

**Alex Shuffield named Peshtigo Area Chamber of Commerce Educator of the Year**



Alex Shuffield is currently the Director of Bands for the Peshtigo School District. Before coming to Peshtigo, he finished his Music Education and Music Performance BM at UW-Stevens Point. It was there that he met his wife, and Peshtigo native, Rachel. In his time at Peshtigo, Alex has significantly increased the size of the band program as well as consistently earning 1st ratings with each band at competitions. Some of his fondest memories include earning a 1st rating with 6th Grade Band in 2017, taking the high school music department to New York City in 2018, and recently being awarded 2018-2019 Educator

When not teaching, Alex enjoys time with his wife and his daughter, Charlotte.

**Community Conversation--A Can't Miss Event**

The heart of a rural Wisconsin town is the school. It is the place where families, neighbors, and friends gather to share in the experiences of children and young adults as they perform on the stage or court, participate in co-curricular activities, and graduate. In a sense, the school provides the stage for our community's children.

This November is your chance to shape the future of the Peshtigo Schools through a community conversation. Through this process, all attendees will have the opportunity to identify past and present successes and challenges that have shaped the school. The final session will be devoted to identifying the future priorities for the district.

More information will come as the community design team meets to plan the event.

**School Board**

The Peshtigo Board of Education welcomes new member Mariel Carter, returnee Jenni Schwittay, and incumbents Kelly Jones and Mike Finger. The Board consists of nine community members. Other board members include: Steve Coble, Mike Fifarek, Rebecca DeMarce, Josh Seefeldt, and Gary Larsen. Regular board meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the PELC music room.

**Summer Lunch/Breakfast**

New for the Summer of 2019 all children (ages 0 - 18) are eligible to participate in a free breakfast and lunch program made available through the federal school lunch and breakfast program. All children who are residents of the school district are eligible!

Dates of Service: June 10th - June 28th (Monday thru Friday)

Breakfast: 7:40 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

Lunch: 12:10 p.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Location: PELC Cafeteria

**Cost: FREE**  
No need to call ahead, just come and enjoy the free food.

**CALL (715) 582-3677 x1000**

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# THE BULLDOG BARK



May 2019

**Student Excellence**



Lucy Rose, a Peshtigo senior has a 4.0 GPA and is valedictorian of the 2019 graduating class. Throughout high school, she has participated in various extracurricular activities including Peshtigo Northern Fire Show Choir, Forensics, Hi-Q Academic Quiz Bowl, Skills USA, Spanish Club, Volunteer Club, National Honor Society, and Rho Kappa. At State Forensics in 2018, she received a Gold Award in group playacting. Lucy particularly enjoys psychology. In the fall, she will attend the University of Wisconsin--Madison, where she plans to obtain a Bachelor's Degree in Neurobiology and Psychology before attending medical school in order to become a clinical psychiatrist.



Brady Wiegman, a Peshtigo senior is the salutatorian of the graduating class of 2019 with a GPA of 3.98. He is an avid creator and fan of the arts, both traditional and digital. As a member of the Peshtigo Art Club, he realizes the importance of art and how impactful and inspiring art can be for a community. Brady has also received a "Best in Show" award for his submissions to the Peshtigo Art Show. His hobbies include writing, drawing, and composing for his original projects as well as watching or reading the creations of others. Brady has been accepted into the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design to study Illustration and Digital Media Production and to pursue a career in graphic design, animation, website and video game development, among many other choices.



Meiah Beck, a Peshtigo senior, has been named Peshtigo Area Chamber of Commerce Youth of the Year. She is involved with Forensics, Rho Kappa, Spanish Club, and Volunteer Club within the school. Meiah has also contributed a great deal to our backpack food program, Students Eat Every Day (S.E.E.D.). The program provides food to over 100 students in our school district. Every week, Meiah collects, organizes, packs, and delivers food for the program. In the community she has volunteered at numerous church activities, participated in serving the homeless, and helped at the animal shelter amongst many other things. Meiah will be attending Milwaukee Area Technical College to obtain a degree in Baking and Pastry Arts. Congratulations, Meiah

## BOARD GOALS NEAR COMPLETION

In the Fall of 2018 the Board of Education and administrative team developed three goals for the 2018-2019 school year. The goals addressed school safety, communications, and student learning. Considerable growth has been seen, but work still remains. Here is an update:

### School Safety

- Security has been upgraded with new a door system that better tracks and limits access to the buildings. Exterior doors have also been re-keyed to significantly reduce access to both buildings. A new camera system has been added to the high school too.
- A mental health committee has met several times to assess current issues our students are facing and the services we offer. Additional training and services are being planned for the upcoming year.
- Staff and students participated in evacuation and armed intruder drills during the school year.
- An online/social media safety curriculum is being created and revised for the upcoming school year.

