



***** Fall 2007-08 Parent Policy Issue *****

Message From The Superintendent

Welcome to the new school year! With classes in session until June 11, it was a shorter than usual summer break and our staff were asked to ready our buildings for this school year in a shorter than usual timeframe. Once again, they did an outstanding job. I appreciate their hard work during the hot days of summer. Our buildings and grounds looked great on the first day of school.

Thanks also to all the staff who helped make the Evergreen Boys and Girls Club first-ever summer program a success. In addition to the program being available to the Junior-Senior High School students, students at the two elementary buildings had an opportunity to participate for the first time. The program will resume in September in all three buildings. For more information about the Boys and Girls Club, call 724-254-4312, extension 4124.

By way of update, the district is in the process of implementing a new electronic grade book called ProgressBook. Our previous electronic grade book and parent communication tool, LetterGrade, is no longer being used. As soon as ProgressBook is fully operational, all parents in the district will receive information on how to access the system in order to check their students' academic progress.

To our parents, I again ask you to stay involved in your students' education at all grade levels. Parent involvement makes a difference! Let your students know that you think school is important and that you care about their success. Make school a priority by asking your students about their day, meeting their teachers, and helping with homework.

To our students, our teachers, support staff, and administrators have one goal—to help you be successful! That means you have to be in school, work hard, and *do your best*. It also means that you have to accept responsibility and make good choices.

This is the first issue of this year's Liner and it contains important information about district policies. Please take time to read and familiarize yourself with these policies. If you have any questions, please call the district or building administrative offices. Also, if at any time you have questions about your students' progress or well-being, please call, email, or come to see us.

We were pleased to welcome back our students on August 27. By working together, we can build a bright future for all our students!

Dr. Richard C. Makin
Superintendent

Welcome Back!

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Free and Reduced Lunch Applications May Be Done Online

Families that have children attending a public school district can apply for free or reduced price school meals through the National School Lunch Program online using the Internet! This can be done using COMPASS. COMPASS allows Pennsylvanian's to apply for social service programs, such as Food Stamps (FS), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Energy Assistance, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), etc., online. Families can use COMPASS to apply for free or reduced price school meals only, or they can apply for other services at the same time (FS, TANF, etc.).

Since your child attends *Purchase Line School District*, which is a public school district, you can apply for free or reduced price school meals online by going to the COMPASS website at www.compass.state.pa.us or you can continue to use the paper "Household Meal Benefit Application" if you prefer. If you apply for free or reduced price school meals through COMPASS, you **do not** need to submit a paper application. If you have any questions please contact 724-254-4312 ext 4037.

Purchase Line Honors Its Senior Citizens With Gold Pass To School



Senior Citizens 65 and older residing in the Purchase Line School District are eligible for a gold pass for non-playoff athletic events in the following school districts: Apollo Ridge, Armstrong, Blairsville-Saltsburg, Freeport Area, Homer-Center, Indiana Area, Leechburg Area, Marion Center Area, Penns Manor Area, Purchase Line, and United. This pass is not valid for playoff events or other school functions.

For free admission, you must present your issued gold pass and a photo ID.

To apply for your gold pass, you must bring proof of age to the high school office beginning July 9, 2007, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. **GOLD PASSES WILL NOT BE ISSUED AT ATHLETIC EVENTS.**

* * * * *



Pest Management

The Purchase Line School District uses an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach for managing insects, rodents, and weeds. Our goal is to protect every student from pesticide exposure by using an IPM approach to pest management. Our IPM approach focuses on making the school building and grounds an unfavorable habitat for these pests by removing food and water sources and eliminating their hiding and breeding places. From time to time, it may be necessary to use chemicals to manage a pest problem. Chemicals will only be used when necessary, and will not be routinely applied. When chemicals are used, the school will try to use the least toxic products when possible. Applications will be made only when unauthorized persons do not have access to the area(s) being treated. Notices will be posted in these areas 72 hours prior to application and for two days following the application.

Parents or guardians of students enrolled in the school may request prior notification of specific pesticide applications made at the school. To receive notification, you must be placed on the school's notification registry. If you would like to be placed on this registry, please notify the IPM coordinator in writing. Please note that because it is updated annually, parents must submit a letter to the school every year if they wish to be placed on this registry. Include your name, address, telephone number, your child/children(s) name, and the school they attend.

If a chemical application must be made to control an emergency pest problem, notice will be provided by telephone to any parent or guardian who has requested such notification in writing. Exemptions to this notification include disinfectants and antimicrobial products, self-containerized baits placed in areas not accessible to students, and gel type baits placed in cracks, crevices, or voids. Each year the district will prepare a new notification registry. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Fred Julock, IPM Coordinator, at (724) 254-4312 Ext. 4029.



Student Medical Insurance Available

Parents are being advised that the Purchase Line School District does not carry medical insurance on students but does provide a voluntary primary excess group insurance plan which parents may purchase. **FAMILIES WITH LIMITED OR NO MAJOR MEDICAL INSURANCE SHOULD SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF THIS IMPORTANT COVERAGE.** Brochures are sent home the first day of school, and the enrollment period ends September 21, 2007. Application and check or money order (DO NOT SEND CASH) should be returned to your child's homeroom teacher if you wish to enroll. If you are enrolling more than one child, use separate application, envelope and separate check or money order.

The school district will continue to carry "\$100 Excess Coverage" on all students participating in the interscholastic athletic program, marching band, and cheerleaders. A letter to the parent describing the accident policy is given to each student participant on the first day of official practice.

If you have any questions or would like additional information concerning these policies, please contact First Commonwealth Insurance Agency at 1-877-367-3242.

The Purchase Line Red Dragon Foundation

Proudly Presents The Seventh Inductee Into The

ALUMNI HALL OF FAME

DWIGHT “ARCH” BROCIOSUS



Purchase Line High School

Saturday, September 29, 2007

Homecoming Weekend

4:45–6:45 pm “Buffet Dinner” in Cafeteria

7:00 pm—Presentation to Alumni Hall of Fame Receipt—2007

8:00–10:00 pm—Dancing in Gymnasium

\$15.00 per Ticket

Call to reserve your ticket by September 12, 2007

By contacting Debbie McCombs at (724) 254-2073 or any PL Red
Dragon Foundation Trustee

*Remember those were some of the best days of our lives.
Come on back for a visit.*

School Cancellation Procedures



During inclement weather and throughout the winter months, we ask that you tune your radio each morning to WDAD/WQMU/WCCS (Indiana), WPXZ (Punxsutawney), WCPA/WQYX (Clearfield), KDKA (Pittsburgh), WFGY/WFBG (Altoona), WKYE (Johnstown), WOKW (Clearfield), or your television to WJAC (Channel 6 - Johnstown), WTAE (Channel 4 - Pittsburgh), WTAJ (Channel 10 - Altoona), or WPXI (Channel 11 - Pittsburgh), for news of cancellations or delays. Cancellations and delays are also posted on the ARIN Intermediate Unit website at www.arin.k12.pa.us/SchoolCast/. We normally make our calls to the radio/TV stations prior to 6:00 am or shortly thereafter. We also remind you that a two-hour delay does not necessarily mean we will have school that day. Therefore, we ask you to stay tuned for updates throughout that morning. When we are in a delay situation, the decision to cancel school will be made by 7:30 a.m. Hearing no announcements of cancellations shortly thereafter, students will report to their bus stops two hours later than the regularly scheduled time.

Early Dismissal/Tardiness Procedures Reviewed

For the safety of your children, the school must be aware of who is picking them up for an early dismissal or after-school pick up.

Your children will only be dismissed from the school office. Parents/guardians must come to the office for them.

Early dismissal notes should include student's name, homeroom, how they are leaving, with whom and at what time. Early dismissals for other than medical, or other urgent reasons, are to be discouraged. Dismissals for such reasons as getting head starts on weekends or evening shopping trips are to be avoided. An early dismissal note will serve as an excuse. Also, any student coming in late or tardy to school must have a note from parents with the reasons. If a written excuse is not provided on the date of tardiness, the time tardy will be considered unexcused.

Select apPLause Members Perform At Altoona Curve

On Wednesday, May 9, Purchase Line's select vocal ensemble, apPLause, traveled to Blair County Ballpark to sing the National Anthem at the Altoona Curve baseball game. The students were chosen after submitting an audition CD in March. Seated from left to right: Hillary Frye and Brad Hoover. Standing from left to right: Breanna Voris, Debby Johnson, Megan Fry, Amanda Lutman, Laina Frantz, Crystal Shellhammer, Kari Buchheit, Andy Deabenderfer, and Sami Rice. The ensemble is directed by Mrs. Paula Saylor.



