



# *The Dino Bytes*

www.pistem.org  
10/7/22

2022-2023

1422 S. Tech Lane  
Vol 5 Issue 8

**NO SCHOOL OCTOBER 10TH-14TH**  
**Fall Break**

***NO DINO BYTES ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14TH***

**PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES**

**OCTOBER 19TH-21ST**

**See Class Dojo for the link: “Sign-up Genius”**  
This is where you find the time slot availability

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A4EAEA72FABFF2-parent> Kindergarten

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C44AFAA2CA0FA7-october> Primary

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A094DACA92AA7FC1-pistem> Elementary

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F49AAAD2AA2FA7-secondary3> Secondary



### We have some PAID positions open!

- Teacher substitutes
- Para substitutes
- Paraprofessional-Secondary
- School Nurse
- Admin Assistant

### We need substitutes!

Please contact Amy Weber or DeAnna Pollnow  
[aweber@pistem.org](mailto:aweber@pistem.org) or [dpollnow@pistem.org](mailto:dpollnow@pistem.org)  
if you have any questions. Thank you

To apply click here: <https://sites.google.com/pistem.org/employment/home>

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

**October 10th-14th - Fall Break - NO SCHOOL - Next week!**

**PTA Meeting:** TBA

**Board Meeting:** November 2nd - **Board Room at the school-1422 Tech Lane, Meridian**-you are welcome to attend the board meeting. You will find information on our website.

**Board game enrichment** - Mondays (4th-6th) Thursdays (K-3rd) - 3:45p-5p

Junior Leader Positions (7th-12th) - Mondays & Thursdays - 3:45p-5p

**FIRST Lego League Challenge Robotics** - Mondays 3:30p-5p & Wednesdays 1:45p-4p

**FIRST Tech Challenge Robotics** - Interest meeting on 10/06 from 3:15-4:30, Regular membership meetings start after October break Tues & Thur 3:15-5:00 pm.

**Facility Committee** - October 21st, 8:30am

**PSAT Testing:** October 25, 2022 - All day

**Parent Teacher Conferences** - October 19th - 21st

If you cannot attend, we would like your feedback. Please see the link below to submit your ideas. Thank you

<https://forms.gle/A58JXsvu8ddwL8LV9>



# Board Game After School Enrichment



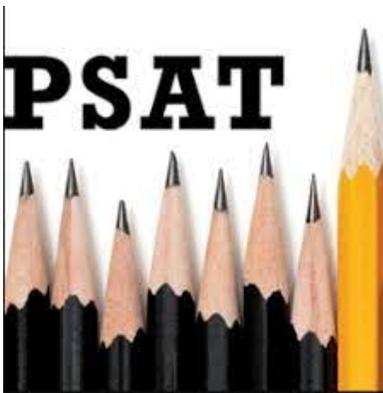
Watch for the link for sign-ups on ClassDojo

Will begin the week of Sep 26, 2022

Mondays 4th-6th - 3:45pm - 5pm

Thursday K-3rd - 3:45pm - 5pm

Mondays and Thursdays 7th-12th Junior Leader Positions



## PSAT Testing: October 25th

**10th grade parents:**

Please make sure your student is in attendance on October 25th. This is our scheduled day for PSAT testing.

Thank you. If you have any questions, contact Athea Prillaman at [aprillaman@pistem.org](mailto:aprillaman@pistem.org).



## Volunteer at Pi STEM - Sign-ups:

Primary (1st-3rd) <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e4eacae2ba4fe3-202223>

Elementary (4th-6th) <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e4eacae2ba4fe3-4th6th1>



## **THANK YOU!!!**

The response has been awesome! Thank you all so much. We are still in need of a few more Gluten Free options and bottled water. Again, thank you so much for your support in our Pantry program.

**Gluten Free items:** chips, yogurt raisins , rice cakes, dried fruits, fruit cups, packaged tuna, packaged chicken, Gluten free soup (individual)- Please make sure all items are individual packages.

These items are used for those that forget their lunch, those that need a snack during the day, or any students in need.