### Communications

- A district newsletter was created and is being sent out quarterly to keep all residents informed.
- Monthly Senior Citizen Breakfasts have been attended on average by 25 residents. Still room for more!
- An opportunity for all residents to engage in developing the priorities for our school through a community conversation.
- Increased social media presence through Facebook.
- Weekly submissions printed by the Peshtigo Times.

### Student Learning

- PELC teachers were trained in Early Language Acquisition.
- Teachers continue to work to increase reading achievement through targeted intervention programming.
- The addition and expansion of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in elementary and middle school classes.
- An Academic Career Class is being taught in 8th and 10th grade that include the creation of a digital portfolio that includes interests, strengths, career/jobs, and a plan to reach their goal.
- A Vocational High School was created and has placed students in work experiences while continuing to complete course credits needed for graduation.

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT PMHS:

Senior Awards Night: May 15 @ 5:30 p.m.

Senior Picnic: May 24

Graduation: May 25 @ Noon- Doors open @ 11 a.m.

Memorial Day: No School

Last Day for Middle School: June 6

Last Day for High School: June 7 @ 1:30 p.m.



# PESHTIGO ELEMENTARY LEARNING CENTER

## STEM Classes

Peshtigo Elementary Learning Center is proud to offer an after school program that focuses on STEM classes. STEM classes (which stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) are currently offered to students in grades four through six and give young people a chance to grow their knowledge in areas that encourage project-based, scientific and technical study. This program started as a way to offer children in the Peshtigo community some after school alternatives to try new things in a supervised and safe environment. The program, piloted in the spring of 2018 has been such a huge success that we are looking for ways to expand it in the future. Currently, we offer classes on coding, robotic building and programming, 3D printing, game making, scientific inquiry, and woodworking!



Morgan W. & Hanna P. build a game.



Breanna K. & Eli C. pose with a game they made.



Students made syrup from Birch, Box Elder, and Red Maple sap



Students built Butterfly Houses using both manual and power tools.

Craig G., Natasha C., Audra B., Brayden K., Lily S., Dawson M., Elaina W. and instructor Mrs. Gohr

## PUPIL SERVICES

### STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES: Vocational Studies Program

The Vocational Studies program mission is to offer an alternative pathway for students to learn and grow in their chosen career field through a hybrid learning environment. The program is geared towards manufacturing/trades minded juniors and seniors. It is affiliated with the Manufacturing Skills Standards Council which is an industry-led, training assessment and certification system. MSSC awards certificates to individuals who pass any of its Production Modules.

Let's take a look at two students in the program.



Kadin Ahrndt - Junior

Before entering the program in January, Kadin was failing all his classes and was placed in an online credit recovery program. He was only attending school partial days and would come to school because he had to. It was his place to meet up with his friends. When asked about how he saw his future before entering the program he said "I wasn't ever going to graduate and I was going to be a dropout. School meant nothing to me. I wasn't doing anything that I thought would help me in the future."

Kadin - Now: "I am passing all of my classes. I am nervous about finishing up the credits I need because I want to graduate. I never cared about completing my work before and I want to come to school. Spring break was too long. I was ready to come back after a few days. I am working two jobs. My first job the program matched me with is (Unlimited Structures). My second job I have gotten on my own and I complete after school hours (Plutchak Crane Rental and Fabricating). I am going to graduate and believe I can do something and be successful. In the future I am looking into pre apprenticeship programs."



Devyn Wauters - Junior

Before entering the program in January, Devyn was failing all of his classes. He was opting to sit in a classroom and do nothing instead of attending class with his peers. "I was forced to come to school, that is why I was here. I came for my friends. I wasn't learning anything I needed for trades. To sit and listen to 7 hours of lecture....NO! I knew I was going to be a high school dropout."

Devyn- Now: "I made the Honor Roll. I am worth something, I can do something with my life. I am excited about graduating. I want to come to school. Spring Break was too long for me. I am now nervous about schoolwork and tests. No joke, the work is hard. You actually have to work. The work means something to me now." The program has matched Devyn with Waupaca Foundry and after school hours he is working for Frank's Logging.

Kadin and Devyn, along with the rest of the students in the Vocational Studies program, have successfully completed their Certified Production Technician (CPT) Certification. Mr. Dan Vanidestine is the program coordinator.