Strategic Planning

Every six years the state of Pennsylvania requires school districts to submit a strategic plan. Following these guidelines, Purchase Line is due to submit a strategic plan to the state by October of 2008.

What is a strategic plan? Strategic planning is a planning process in which the district identifies long-term goals for ongoing improvement in several areas including: special education, technology, student services, teacher mentoring programs and professional development.

A planning committee, including parents, community members, and local business owners, as well as district representatives, will meet to discuss the current state of the district. Specific goals will then be created for the district. These goals will be followed by action plans that map out specific steps to achieving these goals.

The strategic planning process allows for an open discussion of the district's strengths and needs, then sets a course for continued success and improvement. Upon completion, the plan will be used as a guide for all initiatives brought forth by the district for the next six years.



PURCHASE LINE SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Wide Parent Involvement Policy

PART I. GENERAL EXPECTATIONS OF THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT POLICY

The Purchase Line School District agrees to implement the following statutory requirements:

- Purchase Line School District will put into operation programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in all of our schools (Purchase Line Junior-Senior High School, Purchase Line North Elementary School, and Purchase Line South Elementary School). Each of our three schools operates programs with Title I, Part A funds, consistent with section 1118 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Those programs, activities, and procedures will be operated with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.
- Consistent with section 1118, Purchase Line School District will work with its three schools to ensure that the required school-level parental involvement policies meet the requirements of section 1118(b) of the ESEA, and each include, as a component, a school-parent compact consistent with section 1118(d) of the ESEA.
- Purchase Line School District will incorporate this district-wide parental policy into its LEA plan developed under section 1112 of the ESEA.
- In carrying out the Title I, Part A parental involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, Purchase Line School District and its three schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including information and school reports required under section 1111 of the ESEA in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.
- If the Purchase Line School District plan for Title I, Part A, developed under section 1112 of the ESEA, is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, Purchase Line will submit any parent comments with the plan when the district submits the plan to the State Department of Education.
- Purchase Line School District will involve the parents of children served in Title I, Part A, schools, which includes pupils in all three schools in the district, in decisions about how the Title I, Part A funds reserved for parental involvement is spent, and will ensure that not less than ninety-five percent of the funds reserved goes directly to the schools.
- Purchase Line School District will be governed by the following statutory definition of parental involvement, and expects that our Title I schools will carry out programs, activities, and procedures in accordance with this definition:

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring:

- that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
 - that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
 - that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child;
 - the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in section 1118 of the ESEA.
 - that resource information is available to parents of children in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- Contact your child's school to learn more.*

PART II. DESCRIPTION OF HOW DISTRICT WILL IMPLEMENT REQUIRED DISTRICT-WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY COMPONENTS

1. The Purchase Line School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the joint development of its district-wide parental involvement plan under section 1112 of the ESEA:
 - The district holds an annual parent meeting.
 - The district will form a parent advisory council comprised of parents from each of the district's three schools.
2. The Purchase Line School District will take the following actions to involve parents in the process of school review and improvement under section 1116 of the ESEA:
 - The district will request regular parental feedback from parents related to parent involvement activities and the academic program. This information will be collected in the form of surveys and data will be made available to staff and parent advisory council members for purposes of program improvement.
3. The Purchase Line School District will provide the following necessary coordination, technical assistance, and other support to assist Title I, Part A schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student achievement and school performance:
 - Administrators in the Purchase Line School District will budget appropriate funds for reasonable parent involvement activities.
 - All constituents of the district, including parents, board members, faculty, and staff, as well as students,

(continued on next page)

(Purchase Line School District, Parent Involvement Policy, cont.)

will be asked to support parent involvement activities.

- Schools within the district will openly welcome parents as partners in learning through formal and informal parent involvement activities.

4. The Purchase Line School District will coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies in Part A with parental involvement strategies under the following other programs:

- Head Start, Even Start, District Pre-school Program, ARIN IU-28 Pre-school Program, Indiana County and Clearfield County Children's Services.

5. The Purchase Line School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement policy improving the quality of its Title I, Part A schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement policy and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement policies.

The school district uses a parent survey that is sent to parents in the spring of each year. Results from the survey are tabulated, studied, and shared with administration and staff. Parents see changes brought about by survey results reflected in programs as soon as the next school term. The District Office of Federal Programs distributes the survey on behalf of all parents of elementary students and junior-senior high school Title I students. Parent input is vital. Oftentimes parent survey results enlighten staff with ideas and suggestions not otherwise considered.

A. The Purchase Line School District will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement through the following activities specifically described below:

The school district will, with the assistance of its Title I, Part A schools, provide assistance to parents of children provided by the school district or school, as appropriate, in understanding topics such as the following, by undertaking the actions described in this paragraph:

- The State's academic content standards,
- The State's student academic achievement standards,
- The State and local academic assessments including alternate assessments,
- The requirements of Part A,
- How to monitor their child's progress, and
- How to work with educators:
 - Parents receive a Title I newsletter published by the school district.
 - Parent/teacher conferences are convened throughout the year.
 - A district student assessment schedule is published annually in the district newsletter, The Liner, which is mailed to every household in the school district.
 - School district assessment data is published on the district website.
 - Faculty members and principals work collaboratively with elementary PTA groups to make presentations at PTA meetings.
 - Faculty is continually apprised of training opportunities within the district and Intermediate Unit as well as opportunities outside the school system.
 - A link for parents on the district website features Pennsylvania Department of Education state assessment information.
 - Faculty is consistently provided with resource materials and technology to complement training and professional development opportunities

B. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training, and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by:

- Hosting Open House/Academic Kick-Off evenings at each of our three schools for parents and community members to meet teachers and visit classrooms.
- Offering parents e-mail addresses and direct telephone lines with voice mail capability to all professional staff
- Offering parents of kindergarten pupils regular monthly meetings with their child's teacher and providing these parents with instructional supplies to assist students at home.
- Offering parents of elementary children the opportunity to attend a Family Game Night, where certified teachers and administrators work with parents and students on math and reading concepts aligned with state standards.
- Offering all parents ProgressBook, a secured Internet-based grade reporting system. This system can be accessed by parents twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, from any location and allows regular contact with student progress.

(Purchase Line School District, Parent Involvement Policy, cont.)

- Information is made available to all parents through the district website.
- All parents and pupils receive written student handbooks.

C. The school district will, with the assistance of its schools and parents, educate its teachers, pupil services personnel, principals and other staff, in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, in the value and utility of contribution of parents, and in how to implement and coordinate parent programs and build ties between parents and school, by:

- Administrative team meetings
- Faculty meetings
- Title I staff meetings
- Parent advisory council meetings
- Parent Teacher Association meetings
- Faculty Staff Development opportunities

D. The school district will, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Even Start, County Agencies, Home Instruction Programs for P r e s c h o o l Youngsters, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children by:

- Parent Resource Centers provided by the guidance offices of each school.
- Instructional materials provided for at home student use.
- Open Houses/Academic Kick-Off evenings at each school for parents and community member hosted by the school district.
- Title I newsletters provided to all Title I parents.
- Coordination with Head Start and other pre-school programs to transition students to district Kindergarten programs.
- Welcome community groups, like county Human Services and Boy/Girls Scouts of America, and Evergreen Boys & Girls Club, to share information with parents through materials sent home with students or through guidance department referrals or by providing space to share information at Open House events.

E. The school district will take the following actions to ensure that information related to the school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to parents of participating children in an understandable and uniform format, including alternative format upon request, and to the extent practical, in a language the parents can understand:

- The district has an approved ESL program, which stands ready to assist any ESL families.
- The district has available through the ESL program a translation service, which can be accessed quickly if the need arises.
- Face-to-face and telephone meetings with parents are encouraged.
- Open House/Academic Kick-Off evenings are well publicized.
- Annual Title I meeting is advertised in the newspaper and in district publications.
- Individual invitations are mailed to parents and community members for the Parent Advisory Council.
- The district newsletter is mailed to every household in the district, regardless of whether children from the household attend our schools.

PART III. DISCRETIONARY DISTRICT-WIDE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

The Purchase Line School District, under section 1118(e) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, exercises its right to include parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of that training by:

- The Act 48 committee, which is approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, includes parents and community representatives, as well as school faculty members. The purpose of this committee is to plan professional development activities for professional staff.
- Requiring Title I teachers to write and carry out Parent Involvement Plans with all of their students and other teachers. These plans are monitored by administration and faculty and evaluated for effectiveness.
- Paying reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions. For example: Title I parents may participate in state-wide conferences.
- In order to maximize parental involvement and participation in their children's education, offering school meetings at a variety of times, or conducting in-home conferences between teachers and other educators who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend those conferences at school.