**Thank you for your help in this matter.  
We appreciate all you can do.**



Join the PiSTEM Parents Project PTA facebook site. You will find lots of information here. You will also be able to connect with other parents.

Here is the link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/567239017008223/>

### **WHEN IS LUNCH?**

One of the most common questions asked by students at the start of the year is, "When is lunch?" Below you will find the start times for lunch for each grade level:

**Kindergarten: 12:10 - 12:35**

**1st - 3rd Grade: 10:45 - 11:35**

**4th - 6th Grade: 11:45 - 12:30**

**7th - 12th Grade: 12:25 - 12:55**

## **LEARN EASIER**

Over-indulging in sugar can turn a kid or a teen into a zombie in school. Sugar negatively impacts attention span, concentration, and short-term memory. Plus, sugary foods tend to crowd out healthier foods that actually improve brain function and learning. Limiting kids' intake of sugar is one key way to help assure they reach their true academic potential.



### **Communication & Information**

Our teachers do an excellent job of communicating information regarding our programs. Here is where you can stay informed proactively:

- Teacher, School and District Websites
- Class Dojo
- Newsletters, Information and Flyers

A phone call or an email is an efficient way to communicate with your child's teacher, staff, or Ms. DeAnna in the office.

Please remember that our teachers are with students throughout the day and will return the call/email as soon as they are able. At times, this may be the next school day.

## Busing:



Brown Bus, like a lot of companies, is short staffed and working hard to make sure that our school and its students are taken care of. Please reach out to Brown bus if you have route or time questions. You can find most of the information on their website.

Brown Bus is still in need of one more Pi STEM dedicated bus driver, if you know anyone that would be interested - reach out to Brown Bus.

**NOTE:** There is a time change for pick up. Please see the Brown Bus website or ask your student for the paper that the bus driver gave them. Thank you

**UPDATE:** The website is now updated with the new times.

### **Brown Bus email for parents:**

Here is a email to help communicate to Brown Bus:

<http://www.brownbuscompany.com/mainPageCode/contactUs.php>

### **REMINDER:**

Here is a reminder of the laws in Idaho:



#### Driving

As a motorist, to travel into a roundabout remember to:

- Slow Down.
- Yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk.
- Yield to motorists already in the roundabout, then merge into traffic flow when it is safe.
- Enter the appropriate lane if there are multiple lanes.
- Stay in your lane. Do not change lanes or pass in the roundabout.
- Signal your turn and yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk when exiting the roundabout.

Biggest complaint we are receiving is that parents exiting our parking lot are turning **left through the roundabout, not right** into the flow of traffic in the roundabout.

Please, let's show our new neighbors that we respect this neighborhood and residents. Thank you for your help in resolving this issue.



**Let your friends and neighbors know, we have a few spots available.**

Now Enrolling K-12 STEMologists



# Project Impact STEM Academy

The Treasure Valley's Premier STEM Charter School

1422 S Tech Lane - Meridian, ID

[www.pistem.org](http://www.pistem.org)

(208)576-4811

# TAKE A HIKE?

It's fine to enjoy a little late-October holiday fun. Halloween can inspire a lot of **anticipation and excitement** before the big day and a lot of **family fun, outside activity, and neighborly togetherness** on October 31. And let's not forget the candy – no doubt lots of kids (and adults!) are probably feeling a **sweet treat binge** coming on late this month. Indeed, Americans purchase **300,000 TONS** of

Halloween candy each year (including **20 million pounds of candy corn**, still one of the top-selling candies of the season!) OK. But keep in mind that for every 2 little "fun size" candy bars you eat, **you need to hike 30 minutes to work off the calories**. So take it easy on the big day – or be prepared to take a hike!



the big number

**6**

Each Halloween, Americans buy enough candy to equal the weight of the Titanic **SIX TIMES OVER!**

**EAT BETTER. PLAY HARDER.  
LIVE HEALTHIER. LEARN EASIER.**



## October is Bat Appreciation Month

October is the perfect time to recognize Bat Appreciation Month.

These winged mammals are drawn to invasive insects like teenagers to a vampire movie. They devour them just as quickly as the made teens poured through the pages of the trilogy, too.

