



PETOSKEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Learning & Growing Together

October 2025 Edition

801 Northmen Drive

Petoskey, MI 49770

Main Line: (231) 348-2150

Attendance Line: (231) 348-2293

Upcoming Dates

October 9: Mandatory 8th Grade D.C. Trip Parent meeting in the PMS Cafeteria from 6:00 - 7:00 pm.

October 13 and 15 from 5:30 - 7:30: Parent Teacher Conferences.

October 13 at 7:00 pm: Ski team parent meeting in the PHS Cafeteria.

October 14: Picture Retake Day

October 17: No School- Half Day Staff Professional Development.

October 27 at 7:00 pm: Choir Concert at PHS in the Auditorium.

October 31: End of 1st Quarter. Half Day for students and staff.

What a Wonderful Start to The Year!

The 2025-26 school year has been off to a great start. We are proud of our students, as they've transitioned back to school so well. From the moment our students walked through the doors, there has been a sense of excitement and eagerness to learn. The energy in our classrooms is contagious, and it is wonderful to see students so engaged in their learning. Our teachers have done an outstanding job creating a welcoming, inclusive learning environment, and the students are already showing growth. I am confident that this positive momentum will carry us through the rest of the year.

Communication

Where to Find Information

- **ParentSquare** : Our main school-to-parent communication platform. When messages are sent on ParentSquare, you will also receive an email.
- **Daily Announcements:** Stay updated on after-school activities and important news. These are on the website and on ParentSquare.
- **Schoology:** Specific assignments and lesson plans can be found here. Students will know how best to navigate this resource.
- **PowerSchool:** View your child's grades and class schedules. If you do not have a powerschool account please fill out [this form](#).
- **School Website:** Find newsletters, daily announcements, calendar events, student handbook, weekly lesson plans and much more information
- **Email:** Teachers most preferred form of communicate is generally email. You can find staff email addresses on the PMS website under ["Our Staff."](#)

SKI TEAM

PARENT MEETING

 Monday, October 13

 7-8 PM

 High School Cafeteria



The PMS Ski Team is our competitive race team for skiers looking to develop racing skills and compete in weekly races. For recreational skiing, please inquire about our Middle School Ski Club.

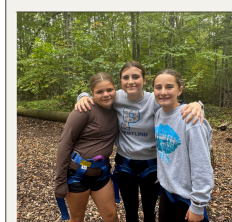
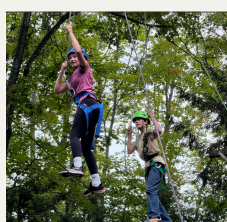
Come to find out more about the team, including:

Registration	Schedule
Racing requirements	Volunteer & Fundraising
Equipment requirements	Opportunities

Can't make the meeting, but want to register?
Email us at pmsskiteam@gmail.com



CAMP DAGGETT



We took the entire 7th grade out for Full Value Agreement activities. Students participated in large group and small group activities, as well as high rope elements. These activities were designed to build trust, strengthen teamwork, and encourage students to challenge themselves in a supportive environment.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Parent Teacher Conferences

At the middle school, parent-teacher conferences are on a first-come, first-served basis. Please enter through the front office to sign in, then proceed to visit your student's classrooms. Conferences will be held on October 13th and 15th from 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Halloween Dance

The halloween dance will be held on October 24th from 3:15 to 5:00 pm.

While we don't dress up during the day for Halloween, this is an opportunity for students to wear their school-appropriate Halloween costume. As a reminder, students will not be allowed to use their cell

phones during the dance. **Phones must be kept in students' lockers.**

Also, if you are interested in chaperoning, please contact the main office. A background check will need to be completed beforehand.

Yellow Ribbon Presentation for 7th and 8th grade

For the past many years, we have provided our 7th grade students the opportunity to attend a presentation of the Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention program. This one hour presentation will take place on either October 16th or 17th, depending on your child's homeroom teacher. Opt-out forms were emailed earlier. It will be for



We want to remind students and parents of the OK2SAY program. If you or your child feel unsafe or are worried about the safety of someone else, please speak up by contacting OK2SAY. You can report suspicious or harmful activity anonymously by sending a text to 652729, calling 8-555-OK2SAY, or sending an email to OK2SAY@mi.gov. Tips are then shared with the appropriate agencies, who respond to keep everyone safe!