(Purchase Line School District, Parent Involvement Policy, cont.)

- Adopting district-wide parent involvement policies and compacts at the school level through the parent advisory council.
- Adopting a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in Title I, Part A programs, as well as other district programs. This group meets at least annually to review allocations and existing programs, as well as to review annual Title I parent survey results and suggest changes and improvements to federally funded programs, including Title I program, throughout the district.
- Supporting appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses, including faith-based organizations, in parental involvement activities; and
- Providing other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under section 1118 as parents may request.

PART IV. ADOPTION

The District-Wide Parental Involvement Policy has been developed jointly with, and agreed on with, parents of children participating in Title I, Part A programs, as evidenced by minutes from the December, 2005, Parent Advisory Council meeting, which was held December 6, 2005 and reaffirmed at the Parent Advisory Council meetings in the spring of 2006 and 2007.

This policy was adopted by the Purchase Line School District on 12/06/05 and will be in effect immediately and until changed or revoked by the Parent Advisory Council. The district will distribute this policy to all parents of Title I, Part A children on or before December 31, 2006.

Parents' Right To Know

The No Child Left Behind Act requires that this notification be made available to parents at the beginning of the school year. Parents have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of their child's teacher(s).

Parents are entitled, upon written request, to the following information regarding their child's teacher:

- Whether a teacher has met State qualifications for licensure in the grade level(s) and subject area(s) in which they teach.
- The level of state certification – Emergency, Instructional I, Instructional II or Bridge level certification.
- The college degree(s), certification(s) and content area(s) of the degree(s) and certification(s) of their child's teacher(s).

A parent may also make written request for the qualifications of the paraprofessional (teacher's aide) that works with their child. These requests should be made to the building principal where that student attends.

SERVICE FOR OUR PARENTS

Parent Website: www.PAgrow.com

The Pennsylvania Department of Education is providing an on-line service for parents and families for understanding and improving the math and reading achievement for all children. This on-line service is directed toward better understanding and better results with the PSSA Assessment that occur each spring.

The parent website is www.PAgrow.com and is available through home and public library computers. It is updated as assessment information is modified. This website contains materials and strategies for elementary, middle and high school level students. It also contains information regarding the development of the assessments and practice materials. PAgrow.com also provides links to other educational resources for improvement of student achievement.

The Purchase Line School District is encouraging all families to use this website to provide awareness and an additional advantage for students in the PSSA Assessment process.

September 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 No School - Labor Day	4 JVF - Northern Cambria - A - 6:00 pm 7th/8th Football - Northern Cambria A - 4:00 pm GV - Ligonier Valley - H - 6:30 pm JHGB - Ligonier Valley - H - 4:00 pm Josten Ring Order - A, B, C Lunches and 3:30 - 6:00 pm - Family Night - Cafeteria School Board Work Session - 7:30 pm	5 JHF - Northern Cambria - H - 6:00 pm	6 GV - Laurel Valley - H - 6:30 pm JHGB - Laurel Valley - H - 4:00 pm North Elem PTA - 4:00 pm	7 Academic Kickoff - 4:30 - 6:30 pm - Gym VF - Laurel Valley - H - 7:00 pm	8
9	10 Foreign Language Club - MTO Sale - Sept 10-17 School Board Meeting - 7:30 pm	11 7th/8th Football - Moshannon Valley - A - 4:00 pm GV - Homer Center A - 6:30 pm JHGB - Homer Center - A - 4:00 pm	12 JHF - Laurel Valley - H - 6:00 pm	13 ACT 80 Day - 1/2 Day GV - Northern Cambria - H - 6:00 pm JHGB - Northern Cambria H - 4:00 pm	14 No School - Cookport Fair VF - Ligonier Valley - A - 7:00 pm	15
16	17 JVF - Ligonier Valley - H - 6:00 pm GV - Blairsville - A - 6:00 pm JHGB - Blairsville - A - 4:00 pm 7th Grade Candy Sale - Sept 17-21 South Picture Day	18 7th/8th Football - Marion Center - H - 4:00 pm GV - United - H - 6:30 pm JHGB - United - H - 4:00 pm	19 JHGB - Harmony - H - 4:00 pm	20 JHF - Ligonier Valley - A - 6:00 pm JHGB - Saltsburg - A - 4:00 pm North Picture Day Meet The Teacher Night - North/South Elem - 6:00 - 8:00 pm	21 Activity Pd - B Clubs VF - Blairsville - A - 7:00 pm	22 West Branch VB Tournament
23	24 JVF - Blairsville - H - 6:00 pm	25 7th/8th Football - Northern Cambria - H - 4:00 pm GV - Penns Manor - A - 6:00 pm JHGB - Penns Manor - A - 4:00 pm	26 JHGB - Harmony - A - 4:00 pm	27 PLAN Pd - 7:50 am JHF - Blairsville - A - 6:00 pm GV - Marion Center - A - 6:30 pm JHGB - Marion Center - A - 4:00 pm	28 Pep Rally/Balloon Launch VF - United - H - 7:00 pm Homecoming Dance - 9:00 - 11:00 pm - Gym	29 Red Dragon Foundation Dinner/Dance
30						

October 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1 JVF - United - A - 6:00 pm</p> <p>School Board Work Session - 7:30 pm</p>	<p>2 7th & 8th Football - Penns Manor - H - 1:00 pm</p> <p>GV - Ligonier Valley - A - 6:00 pm</p> <p>JHGB - Ligonier Valley - A - 4:00 pm</p> <p>IUP Career Fair - Grades 11, 12</p>	<p>3 PLAN Pd - 7:50 am</p> <p>JHF - United - H - 6:00 pm</p> <p>JHGB - Harmony - H - 4:00 pm</p>	<p>4 GV - Laurel Valley - A - 6:30 pm</p> <p>JHGB - Laurel Valley - A - 4:00 pm</p> <p>School Pictures - 7:50 am</p>	<p>5 Activity Pd - A Clubs</p> <p>VF - Penns Manor - H - 7:00 pm</p>	6
7	<p>8 No School - Teacher In-Service</p> <p>7th & 8th Football - Clearfield - H - 4:00 pm</p> <p>JVF - Penns Manor - A - 6:00 pm</p> <p>GV - Homer Center - H - 6:30 pm</p> <p>JHGB - Homer Center - H - 4:00 pm</p> <p>School Board Meeting - 7:30 pm</p>	<p>9 GV - Northern Cambria - A - 6:00 pm</p> <p>JHGB - Northern Cambria - A - 4:00 pm</p> <p>9th Grade Candy Sale - Sept 9 - 15th</p>	<p>10 End of 1st Grading Pd</p> <p>JHF - Penns Manor - H - 6:00 pm</p> <p>North Elem PTA - 6:30 pm</p>	<p>11 Science Club - Adopt-A-Highway</p> <p>GV - Blairsville - H - 6:30 pm</p> <p>JHGB - Blairsville - H - 4:00 pm</p>	<p>12 Activity Pd - B Clubs</p> <p>VF - Homer Center - A - 7:00 pm</p>	13
14	<p>15 JVF - Homer Center - H - 6:00 pm</p>	<p>16 7th & 8th Football - Marion Center - A - 4:00 pm</p> <p>GV - United - A - 6:00 pm</p> <p>JHGB - United - A - 4:00 pm</p> <p>South Elem PTA - 7:00 pm</p>	<p>17 PSAT - Grade 11</p> <p>JHGB - Harmony - A - 4:00 pm</p> <p>FBLA/Band Citrus Fundraiser - Oct 17 - 25</p>	<p>18 JHF - Homer Center - A - 6:00 pm</p> <p>JHGB - United - H - 4:00 pm</p>	<p>19 Activity Pd - A Clubs</p> <p>VF - Marion Center - A - 7:00 pm</p>	<p>20 Junior Class Dinner - 4:00 - 7:00 pm - HS Cafeteria</p> <p>FBLA State Leadership Conference - State College - Oct 20 & 21</p>
21	<p>22 Distribution of Report Cards</p> <p>JVF - Marion Center - H - 6:00 pm</p>	<p>23 PSSA Retest - Grade 12</p> <p>GV - Penns Manor - H - 6:30 pm</p> <p>JHGB - Penns Manor - H - 4:00 pm</p>	<p>24 PSSA Retest - Grade 12</p> <p>JHF - Marion Center - A - 4:00 pm</p>	<p>25 PSSA Retest - Grade 12</p> <p>GV - Marion Center - H - 6:30 pm</p> <p>JHGB - Marion Center - H - 4:00 pm</p>	<p>26 Activity Pd - B Clubs</p> <p>FBLA - Krispy Kreme Sale - Oct 26 - 31</p> <p>VF - Saltsburg - H - 7:00 pm</p>	<p>27 Band Banquet - 7:00 pm - HS Cafeteria</p>
28	<p>29 SADD - Red Ribbon Week - Oct 9 - Nov 2</p>	<p>30 Senior Class Meeting - Announcements - 10:08 am</p>	<p>31 PLAN Pd - 7:50 am</p>			

