overye (OT), Sandy Combo (SLP)

## **Office Staff**

Tammy Elmore, Tammy Kane, Kathy Baker, Kristy Scheidt (Nurse)

## **Counselor**

Laura Kast, Christine Roddy (intern)

## **Specialists**

Jim Wyatt (PE), Jean Anyan & Shelly Graham (Library), Sarah Windisch (Music),  
Michelle Ross (Computer Lab), Michelle Barrett (1<sup>st</sup> grade Art), Jill Stowers (chess)

## **Kitchen Team**

Chrissie Hammer, Shannon Cabbage, Leslie Griese, Emily Schiene

## **Custodial and Maintenance Staff**

Carol Boesch, Suzanne Russell, Larry Booth

## Daily Schedule

### Office Hours

7:30-4:00 when school is in session

### STUDENT SCHEDULES

8:25 Breakfast available and before school recess begins

8:45- School begins

3:10- Students Dismissed

### MORNING RECESS SCHEDULES:

10:00-10:10 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

10:40-10:55 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade (NO AM RECESS ON F)

11-11:15 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

### LUNCH SCHEDULES:

11:20-11:55.....4<sup>th</sup> Grade

11:40-12:15.....3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

12-12:35 4<sup>th</sup>.....2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

12:20-12:55.....1<sup>st</sup> Grade

12:40-1:15.....5<sup>th</sup> Grade

### AFTERNOON RECESS SCHEDULES:

1:30-2:00..... 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade (NO FRI except for Bryan 2/3 combo) and 4<sup>th</sup> Grades (NO THURS)

2:00-2:30.....1<sup>st</sup> Grade (NO WED) and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade (THURS= 2:15-2:30)

2:35-3:05.....5<sup>th</sup> Grade (NO FRI)

### Specialists Schedule (PE, Music, Computer, Library, \*Fine Arts/Chess)

1<sup>st</sup> Grade- Wednesdays (11:35-12:05 and 1-3)

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade- Thursdays (12:40-1:45) and Fridays (9:35-10:45)

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade- Thursdays (10:25-11:35) and Fridays (12:35-1:40)

4<sup>th</sup> Grade- Wednesdays (10:05-11:15) and Thursdays (1:55-3:05)

5<sup>th</sup> Grade- Thursdays (9-10:10) and Fridays (1:55-3:05)

*\*Students in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade receive chess instruction through materials from the American Chess Foundation. Students in 1<sup>st</sup> grade receive art instruction.*

## Daycare and Activities & Picking Up Your Child

### GAP Program

Growing Achievement in Post Falls helps to “bridge the gap” during out of school time (before and after school) by providing a quality school-age program for your family. GAP is funded, supported, and maintained by fees charged to the parents utilizing the program. A registration packet is available in the Ponderosa office. You may also call 777-8251 or visit the district web site for registration materials and information at [www.pfsd.com](http://www.pfsd.com).

### Before & After School Activities

A free cross country program is available after school beginning on September 15<sup>th</sup>. The Ponderosa P.T.O. sponsors a four week After School Odyssey program during the fall and spring. Students have a wide variety of activities from which to choose. A nominal fee is charged for each of these activities. Ponderosa fourth and fifth graders also have an opportunity to participate in a free special chorus program through our music teacher on Wednesday mornings at 7:30. Information will be sent home.

### Food Service Program

A monthly calendar of menus will be sent home with your student on the last day of each month. Menus are also posted on our district website and broadcast on KHQ 6 and KXLY 4 during the school year.

Breakfast is served between 8:25 and 8:45. Students will enter and exit the cafeteria through the outside entrance door.

#### Breakfast

Students.....\$1.55  
Reduced cost.....\$.30  
Adults.....\$2.10

*If your child qualifies for free or reduced lunch then he or she qualifies for the CHIP health care insurance under the new income guidelines. Call (800)926-2588 for info.*

#### Lunch

Student.....\$2.25  
Reduced cost...\$.40  
Adults.....\$3.25

### Parking Lot Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures

- Children are not allowed to move through the parking lot unless accompanied by an adult.
- Parents may drop off their child/ren along the curb next to the appropriate playground between 8:25 and 8:45. After 8:45 parents must accompany their child/ren and sign in tardy at the office.
- Parents may pick up their child/ren by the portable building on the southwest corner of the school. Children are required to wait within the paw print area until the parent physically takes the child or a teacher directs the child to load in the parent’s car. Parents may also wait by the picnic tables.
- Parents wishing to remain in their car must stay in the designated pick up lane and courteously follow the directions of the teachers on duty. Cutting in line and other inappropriate role modeling may result in loss of pick up privileges on school property and contact by the principal and/or a Post Falls police officer.
- Whenever possible and to relieve parking lot congestion, parents are encouraged to park in a designated parking space then walk to the paw print area to physically pick up their child/ren.
- Parents may also park along Spencer Road by the west playground to pick up their child/ren and avoid parking lot congestion.

