



Pine Ridge Post

Latest news and bulletin updates



October 2022

Issue #1

The scoop of the day

We had a great start to the school year with Grade Nine Day on September 6th. Our new grade nine students and families were welcomed by administrators, staff and leadership students.

Pumas are thrilled at the ability to return to extracurricular activities such as sports teams, intramurals, music, affinity groups, and leadership, just to name a few. These are made possible by fantastic staff members who have volunteered as staff advisors and coaches.

Our food school cafeteria sales have also returned as well as the school breakfast club which runs daily every morning before school. Fun Fridays are back once a month with free goodies such as samosas or themed bagels for students at lunch.



Sports

Jr. Boys Volleyball Team - The Jr. Boys Volleyball Team has played two tournaments so far. At our home opener hosted at Pine Ridge, the boys fought hard and split their set against Notre Dame. Last week at Sinclair, we came out victorious against O'Neill. We are excited to play again this week at MCVI. Mrs. Baran and Mr. Burt are proud of the team's efforts so far and look forward to a successful and enjoyable season!

Senior Boys Volleyball - We are starting into the third week of our season.

Games are played on Wednesdays in a mini-tournament format - 4 schools compete and play the other 3 teams.

Regular season runs until November 2 and then play-offs will follow.

Cross Country - The cross country team has participated in two meets so far this season at Dagmar Ski Resort. The runners have steadily improved their times and are looking forward to the Fast Cat Relays later this week held at Pine Ridge. Good luck runners!

Boys Golf - Three golfers.

1 Event - LOSSA at Royal Asburn Golf Club

2 boys qualified for their first LOSSA and participated on the team for the first time this year. One finished 33rd out of a field of over 80. This was his second time representing PRSS.

Tennis - We have fifteen students in the PR tennis team. So far, our Jr. players have participated in the LOSSA qualifying rounds with match victories in Jr. Single Boys and Girls and Jr. Boys Doubles. On Thursday October 20, our largest contingent will participate in the Sr. Girls Singles and Doubles as well as in the Sr. Mixed Doubles. We have entries in each category and look forward to our students participating with gusto and supporting one another.

Our goal this year was to get students who never played interested in the sport and to provide an opportunity for those who played before to get back into the game. So far, we have succeeded on both counts with students participating at practices and qualifier events.



The latest breaking news from Guidance

Post-Secondary information – Start your applications!

University and College information sessions were held in September. Parents, guardians and students were encouraged to attend the evening presentation and learn about applications, pathway planning and researching post-secondary options. Guidance counsellors also visited grade 12 homerooms to start the post-secondary research process for work, apprenticeships, college and university destinations.

Grade 11 and 12 students had the opportunity to attend the University/College Fair held at Pine Ridge on October 5th. Over forty university and college representatives from across Ontario and the east coast attended.

Application seminars for students applying to Ontario universities will be at the end of October. At this time, PIN numbers will be distributed to university bound students. College application seminars will be in late October and November.

University Application deadline – January 12, 2023 –
www.ouac.on.ca

College Application deadline – February 1, 2023 –
www.ontariocolleges.ca

Grade 9 Homeroom Classes visit Guidance

During October, all grade 9 homerooms will have the opportunity to visit the Guidance Department. Guidance counsellors will meet with each student individually to discuss the transition to grade 9, progress reports, guidance department services, and pathway planning. Student feedback on the transition from grade 8 to grade 9 will be used to further develop and enhance programming for incoming grade 9s.

Commencement 2023

Commencement will be on Thursday June 29th at 10:00am at the Scarborough Convention Centre. Further details will be shared in the coming months. Potential graduates are reminded that they must complete 30 credits including compulsory credits, the literacy requirement and 40 hours of community involvement to graduate in June.

Community Involvement

Visit the DDSB website <https://www.ddsb.ca/en/programs-and-learning/community-involvement-hours.aspx> for volunteer opportunities or drop by the Guidance office.

Online Learning Graduation Requirement and Opt-out Process

Beginning with the cohort of students who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year, all students must earn a minimum of two online learning credits as part of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma unless they have been opted out or exempted. Further information about online learning and the opt-out process is available on the Pine Ridge website.

<https://pineridgess.ddsb.ca/Modules/News/index.aspx?newsId=97f3063d-62a7-40cd-8957-0b2e9e640142>

Completed opt-out forms may be dropped off in the Guidance office.

Individual Pathway Planning

Guidance continues to promote student success in school and life, and support students in their planning for a successful transition to initial post-secondary destinations. Planning for all destinations including apprenticeship training, college, university, or the workplace is important for all students.

All students are reminded to complete their Individual Pathway Plan (IPP) during the fall. Students use myBlueprint to complete their IPP and explore pathway options. For additional information, please contact the Guidance Office.

Student Leadership Update

BSU - This year 21 Pine Ridge students have joined the Black Student Union. They are in the beginning of planning multiple fundraisers for this school year, which will include the sales of patties and other baked goods.