November 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Grade 8 Candy Sale - Nov 1 - 9 North Elem PTA - 6:30 pm	2 Activity Pd - A Clubs	3
4	5 School Board Work Session - 7:30 pm	6 Senior Class Announcements - Orders - A, B, & C Lunches Bloodmobile - 10:30 am - 4:30 pm	7	8 Student Council Food Drive - Nov 8 - 16	9	10
11	12 No School - Veterans' Day	13 School Board Meeting - 7:30 pm	14	15	16 Activity Pd - B Clubs End Food Drive Senior/Faculty Volleyball Game	17
18	19 Science Club - Sheetz Tickets - Nov 19 - 30	20 South Elem PTA - 7:00 pm	21	22 No School - Thanksgiving	23 No School	24
25	26 No School - Deer Season	27 End of 2nd Grading Pd	28	29 Elem. Winter Band/Choral Concert - 7:00 pm - HS Auditorium	30 A Clubs/Pep Rally VGB - Portage Tournament - A - VBB - Kittanning Tournament - A -	

December 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 VGB - Portage - A - VBB - Kittanning - A - FBLA - Santa Workshop - Cafeteria - 1:00 - 3:00 pm
2	3 Senior Class Hoagie Sale Dec 3 - 10 - Delivery - Dec 18 School Board Work Session - 7:30 pm	4 VGB - Ligonier Valley - A - 6:00 pm JHBB - Harmony - H - 4:00 pm North Elem PTA - 4:00 pm	5 PLAN Pd - 7:50 am VBB - Ligonier Valley - H - 6:30 pm JHBB - Ligonier Valley - H - 4:00 pm	6 Assembly - HS Band/ Choral Concert - 9:40 am - Auditorium VGB - Laurel Valley - A - 6:00 pm HS Band/Choral Concert - 7:30 pm - Auditorium	7 Distribution of Report Cards Activity Pd - B Clubs VBB - Laurel Valley - H - 6:30 pm JHBB - Laurel Valley - H - 4:00 pm Donut Auction /PL Idol Contest - 7:50 am	8
9	10 VGB - Homer Center - H - 6:30 pm JHBB - Harmony - A - 4:00 pm School Board Meeting - 7:30 pm	11 VBB - Homer Center - A - 6:30 pm JHBB - Homer Center - A - 4:00 pm	12 VGB - Northern Cambria - A - 6:00 pm	13 VBB - Northern Cambria - H - 6:30 pm JHBB - Northern Cambria H - 4:00 pm	14 Activity Pd - A Clubs VGB - Blairsville - H - 6:30 pm Reindeer Game Competition	15 SADD Winter Formal at Novosel
16	17 VGB - Harmony - A - 6:00 pm - Varsity only VBB - Harmony - A - 7:45 pm - Varsity only	18 PLAN Pd - 7:50 am VBB - Blairsville - A - 6:00 pm JHBB - Blairsville - A - 4:00 pm	19 VGB - United - A - 6:00 pm JHBB - United - H - 4:00 pm	20 VBB - United - H - 6:30 pm	21 VGB - Salzburg - H - 6:30 pm	22
23	24 No School - Christmas Vacation	25 No School	26 No School VBB - Lions' Club Tournament - H	27 No School VBB - Lions' Club Tournament - H	28 No School VGB - Penns Manor Tournament - A	29 VGB - Penns Manor Tournament - A
30	31 No School					

Student Achievement And Aptitude Tests

In accordance with the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools, the Principals, and the Guidance Personnel, the Board of Education has approved a district-wide testing program designed to provide information concerning the proficiency of all children in the district on standardized tests of academic achievement and aptitude.

The results of these tests provide a continuing record of each child's academic progress in comparison with national norms. They are also an invaluable aid to your child's teacher and counselor in diagnosing individual strengths and weaknesses in order to provide more effective individualized instruction during the coming school year, the following tests will be administered. They are listed according to grade and your child will be given those tests in his/her grade.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Name of Test</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
K - 6	Title I Assessments	Performance/Curriculum Based Assessment to assess basic reading, mathematics, and writing skills
K - 6	Vision, Hearing Speech Screenings when needed	
Grade 2	Terra Nova with In View	Provides achievement and aptitude data
Grade 3-6	PA Assessment System	Measures knowledge in reading and math
Grade 4	PA Assessment System	Measures knowledge in areas of science and technology
Grade 5	PA Assessment System	Measures writing skills
Grade 7	PA Assessment System	Measures the level of knowledge in math and reading
Grade 8	PA Assessment System	Measures the level of knowledge in math, reading, writing and science
Grade 9	Terra Nova	Indicates what the student has learned in content and skill areas of the school curriculum
Grade 10	Terra Nova	Indicates what the student has learned in content and skill areas of the school curriculum
Grade 11	PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test)	Measures verbal and mathematical abilities; provides a preview of Scholastic Aptitude Test
Grade 11	ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)	Measures an individual's aptitude in the following areas: verbal reasoning, math, electronics, mechanical, administrative and clerical
Grade 11	PA Assessment System	Measures the level of knowledge and skill in math, reading, writing and science
Grade 12	PA Assessment System	Re-test (math, reading and writing)
Grade 12	ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)	Measures an individual's aptitude in the following areas: verbal reasoning, math, electronics, mechanical, administrative and clerical



Your child's scores on these tests will be reviewed and maintained in their school record as long as they attend school in this system. When transferring to another school system, necessary records are forwarded upon request. Should you wish to examine your child's record file at any time, you may arrange to do so by making an appointment with the principal's office.

Pupil Records

This is reproduced to assist parents in understanding Purchase Line School District policies regarding the collection of pupil information. Please save this for future reference.

Staff members of the Purchase Line School District respect the privacy and confidentiality of pupil records. Written policies that describe procedures for the collection of pupil information, the ways in which the information is stored, and the approaches for sharing the information are available upon request in the building office. Every Purchase Line School District employee on the special education staff has participated in a meeting to gain a full understanding of these policies.

WHAT RECORDS ARE KEPT?

Teacher records: These may include pupil worksheets, workbooks, results of informal testing, and other information of short-term importance.

Supplementary records: These may include parental consent forms, reports of all formal assessments, results of multidisciplinary team meetings, reports from outside agencies, verified teacher reports, the most recent IEP, and request for release of information or file review.

CAN RECORDS BE RELEASED OUTSIDE THE I.U.?

Parents must give written permission detailing the specific information to be released in order for pupil records to be shared with outside agencies. Written parental consent for release of exceptional pupil records is not necessary if a request is made by: authorized representatives of the Comptroller General of the United States, Commissioners of Education, or the Director of the National Institute of Education; state or local officials as required by state laws or when the health, safety or welfare of the child is in danger; and/or EDUCATIONAL agencies who are providing or will be providing educational services for the child.

HOW LONG IS INFORMATION KEPT?

Records are maintained in the Purchase Line School District office until the pupil reaches the age of 21. At that time they are filed in the local school district to be maintained, destroyed or made available to the pupil who now controls his/her own records in accord with district policy.

HOW CAN A PARENT SEE RECORDS?

A parent may review or receive copies of existing records by making a request to the building office. (See address below.) A small fee may be charged for copies of records.

CAN A PARENT CHALLENGE RECORDS?

Any parent may challenge information in a child's record by writing a letter describing the specific information which is objectionable. The letter should be addressed to the building principal. A letter will be sent to the parent in response to the request outlining the procedures to be used to correct the disagreement.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If there are other questions about pupil records, please contact the high school or elementary offices at 16559 Route 286 Hwy E, PO Box 374, Commodore, PA 15729 at (724) 254-4312 or 5995 Fire Tower Rd., Mahaffey, PA 15757 at (814) 845-7600.

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The **Children's Advisory Commission of Indiana County** can keep you up-to-date with information on the activities that are happening for children, youth and families in Indiana County.

Log on to: www.IndianaCountyCAC.com

Click on "Information for Parents and the Community" to find out more!



To

Meet The Teacher Night at North and South Elementary Schools on Thursday, September 20 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm.

