



Pilot Knob PTA News

Upcoming Events

⚙️ PTA Meeting

Location: Pilot Knob
Tuesday, December 1
6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

⚙️ Wendy's Night

Location: Eagan Wendy's
on Pilot Knob Road
Monday, December 14
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

This month's proceeds go to Art & Music

⚙️ Annual Food Drive

Monday, December 14,
through Friday,
December 18

⚙️ Family Dance

Friday, January 15
6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Pilot Knob STEM Magnet

PTA

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2015 Read-a-thon: By the Numbers

Thank you to everyone who participated in our third annual Read-a-thon! This was a successful event, not only as a fundraiser, but also in encouraging kids to read, read read! Consider these amazing numbers...

- **196,216:** Total number of minutes read by all our Read-a-thon participants
- **212:** Number of students who turned in reading logs
- **143:** Number of students who raised money
- **More than 700:** Number of bracelets students earned
- **24:** Number of students who played in the game truck (for raising \$150 or more)
- **98:** Number of students who went to the Gary Harbo art workshop (for reading an average of 30 minutes a day or more)
- **635:** Number of prizes given away on prize day
- **More than 1,000:** Number of prizes given away throughout the Read-a-thon
- **More than \$10,000:** Amount we fundraised, every dollar of which will stay right here to benefit our school
- **More than 300:** Number of hours contributed by volunteers, without whom the Read-a-thon would not be possible



And now (drumroll, please!) the top Read-a-thon readers for each grade are:

- Kindergarten: **Anthony Chester** – 2,215 minutes
- 1st Grade: **Max Gregory** – 3,260 minutes
- 2nd Grade: **Joshua Enstrom** – 2,185 minutes
- 3rd Grade: **Vanshika Pallerla** – 5,270 minutes
- 4th Grade: **Lauren Noggle** – 3,991 minutes

And the top fundraiser:

- **Hannah Lawrence** (1st Grade)

Thanks to everyone – parents, students, teachers, and our volunteers – who made this year's Read-a-thon a huge success!

PTA Meeting: Tuesday, 12/1

Learn all about Pilot Knob reading goals, reading levels, AR quizzes, and more. And bring books to trade for our winter break book swap. Please RSVP to PilotKnobPTA@gmail.com if you need childcare – your children can read stories and take an AR quiz while we meet.

- Free childcare included – RSVP to PilotKnobPTA@gmail.com and feel free to bring a bag lunch for your child
- 6:00-6:30 – PTA business meeting
- 6:30-7:30 – Learn about Pilot Knob reading goals, reading levels, AR quizzes, and more
- PTA members and nonmembers welcome!

Stop by the School Store

The School Store is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings from 7:35 to 7:45 a.m. The School Store is run by 4th graders and sells a variety of school supplies, including notebooks, pens, pencils, and fun erasers. Most items are \$1.00 or less. Students may purchase items only during school store hours.

Volunteers Needed

Planning is already underway for Family Fun Night (our annual carnival and silent auction in March). If you'd like to be part of the team that makes this happen, email us at **PilotKnobPTA@gmail.com**.

You can help find local businesses and organizations to run games, coordinate vendors (like Tupperware, Thirty-One, etc.), or help with the silent auction – anything from soliciting donations to writing thank-yous.



Don't Forget!

There is **NO SCHOOL** from Wednesday, December 23 through Friday, January 1. **Have fun with family and friends, practice IXL, and READ, READ, READ!**



**PILOT
KNOB
STEM
MAGNET**

Get Tech Smart: Notes from our November PTA Meeting

As we see every day at Pilot Knob, supervised use of the latest gadgets and technology makes learning fun, saves time, and prepares kids for the amazing, interconnected world in which they'll live and work someday.

Still, many parents have valid concerns: How does Pilot Knob use technology to aid learning and ensure Internet safety in the classroom? How can parents tell if an app their child wants to download is really age appropriate? How can parents prevent their kids from accessing offensive or dangerous content online at home?

Our November PTA meeting with a District 197 technology expert addressed these concerns and much more. Those who missed the meeting can learn about safe technology and Internet use both at school and at home from our technology staff and the District 197 EmPowerEd Initiative at **isd197.org/academics/empowered**.

Our technology staff also recommends these helpful resources for parents:

- **Commonsensemedia.org** – Ratings, age-appropriate recommendations, and reviews of all kinds of apps, media, games, movies, and more
- **Netismartz.org** – Age-appropriate guidance for teaching children to recognize potential Internet risks and stay safe both online and offline
- **Opendns.com** – Free Internet security services for your home wi-fi, including free filtering of inappropriate content

PK Food Drive for Kindness: December 14 – 18

In the spirit of caring for our neighbors, Pilot Knob is hosting our annual food drive in December to benefit 360 Communities, a local nonprofit focused on violence prevention, school success, and long-term self-sufficiency. Please consider sending the following items to school with your child:

- Monday (12/14) – Canned goods (soups, vegetables/fruits, beans)
- Tuesday (12/15) – Paper products (paper plates paper towels, toilet paper)
- Wednesday (12/16) – Personal care items (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, diapers)
- Thursday (12/17) – Boxed or bagged goods (noodles, rice, crackers)
- Friday (12/18) – Anything day

Please do not feel obligated to have your child bring an item every day. Any amount of support is appreciated! Questions? Contact Mrs. K, Pilot Knob school counselor.

Support PK When You Shop Online

If you're buying holiday gifts on amazon.com this season, be sure to visit our Amazon Smile page at **<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7114645>**. At no cost to you, Amazon will donate to Pilot Knob a percentage of what you spend on eligible purchases.



A Fall Book Fair for the Record Books

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Fall Book Fair! Of the record-breaking \$6,000 in books and merchandise sold at the fair this year, we earned back 60% in books for our school. So far, we've purchased \$1,400 of new books for the library and another \$1,300 of books for our classrooms. A huge thank-you to our volunteers for making this possible!



Have a snowy, fun, and safe winter break!