



Shamrock News

9/17/21

MAPS Testing: Fall MAPS testing for students in grades K-8 will be taking place from Sept. 7 - Oct. 1. Please make sure students eat a good breakfast and get a good night's sleep.

Notify the Office: Please contact the office if your child will not be attending school. If you email a teacher regarding attendance, please include LuAnn Kinsman and Janet Pung.

Thinking Maps: This week's Thinking Map that was introduced to all students is the Double Bubble Map.

Free and Reduced Lunch Applications: The GREAT NEWS is that ALL students can receive a healthy lunch at NO CHARGE each day this school year. We will still need your household to **fill out and sign the Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application** as soon as possible. This information is critical in determining the amount of money that our school receives from a variety of State and Federal supplemental programs like the library, Title I, and IIA funding. Every year we ask our parents to submit these forms. Please see the attached form on any questions you may have. All information on the submitted application is confidential. Here is the link for the [application](#).

Yearbooks: The 2020-21 yearbooks are here. There are extra elementary, middle school and high school yearbooks available for sale if you forgot to order yours.

NHS Blood Drive: The next blood drive will take place on Tuesday, September 28 from 10:30 am-4:45 pm in the Parish Hall. Sign up online at RedCrossBlood.org and use St. Patrick as the sponsor code. Masks must be worn when donating.

Shamrock Pride



Friday, Sept. 24
No Busing - Portland Public not in session

St. Patrick 2021 Homecoming Court

Freshman Reps: Joel Enz and Emma Kwiecinski

Sophomore Reps: Lucas Simon and Izzy Kissane

Junior Reps: Martin White and Alivia Huhn

King Reps: Shane Cook, Derec Fedewa and Braxton Teachworth

Queen Reps: Sarah Davlin, Bella Myers and Carly Scheurer



Cross Country Shirts: T-shirts and hoodies are available to order from Fabricated Customs at this [link](#). The deadline to order is 8 pm on Friday, September 24.

HALL-O-Ween: Portland high school will have trick-or-treating at classroom doors for families of the Portland community.

PHS HALL-O-Ween
Thursday, Oct. 27
6-7:30pm

Sign up for a [time slot](#) and start your adventure by the gym entrance.

**This is currently a planned event but subject to change.



Calendar of Events



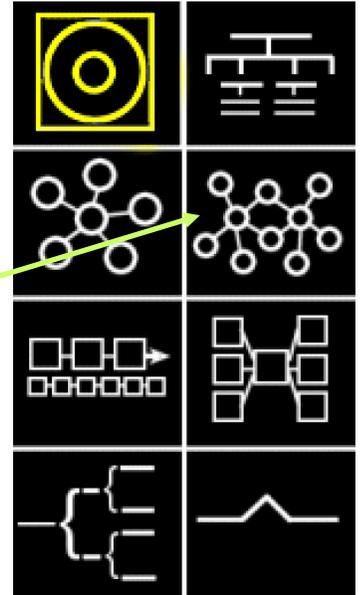
9/17 Var. XC @ Spartan Invitational 12:50p
 9/18 5th grade VB vs. Resurrection & St. Mary @ SPS 10a
 9/19 PTO Color Run @ Red Mill Pavilion 1p
 Athletic Association Meeting in Parish Hall 6:30p
 9/20 MS VB vs. Fowler @ SPS 5:30p
 9/21 HS Retreat to Ionia/Lowell 7:30a-2p
 5th grade VB @ St. Gerard 6p
 9/22 First day of fall
 Mass for grades 9-12 9:30a
 MS & Var. XC CMAC Jamboree @ Fish Creek 4:30p

MS Football vs. Morrice @ FFF 5p
 Fr., JV, & Var. VB vs. Laingsburg @ SPS 5:30p
 9/23 Mass for grades 1-8 9:30a
 MS VB vs. P-W @ SPS 5:30p
 9/24 No busing - PPS not in session
 Jean & spirit wear day
 Open campus lunch
 Var. Football @ Merrill 7p
 9/25 Var. XC Don Baese Invitational @ CC-C 9a
 JV VB @ Perry invitational 9a



