

Pyramid Lake Jr/Sr High School Parent Newsletter

PO Box 267 / 711 State Street Nixon, NV 89424-0267 (775) 574-1016 or Fax: (775) 574-1037 www.plhs.us

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Native Studies
- Parent Booster
- Teacher News
- Middle School
- Basketball
- Finance Report
- Legislative Day

PYRAMID LAKE PRINCIPAL MR. CHAPIN

Laker Families! I hope you are having an amazing 2015 so far! There are lots of great things happening at Pyramid Lake School that I would love to share with you. On the education front we are busily preparing students for upcoming assessments; the middle school will participate in a National Assessment on February 24th and their scores will be compared with schools across the Nation. High School Students have their next round of High School Proficiency Exams March 2-5. Students will be able to participate in a shadow day at UNR on March 6. On this day they will meet current students, go to some classes and experience college life.

Athletically the Middle School Boys Basketball team is in full swing, we are proud of how well they are doing! The High School Basketball seasons are winding down and we begin to turn our thoughts toward the regional and state

playoffs. Our coaches are working hard to prepare our Laker athletes for the challenges ahead. We have several exciting trips for students coming up in the near future. We are planning to send students to the Nevada Tribes Legislative Day, California Education Conference, a college tour over Spring Break, and a trip to Gathering of Nations. Our school will be presenting at the 8th Annual American Indian/Alaska Native Education Summit, please see the attached flier for more information. Make sure to read about all of the good things going on at PLHS and visit us at our newly revamped website www.plhs.us. Have a great February and please make sure to contact us if we can be of any assistance.

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Finance Department

PYRAMID LAKE JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL

P.O. Box 267 - 711 State Street

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The Pyramid Lake Jr/Sr High School had their annual audit completed and accepted by the School Board of Education during their December 2014 meeting. Herein is the Management's Discussion and Analysis which will provide an overview of our annual audit at June 30, 2014. This year the High School did not have any audit findings and received an unmodified or unqualified opinion from the auditing firm. You may contact either Genevieve John, Finance/HR Director or Steven J. Chapin, Principal at the High School if you would like more information or have questions regarding our annual audit.

**PYRAMID LAKE JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014**

This section of the Pyramid Lake Junior/Senior High School's (the School) financial report presents management's narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the School for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. Please read it in conjunction with the School's financial statements, which follow this section.

Overview of Financial Statements

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The statement of net position and the statement of activities provide information about the activities of the School as a whole and provide both long-term and short-term information about the School's overall financial status. Fund financial statements report School operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the School's most significant funds. Fund financial statements include:

- Governmental fund financial statements that indicate how School services such as education and facilities were financed in the short-term and what remains for future spending.
- Fiduciary fund is used to account for the School's employee's retirement trust.

The financial statements also include notes that explain the information in the financial statements and provide more detail. The notes are followed by a section of supplemental information that presents combining financial statements for the School's non-major governmental funds. The supplemental information is then followed by the information required for OMB Circular A-133 single audits.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

One of the most important questions asked about the School's finances may be, "Is the School as a whole, better off or worse off, as a result of the year's activities." The statement of net position and the statement of activities report information about the School as a whole and about its activities in such a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the School's net position and changes in them. Net position, the difference between assets and liabilities, is one way to measure financial position, or health. Over time, increases or decreases in net position are one indicator of whether financial stability is improving or deteriorating. Other non-financial factors, however, such as changes in the scope or size of operations, and other potential influences from tribal, state, or federal agencies, should be considered in addition to net position in measuring financial stability.

**PYRAMID LAKE JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014**

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant funds – not the School as a whole. Separate funds are established to help control and manage revenues and expenditures for particular purposes or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain grant money. Additionally, separate funds are maintained to guarantee against the possibility of co-mingling funds. The School has two types of funds:

- *Governmental Funds* – Most of the School's basic services are reported in governmental funds. Governmental funds focus on how cash and other financial assets flow in and out, and the balances that are left at year-end available for future spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. Consequently, the governmental fund financial statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance School programs. Because this information does not encompass the additional long-term focus of the government-wide financial statements, additional information is provided on a subsequent page that explains the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities and balances reported in the statement of net position and statement of activities and governmental fund financial statements.
- *Fiduciary Funds* – Used to account for assets held by a governmental unit in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, or other governmental units. The School has one fiduciary fund, a retirement trust fund used to account for employee benefits. The fiduciary fund is not included in the government-wide financial statements.