And where would we be without the bats that pollinate our favorite fruits? Despite the bad rap they've received since 1897 when Bram Stoker wrote about the undead, bats demand respect.

Consider their ability to navigate with precision via echolocation.

They are also one of the largest and longest living species on earth. Even the smallest at approximately one inch is appropriately named the Bumblebee Bat. Add to their unique charm the ability to sleep upside down, that they are the only mammals able to fly, and bats are downright savvy. These fascinating creatures live everywhere humans live and yet manage to avoid us quite well.

The library is a great place to take the kids and let them explore and learn. Here is a list of the programs the Kuna Library has to offer this fall. If you have young children that are not in school yet, there are programs available for them and you. Our library is a great resource for relaxing and learning for both child and parent. Library cards are available and free to Kuna residents.

## **KUNA LIBRARY DISTRICT PROGRAMS FALL 2022**

### New: After the Bell

Mon-Fri 3:00-5:00  
(Wed 2:00-5:00)  
For school-age

An afternoon of fun offered Monday-Friday. Activities may include movies, arts and crafts, video games, STEM activities, and more. Open to all ages.

### HOMESCHOOLERS @ THE LIBRARY

**Fri: 9:30  
ALL AGES**

Arts and crafts, STEM, Lego, etc. are just some of the activities that homeschoolers can expect at this program. Open to all ages.

### Mini Monet

Tues. 11:00

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs 1:00

Ideal for ages 3-6 but all ages are welcome when accompanied by an adult. Children will create an art project of their own using different techniques and media. No registration required.

### Storytime

Tues. 10:30

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs 12:30

All Ages

Children will have fun listening to stories and participating in activities that help develop early literacy skills while parents learn tips and tricks to develop these skills at home. No registration required.

### NEW: Creative Writing

Thurs: 3:00-4:00

For ages 12

Develop your creative writing skills with a monthly prompt and hear and share stories with other participants. No registration required.

### Kinder-Set-Go!

Thurs: 9:30 & 10:45

Kindergarten readiness program focused on helping parents prepare their child for kindergarten. Registration is required. For children that are 4 years old and will be entering kindergarten the following year.

**Registration is required**

### Music and Movement

Tues. 10:00

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs 12:00

Singing, dancing, and musical instruments are all a part of this fun and engaging 30 minute program. For all ages and their caregivers.

No registration required.



### Fit and Fall Proof

Mon., Wed., Fri: 11:00

For ages 55+

Designed to help senior citizens prevent injury and the subsequent loss of independence through simple exercises that increase strength, balance and endurance. All fitness levels are welcome!

### MAYOR'S BOOK CLUB

**2ND THURSDAY EACH MONTH  
AT 6:30**

**FOR KIDS IN 4TH-6TH GRADE**

For children in grades 4-6. Each child will receive a book to read and then will join the Mayor and Sponsor for a discussion of the book. **Registration is required.**

### NEW: Play with Me!

Wed: 9:45

**All ages with adult caregiver**

No registration required. Parents/caregivers and their child will engage in different activities such as building with blocks, Yoga Storytime, Toddler STEM, and more.

### Toddle Time

Mon: 9:45

For ages 0-3 and their adult caregiver

Storytime, Music and Movement, and play time all in one! Ideal for little ones ages 0-3 and their caregiver. No registration required.



# Lunch

Orders due:

**October 14th, before 3pm**

***This order will be for the week after break  
(Oct 17th-21st)***

(No orders will be processed after 3pm. If you place an order after 3pm, it will not be processed )

**You can place an order anytime during the week.**

We have a new purchase system, a new vendor, and new options.

Purchase system: **Payport**

You will find a button on our website ([pistem.org](http://pistem.org) - Parent Payment Portal) to be able to purchase meals. You also have the option to pay in the office with a Credit/Debit card or send a check, please do not send cash.