Custodial Notices

[Click here](#) more information about chemicals used in or around the building.

[Click here for Community Flyers](#)

FESTIVL OF THE BOOKS



Rebecca Stead, Newberry Award Medalist, and author of the just released book “The Experiment” talked to all grade levels last week about being an author. Every student received a signed copy of her just released book as well. Thank you to Festival of the book for this continued partnership and amazing experience.



“DARE TO DREAM JR.”

This year, the fall play will be performing “Dare to Dream Jr.” Opening night will be on Thursday, November 20th, at 7:00 p.m. There will be two additional performances, one on Friday, November 21st, at 7:00 p.m. and another on Saturday, November 22nd, at 2:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE CONCERNS

If a student will be absent or tardy, **a parent or guardian must call the attendance line at 348-2293 by 9:00 a.m.** Otherwise, the absence will be considered **unexcused until we receive a phone call or a note.**

If your child is not feeling well, please include their symptoms in your voicemail so we do not need to call you back for details.

If your child has a mid-day appointment, please call the office in the morning so we can have them ready for pickup.

If your child will be absent for the day and also attends classes at Petoskey High School, please notify the office so that their high school attendance can be adjusted as well. Thank you!

For mental health resources and support, please [visit this site.](#)

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT OUR OFFICE IS AWARE OF ANY CHANGES IN CONTACT INFORMATION. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE HAVE THE CORRECT CONTACT INFORMATION.

[Click here for Community Flyers](#)

VOLLEYBALL

For questions, contact Coach Bell - bell.rj.t@northmen.org

Date	Time	H/A	Opponent
09/08/2025	4:00 PM	Away	Cadillac Junior High School
09/10/2025	4:00 PM	Home	Sault Area Middle School
09/15/2025	4:00 PM	Home	Gaylord Middle School
09/17/2025	4:00 PM	Home	Traverse City East Middle School
09/23/2025	4:30 PM	Away	St. Francis Xavier School
09/24/2025	4:00 PM	Home	Cadillac Junior High School
09/29/2025	4:00 PM	Away	Gaylord Middle School
10/02/2025	4:30 PM	Away	Boyne City Middle School
10/06/2025	4:00 PM	Away	Sault Area Middle School
10/07/2025	4:00 PM	Home	St. Francis Xavier School
10/08/2025	4:00 PM	Home	Alpena Thunder Bay Junior High School
10/14/2025	4:30 PM	Away	Traverse City West MS
10/16/2025	4:00 PM	Away	Gaylord Middle School

FOOTBALL

For any further questions, please contact Coach Nick Ralph (nralph@petoskeysfx.org).

Date	Time	H/A	Opponent
09/17/2025	4:00 PM	Away	Gaylord Middle School
09/24/2025	4:00 PM	Home	Kingsley Junior High School
10/01/2025	4:00 PM	Away	Cadillac Junior High School
10/08/2025	4:00 PM	Away	Traverse City East Middle School
10/15/2025	4:00 PM	Home	Traverse City West MS
10/22/2025	4:00 PM	Home	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Middle School

[Click here for Community Flyers](#)

CROSS COUNTRY

For more information, you may contact Rachel Erickson - erickson.rl.t@northmen.org

Wednesday Sept 10th	Home	Ice Cream Run	4pm
Tuesday Sept 16th	Away	TC East	4pm
Saturday Sept 20th	Home	Petoskey Invite	9am
Wednesday Oct 1st	Away	Mancelona	4pm
Tuesday Oct 7th	Away	Gaylord	4pm

MHSAA SPORTS PHYSICAL FORMS

Only MHSAA sports physical forms will be accepted at middle/high school athletic departments. Forms are available on the MHSAA website, and our offices have cardstock forms available. The submitted form must be the original form with the doctor's signature. You can obtain these cards in your middle/high school office. Remember, sports physical for the 2025-26 school year must be completed no earlier than April 15, 2025. For the most up-to-date information, please visit the [middle school athletics website](#). Please read the daily student announcements for sign-up information for the upcoming seasons.