Financial Highlights

- The School received \$3,130,851 in Federal and State funding for School operations; this is a decrease of \$170,567 from the prior year. Deferred inflows of resources (deferred revenue) were \$763,427 at June 30, 2014, which includes \$3,541 for various classes. The year-end deferred revenue is a decrease of \$355,369 from the prior year.
- The Money Market fund balance at June 30, 2014, was \$1,028,492; total interest earned during the fiscal year was \$3,888. This is a decrease from the prior year due to lower interest earnings and a decreased amount in the fund.
- Total expense for the fiscal year was \$3,224,764; this is a decrease of \$113,709 from the prior year.
- The combined ending fund balance for all governmental funds at June 30, 2014, was \$87,791; this is a decrease of \$16,790 from the prior year.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

**PYRAMID LAKE JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014**

The following table summarizes net position at June 30, 2014, with comparative totals for 2013:

	2014	2013
Assets		
Current Assets	\$ 1,097,921	\$ 1,436,279
Capital Assets, Net	90,503	126,004
Total Assets	1,188,424	1,562,283
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	225,581	196,977
Long-term Liabilities	21,121	15,925
Total Liabilities	246,702	212,902
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Deferred Inflows - Grants	763,427	1,118,796
Net Position		
Invested in Capital Assets, Net	90,503	126,004
Unrestricted	87,791	104,581
Total Net Position	\$ 178,294	\$ 230,585

The following table summarizes the changes in net position for the period ending June 30, 2014, with comparative totals for 2013:

	2014	2013
Revenues		
Operating Grants and Contributions	\$ 3,130,851	\$ 3,301,418
Charges for Services	5,763	6,501
Interest Income	3,888	4,471
Other Income	31,972	42,108
Total Revenues	3,172,474	3,354,498
Expenses		
School Administration	370,161	338,488
Education	1,578,500	1,779,372
Facilities Operation & Maintenance	384,333	304,730
Transportation	735,534	755,477
Student Services	156,236	160,406
Total Expenses	3,224,764	3,338,473
Change in Net Position	\$ (52,290)	\$ 16,025

**PYRAMID LAKE JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
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Fiduciary Fund

The School maintains a retirement plan for eligible employees. The Administrator of the Plan is Qualified Plan Consultants; the investment pool is held in trust by Invesco Investment Services, Inc. Quarterly and annual reports are provided to participating employees. The fiduciary fund's net position at June 30, 2014, was \$619,646. This is an increase of \$96,705 from the prior year's net position of \$522,941.

Capital Assets

As of June 30, 2014, the School had \$90,503, net of depreciation, invested in equipment and vehicles. See the notes to the basic financial statements for more details about capital asset activity.

Economic Factors

The School receives substantially all of its funding from federal programs. The continuance of federal program funding is critical for the School to provide educational services.

Requests for Information

Correspondence regarding this audit report should be addressed to:

Ms. Genevieve John, Finance/HR Director
Pyramid Lake Junior/Senior High School
P.O. Box 267
Nixon, NV 89424
(775) 574 - 1016



8th Annual American Indian/ Alaska Native Education Summit

Transforming for the Future: Closing the Achievement Gap for American Indian Students

March 15, 16, & 17, 2015
The University of Nevada, Reno

What to Expect:

Districts are invited to send teams comprised of district and school administrators, teachers, counselors and other educators who are responsible for the success of American Indian students. During the Course of this two-day event, they will work with the Nevada Department of Education, Tribal Education Departments, postsecondary institutions, and early childhood programs to develop 1 to 2 action steps to ensure college & career readiness fits into their school performance plans.