Monday: Subway- week1: Ham/cheese 6" sub

week 2: Turkey/cheese 6" sub

6" Sub \$4.00 (Lettuce/tomatoes/cucumbers on wheat)

Meal (Sub/1 bag potato chips/1 cookie) Meal \$5.00

Tuesday: Panda Express- week1: Orange Chicken/Chow Mein

week 2: Beef/Broccoli/Fried Rice

Kids \$3.75 Bowl \$5.25

Thursday: Yokozuna Teriyaki- same meal every week-

Teriyaki Chicken/Steamed Veggies rice bowl

Bowl \$6.10

Friday: Cafe Rio- week1: Beef quesadilla, rice/beans/chips

week 2: Chicken quesadilla, rice/beans/chips

Single \$4.50 Double \$6.00

**Lunch:** Students will have to bring their lunches from home if they choose not to purchase from the vendors. They will have access to microwaves, but we do ask that you, please

**send the necessary utensils (spoons, forks, bowls, plates).**

**We do have chocolate milk available for .50.**

All orders are due  
**the FRIDAY BEFORE THE LUNCH WEEK BEFORE 3PM**  
**- NO EXCEPTIONS!**

**It is too hard to try to accommodate any late orders. Sorry.**

**This is a list of the week and meal availability. Please place orders online  
 (pistem.org - Parent Payment Portal on the home page)**

<b>PiSTEM LUNCH ORDER FORM</b>		2022 September 26 - November 4th			
Student Name: _____		Grade: _____			
<b>Monday</b>	Subway - WK1: Ham/Cheese , WK2: Turkey/Cheese - Meal-sub/chips/cookie				
<b>Tuesday</b>	Panda Express - WK1: orange chicken/chow mein, WK2: beef broccoll/fried rice - Kids or Bowl				
<b>Thursday</b>	Yokozuna Teriyaki - Teriyaki Chicken/Steamed Veggies/rice bowl - one size				
<b>Friday</b>	Cafe Rio - WK1: shredded beef quesadilla/chips/black beans/rice, WK2: chicken quesadilla/chips/black beans/rice- Regular or Double				
<b>Milk</b>	chocolate				
		Regular	Meal/Bowl or Double	Milk \$0.50	Total
Monday 9/26/22	Subway - Ham sub / lettuce tomato - 6" Sub \$4.00 Meal \$5.00				
Tuesday 9/27/22	Panda- Orange Chicken/Chow Mein - Small \$3.75 Large \$5.25				
Thursday 9/29/22	Yokozuna Teriyaki - Teriyaki Chicken/Steamed Veggies/rice bowl - Bowl \$6.10				
Friday 9/30/22	Cafe Rio- Shredded Beef Quesadilla/chips/black beans/rice- Regular \$4.50 Double \$6.00				
Monday 10/3/22	Subway - turkey sub / lettuce tomato - 6" Sub \$4.00 Meal \$5.00				
Tuesday 10/4/22	Panda- Beef Broccoll/Fried Rice - Small \$3.75 Large \$5.25				
Thursday 10/6/22	Yokozuna Teriyaki - Teriyaki Chicken/Steamed Veggies/rice bowl - Bowl \$6.10				
Friday 10/7/22	Cafe Rio- Chicken Quesadilla/chips/black beans/rice- Regular \$4.50 Double \$6.00				
<b>FALL BREAK OCTOBER 10TH - 14TH - NO SCHOOL</b>					
Monday 10/17/22	Subway - Ham sub / lettuce tomato - 6" Sub \$4.00 Meal \$5.00				
Tuesday 10/18/22	Panda- Orange Chicken/Chow Mein - Small \$3.75 Large \$5.25				
Thursday 10/20/22	Yokozuna Teriyaki - Teriyaki Chicken/Steamed Veggies/rice bowl - Bowl \$6.10				
Friday 10/21/22	Cafe Rio- Shredded Beef Quesadilla/chips/black beans/rice- Regular \$4.50 Double \$6.00				
Monday 10/24/22	Subway - turkey sub / lettuce tomato - 6" Sub \$4.00 Meal \$5.00				
Tuesday 10/25/22	Panda- Beef Broccoll/Fried Rice - Small \$3.75 Large \$5.25				
Thursday 10/27/22	Yokozuna Teriyaki - Teriyaki Chicken/Steamed Veggies/rice bowl - Bowl \$6.10				
Friday 10/28/22	Cafe Rio- Chicken Quesadilla/chips/black beans/rice- Regular \$4.50 Double \$6.00				
Monday 10/31/22	Subway - Ham sub / lettuce tomato - 6" Sub \$4.00 Meal \$5.00				
Tuesday 11/1/22	Panda- Orange Chicken/Chow Mein - Small \$3.75 Large \$5.25				
Thursday 11/3/22	Yokozuna Teriyaki - Teriyaki Chicken/Steamed Veggies/rice bowl - Bowl \$6.10				
Friday 11/4/22	Cafe Rio- Shredded Beef Quesadilla/chips/black beans/rice- Regular \$4.50 Double \$6.00				
				Total (if you pre-order)	

