

Good afternoon Vikings and families,

This past week we had a great time with Homecoming. Students did a great job of participating in all of the spirit days and the students were loud and proud during our Pep Rally on Thursday. Thank you for all of your support during this busy week!

Just a couple of quick updates for you.

#### **Social Worker and our new therapy dog, Clover:**

Chris McGee, our new social worker, has started with us and has been meeting students and staff members. In addition, to the years of experience Ms. McGee brings to the role, including several years with Pittsford Youth Services and in other school Districts, Ms. McGee will also have Clover, her trained therapy dog, with her several times a week. Clover has been licensed through Therapy Dogs International and had to demonstrate obedience and an outstanding temperament. Therapy dogs help people in many different settings such as hospitals, nursing homes, and schools. Clover has previously worked in other school settings with Mrs. McGee. Clover will be with Mrs. McGee at all times in her office or in areas of the building. Some students will love to pet and interact with the dogs, while others may just enjoy being in the room with them. The degree of interaction will be up to each individual student's comfort level. If you have any questions about therapy dogs licensed through Therapy Dogs International, please visit their website. <https://tdi-dog.org>. If you have any questions specifically about Clover and her visits, please contact [christine\\_magee@pittsford.monroe.edu](mailto:christine_magee@pittsford.monroe.edu).

#### **PSAT:**

We will be hosting the PSAT for students, tomorrow, on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at Mendon High School. You should have received information from the counseling department. Please note, this is the first time the PSAT is digital and **students will need a computer**. We highly encourage students to use their school issued laptop as there will be technical support on campus to help. If students bring a different device, we cannot guarantee that if something goes wrong that someone here will be able to help them. Thank you for your support with this.

#### **Youth Risk Behavior Survey:**

Please see the attached letter as we will be administering the Youth Risk Behavior survey the week of October 23<sup>rd</sup> in physical education classes.

#### **School Picture Make Ups:**

If you would like your child's picture to be redone or if they missed the photo during the first week of school, retakes will be available on Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **WIN Period:**

We had our first WIN Period on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> and students did a great job identifying what they needed to work on. During this, "bonus time" carved out for 35 minutes once a week, students can choose how best to use their time with options such as making up a test, lesson or Phys Ed class, getting support from a teacher, researching a topic in the library, studying, finishing up a lab, etc. Vikings are mixed with peers from across the building in small "home" groups with a teacher they may or may not have. The goal is to provide an opportunity for students to work on what it is they need to do during that time.

**Unity Day:**

On Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, Mendon High School will be participating in Unity Day which was started by PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center as a signature event of National Bullying Prevention Month. We are asking all of our students and staff to "Make it Orange and Make it End. Unite Against Bullying!" Everyone is encouraged to wear orange to show their support for bullying prevention.

**Mendon Madness t-shirts:**

On behalf of student council: one of our most popular traditions - are on sale via MySchoolBucks for two weeks only, Friday, 9/29/23 through Sunday, 10/15/23. Your preordered shirts will be available for your student to pick up in school the week before December's [Rainbow Classic basketball tournament](#). Please be sure to get your orders in before the sale's end! All proceeds from shirt sales benefit MHS Student Council.

Contact Student Council advisers **Brett Daggs** ( [brett\\_daggs@pittsford.monroe.edu](mailto:brett_daggs@pittsford.monroe.edu)) or **Rachael Bonanno** ( [rachael\\_weise@pittsford.monroe.edu](mailto:rachael_weise@pittsford.monroe.edu)) with any questions.

**Link to MySchoolBucks - 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> graders**

[https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/prdembd?ref=ZZH546V58J0825W\\_ZZ60C6IY91UQ59N](https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/prdembd?ref=ZZH546V58J0825W_ZZ60C6IY91UQ59N)

**Link to MySchoolBucks - 12<sup>th</sup> graders**

[https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/prdembd?ref=ZZH546V58J0825W\\_ZZ60DQZF8CFYTBE](https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/prdembd?ref=ZZH546V58J0825W_ZZ60DQZF8CFYTBE)

**PTSA:**

PTSA held their first meeting last week and thank you to all who attended! We had a lot of great discussion. If you are not yet a member, please consider joining. For more information: <https://www.pittsfordptsanet.org/membership>.

**Upcoming Events:**

- Saturday, Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> - PSAT - 8:00 am at MHS - **Students will need their laptop.**
- Monday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> - Makeup Picture day - All day
- Tuesday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> - PCSD Power Hour - 6:30 - 7:30pm - CRMS Commons - topic is "Stress"

We hope you enjoy the weekend.

Thank you,

Melissa Julian  
Principal  
Pittsford Mendon High School

**S**pirited **T**ogether **R**espectful **O**riginal **N**urturing **G**enuine  
**Be VIKING STRONG “**