The BSU will also be joining other Pickering students in the BeMe Program (Black Excellence Made Evident), which is designed to amplify the voices and experiences of Black students.



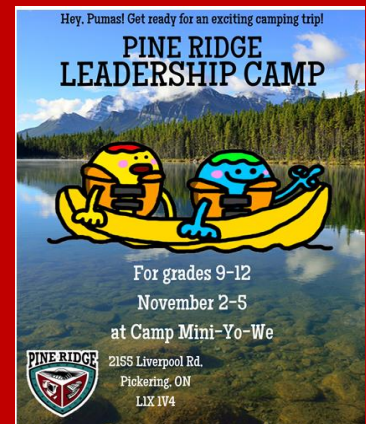
WEW

The Women Empowering Women club is a group of young women who are dedicated to promoting social change and bringing awareness to social injustices within the Pine ridge community! Their first initiative this year was a community walk called "Take Back The Night," which is a global charitable foundation movement committed to ending violence, abuse and trafficking against women. They also held a bake sale and raised \$130.00 towards Breast Cancer Research! Stay tuned for their next initiatives!



Leadership Camp

We are excited that the opportunity to hold Leadership Camp is back as it provides students a chance to develop and hone their leadership skills, team build, increase self-confidence, and explore the outdoors. Not to mention the lifelong memories and friendships that come out of participation in Leadership Camp! This year 80 campers and staff members will be off to Camp Mini Yo We from November 2nd to November 5th.



Social Justice League

The Social Justice League at Pine Ridge Secondary School strives to raise awareness about issues of injustice and inequality. Our goal is to try and bridge the gaps in social justice misinformation and to affect change in the Pine Ridge community and beyond. All students are encouraged to join us on Fridays at lunch!

MSA - Muslim Students' Association

The Muslim Students' Association (MSA) at Pine Ridge Secondary School is an active club that meets weekly, on Wednesdays at lunch. Our goal is to provide a safe space where Muslim students can gather and converse with one another. The MSA accommodates, facilitates and encourages the learning, practice and awareness of Islam amongst all of the communities in the Pine Ridge area. The club is open to all students, Muslims and non-Muslims alike. Planning fun events and sharing ideas is always the goal for this enthusiastic group.

Upcoming Events

- Student IEP's will be sent home electronically on October 18th.
- Thursday October 24th is a professional development day for staff and there is no school for students.
- Thursday October 24th parents and guardians have another opportunity to meet teachers and discuss their student's progress from 11:30 to 2:00 on a drop in basis. No appointment is necessary to meet with teachers that day.
- Our next SCC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday October 25th @ 6:00 and will be held virtually.
- Mid-term report cards will be going home electronically on November 17th.
- Grade 10 and some grade 11 students will be writing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) the week of November 28th. More information will be sent out in the coming weeks.

What's Happening at The Ridge

PRSS Clubs/Groups/Teams

Extra-curricular activities enhance and enrich students' high school experience. They provide opportunities for students to meet new friends, develop leadership skills, and create lifelong memories. We encourage all students to get involved; there is something for everyone at Pine Ridge!

These clubs/groups and teams are currently running at Pine Ridge. Please note that sports are seasonal and different teams will be running through the winter and spring months. Students are encouraged to follow school announcements and social media for start times of upcoming sports teams.

Club/Team	Staff Advisor
Black Students' Union	Ms. Browne
Choir	Ms. Parker
Creative Writing	Ms. Lister
Cross Country Running	Ms. Miles-Berry, Mr. Pullickeel, Ms. Leacock
DECA	Ms. Reid, Ms. Ganesan, Ms. Siva
Golf	Mr. Koumaris
Homework Help	Ms. Biffin Mr. Kanagalingham Ms. Perdu
Intramurals	Mr. Craig
Jazz band, Concert band	Ms. Reid-Wilkinson
Leadership	Ms. Parker, Ms. Biffin
Library Volunteers	Ms. Malcolmson, Ms. Lewis
Muslim Student Association	Ms. Salem, Ms. Makki
Pride Alliance	Ms. Raymont, Ms. Hopper
Principal's Council	Ms. Leacock
Puma Productions Film Club	Mr. Williams
SAC	Ms. Morris, Ms. Voisey
Senior Boys Soccer	Ms. Prohaska, Mr. Leone, Ms. Biffin, Mr. Craig
Social Justice League	Ms. Salem
Squash Club/Team	Mr. Pullickeel
Tennis	Mr. Garcia, Ms Zgavc
Volleyball	Mr. Burt, Ms. Sotiriou, Ms. Baran
Women Empowering Women	Ms. Newman, Ms. Morris

SAC

Student Activity Council is a group of capable, responsible, and qualified student leaders who work together to create a positive and engaging high-school environment. Through various inclusive events we aim to promote and raise school spirit in a safe and enjoyable manner to engage students, create leaders, and make memories. Our goal is to provide students with a memorable high school experience while ensuring educational well being alongside valuable experiences.