**Procedures for placing orders are below.**

## Procedures for Placing Orders:

This is what you will see:

Choose: Lunch

Price (remember to enter the correct price-regular/meal/bowl or double)

Quantity (if you have more than one student, add that in the comment section)

Date for Lunch (if you are ordering for more than one meal, you have to enter each one separately, so we can track which meals are for which day)

Note/Comment - enter student(s) name and company (Subway, Panda, Yokozuna, or Cafe Rio)

Add another - if you are ordering more than one lunch- enter another

Next - click NEXT to continue and final will be submit payment

IDAHOHelp

1 Select Item(s) 2 Information 3 Payment 4 Submit Payment

**Select Transaction Item(s)**

Transaction Item	Unit Price	Quantity	Amount	
Lunch <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 0.00	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
* Date For Lunch <input type="text"/>				
Note/Comment <input type="text"/>				
<a href="#">Add Another Item</a>		TOTAL >	\$ 0.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

[Next >](#)

**Transaction Summary**

Lunch	\$0.00
Total including Convenience Fee <input type="checkbox"/>	
	\$0.00

**Customer Information**

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**Payment Information**

[Submit Payment](#)

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## PARENT INFORMATION:

This is our website: <https://www.pistem.org/>

Here under the tab: **PARENTS**, you will find the following:

**Calendar:** this shows our breaks, holidays, semesters, & other important dates.

**Parent portal guides:** ***Powerschool & School Messenger:***

<https://sites.google.com/pistem.org/powerschool>

email: [aprillaman@pistem.org](mailto:aprillaman@pistem.org) for code & password

***Schoology:*** <https://sites.google.com/pistem.org/schoology>

email: [aprillaman@pistem.org](mailto:aprillaman@pistem.org) for code & password

***Summit Learning:*** <https://sites.google.com/pistem.org/summitlearning>

email: [aprillaman@pistem.org](mailto:aprillaman@pistem.org) for code & password

**Learning Schedules:** this will show you what class your student will be in and when, <https://www.pistem.org/learning-schedules.html> .

**Student Programs:** Look and see if you qualify for any of these programs. We will also be participating in the "Operation School Bell" program that helps students and families in need. We will be sending out information soon. (pistem.org > parents > student programs)

**Student Handbook:** We are currently in the process of updating the student handbook and will be sending a new link out the week of 9/6/2022. Until then, here is some important information:

**Mobile Computing Device agreement:** Please review the following agreement. This was part of the registration form that has been acknowledged that you agree to the policies and will abide by the rules set forth. NOTE: Please review the section on what happens if there is damage to the device.

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the terms of the Charter School's policies regarding School-provided mobile computing devices (Policy No. 3275). Should any violation or misuse of the device occur while it is in my custody, I understand and agree that I may lose access to the device, or may lose the privilege of taking it home, and will forfeit any fees paid for use of the device, regardless of whether the misuse was committed by me or another person.

I accept full responsibility for the safe and secure handling of the device for this school year. I accept full responsibility for the proper use and safeguarding of the device under all applicable policies. I understand that it is my responsibility to immediately report any damage, theft, or problems with the device to a teacher or administrator.