In addition to the two-day Summit, we are excited to offer an optional mobile workshop on Sunday to experience and learn about tribal people who once inhabited the Lake Tahoe area. Space is limited, and a separate registration fee will be required.

Special Guests:

*National Indian Education Association
American Indian Graduate Center*

Invited Presenters:

Runninghorse Livingston, member of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, and a nationally recognized teacher trainer and coach for mathematics instructional strategies.

Tanaya Winder, from the Duckwater Shoshone, Pyramid Lake Paiute and Southern Ute Tribes. Tanaya believes, "Each of us has a story to tell, gifts that we were born with, and a light to share with the world." Tanaya is a poet, performer, and motivational speaker.



Summit Information:
Contact Fredina Romero at fromero@doe.nv.gov or (775) 687-9143

Registration Information:
Contact Stephanie Swanson at sswanson@doe.nv.gov or (775) 687-9150

This is a Nevada Department of Education sponsored event, in partnership with the Nevada Indian Commission, University of Nevada, Reno's Center for Student Cultural Diversity, and the West Comprehensive Center at WestEd.

A special thank you to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas for continually supporting Indian Education initiatives and to the school district and tribes who are a part of the planning committee.



"Transforming for the Future"

Our Nevada Students, honoring their traditions and cultures, while demonstrating excellence in their academics, from birth-to-postsecondary.

Nevada Tribes Legislative Day

Nevada Tribes Legislative Day

Nevada's Tribes and the Nevada Indian Commission Invite You to Join them in Room 3100 of the Legislative Building on

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

10:30am - 1:30pm

- Information on Tribal Governments
- Information on Priority Tribal Issues
- Cultural Presentation

12:00 - 1:30pm Luncheon Reception
(light appetizers will be served)

Legislative Building, 401 S. Carson St., Room 3100, Carson City, Nevada

For more information call the Nevada Indian Commission at 775.687.8333 or email at srupert@nic.nv.gov

What is Dating Violence?

Dating violence is a pattern of abusive behaviors used to exert power and control over a dating partner.

A Pattern of Behavior

Calling dating violence a pattern doesn't mean the first instance of abuse is not dating violence. It just recognizes that dating violence usually involves a series of abusive behaviors over a course of time. Every relationship is different, but the one thing that is common to most abusive dating relationships is that the violence escalates over time and becomes more and more dangerous for the young victim.

Who Experiences Dating Violence?

Any teen or young adult can experience violence, abuse or unhealthy behaviors in their dating relationships. A relationship may be serious or casual, monogamous or not, short-term or long-term. Dating abuse does not discriminate – it does not see gender, sexual identity, economic status, ethnicity or religious preference.

See more of the **statistics on dating violence**.

What Does Dating Violence Look Like?

Teens and young adults experience the same types of abuse in relationships as adults. This can include:

Physical Abuse: Any intentional use of physical force with the intent to cause fear or injury, like hitting, shoving, biting, strangling, kicking or using a weapon.

Verbal or Emotional Abuse: Non-physical behaviors such as threats, insults, constant monitoring, humiliation, intimidation, isolation or stalking.

Sexual Abuse: Any action that impacts a person's ability to control their sexual activity or the circumstances in which sexual activity occurs, including rape, coercion or restricting access to birth control.

Digital Abuse: Use of technologies and/or social media networking to intimidate, harass or threaten a current or ex-dating partner. This could include demanding passwords, checking cell phones, cyber bullying, sexting, excessive or threatening texts or stalking on Facebook or other social media.

If you or a loved one is in a violent relationship, please get help. Visit **loveisrespect** for more information, chat call 866.331.9474 or text "loveis" to 22522.

Ten Warning Signs of Abuse

While there are many warning signs of abuse, here are ten common abusive behaviors:

Checking your cell phone or email without permission

Constantly putting you down

Extreme jealousy or insecurity

Explosive temper

Isolating you from family or friends

Making false accusations

Mood swings

Physically hurting you in any way

Possessiveness

Telling you what to do

If you or a loved one is in a violent relationship, please **get help**.