Please come and meet your child's teacher and tour the schools.

Refreshments will be available.

What Is SAP?

SAP (The Student Assistance Program) is a systematic process designed to improve the quality of education by providing help to students troubled by physical health, emotional health, or drugs, alcohol, and suicide.

Student Assistance Programs in Pennsylvania generally use a team approach. The "Core Team" of the program consists of: a school counselor, at least two classroom teachers, a building administrator, a central office administrator, a school nurse, psychologist, or home visitor, and ad-hoc members from community mental health and drug/alcohol agencies. This group of designated staff members identify these behaviors and then either handle the problem in school or refer to an outside agency.

A comprehensive Student Assistance Program addresses the needs of at least six target groups: chemically dependent students, drug/alcohol abusers, recovering students, non-users (need prevention/education), students with problems not relating to drug/alcohol usage (pregnancy, depression, eating disorders, suicide, etc.), students affected by another's abuse or dependency. The core team performs six basic functions: early identification of students within the target groups, gathering of information to determine appropriate form of help needed, assessment of situation for severity of problem, intervention with the student to get needed help, follow-up on referral within the school or to outside agency, support and aftercare with student.

A referral can be made by a parent, teacher, peer or a member of the community, and the referral form can be picked up in the counseling office or from a team member.

SAP is ...

- * help for students who are having problems which are affecting school performance
- * the first step to identify problems
- * devoted to helping students be the best they can be

EARLY WARNING SIGNALS:

- * decline in school performance
- * absenteeism
- * chronic lateness
- * sleeping in class
- * change in friends
- * change in appearance
- * personality changes
- * emotional problems
- * erratic behavior

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO ...

Step in ...

- * when you think a problem is becoming serious
- * when a situation concerns or troubles you
- * before school performance is seriously affected.

Don't ...

- * delay - tell your concerns to the core team
- * diagnose the problem - let the core team help
- * accept excuses for inexcusable behavior

Remember...

*The student assistance program is a cooperative effort - your support is critical to its success.

PL Core Team Members:

Miss Cicon	Mr. McCombie
Mrs. Davidson	Mr. Ninosky
Mrs. Hardesty	Mr. Pearce
Mrs. Huffman	Mr. Price
Mrs. Lambie	Mr. Rainey
	Mrs. Subich

* * * * *

Help Your Teenager Strive For Perfect Attendance!

Research shows that the single most important factor contributing to student achievement is school attendance. A student who is absent from school may be able to copy missed notes, complete missed worksheets and receive help after school. However, other important aspects of the lessons are lost forever. Absent students miss out on discussions, questions raised, explanations and much more. Students fall behind and sometimes never recover. What a student missed in one class session is needed as a foundation for what he will learn in the next session. Here are some proven ways to support good school attendance:

- Talk with your teen about the importance of attending school regularly.
- Avoid scheduling family trips or doctor appointments during school hours.
- Make sure your teen eats healthy foods and gets enough sleep and exercise.
- Don't accept excuses for why your teen "must" miss or be late for school.
- Discuss what happened at school each day.
- Support school rules and consequences for skipping classes and being tardy.
- Provide incentives for improving school attendance and promptness.

Listen To Your Teen And Make This A Better School Year

Good communication can help your teen off to a good start this school year. The secret is careful listening. If you really listen, your teen will talk about what they feel is important.

Be attentive. Stop what you are doing as soon as you can. Give your child full attention. Your body language says a lot.

Encourage talk. Eye contact, a nod and a one-word response indicate understanding. Sometimes rephrasing what your child has said keeps the conversation flowing.

Listen with respect. Don't treat your teenager like a child. Show your teen as much courtesy as you would your adult friends.

Student Parking And Driving Regulations



Students driving to school accept great responsibilities. At the top of this list is to make appropriate judgments to assure their safety and the safety of all passengers, pedestrians and the general public. The following guidelines have been established regarding student drivers:

1. All automobiles parked on the school grounds must be registered with the school. The cost of \$10 will be required for each parking permit. The cost for parking permits is non-refundable at the conclusion of the school year. The parking permit is required to be displayed on the interior rear view mirror when parked on school property.
2. Parking is strictly limited to the student parking spaces in the upper parking lot.
3. All students must be licensed and covered by insurance. The school is not responsible for the automobile or its contents.
4. There is to be no loitering in the parking lot or visitation of same without permission.
5. There will be no speeding, over 10 miles per hour, or any form or reckless driving on the school grounds.
6. Student vehicles may be subject to search if there is reasonable suspicion to believe that weapons, tobacco, drugs, alcohol, stolen property or other contraband might be present in that vehicle.
7. Parking regulations are strictly enforced. It is considered a privilege to park on school grounds. Fines, suspension of driving privileges, towing of vehicles, and/or suspension from school may occur when violations of these regulations occur.
8. Student drivers must sign each day in the driver's book and turn in their keys to the high school office. All student drivers must be signed in by 7:30 a.m.
9. Student drivers shall carry no other students as passengers unless their parents or guardians assume full responsibility and liability in case of an accident. Passenger permission slips must be on file in the high school office.
10. Students using automobiles to come to school do not have the right to leave school premises at any time during school hours except with proper authorization of the principal.
11. Tardiness and absence from school as a result of breakdowns, weather conditions, problems arising from the use of private transportation cannot be accepted as a legal excuse since the school district provides bus transportation for every student.
12. No student is permitted to use another student's automobile.
13. Large key chains or key chains that promote alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or sex will not be accepted.
14. Seniors who work or participate in after-school sports and other extra-curricular activities will have preference for parking spots, followed by juniors and then sophomores, who work or participate in after-school sports or other extra-curricular activities. Under no circumstances will ninth grade students be permitted to drive to school.
15. All obligations must be paid before parking permits will be issued.
16. Any student on the failure list at the end of a marking period will lose their driving privilege for thirty (30) days.

Violation of the parking rules and guidelines will result in the revoking of parking privileges and/or disciplinary action against the student for insubordination.

- A. First offense - loss of driving privileges for thirty (30) consecutive school days and disciplinary action for insubordination.
- B. Second offense - permanent loss of driving privileges and disciplinary action for insubordination.

Medication Policy Reviewed

Whenever possible, medications should be given prior to or following school hours. However, there are instances when it is necessary for medication to be administered during school hours. This medication policy reflects the guidelines established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, School Nurse Division, regulating the dispensing of prescription and non-prescription medicine by school personnel.

Administration of Prescription Medicine During School Hours

In the nurse's office there are consent forms for long and short-term prescription medications that must be completed and signed by the physician and/or parent/guardian for the medication to be given during school hours. No medication will be given to a student without proper consent.

Each medication brought to school must include the following information:

1. The student's name
2. Date
3. Prescribing physician
4. Dosage of medication
5. Specific times for medication to be given
6. Length of time medication is to be given
7. Medication must be in the original pharmacy-labeled bottle
8. Enough medication in bottle for one week only
9. Completed consent form returned to school nurse



Non-prescription medications that are available for dispensation to students in the nurse's office include the following:

1. Acetaminophen - (generic Tylenol, children's chewable tablets, liquid form and Jr. and adult strengths)
2. Antacids - Maalox, Tums, Mylanta liquid
3. Analgesics - Acetaminophen, Midol
4. Topical analgesics/antiseptics - Anbesol, Listerine and throat spray, cough drops, Bactine
5. Benedryl capsules - for allergy conditions. Phone permission from parent/guardian will be obtained prior to giving.

The consent to give the above medications is determined by the parent's signature on the back of the student's emergency card which is distributed at the beginning of each new school year.

Any non-prescription medication that is sent to school to be given at the request of the parent/guardian must be accompanied by a consent form with the following information:

1. Student's name
2. Date
3. Medication name and dosage
4. Specific time of administration
5. Length of time to be given
6. Parent/guardian signature
7. Original labeled bottle/container



Documentation

All medication (prescription and non-prescription) will be stored in the nurse's office in a locked cupboard. Those students taking medication during school hours must do so in the nurse's office. Proper documentation will be done by the school nurse/health room aide.

(continued on last page)

Annual Public Notice of Special Education Services and Programs

Services for School Age Children with Disabilities

It is the responsibility of the Pennsylvania Department of Education to insure that all children with disabilities residing in the Commonwealth (including children with disabilities attending private schools, regardless of the severity of their disabilities), and who are in need of special education or related services, are identified, located, and evaluated. This responsibility is required by a federal law called the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 2004 (IDEA '04).

Purchase Line School District provides a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to children with disabilities who need special education and related services. Pennsylvania has adopted state laws, which conform to IDEA and which school districts must follow. FAPE is provided to students who need specially designed instruction and have one or more of the following physical or mental disabilities.