I have read the Project Impact STEM Academy Mobile Computing Device Agreement , and my child(ren) attending Project Impact STEM Academy and I understand the the lost, stolen, or otherwise damaged such as the device cannot be restored to normal working order, the student/parents may be responsible for the prorated cost of the laptop (**first year:100%, second year:75%, third year:50%, fourth year:25%**) regardless of whether the misuse was committed by him or her or by another person.

### **DRESS CODE:**

To provide a learning environment that is safe, healthy and has limited distractions we have implemented a dress code that will provide respect and modesty. If one's dress or behavior is offensive, inappropriate, distracting to the learning/school environment, and/or poses a safety hazard as determined by the administration, it will not be acceptable on campus.

- Students should have a neat, clean and well-groomed appearance.
- All pants, shorts, skirts, etc. must be worn at the waist to cover one's undergarments.
- Shorts and skirts must be worn at the waist and reach no more than 3" above the knee.
- Holes are not allowed that are 3" above the top of the knee or higher.
- No brief or revealing tops. Garments such as halter tops, tube tops, crop tops, tank top garments narrower than a 3-finger width, spaghetti strap garments, and garments that are see-through may not be worn. Midriffs must be covered.
- Underwear or undergarments are not to be visible.
- Leggings, yoga pants, and bicycle shorts must be worn with a dress or a long shirt that extends to fingertip length (all the way around) when arms are flat at the side. Legging style pants that have rear pockets are not considered leggings.
- Hair should never be a distraction to the learning environment.
- Jewelry should be worn in moderation and not pose a safety concern or distraction to the learning environment.
- Clothing must not be overly tight, bagging, or revealing in any way.
- No hoods, scarves, or other head covering that creates a distraction or impedes engagement in the learning process will be allowed while inside the classroom. However, hoods, hats, visors, or other acceptable head coverings will be allowed outside.
- No trench coat style jackets allowed.
- Clothing, tattoos, body markings, or any item brought to school, such as outerwear, backpacks, lunch boxes, facemasks, notebooks, jewelry, and hair pieces, that have any insignias, patterns, graphics, writing or messages that are obscene, relating to drugs, alcohol, tobacco, gangs, sexual innuendos, or any illegal activity are strictly prohibited.
- Any attire, grooming practice, makeup, or possession that disrupts the educational atmosphere will not be allowed.
- Appropriate foot attire must be worn at all times; no roller shoes will be allowed.
  
- Facemask must not contain any letters, words, or phrases that could be viewed as inappropriate or slanderous. Facemasks must not contain any large graphic images larger than the size of a quarter.

Special days that would not adhere to certain portions of this dress code may be allowed with the permission of the school administrator and announced in advance.

The Executive Director holds the right to determine if any apparel, jewelry, grooming practice, or other item is not appropriate for Pi STEM based on a distraction to the learning environment or a safety concern. Students are expected to resolve any dress code violation prior to returning to class.

## Drop-off and Pick-up:

You will also find information on our staff, board and so much more.



### School drop off is 7:45a-8:00a

School starts at 8:15a Please have your student(s) here **BEFORE** the start of school.

### Pick up line information:

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday-** school is **out at 3:15p**. Pick up line starts **no earlier than 3:05p** - if you arrive earlier we ask you to park in the spots opposite the buses (section 1) so that you have a protected walkway to the school building.

On **Wednesdays** school is **out at 1:45p**, pick up line starts **no earlier than 1:35p** - if you arrive earlier we ask you to park in the spots opposite the buses (section 1) so that you have a protected walkway to the school building.

**Brown Bus Company:** <http://www.brownbuscompany.com/>

On this website you will find all your bussing information. Note we have made some small changes to even out the two buses, families affected have been contacted.

Go to: **Charter Schools: *Project Impact STEM Academy***

Brown Bus handles all scheduling and routes, so you will need to communicate with them for most information, however, all forms (new bus riders or bus changes) will need to go through PiSTEM. You can email: [dpollnow@pistem.org](mailto:dpollnow@pistem.org) for additional information.

**Most of our school information is communicated through:**

**Class Dojo:** <https://www.classdojo.com/>

Please go online and log in (create an account) and you will be notified of all posted information.