The Effect of Dating Violence

Less attention to academics. Increased exposure to drugs and alcohol. A greater likelihood of teen pregnancy. Growing isolation. Sexual assault. Even one of these things can have a profound impact on the physical, social and emotional growth of a young person. Together, they create a perfect storm that not only affects the victim of abuse, but their friends, families, schools and surrounding communities.

And it goes beyond preventing the actual violence. Parents need to feel comfortable talking to their kids about these issues. Schools need to take steps to become better prepared to address incidents on campus.

Communities need to rise up and say **NO MORE**.

-www.teendvmonth.org

**A Silent
Epidemic**

**PYRAMID LAKE JR / SR HIGH SCHOOL
TEACHERS CORNER**

Hello all! We are rolling into the 3rd quarter and second semester. With my first semester done I have learned so much and I am carrying that over to the next semester. I still have so much to learn, but I really enjoy this learning experience with all of your children. We will be keeping the same kind of class structure, with the exception that I have noticed how fast I have been going. I am going to slow down the class for the better comprehension of the students. Like always if you have any questions you can always email me galvint@plhs.us Thank you and let's rock this semester!!
-Mr. Galvin



Hello Laker Families!
Mr. Cope here, hoping you all had a fantastic holiday season. It's been great getting classes going for the new semester, and all of the kids are getting right back into it. As always, if you have any questions for me, email at copem@plhs.us, or call 775-574-1016 ext. 1104.

We will be taking all of the middle school on a field trip Wednesday, February 18,

2015 to the Wilbur D. May Center for their exciting "Grossology" exhibit. This field trip will let the kids see the biology behind some of those gross things our bodies do, like boogers! The entrance fee is \$6, and we can arrange something if you need help paying the \$6. Permission slips were sent out Monday, January 26, so ask your kids so you can sign it if you want them to go!

We're also going to be doing some planting in 7th Grade Science. The kids are going to learn how to test soil, and what conditions are best for good plant growth. Be sure to ask them how their plant is doing, because I'm sure they'll be excited to tell you.

In 8th grade, we've begun our Motion and Forces unit, which is a very fun unit. We will have a lot of projects coming up, including building marble rollercoasters, balloon racecars, and rockets! If you want to keep them learning at home, try to talk about speed when you're in the car, and distance on trips. These are very important concepts that are great when seen in real life.

I hope you all have a wonderful February, and I look forward to talking to you again in March!

-Mr. Cope



On Saturday, January 17, 2015 PLHS Staff accompanied students Michael Lucas, Janieva Lucas, Andrew Crutcher, and Paul O'Daye-Bush for a fun day of Bowling at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno. Their purpose was to celebrate their annual fund-raising program to help youth and adults in the greater Washoe County area. High scores for the day were recorded by Paul O'Daye and staff member Mr. Adam Bill. Students and staff were treated to a pizza lunch along with other fun activities and a Reno, Nevada radio DJ with all the latest vibes. This was a fun time for our students to participate in helping raise funds for young and old in Washoe County. This program was coordinated by the Transition Program here at PLHS.

Shirley's classroom has also been preparing some wonderful meals this school year.

Jim Ganyon
Shirley Steel





with a single unit to be installed in the next several weeks. Once we verify the connection and equipment works well we will request the additional units and these units will be installed in all of our student transportation vehicles. So stay tuned! More to come!

-Mr. Esposito



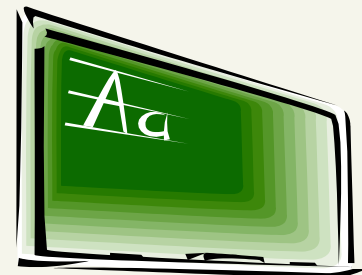
Internet access coming to Pyramid Lake Jr/Sr High School transportation. The school is currently working with the technology department for the Bureau of Indian Affairs to install Internet connectivity on all of the school vehicles. We have been working for 2 years to get this pilot program started. This progressive program will be the first of its kind at the Bureau and as such we hope the success of this program will allow other schools to follow. In particular we will collect data on the effectiveness of the program starting



Yearbooks are on sale now! For just \$20 you can reserve your student's bound, hardback yearbook. This price is available until May 14, 2015. Yearbooks purchased after that date will go up to \$35 each.