## **Ponderosa Elementary Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures**

Approximately half of our 550 students live within the walking zone or are attending our school on an open enrollment and do not qualify for bus transportation. Because of this, we have many children who are dropped off or picked up daily. It is imperative that all drivers follow our procedures in order that our children remain safe and pick up time is efficient.

Drivers may choose one of three options when picking up children:

1. **BEST:** Find a parking space and walk over to the pick up area next to the portable building to retrieve the child/ren. If your child has not yet arrived in the pick up area please wait near the blue picnic tables to relieve congestion.
2. Stay in the car and in the lane that follows the curb marked "Pick Up/Drop Off." *If your car is behind the painted lanes near the entrance then you must find a designated parking space and walk with your child or exit the parking lot and try again.*
3. Make arrangements to meet your child while parked along Spencer Street or Mountain View (behind the school). Neither parents nor children are allowed to walk through the bus lanes or in the small parking lot behind the bus lanes between 2:30 and 3:40.

### **General Information-**

- Courteous behavior is expected.
- Drive slowly and watch for children.
- Children are not allowed to cross into the front parking lot unless they are walking with an adult.
- No person is allowed to walk through the bus lanes at any time.

### **Dropping Off-**

- Absolutely no dropping off children before 8:25 AM.
- Drop off next to the sidewalk, never in the middle of the parking lot; children are not allowed to walk through the parking lot unless they are with an adult.

### **Picking Up-**

- No "cutting" is allowed in the pick up line.
- You must follow the directions of the staff on duty.

Please report any inappropriate drop off or pick up behavior to the office (773-1508) along with a description of the children, vehicle, and license number. This information will be passed along to the Post Falls Police Department.

## Getting Involved in Ponderosa

**Ponderosa Elementary School has many unique opportunities for students. These enriching opportunities are made possible through parents and caregivers who volunteer their time and talents. Whether it's on the weekend organizing Box Tops for Education or helping a child to master his math facts during the school day, parents make it possible at Ponderosa. Please consider how you may contribute to the caring community of Ponderosa Elementary.**

### P.T.O.

Ponderosa Elementary has an active no-fee Parent Teacher Organization aimed at enriching the quality of our families' lives through special activities offered at low or no cost. The P.T.O. meets monthly on a Tuesday evening at 6:30pm. Specific dates are published on the monthly lunch calendar. Parents are encouraged to attend the meetings for further information and opportunities.

### Volunteers

Understanding the positive connection between student success and parent involvement, Ponderosa staff encourages volunteerism. Opportunities include mentoring, Fall Carnival, fundraisers, after school activities, reading and math tutoring, book fair dinner nights, and numerous other classroom directed activities. All volunteers must submit an application and agree to a background check. No younger children are allowed to accompany volunteers. Please sign up during Open House or inquire at the office or with your classroom teacher.

### Visitors and Animals

**For the safety of our children, all volunteers and visitors must use the front entrance, have their driver's license scanned, sign in and out at the office, and obtain a visitor's badge.** Students are not allowed to have non enrolled children visit or accompany them during the school day. Animals, with the exception of service animals and/or those used for educational purposes by the staff and certified as such, are not allowed on school property.

### Video Surveillance

To ensure the health, welfare and safety of all staff, students and visitors and to safeguard district facilities and equipment, use of video cameras by district officials may occur on district property.

## Student Policies and Procedures

All district policy may be accessed at [www.pfsd.com](http://www.pfsd.com). Click on the “District” tab, then go to the drop down menu under “School Board” and choose “School Board Policy.”

### Attendance

Ponderosa Elementary recognizes the regular school attendance contributes to successful student achievement. Regular and punctual patterns of attendance are expected of each student. If possible, schedule dental and medical appointments before or after school or on non-school days. Students must be signed out at the office before leaving school grounds during the school day. **Students missing more than 4 ½ days per quarter may be considered for retention.** Parents of students with excessive absences, early dismissals, and/or tardies must attend a problem solving conference with the principal.

**Students who are tardy or leave early disrupt the learning environment for all students in that classroom.**

If your child will be tardy or absent call the school office as soon as possible. You may leave a message on our answering machine before 7:30AM or after 4PM. If your child becomes ill at school parents will be contacted so that they may arrange transportation home. **Please keep your child’s emergency card updated.**

Fifth grade students with two or fewer tardies or early dismissals and no absences will receive a FREE bicycle and helmet on the final day of school. All students with perfect attendance are recognized at the final assembly.