- Autism
- Deaf-Blindness
- Deafness
- Emotional Disturbance
- Hearing Impairment
- Mental Retardation
- Multiple Disabilities
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Other Health Impairment
- Specific Learning Disability
- Speech or Language Impairment
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Visual Impairment - Including Blindness

Early Intervention

The IDEA '04 also requires the provision of a Free Appropriate Public Education to children with disabilities between three years of age and the school district's age of beginners. In Pennsylvania, a child between three years of age and the school district's age of beginners who has a developmental delay or one or more of the physical or mental disabilities listed above may be identified as an "eligible young child."

Eligible young children are afforded the rights of school-age children with disabilities, including screening, evaluation, individualized education program planning, and provision of appropriate programs and services. The Pennsylvania Department of Education is responsible for providing programs and services to eligible young children under Act 212 of 1990, The Early Intervention Services System Act. The ARIN Intermediate Unit provides programs and services to eligible young children on behalf of the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Except as indicated above or otherwise announced publicly, screening activities take place in an on-going fashion throughout the school year. For more information or to schedule an evaluation, contact Colleen McGinnis at (724-463-5300, ext. 216).

Screening

Purchase Line School District has established and implemented procedures to locate, identify, and evaluate children suspected of having disabilities. These procedures involve screening activities which include but are not limited to: yearly review of group-based data (cumulative records, enrollment records, health records, and report cards); hearing screening (*in kindergarten, first, second, third, seventh, and eleventh grades and all learning support students*); vision screening (every grade level); motor screening; and, speech and language screening in first and third grades, and individually as referred. *The above screening activities may lead to consideration by the IST as another level of screening.*

Some school districts elect to have Instructional Support Teams (IST). IST teams include parents and members of the professional staff of the school district. The IST team analyzes information from the screening activities listed above as well as classroom behavior and performance and recommends strategies for the student in the classroom. If within 60 school days after initiation, screening activities have produced little or no improvement, the student is referred for an evaluation to determine eligibility for special education services.

Except as indicated above or otherwise announced publicly, screening activities are conducted on an on-going basis throughout the school year. Screening is conducted in the student's home school unless other arrangements are necessary. Parents can request screening for their children by contacting the school that their child attends. When screening indicates that a student may be a child with a disability eligible for special education, the school district will seek parental consent to conduct an evaluation.

Screening activities and/or IST activities cannot block the rights of a parent to request, at any time, including prior to or during the instructional support activities, an evaluation for the purpose of determining if the student is a child with a disability and eligible for special education services. To request an evaluation for your child, contact your child's guidance counselor or building principal.

Evaluation

When screening indicates that a child may be a child with a disability, the Purchase Line School District will seek parental consent to conduct an evaluation. "Evaluation" means procedures used in the determination of whether a child

(continued on next page)

(Annual Public Notice of Special Education Services and Programs, cont.)

has a disability and the nature and extent of the special education and related services that the child needs. The term means procedures used selectively with an individual child and does not mean basic tests administered to or procedures used with all children.

In Pennsylvania, this evaluation is conducted by a group of qualified professionals and the parent. The group of qualified professionals shall include a certified school psychologist when evaluating a child for autism, emotional disturbance, mental retardation, multiple disabilities, other health impairments, specific learning disability, or traumatic brain injury. The evaluation process must be completed no later than sixty school days after the district receives written parental consent and must include protection-in-evaluation procedures. For example, tests and procedures used as part of the multidisciplinary evaluation process may not be racially or culturally biased. Upon completion of the administration of tests and other evaluation materials, a group of qualified professionals and the parent of the child will determine whether the child is a child with a disability and what the educational needs are of the child. Information obtained from a variety of sources, including aptitude and achievement tests, parent input, teacher recommendations, physical condition, social or cultural background, and adaptive behavior will be documented and considered carefully. If a determination is made that a child has a disability and needs special education and related services an individualized education program (IEP) will be developed for the child.

Identification Activities

Parents who think their child has a disability may request, at any time, that the school district conduct a multidisciplinary evaluation. This request should be made in writing to the building principal or guidance counselor. If a parent makes an oral request for a multidisciplinary evaluation, the school district shall provide the parent with a form for that purpose.

Parents also have the right to obtain an independent educational evaluation if they disagree with the school district's evaluation. Purchase Line School District will provide to parents on request, information about where an independent educational evaluation may be obtained.

Educational Placement (Services and Programs)

An Individualized Education Program (IEP) describes the child's present levels of educational performance, including how the child's disability affects involvement and progress in the general curriculum; a statement of measurable annual goals including benchmarks or short-term objectives, to enable the child to be involved and progress in the general curriculum; a statement of special education related services and supplementary services to be provided to the child; an explanation of the extent to which the child will not participate with nondisabled children in the regular class; any modifications in the administration of assessments; the projected date for beginning services and modification; and how progress toward annual goals will be measured. For each child with a disability beginning at age fourteen or younger, a statement of transition service needs will be included. For each child beginning at age sixteen, a statement of need for transition services for the student, including as appropriate, a statement of interagency responsibilities or needed linkages.

In determining student placement, consideration will be given to ensure that to the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities are educated with children who are nondisabled.

After the evaluation team has determined that the student is eligible for special education, an IEP team develops an educational program, based on the evaluation, that identifies the type of services, the level of intervention, and the location of intervention. The IEP team must include:

- a school district representative,
- the general education teacher,
- the special education teacher, and
- the child's parents.

An IEP described a student's current educational levels, goals, and objectives, and the individualized programs and services that the student will receive. These services include:

1. Academic support
 - Learning support class
2. Life skills support class
3. Emotional support class
4. Sensory support
 - Deaf or hard of hearing class
 - Blind or vision loss class
5. Speech and language support class
6. Physical support class
7. Autistic support class
8. Multiple disabilities support class

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(Annual Public Notice of Special Education Services and Programs, cont.)

A student's special education placement must be made in the least restrictive environment in which the student's educational needs can be addressed. All students with disabilities must be educated to the maximum extent appropriate with students who are not disabled as determined by the IEP team. Student's IEP are reviewed on an annual basis.

Services for Protected Handicapped Students

Students who are not eligible to receive special education programs and services may qualify as protected handicapped students and, therefore, be protected by other federal and state laws intended to prevent discrimination. The school district must insure that protected handicapped students have equal opportunity to participate in the school program and extracurricular activities to the extent appropriate for each individual student.

In compliance with state and federal law, the school district will provide to each protected handicapped student without discrimination or cost to the student or family, those related aids, services or accommodations which are needed to provide equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and extracurricular activities to the extent appropriate to the student's abilities. In order to qualify as a protected handicapped student, the child must be of school-age with a physical or mental disability which substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to a major life activity as defined in Federal law.

These services and protections for "protected handicapped students" may be distinct from those applicable to disabled or thought-to-be disabled students. The school district or the parent may initiate an evaluation if they believe a student is a protected handicapped student.

For further information on the evaluation procedures and provision of services for protected handicapped students, parents should call the building principal. (Please note that this is a regular education services and not one required by IDEA or Chapter 14.)

Services for Students Who are Gifted

Purchase Line School District utilizes a system to locate and identify all students within the district who are thought to be gifted and in need of specially designed instruction. For more information, please contact the building principal.

Confidentiality

Each school district protects the confidentiality of personally identifiable information regarding children with disabilities, children thought to be disabled, protected handicapped students (if not protected by IDEA '04 or Pennsylvania's Special Education Regulations) and children who are gifted in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) and other applicable federal and state laws, policies, and regulations.

"Education records" means those records that are directly related to the student, including on computer, through media, and on videotape, which are maintained by an educational agency or a party acting for the agency. "Educational Agency," for purposes of this notice means the local school district, and/or the ARIN Intermediate Unit. For all students, the educational agency maintains education records which include but are not limited to:

- Personally Identifiable Information - Confidential information that includes, but is not limited to the student's name, name of parents and other family members, the address of the student or student's family, and personal information or personal characteristics which would make the student's identity easily traceable.
- Direction Information - Information contained in an education record of a student which would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy, if disclosed. It includes, but is not limited to, the student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most previous educational agency of institution attended.