It is important that our students are getting to school on time, if

they are absent for any reason please contact: Gary Reese at 574-1016 Ext: 1038 or Fawn Hunter at 574-1016 Ext: 1024 Also please make sure that you are providing your student a note when he/she returns to school. If your student has been to the doctor and has a doctors note, please return those letters from the doctor to Mr. Reese. If the doctor has excused the student from school, it doesn't count against the students absences, although they will still need to complete any class work missed while they were out of school. If you have any questions of concerns please contact Gary Reese at 574-1016 Ext: 1038 or Fawn Hunter at 574-1016 Ext: 1024.



Parent Involvement Coordinator Corner

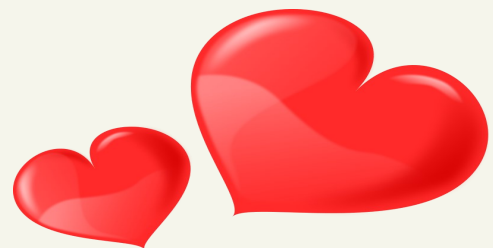
Communication between a parent, student, and student's teacher is one of the most important tools that enable your child to be successful. Therefore we invite you to volunteer for the school, come in and sit in on a classroom, e-mail us, call us and/or volunteer with our various Parent Engagement activities. In 2015 we look forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that in order for our children to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know that if we have a strong partnership with you it will make a big difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities.

I would also like to invite all of our parents out to all of our parent nights, I would like to thank those parents and guardians that came out to our College Parent Night. I was able to give out \$25 visa gift card and a few \$10 Walmart gift cards, we will be having more free raffles at each Parent Night. **Our next Parent Night will be held on Tuesday February 17th at 6pm.** We will be meeting at the Fallon Shoshone-Paiute Administration building.

There are other ways you can get involved. We have a Pyramid Lake High School Booster Club that you can join. Booster Club raises money for students academic achievement as well as sports. Booster also helps support our families in need during the holiday seasons and help purchase food for those in need. **Our Meetings for the month of February are Thursday the 12th and 26th at 4pm.** We are looking for members to join the booster club, please come down and join us.

Another way a parent/guardian can support their child is by participating in the Family Engagement Team (FET). With this team we look at family engagement policies and review items that the BIE has outlined. If you are a parent and would like to be a part of this team, or just want more information about the FET feel free to contact me.

If you would like to be a part of our school in any of the ways that I have listed please feel free to contact Fawn Hunter 775-574-1016 Ext: 1024 or though e-mail: hunterf@plhs.us. Even if you are a community member and would like to help out or be involved please contact me.



Good Day Parents and Community Members, my name is Nathan Dunn. I am a Pyramid Lake Tribal member, an alumni and product of Pyramid Lake High School who serves on the PLHS school board. This season I am volunteering as coach for the middle school boys' basketball team. We have some really great student athletes, and they with their diverse athletic skill levels are a big contribution to our team's effort and success.

Our basketball team is comprised of a combination of 9 athletes from residing here on the Pyramid Lake Paiute reservation. They are: Gabriel Frazier, Matthew Ruiz, Cornelius Tsonekoy, Jesse Lenoir, and Rylee Stump, Ryan Peters, Andrew Crutcher, Tucker Hall and Taylen Patrick.

This season we are promoting an academic athletic code of conduct for all students participating in our sports program. Our goal of this contract will engage players' responsibility for their own academic progress on and off the court. This positive practice shall be an asset to these academic athletes once they transition to high school sports programs and beyond. Students are responsible for striving for "B's OR BETTER"; maintain a respectful and positive behavior; attend practices on-time; actively contribute and donate items/effort during our fundraisers; as well as, provide volunteer services by "GIVING BACK" to our communities.