### Student Behavior

It is Ponderosa Elementary School’s vision that all children experience academic success while demonstrating the traits of integrity, compassion, responsibility, and respect. Behavior in and outside of instructional time is expected to demonstrate the four character traits. Behavior that does not demonstrate integrity, compassion, responsibility, and respect will be addressed through instruction and consequences, both positive and negative. **Instructional time is regarded as sacred and disruptions in the classroom are not tolerated.** Staff and parents will work together when natural learning opportunities arise for children. **Consequences for cumulative inappropriate behavior increase as per district policy.**

All classroom teachers have a refocus/timeout partner for the purpose of providing a change in environment for any student in need of such for behavioral purposes.

If a student’s behavior merits the intervention of the principal that student may be sent to the office for instruction, consequences, documentation, and a parent contact.

### Building Regulations

1. Students are expected to play outdoors until 8:45 with the exception of students eating breakfast in the cafeteria.
2. Students are to remain on school grounds unless signed out by a parent. Early dismissals require advance notification and are highly discouraged due to the disruption of the learning environment to all children.
3. Students are expected to walk quietly through the building to minimize the disruption to learning for other classrooms. This is of particular importance at Ponderosa where most classrooms do not have doors.
4. Students must have a pass or adult supervision when moving through the hallways.
5. Gum is not allowed at Ponderosa.

### Rocks, Snow, Ice, Woodchips, Pinecones

Throwing or kicking rocks, snow, ice, wood chips, pinecones or other objects will not be tolerated. The potential for injury is great. Cumulative offenses will have increasing consequences.

### Use and/or Possession of Dangerous Items

Guns, ammunition, knives, fireworks, chains, and other dangerous items are not to be brought to school by students. Any student who brings a firearm onto school property shall be subject to expulsion from school.

## **Violence, Profanity, and Threats**

1. Any type of violence or rough play, which may include pushing, kicking, hitting, and choking, and any type of profanity will not be tolerated at Ponderosa. Violent and verbally offensive students will be removed from the classroom, playground, or other school setting, and may be subject to suspension. Parents will be notified of any violent actions and/or profanity used. Students with cumulative offenses will face increasing consequences.
2. Written and verbal threats of bodily harm to students or staff will be taken very seriously. Any student making a threat regardless of intent, *whether jokingly or not*, is subject to a minimum of three days suspension as per district protocol. Depending on the severity of the incident, further disciplinary action may be taken which include, but is not limited to: parent conference, counseling, further suspension, notification of law enforcement/citation/charges, and expulsion.

## **Playground Rules**

- I. General Conduct
  - A. No throwing rocks, pinecones, dirt, grass, or snowballs
  - B. No pushing, shoving, throwing down
  - C. Cannot climb fences or trees
  - D. No sliding on snow or ice
  - E. Only play on play structures
  - F. Pick up after yourself
  - G. Must have a pass to enter building
- II. Playground boundaries:
  - A. Play away from the building and stay where the duty can see you.
- III. Swings
  - A. Count to 60 when waiting for a turn (30 on first grade playground)
  - B. No count backs
  - C. Only count when there are no other swings available
  - D. Face forward
  - E. No jumping, twisting, or hanging on swing
  - F. Stay away from swings unless counting
- IV. Monkey Bars/Rings
  - A. One way
  - B. One person at a time
  - C. Cannot sit on top of bars
  - D. No twirling
- V. Slide
  - A. One person at a time on structure
  - B. Down only
  - C. Feet forward
  - D. No sliding down pole on twisty slide
- VI. Football (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders only)
  - A. Teams of eight only
  - B. Use cone boundaries
  - C. No contact
  - D. Misbehavior may result in being banned from the game for the school year.
- VIII. Moving Through the Building and Site
  - A. Single file lines and silence inside the building
  - B. Students not with their teacher must have a pass
  - C. Hold onto sports balls and equipment when walking from the cafeteria to the playground.

## **Bicycles and Other Wheels**

Students are expected to follow bicycle safety rules to and from school and lock their bikes or scooters when they arrive. Students may use the bike racks outside the portable classroom or lock their bikes on any *outside* fence. Bicycles must be walked on the school grounds. To preserve our property, **skateboards, rollerblades, scooters, “wheelie shoes” and bikes are not to be ridden on school grounds at any time.**

## **Bus Rules from the Transportation Department**

Safety is our number one concern. Behavior which may cause harm to other students or which results in an unnecessary distraction for the driver shall be deemed sufficient cause for restrictive consequences up to and including expulsion from the bus. Students who receive a bus conduct report will also have consequences at school.