After School Study Lab

Study Lab is available after school Monday through Thursday from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. in the Media Center. Students are expected to come prepared with their books, homework, and a pencil.

Medications

If your student needs to take prescription or non-prescription medication during the school day, a [Medication Authorization Form](#) must be completed for each medication. The medication and form must be dropped off at the main office by an adult. A new form is required every school year.

[Click here for Community Flyers](#)

DROP OFF/ PICK UP PROCEDURES

The parent drop off and pick up procedure is an extremely important process that everyone must abide by. There has been an article in this newsletter for the past several months explaining the procedure, but it is important to review for the safety of all of our children. Parents should drop off and pick up students on the right side of the loop. The left side should be used for moving forward and is a no parking area. If you need to park for an extended time, please use the parking lot. It is also important to not obstruct Northmen Drive. Please see the picture below. The school parking lot is usually extremely busy and congested before and after school, and it will likely be an even greater challenge this year. To help maintain safety and traffic flow, we ask that you use the parent loop and parking lot accordingly. Also, remember that there is an alternate drop off location on the PHS side of Northmen Drive. Students dropped off there can walk to the Middle School through the tunnel. No vehicles other than school buses are allowed in the bus loop. We appreciate your help in keeping our students safe. Also, please do not block Handicap parking spaces!

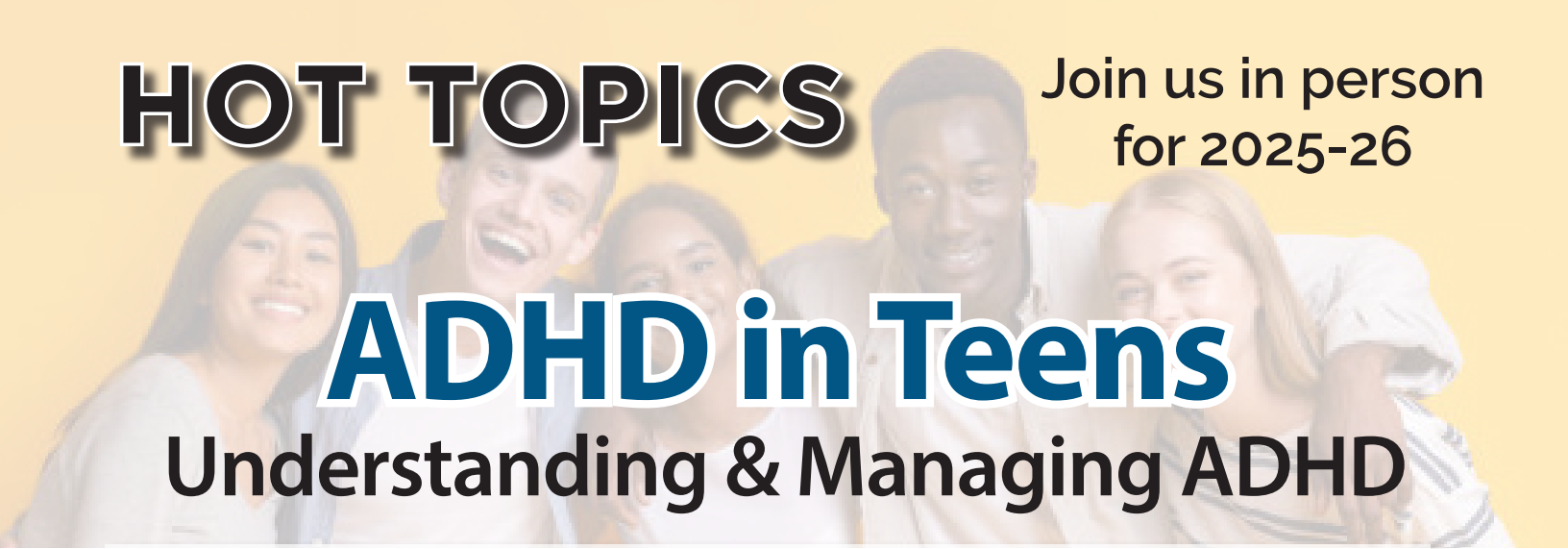


The District will not discriminate against any person based on race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity, and sexual orientation), height, weight, marital status, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, military service, or any other legally protected class. The Board reaffirms its long-standing policy of compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination.

