



The Dino Bytes

www.pistem.org
9/9/22

2022-2023

2275 W Hubbard Rd.
Vol 5 Issue 4

School pictures will be
September 20th *(date changed from 9/21 to 9/20)*
retakes on **November 2nd**



New school address:

**Project Impact STEM Academy, 1422 Tech Lane,
Meridian 83642
208-576-4811**

dpollnow@pistem.org - office email (email for students out sick, early pickup or general information)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

October 10th-14th - Fall Break - NO SCHOOL

PTA Meeting: TBA

Board Meeting: October 4th - **Board Room at the school-1422 Tech Lane, Meridian**-you are welcome to attend the board meeting. You will find information on our website.

School Pictures - September 20th - Tuesday

Vendor lunches start - Week of - September 26th

The Empowering Parents Grant is open!

Apply today.

Empowering Parents Grants Available to Idaho Families

The Idaho State Board of Education is now accepting applications for the Empowering Parents Grant. Eligible parents can use grant funds to purchase education-related resources and services such as internet connectivity, computer hardware and software, instructional materials, tutoring and more from the Empowering Parents online marketplace. The program provides \$1,000 per student or a maximum of \$3,000 per family. K-12 students attending Idaho public or private schools or students who are homeschooled are eligible.

A portal is available on the State Board of Education website where parents can sign up to receive updates on the program. Visit

<https://boardofed.idaho.gov/empowering-parents-program/>.

REMINDER:

Wednesdays are early dismissal:

School is out at 1:45pm

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

What did you do in PE today?

When you talk to your youngster about his day at school, ask about PE



class. You'll show him that physical activity is important. Which activities does he like best? Turn his favorites, such as hula-

hooping, into a family activity night. He can be the "teacher" and show everyone how to keep the hoops spinning longer.



Welcome Gygee

Foreign Exchange Student from Thailand

We want to welcome Chakriya Wachiraangkoon (Gygee) from Thailand. She is in the 11th grade and excited to learn more about our culture. Our students have welcomed her with enthusiasm and curiosity. For all that we have to teach Gygee, we have a lot we can learn from her as well. **WELCOME GYGEE!!**

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.

Learn More about our Amazing Staff at pistem.org.



Busing:



As we start the year, busing is always a little chaotic. Brown Bus is doing their very best to service our school and accommodate our routes the best way possible. Like a lot of companies, they are 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. **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**

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



Vendor Lunches will start week of September 26th

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 - Parent Payment Portal) to be able to purchase meals. We made this switch because Payport is an easier application to use and has less fees than MySchoolBucks.

You also have the option to pay in the office with a Credit/Debit card or send a check.

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

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)

PiSTEM LUNCH ORDER FORM		2022 September 26 - November 4th			
Student Name: _____		Grade: _____			
Monday	Subway - WK1: Ham/Cheese , WK2: Turkey/Cheese - Meal-sub/chips/cookie				
Tuesday	Panda Express - WK1: orange chicken/chow mein, WK2: beef broccoli/fried rice - Kids or Bowl				
Thursday	Yokozuna Teriyaki - Teriyaki Chicken/Steamed Veggies/rice bowl - one size				
Friday	Cafe Rio - WK1: shredded beef quesadilla/chips/black beans/rice, WK2: chicken quesadilla/chips/black beans/rice- Regular or Double				
Milk	chocolate				
		Regular	Meal/Bowl or Double	Milk \$0.50	Total
Monday 9/26/22	Subway - turkey 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- Orange Chicken/Chow Mein - 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- Shredded Beef Quesadilla/chips/black beans/rice- Regular \$4.50 Double \$6.00				
FALL BREAK OCTOBER 10TH - 14TH - NO SCHOOL					
Monday 10/17/22	Subway - turkey 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- Orange Chicken/Chow Mein - 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- Shredded Beef Quesadilla/chips/black beans/rice- Regular \$4.50 Double \$6.00				
Monday 10/31/22	Subway - turkey 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"/>				
Add Another Item		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

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 for code & password

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

email: aprillaman@pistem.org for code & password

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

email: 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 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.

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

We do have chocolate milk available for .50.

WONDERFUL WEIRDOS DAY - September 9th

Get out and celebrate being different, strange, and **AWESOME!**
If anyone ever called you weird this is your day to call them up and invite them to celebrate your unique weirdness!
The weirder the celebration, the better!

WHY WE LOVE WONDERFUL WEIRDOS DAY

1. It makes us feel loved

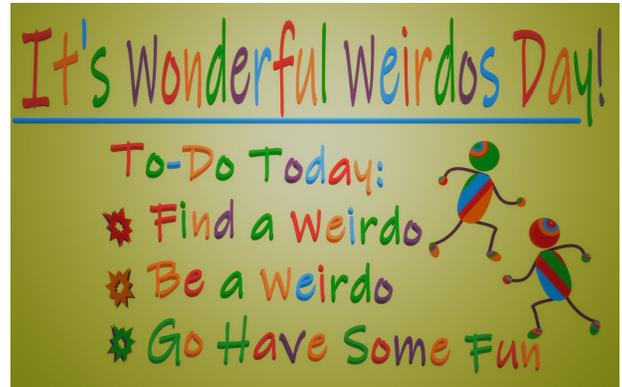
Celebrations such as Wonderful Weirdos Day make us feel loved. The day celebrates the weirdness in each one of us and reassures us that weirdness isn't necessarily bad.

2. We are all weird

Wonderful Weirdos Day reminds us that all of us are weird. The consequences of being weird are not as serious as they once used to be and today it is fun to be weird!

3. It's a day to let loose

In our daily lives of busy schedules, we forget to let loose and have fun. Wonderful Weirdos Day is a reminder to not take ourselves too seriously and to enjoy each day as it comes.



New Government WiFi Program for Families

We have received some information on a program created by the FCC to aid with internet connectivity for qualifying households.

To learn more about if your family qualifies and how you apply, visit the link below:

<https://acpbenefit.org/do-i-qualify/>