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) afford parents and students over 18 years of age, certain rights with respect to the students' education records. They are:

1. Parents have the right to inspect and review a child's education record without unnecessary delay and before any meeting regarding an IEP or due process hearing, but in no case more than 45 days after the request has been made. Requests should be submitted in writing (indicating the records the parents wish to inspect) to the school principal or other appropriate school official. Parents have the right to a response from the school district to a reasonable request for explanations and interpretations of the records. Parents have the right to request copies of the records. While the district cannot charge a fee to search for or to retrieve information, it may charge a copying fee as long as it does not effectively prevent the parents from exercising their right to inspect and review the records. Parents have the right to appoint a representative to inspect and review their child's records. If any education record contains information on more than one child, parents have the right only to inspect and review the information relating to their child.
2. If parents think information in an education record is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the privacy or other rights of their child, they may request amendment of the record. Requests should be made in writing and clearly identify the part of the record they want to have changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. The school district will decide whether or not to amend the record and will notify the parents in writing of its decision. If the school district refuses to

(continued on next page)

amend a record, it will notify the parents of their right to a hearing to challenge the disputed information. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parents or student (if 18 or older) when notified of the right to a hearing. The school district will inform parents when personally identifiable information is no longer needed to provide educational services to a child. Such information must be destroyed at the request of the parents. Parents have a right to receive a copy of the material to be destroyed. However, a permanent record of the student's name, address, and telephone number, his or her grades, attendance record, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed may be maintained without time limitation. "Destruction" of records means physical destruction or removal of personal identifiers from information, so that the information is no longer personally identifiable. The school district will provide, upon request, a listing of the types and locations of education records maintained, the school officials responsible for these records, and the school personnel authorized to see personally identifiable information. Such personnel receive training and instruction regarding confidentiality. The school district keeps a record of parties obtaining access to education records, including the name of the party, the date access was given and the purpose for which the party is authorized to use the records.

3. Parents have the right to consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. "Consent" means: the communication; they understand and agree in writing to the activities; and, they understand that the consent is voluntary and may be revoked at any time. Information may be disclosed without consent to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); person or company with whom the district has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or, a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Directory information may be released without parent consent. Parents have the right to refuse to let an agency designate any or all of the above information as directory information. Upon request, the district discloses education records to officials of another school district, in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. Parents have a right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the requirements of FERPA. Complaints may be filed with the Family Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington D.C. 20202-4605.

Mode of Communication

If a person does not understand any of this notice, he or she should contact the school's guidance counselor and request an explanation. The school district will arrange for an interpreter for parents with limited English proficiency. If a parent is deaf or blind or has no written language, the school district will arrange for communication of this notice in the mode normally used by the parent (e.g., sign language, Braille, or oral communication).

* * * *

English As A Second Language/ Bilingual Education

The education of students whose dominant language is not English and/or are English language learners is the responsibility of every school district/charter school in the Commonwealth. Title 22, Chapter 4, Section 4.26 of the Curriculum Regulations requires that the school district/charter school provide a program for every student who is limited English proficient (LEP) or an English language learner. (ELL).

To comply with this requirement, a school district must provide the student with a planned program of English as a second language instruction (ESL) to facilitate the acquisition of English language skills and provide an instructional program appropriate to the student's developmental and instructional level.

For additional information contact: Ms. Susan Sibert at (724) 254-4312 Ext. 4120.

Deadline Extended For Property Tax/Rent Rebates

The deadline to apply for a rebate of up to \$650 on property taxes or rent paid in 2006 under the state's Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program has been extended to December 31.

The program is open to senior citizens 65 or older, widows or widowers 50 or older and residents 18 or older with a permanent disability. For homeowners, household income eligibility limit is \$35,000; for renters the household income limit is \$15,000. For application contact:

Property Tax or Rent Rebate Claim Forms:

PA Department of Revenue
Property Tax or Rent Rebate Program
PO Box 280503
Harrisburg, PA 17128-0503

Or online go to: www.revenue.state.pa.us and select Forms and Publications. Select Property Tax/Rent Rebate.

District Bus Rules And Regulations Listed

The following rules and regulations apply to all students for whom transportation is provided by the Purchase Line School District.

The purpose of the following rules and regulations is to insure that the health, safety, welfare and education of every pupil is thoroughly protected and that the school district can continue to economically provide efficient, safe and adequate transportation.

The conduct of students riding buses shall be above reproach. Any breach of proper conduct by a student may be enforced by suspension of his/her transportation privileges.

The Purchase Line School District, its employees or its agents, shall not be held responsible in any way for a suspended student's safe transportation and continued attendance during the period of suspended bus privileges.

It shall be the Principal's responsibility and duty to inform all students under his jurisdiction of the following rules and regulations. In addition, it shall be the Principal's responsibility and duty to see that each rule and regulation is properly enforced in cooperation with the bus driver and Director of Transportation. Suspensions may be for one (1) to ten (10) school days or permanently, depending upon the seriousness of the offense.

The specific rules and regulations are as follows:

1. The driver is in charge of the pupils and the bus. Pupils must obey the driver.
2. Leave your house so that you are at the stop five minutes before the bus. Students must be at the bus stop on time. The bus will not wait for tardy students.
3. When you must walk along a roadway, always walk on the left side facing oncoming traffic.
4. Students must never stand on the highway to wait for the bus. Always wait off of the traveled portion of road. **NEVER ATTEMPT TO BOARD A MOVING BUS.**
5. Each student shall see that his conduct while waiting for the bus, on the bus, or getting off the bus is ladylike or gentlemanly.
6. If you must cross the highway at your bus stop, cross only in front of the bus after you are sure that traffic has stopped.
7. The driver will assign a seat to each student. Students must be seated immediately. Students will remain in their assigned seats except to get off at their respective stops. Two students in a seat must permit a third student to sit with them. No student is permitted to "save" a seat for another student. Remain seated until the bus has come to a full stop.
8. Outside of ordinary conversation, classroom conduct is to be observed on the bus.
9. Unnecessary conversation with the driver is prohibited. Do not talk loud, shout, sing or do anything to distract the driver.
10. Eating, drinking and chewing gum are not permitted on the bus. Students must not litter on the bus or throw litter from bus windows.
11. The use or possession of tobacco in any form is prohibited.
12. Matches or lighters are not permitted on a school bus.
13. Visible evidence of screw drivers, knives, water guns, water dispensing devices, radios, bean shooters, etc. is sufficient evidence to warrant the suspension of bus privileges.
14. Spitting is not permitted on or out of the windows of a school bus.
15. No vulgar language or vulgarity of any kind shall be used on the bus or at the bus stops.
16. Radios and tape players/recorders with external or built-in speakers are not permitted on the bus. Small individual "walkman" type cassette players are permitted and may be played as long as they are used for individual listening.
17. There shall be no grabbing or hiding of each other's hats or anything belonging to anyone else. Each person's property is his own and shall not be bothered by anyone else.
18. The bus driver shall decide when the windows shall be down or up and how far. Students will request permission from the driver to open a window. If you get permission to open a window, it is your responsibility to close it before leaving the bus.
19. You must keep all parts of your body inside the windows at all times.
20. Any damage to the bus will be reported to the driver immediately. Any student who causes any damage to a school bus while on or off the bus, intentionally or unintentionally, with or without malice aforethought, will pay for the cost of damage.
21. Intentional carrying of snow or ice into a bus and snowballing of buses is not permitted.
22. No student is permitted to open the emergency door except upon direction of the driver or in an emergency in which the driver is incapacitated.
23. You must have written consent from your parents and approval from the transportation or principal's office before you will be permitted to ride another bus or leave the bus at a stop other than your regular stop.
24. Any conduct deemed unacceptable and not specifically covered in the preceding regulations but which is determined by the bus driver and/or Principal or the Director of Transportation to be detrimental to the safe operation of the bus, may be cause for suspension of school bus privileges.
25. **PENALTY:** Those violating these rules will be reported to the proper school authorities who may deny students the privilege of riding the bus to and from school and school activities.
26. **LATE BUS - STUDENT SIGN-IN SHEET.** STUDENTS WHO ARRIVE ON A LATE BUS MUST SIGN IN AT THE HIGH SCHOOL OFFICE BEFORE GOING TO CLASS.
27. **STUDENTS ARE ADVISED TO LISTEN TO THEIR HOME RADIO DURING THE ICE AND SNOW SEASON. SCHOOL CANCELLATIONS/DELAYS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

**CAFETERIA OFFICE
PURCHASE LINE SCHOOL DISTRICT
16559 Route 286 Hwy E., P.O. Box 374
Commodore, PA 15729**

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. Purchase Line offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs \$0.75; lunch costs \$1.50 for high school and \$1.30 for elementary students. Your child(ren) may qualify for free meals or for reduced price meals. Reduced price is \$0.30 for breakfast and \$0.40 for lunch.