***Civil Rights & Title IX Coordinator, Becky Smith, Director
of Teaching and Learning***

***Spitler Administration Building, 1130 Howard Street,
Petoskey, MI 49770 231-348-2352,
TitleIXCoordinator@northmen.org***

[Click here for Community Flyers](#)



HOT TOPICS

Join us in person
for 2025-26

ADHD in Teens

Understanding & Managing ADHD

Helping parents and caregivers of teens connect!

Learn strategies for helping your teen succeed through the challenges of ADHD, the most common childhood neurological disorder which often causes serious problems at school and at home. ADHD is known to cause problems with focus, planning, and other executive functioning skills. ADHD is often described as an iceberg, where other problems like depression, anxiety, and defiance are hiding under the surface. The effects of this disorder can profoundly influence life at home for all family members, making the already stressful teen years even more challenging.

Join us for an evening to learn more about ADHD, including strategies for how to help your teen and family better manage ADHD symptoms.

Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2025 ■ 6:30–8 p.m.

PRESENTERS:

Rebekah Pedersen, LPC, Behavioral Health Therapist,
Alcona Health Center, Petoskey High School

and

Christine Carpenter, LMSW Health Department
of Northwest Michigan

LOCATION:

Petoskey Middle School Media Center

Open to parents, caregivers & community.

On-site child care provided from 6:30–8 p.m. If transportation is a barrier, contact Christine at (231) 347-5362. Please RSVP also if child care is needed.

Presented by Petoskey Public Schools, Emmet County Probate and Family Court, Alcona Health Center, and the Health Department of Northwest Michigan. Questions? Call (231) 347-5362.



Petoskey School Wellness Program Fall Newsletter

September 2025

Health Reminders

Stay healthy this fall!

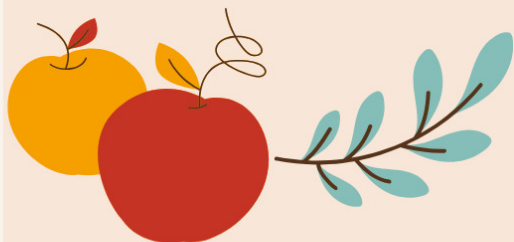
As the leaves change and the weather gets colder, it's important to take care of both your body and your mind. Here are some simple reminders to keep you feeling your best.

Prevent the spread of germs

- Wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds, especially before eating and after coughing, sneezing, and using the bathroom.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with your elbow or a tissue to help stop germs from spreading.
- Don't share drinks or utensils. This is an easy way to pass along colds and flu.
- Dress for the weather. Wear layers, hats, and gloves to stay warm.

Fuel your body

- Eat a rainbow of fruits and veggies to help your immune system stay strong.
- Drink plenty of water, even when it's cold out.
- Get good sleep (8-10 hours each night) so your body can recharge.



Wellness Reminders

Care for your mind

- Try fun fall activities like walking in the leaves or cozy reading time to relax.
- Talk to a trusted adult if you're feeling worried, stressed, or sad.
- Take breaks from screens and spend time with friends, family, or outside in the fresh air.

Resources

A community health worker is available to assist with insurance needs, including enrollment options for Medicaid if eligible. We encourage families to explore coverage options at AHC through sliding-fee programs and various coverage options.

Our goal is to ensure that every student has access to care.

Visit our PSWP office or
<https://newmibridges.michigan.gov> to apply for benefits today!

Stay Connected

Come visit our team conveniently located at Petoskey middle/high school. As long as your parent or guardian has signed a consent form, medical or behavioral health support is just steps away!

Phone: (989) 569-6002

