

# Principal's Message

## April 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians of PPHS:

Happy spring to you and your family! It is so hard to believe that it is holiday break time and there is a small amount of time left before the school year is complete! As I look back on the first three quarters of the school year, I am reminded once again of the wonderful place this is. We have much to be thankful for: our students are great people, our community continues to support our school with time and gifts, our staff is strong, and our parents are involved.

As we move through the final quarter of the school year, please continue to support your student(s). Their workload and personal life balance will continue through the end of the year. Listen to them, talk with them, and communicate their needs with the teachers and administration as needed. We want to help and finish this marathon together.

Thank you for all that you do for our students, staff, and school stakeholders. We are grateful.

Sincerely,  
Principal Carey Johnson



### Upcoming Dates to Remember

- MCA testing dates through the next few weeks, schedule on school website
  - Please have students well-rested
  - Breakfast is important
  - Help them by encouraging that they do their very best on the tests
- April 10: FFA Banquet
- No School: April 13-17
- April 17: Wrestling Banquet
- April 19: ACT Test
- April 19: REACH Team to the cities for Feed My Starving Children
- April 26: Play opportunity for English Students
- April 27: Parent-Teacher Conferences 3:30-7:30
- May 24: Awards Night
- June 2: Commencement
- June 5: Last day of school

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### Registration

If your student will be entering grades 9-12 in the fall, you are aware that registration has begun. The preliminary registration is complete. In the next few weeks, we will solidify courses, sections, and student schedules according to student interest and class size. If you have any questions, please connect with the office where either Mr. Duberowski or Mrs. Johnson can help you.

### Attendance: It's the Law

One of our school-wide goals this year is to achieve the best staff and student attendance since the 2011-2012 school year. When the end of February arrived, it was one of the strongest flu seasons PPHS has seen in the past several years. Needless to say, we suffered a lot of illness and therefore, a lot of absence.

Although the absences due to illness are necessary, some absences remain elective. When your student misses school, they are missing the course dialogs, collaboration with others, and key instruction from teachers that happens only in class. These crucial conversations include opportunities for students to connect their learning to prior knowledge for stronger understanding. When a student isn't at school, there is less of a chance for understanding, work completion, and confidence in their schooling.

Absences are inevitable. Please weigh the importance of your student being at school when considering the absence. When students are sick, they need to stay home for their health and that of their peers. Aside from illness, students should be in class. Attendance is something colleges or future employers may consider when looking at a student's application.

### [Magic Johnson on the Importance of Attendance](#)



***“If you aren't here,  
you aren't learning.”***

*-Angela Doll, Moorhead HS Assistant Principal, MASSP Assistant  
Principal of the year 2017*

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<sup>1</sup> Photo courtesy of <https://www.flickr.com/photos/stevendepolo/4839938374>