### **At the Bus Stop**

1. Never push, shove, scuffle, or horseplay. This is unacceptable and is considered a serious safety hazard.
2. Stay out of the street and away from the road. Help protect the surrounding property while you wait for the bus.
3. Students shall be at the bus stop on time to meet the bus.
4. Look both ways before crossing the road, and wait for the bus driver's signal to cross. Always cross at least ten feet in front of the bus. Never run to or from the bus. Never crawl under a bus for any item.
5. Student shall not be permitted to ride a school bus for personal transportation (ie: birthday party, overnight stay, friend's house, or to a job).
6. Students shall refrain from leaving or boarding the bus at locations other than the assigned stops at home or school.

### **On the Bus**

1. Take a seat right away and remain seated facing forward, keep your hands, arms, and head inside the bus. The driver has the right to assign seats.
2. Students shall observe classroom conduct and obey the driver promptly and respectfully.
3. Keep head, hands, feet, books, and objects to yourself.
4. No swearing, rude gestures, cruel teasing, or put downs.
5. Students shall not create unnecessary noise or confusion, which might distract the driver's attention.
6. Students may talk in a normal, conversational tone of voice. The driver may require silence at railroad crossings and elsewhere for safety.
7. Prohibited items: hazardous materials, tobacco products, drugs, weapons, and glass containers. Nuisance items: pagers, radios, laser pointers, animals (other than trained service animals).

### **Leaving the Bus**

1. Do not leave your seat until the bus has stopped. Take your turn and do not push.
2. Once off the bus, move away from the bus as soon as you get off. If crossing the street, wait for a signal from your driver and check for traffic.

## **Homework Policy**

Students who are absent are required to make up all assigned work. Students have two days per day of absence to complete and turn in assignments.

Students in all grades who fail to complete and/or turn in homework will complete the work during their recess time. Fourth and fifth graders who do not complete and/or turn in an assignment will receive a zero grade and are still expected to complete the work for the valuable skill practice. Parents are expected to provide transportation if necessary in the event that their child must stay after school to complete homework.

In the event that a student consistently does not complete or turn in assignments on time the parents will be notified and a team problem solving conference will be conducted.

### **Student Materials**

Students are responsible for their assigned books, library books, and materials and the cost of these if lost or damaged. Fifth grade students who lose their daily planner must purchase another planner for a \$3 fee or find a suitable replacement.

### **Toys and Cell Phones**

To safeguard our academically focused environment, no toys, cell phones, or instruments such as lasers may be brought to school for any reason. Toys that are brought to school will be put in a “June Box” and can be claimed by the students in June. If needed for emergency purposes before and after school, cell phones must be checked in at the office or with the classroom teacher during school hours. Phones are located in every classroom for emergency purposes. Cell phones are not to be used by students between 8:25 and 3:10 on school property. If a child uses a cell phone during school hours the parent will be expected to retrieve the phone at the office. Staff is not responsible for lost items, including cell phones.

### **Dress Code**

So as not to distract from our learning environment, clothing will be modest. Exposed bellies, ‘spaghetti’ straps, clothing advertising beer, alcohol, profanity, or containing derogatory messages that go against the character traits of responsibility, respect, compassion, and integrity, and other clothing deemed inappropriate in an elementary school setting are prohibited. Skirts and shorts must be as long as extended fingertips when arms are hanging straight down at the sides of the torso. For safety reasons, flip flop sandals and shoes with integrated wheels are prohibited. Tennis shoes must be worn on PE days.

### **Student Health**

1. A school nurse is available at Ponderosa one day per week.
2. Medication should be administered at home whenever possible. **If it is necessary to administer any medicine during school time, there must be a written request signed by the parent and physician.** Medicine must be brought to the office *by an adult* in the original bottle with the student’s name. All medicines are kept in and dispensed from the office. Ointments and eye medicines will not be dispensed at school.
3. Head Lice Policy- Ponderosa has a “nit-free” policy. Any student contacting head lice will be excluded from school until the school nurse, and/or secretary determines the child is “nit-free”.
4. **If your child needs to stay in from recess for health reasons a doctor’s note must be sent.** Seriously ill children should be kept at home.
5. The Children’s Health Insurance Plan is available if you meet the eligibility requirements. Call (800) 926-2588, (208) 332-7205, or log on to [www.idahochild.org](http://www.idahochild.org).