Jan. 27th Pyramid Lake vs Sparks Middle: Our season started off great, as our boys showed great athleticism and never stopped playing defense against both Sparks middle school 8th Grade Boys A & B Teams. Our defensive skills overwhelmed Sparks's offensive plays and tactics. Right off the back, our team gained possession of the jump ball, and drove in for some easy lay-ups. In a short time, we were ahead by 10 points, and before halftime we were ahead more than 20 points. We look forward to keeping up this school spirit and positive momentum throughout our basketball season.

2015 Season Schedule:

Feb. 9th @ Clayton Middle

Feb. 12th @ O'Brien Middle

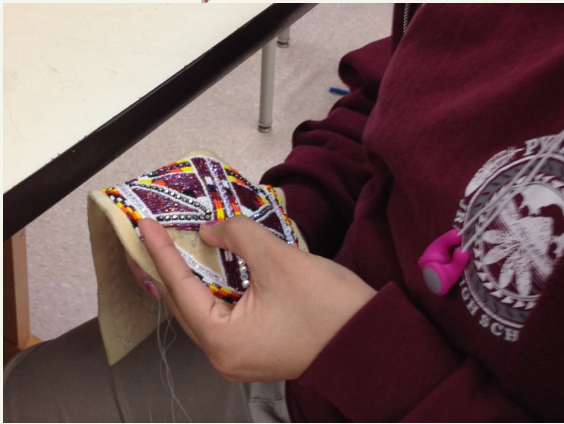
***Feb. 13th Shaw Middle @ 1:30pm/2:15pm**

Feb. 19th @ Traner Middle

(*Home Games)



Native Studies



This semester we have been busy with many projects! Our Advanced Art students are working on individual projects—some are beading and some are painting.

Our Native Studies and Middle School Art class made some cups and spoons. The criteria was to hold one cup and one teaspoon of water and have a Native Design. The Native Design is open to interpretation—geometric, animals or tell a story. They will be fired in the kiln and then glazed in the upcoming weeks.

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Y



Tule Ducks



Vinton Hawley and Libby Austin from the Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Cultural and Language Program gave a presentation on how to make tule ducks.

A big "THANK YOU" go to Vinton and Libby for sharing the importance of knowing and carrying on traditions of our native people.



SHARED NEWS!

PLHS Basketball 2014-15						
DATE	OPPONENT	JVG	JVB	VG	VB	
2/3	Silver Stage	3:00 PM	4:30 PM	6:00 PM	7:30 PM	
2/6	@ Sierra Lutheran	3:00 PM	4:30 PM	6:00 PM	7:30 PM	
2/7	Sage Ridge	-----	-----	4:00 PM	5:30 PM	
2/10	@ Silver Stage	4:00 PM	5:30 PM	-----	7:00 PM	
2/13	Excel Christian (Senior Night)	-----	4:00 PM	5:30 PM	7:00 PM	
2/14	@ Smith Valley	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	4:00 PM	5:30 PM	
2/19-21	Regionals in Elko, NV					
2/26-28	State in Las Vegas, NV					

D A T E S T O R E M E M B E R

- ◆ February 3rd basketball home game: PLHS VS. Silver Stage 3pm
- ◆ February 7th basketball home game: PLHS VS. Sage Ridge 1pm
- ◆ February 10th School Board Meeting
- ◆ February 12th PLHS Booster Club Meeting
- ◆ February 13th Basketball's last home game: PLHS VS. Excel Christian 3pm
- ◆ February 13th Senior Night
- ◆ February 16th NO School Holiday
- ◆ February 17th Parent Night Meeting (Fallon Shoshone-Paiute Administration Office 6pm)
- ◆ February 19th Basketball Regionals in Elko, NV
- ◆ February 26th PLHS Booster Club Meeting
- ◆ March 2nd-5th H.S.P.E. Testing Week
- ◆ March 4th Sandra from UNR Senior Presentation
- ◆ March 6th UNR Shadow Day

If you or anyone you know wants a copy of the Parent

Newsletter e-mailed, please contact Fawn Hunter

at hunterf@plhs.us or call 775-574-1016 Ext:1024

If you have any questions concerning job openings at PLHS please contact: Lesley Hawley, HR Manager 574-1016 Ext: 1005