1. Do I need to fill out an application for each child? No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced price meals. Use one Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application for all students in your household. We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. **Return the completed application to: Purchase Line School District, 16559 Route 286 Hwy E, P.O. Box 374, Commodore, PA 15729.**

2. Who can get free meals? Children getting Food Stamps or TANF and most foster children can get free meals regardless of your income. Also, your child(ren) can get free price meals if your household income is within the free limits on the Federal Income Guidelines.

3. Can homeless, runaway and migrant children get free meals? Please call **Purchase Line School District** to see if your child(ren) qualify, if you have not already been informed that they will get free meals.

4. Who can get reduced price meals? Your child(ren) can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Income Chart, shown on this application.

5. Should I fill out an application if I got a letter this school year saying my children are approved for free or reduced price meals? Please read the letter you got carefully and follow the instructions. Call the school at **724-254-4312** if you have questions.

6. I get WIC. Can my child(ren) get free meals? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please fill out an application.

7. Will the information I provide be checked? Yes, we may ask you to send written proof.

8. If I don't qualify now, may I apply later? Yes. You may apply at any time during the school year if your household size goes up, income goes down, or if you start receiving Food Stamps or TANF. If you lose your job, your children may be able to get free or reduced price meals.

9. What if I disagree with the school's decision about my application? You should talk to your school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: **Dr. Richard Makin, Superintendent, Purchase Line School District, 16559 Route 286 Hwy E., PO Box 374, Commodore, PA 15729.**

10. May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen? Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be a U.S. citizen to qualify for free or reduced price meals.

11. Who should I include as members of my household? You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends). You must include yourself and all children who live with you.

12. What if my income is not always the same? List the amount that you normally get. For example, if you normally get \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only got \$900, put down that you get \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but not if you get it only sometimes.

13. We are in the military, do we include our housing allowance as income? If your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. All other allowances must be included in your gross income.

FEDERAL INCOME CHART For School Year 2007-2008			
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$18,889	\$1,575	\$364
2	\$25,327	\$2,111	\$488
3	\$31,765	\$2,648	\$611
4	\$38,203	\$3,184	\$735
5	\$44,641	\$3,721	\$859
6	\$51,079	\$4,257	\$983
7	\$57,517	\$4,794	\$1,107
8	\$63,955	\$5,330	\$1,230
Each additional person:	\$6,438	\$537	\$124

If you have other questions or need help, call **724-254-4312 ext 4037.**

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Congratulations to the following senior award winners!

Valedictorian - Caroline Lieb
Salutatorian - Rachel Struble

Scholarships:

McKelvey Foundation Gold Scholarship - Kevin Orosz

DAR Award - Brenton Kordish

Saint Vincent College Award - Logan Small

Saint Vincent Leadership Scholarship - Logan Small

Saint Vincent Endowment Scholarship Logan Small

Red Dragon Foundation - Graham Mahaffey Scholarship - Logan Small

Red Dragon Foundation Academic Scholarship - Rachel Struble

Red Dragon Foundation - Purchase Line Student Scholarship - Kala Rorabaugh

Red Dragon Foundation - Fine Arts Scholarship - Kari Buchheit

Red Dragon Foundation - Green Twp. Community Fair Board Scholarship - Bradley Hoover & Craig Peterson

Red Dragon Foundation - Tri-County Transportation Scholarship - Danielle Bloomberg & Kaylin Lawson

Red Dragon Foundation - Constance & John Forsha Academic Scholarship Christina Deitman & Andrew Voris

Red Dragon Foundation - Metz & Assoc. Scholarship - Jessica McCracken

Red Dragon Foundation - Cowboy Woodruff Scholarship - Samantha Hopkins & Daniel Peles II

Red Dragon Foundation Career/Technical Scholarship - Alicia Patterson

Red Dragon Foundation - Doris Edwards Rairigh Scholarship - Erica Crossland

Red Dragon Foundation - Albert Rairigh Scholarship - Markie Britton

Purchase Line Education Association - Craig Peterson

Mark Huey Memorial Scholarship - Gary Berkheimer & Shawn Bair

Sam Walton Community Scholarship - Craig Peterson & Kaylin Lawson

Marion Center National Bank - Karla Gracian

The Challenge Program - Highest GPA Rachel Struble

The Challenge Program - Community Service - Amanda Lutman

The Challenge Program - Attendance - Bennie McDivitt

The Challenge Program - Most Improved - Ashley Krouse

Carl Sensabaugh Memorial Scholarship - Kala Rorabaugh

Edward Cann Memorial Scholarship - James Rusko

Pallone Insurance Agency Scholarship Christopher Connors

A.B.E.L. Mentorship Scholarship - Kaylin Lawson

Energy Corporation of America - Megan Fry

IUP Safe Driving Competition - Craig Decker

Geneva College Scholar Award - Ashton Crawford

Geneva College Gold & White Scholarship - Ashton Crawford

Mount Aloysius Academic Grant - Laura Hilliard

Mount Aloysius/Mercy Hospital Leadership Scholarship - Andrew Deabenderfer

Mount Aloysius Academic Scholarship Andrew Deabenderfer

PA Academy of Cosmetology - Megan Fry

Wilkes University Scholarship - Rachel Struble & Kala Rorabaugh

Juniata College Academic Scholarship Kevin Orosz

Penn State Blue & White Scholarship - Megan Kuhn

Penn State Chancellor's Award - Megan Kuhn

Bucknell Scholarship - Ashton Temchulla

Seton Hill Academic Scholarship - Laina Frantz

Seton Hill University Volleyball Scholarship - Laina Frantz

Purchase Line Lions Club Scholarship - James Rusko

Dragon Booster Scholarship - Daniel Peles II & Kala Rorabaugh

Indiana Elks 931 Scholarship - Craig Peterson

Indiana County Counselors Association Scholarship - Christina Deitman

Indiana County Sports Hall of Fame Scholarship - Daniel Peles II & Erica Fetterman

American Red Cross Scholarship - Ashton Temchulla & Rachel Struble

Heritage Conference Scholar-Athlete Award - Rachel Struble & Daniel Peles II

Awards:

Tribune Democrat - Academic All-Star Award - Megan Fry

Principal's Leadership Award - Kala Rorabaugh

U.S. Air Force - Mathematics & Science Award - Rachel Struble & Kala Rorabaugh

U.S. Air Force - Technology Education Award - Kristen Repik

U.S. Marines - Scholastic Excellence - Caroline Lieb & Andrew Voris

U.S. Marines - Athletic Award - Brenton Kordish & Erica Fetterman

U.S. Marines - Semper Fidelis Award - Christina Deitman & Bradley Hoover

U.S. Army Reserve - Scholar-Athlete Award - Daniel Peles II & Rachel Struble

Musical - Best Actress - Megan Fry

Musical - Best Actor - Kevin Rorabaugh

Musical - Best Supporting Actress - Megan Kuhn

Drama - Best Actress - Megan Fry

National Honor Society - National Honor Society Scholarship Nominees - Caroline Lieb & Rachel Struble

(continued on last page)



Purchase Line School District

16559 Route 286 Hwy E
PO Box 374
Commodore, PA 15729-0374
(724) 254-4312

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Commodore, PA
15729

Dr. Richard C. Makin, Superintendent

PURCHASE LINE SCHOOL BOARD

Taylor Myers, President
William Roach, Vice President
Janice M. Pearce, Treasurer (non vote)
Kevin Deyarmin
Galen Edwards
Tina Hazelet
Robert Kurka
Roy Markle
Thomas McCracken
Matthew Pearce

Tammy A. Lechner, Secretary (non vote)
Andrews & Beard Law Offices, Solicitor

Boxholder

*Designed & Printed by the Purchase Line Print Shop
Sonya Bash, Secretary/
Production Coordinator*

(AWARDS & RECOGNITION, cont.)

President's Education Award for Educational Excellence

Kari Buchheit, Ashton Crawford, Christina Deitman,
Heather Griffith, Bradley Hoover, Samantha Hopkins,
Kaylin Lawson, Caroline Lieb, Daniel Peles II, Craig
Peterson, Kala Rorabaugh, Rachel Struble, Ashton
Temchulla, Andrew Voris

Senator Don White - Good Citizenship Award - Rachel
Struble & Kala Rorabaugh

Perfect Attendance for 2006-2007 - BreeAnne Baker

(Medication Policy Reviewed, cont.)

Any student with asthma who is required to carry an inhaler in their possession must have their physician and parent/guardian complete consent forms (from the nurse) and turn them in to the nurse before the student brings an inhaler to school. Other asthmatic students should bring their inhalers and consent form to the nurse at the beginning of the school year.



If deemed necessary, the school nurse reserves the right to consult with the school doctor or prescribing physician concerning any medication a student is taking.