### **Insurance and Student Injuries-**

Even with the greatest precautions and the closest supervision, accidents can and do happen at school. Parents need to be aware of this and be prepared for possible medical expenses that may arise should their child be injured at school. The school district does not provide medical insurance to automatically pay for medical expenses when students are injured at school. This is the responsibility of the parents or legal guardians. The school district carries liability insurance only.

### **Cold Weather/School Closure**

During winter months, all students shall be expected to go outside for recess. The fresh air and a chance to unwind help them be more productive in the classroom. The only time students are kept in is during rainstorms or when the “Real Feel” temperature is 10 degrees Fahrenheit or lower based on the local Accuweather.com website. Children should be prepared each day for the weather. On snowy and/or cold days, boots, hats, and mittens or gloves are a necessity.

When weather creates hazardous road conditions, schools may close for the day. School closures are announced between 6:00 and 8:00 a.m. on the following radio stations: KVNI, KJRB, KCDA, KHQ, KGA, KXLY, and KDTK. All weather closures and emergency information is also posted on our website at [www.pfsd.com](http://www.pfsd.com)

## **2009-2010 Ponderosa School Calendar**

September 9, 10, 11- 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI) Testing  
September 15- Cross Country Program begins (Sept. 15, 17, 22, 24, 29, Oct. 1, 6, 8 and 15 (PFHS Meet))  
September 15- Open House and Community Opportunities Evening 6-7  
September 28- Fundraiser begins  
September 29- PTO meeting 6:30pm in library  
October 1-30 Box Tops for Education Contest!  
October 2- NO SCHOOL State Wide In-service day (K-12)  
October 12- Progress Reports go home  
October 5-Fundraiser Ends  
October 13- After School Odyssey begins (also Oct. 20, 27 and November 3 from 3:10-4:15)  
October 8- Title I Family Night 5:30  
October 20- Picture Day  
October 27- PTO Meeting 6:30pm in library  
October 30- Ponderosa Fall Carnival  
November 6- NO SCHOOL End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter  
November 10- Picture Retake Day  
November 11<sup>th</sup>- Veteran's Day Assembly 9AM  
November 12- Conferences 8AM to 8PM and delivery of cookie dough fundraiser items  
November 13- No School  
November 17- PTO Meeting 6:30 in library  
November 19- Book Fair Dinner Night  
November 24- RIF Distribution  
November 25- NO SCHOOL In-service day (K-12)  
November 26-27 Thanksgiving Break  
December 1- Direct Writing Assessment (4<sup>th</sup> grade)  
December 2- Direct Math Assessment (5<sup>th</sup> grade)  
December 3- Santa and a Book 5:30-8PM  
December 10- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Christmas Concert 10:30 and 6:30 (Christmas Around the World)  
December 14- Progress Reports go home  
December 16-18 Santa Shoppe (in computer lab)  
December 18- RIF Distribution  
December 19- January 3 Christmas Break  
January 18- NO SCHOOL Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
January 26- PTO Meeting 6:30pm in library  
January 29- NO SCHOOL End of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter  
January 29- Ponderosa Family Night at TRIPLE PLAY, 6-9  
February 1- Report Cards sent home  
February 1-26 Box Tops for Education Contest!  
February 2-4 IRI Testing (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grades)  
February 12- No School In-Service Day  
February 15- NO SCHOOL Presidents' Day  
February 23- PTO Meeting 6:30pm in library  
February 26- Progress reports go home  
March 1-5 Book Fair  
March 4- Book Fair Dinner Night  
March 16- Class Pictures  
March 23- RIF Distribution  
March 24- NO SCHOOL End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter  
March 25- NO SCHOOL Conferences  
March 26- NO SCHOOL  
March 27- April 4- NO SCHOOL Spring Break  
April 12- 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade ISATs through May 7 (May 10-14 ISAT Make Up Testing)  
April 20- PTO Meeting 6:30pm in library  
May 3-7- Teacher Appreciation Week  
May 5- 1<sup>st</sup> Graders' Mother's Day Tea and Singing at 2PM  
May 7- Progress reports go home  
May 18-20- IRI Testing (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grades)  
May 18- PTO Meeting 6:30PM in library  
May 20- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Performance 2 and 6:30 (Lewis and Clark musical)  
June 3- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Idaho History Rendezvous 9AM-1PM  
June 4- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Talent Showcase 2PM  
May 31- NO SCHOOL Memorial Day  
June 8- Staff vs. 5<sup>th</sup> Graders Kickball Game  
June 11- Student's Last Day of School; Report cards go home; Final Assembly 9AM, Ponderosa Family Picnic Day during students' lunch times (parents may check their child/ren out after lunch if they wish)

*Parents are encouraged to read the monthly newsletter and calendar for additions and changes to the calendar of events.*