THINKING MAPS

HOME & School

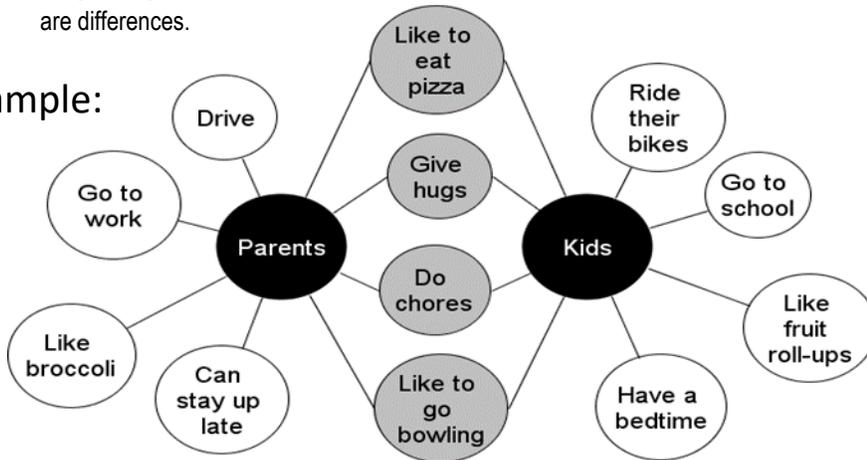


Double Bubble

Compare and Contrast

A double bubble is used for comparing and contrasting. Bubbles in the middle that touch both things being compared are similarities, bubbles outside that connect to one circle or the other are differences.

Example:



- Other ideas for Double Bubble Map
- Two people/story characters
 - Two animals
 - Two stories
 - Two cities
 - Two other things

With your family, create a double bubble map. You may select any topic for the center of your bubble map. Remember: You may only use ADJECTIVES or ADJECTIVE PHRASES in your bubbles.

Happy Sock-tober!!

St. Patrick School will be collecting brand NEW socks of all sizes and colors from October 1 - October 29, 2021.

Place NEW socks only in the tote outside the school office. All donations will go to Homeless Angels. Warm Feet!! Warm Hearts!!!





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QUESTIONS? CONTACT YOUR SCRIP COORDINATOR:
JULIE WIGHT SCRIP@PORTLANDSTPATS.ORG

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. **Portland Public Schools** offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs **\$.00**; lunch **costs \$.00**. **Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced-price meals.** Reduced-price is **\$.00** for breakfast and **\$.00** for lunch. This packet includes an application for free or reduced-price meal benefits, and a set of detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE MEALS?

- All children in households receiving benefits from the **Food Assistance Program (FAP), Family Independence Program (FIP),** or **Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)** are eligible for free meals.
- Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
- Children participating in their school’s Head Start program are eligible for free meals.
- Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
- Children may receive free or reduced-price meals if your household’s income is within the limits of the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free or reduced-price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

FEDERAL INCOME ELIGIBILITY CHART for School Year 2021-2022

Household Size	Annually	Monthly	Weekly
1	23,828	1,986	459
2	32,227	2,686	620
3	40,626	3,386	782
4	49,025	4,086	943
5	57,424	4,786	1,105
6	65,823	5,486	1,266
7	74,222	6,186	1,428
8	82,621	6,886	1,589
Each additional person:	8,399	700	162

2. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY? Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven’t been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail **Simone Margraf at smargraf@portlandk12.org**
3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. *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: **Portland Public Schools**
4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? No, but please read the letter you received carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact **Steve Pell 517-647-2984 or spell@portlandk12.org** immediately.
5. CAN I APPLY ONLINE? Yes! You are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application if you are able. The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Visit **www.lunchapp.com** to begin or to learn more

about the online application process. Contact **Steve Pell 517-647-2984** or spell@portlandk12.org **immediately**. if you have any questions about the online application.

6. MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW ONE? Yes. Your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year, through **Oct 7, 2021** You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year. If you do not send in a new application that is approved by the school or you have not been notified that your child is eligible for free meals, your child will be charged the full price for meals.
7. I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS? Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Please send in an application.
8. WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED? Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.
9. IF I DON'T QUALIFY NOW, MAY I APPLY LATER? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced-price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
10. WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE SCHOOL'S DECISION ABOUT MY APPLICATION? You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to: **[hearing official name, address, phone number, e-mail]**.
11. MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOULD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced-price meals.
12. WHAT IF MY INCOME IS NOT ALWAYS THE SAME? List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you made \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime occasionally. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.
13. WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT? Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application, or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, please write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zeroes. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.
14. WE ARE IN THE MILITARY, DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY? Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.
15. WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY? List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper and attach it to your application. Contact **[name, address, phone number, e-mail]** to receive a second application.
16. MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR? To find out how to apply for **Food Assistance Program (FAP)** or other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office https://newmibridges.michigan.gov/s/isd-partnershiplanding?language=en_US.

If you have other questions or need help, call 517-647-2984

Sincerely, **Steve Pell Director of Dining Services**