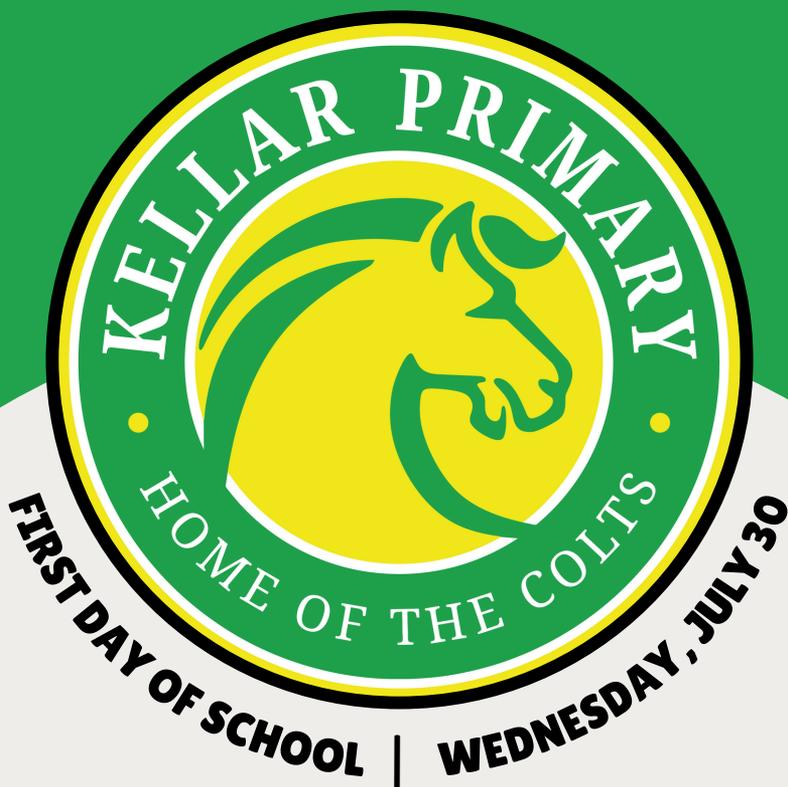


2025–2026 School Handbook



Parent and Student District Handbook

The link to the student/parent handbook below is a summary of the laws and policies governing the Peoria Public Schools. This handbook may be amended throughout the school year without notice. Key points include:

- **Enrollment Verification and Registration**
- **Medical Requirements**
- **Tuition and Fees**
- **Extracurricular Activities**
- **Student Rights**
- **Student Behavior**
- **Student Records**
- **Student Biometric Information Collection**
- **Student Rights**
 - **Sexual Harassment**
 - **Sexual Misconduct**
 - **Discrimination**
 - **Raising Complaints**
 - **Disciplinary Measures**
- **School Admissions/Transfers**



[peoriapublicschools.org/policy-handbook](https://www.peoriapublicschools.org/policy-handbook)

Peoria Public Schools District Policies

The Board of Education policies governing the district are available at the district's administrative offices or at www.peoriapublicschools.org, under the Board of Education tab. This handbook may be amended throughout the school year without notice.



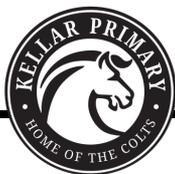
[peoriapublicschools.org/policies](https://www.peoriapublicschools.org/policies)

Kellar Student Expectations

Please read the contents and discuss this with your student.



<https://5il.co/1i6tr>



~A high performing school leading with high expectations~

Dear Kellar Families,

Welcome back to the 2025-2026 school year! I hope you had a restful and enjoyable summer break. I'm excited to start year number three and continue the journey of providing the best education for your children.

This year, we are placing a strong emphasis on literacy instruction and attendance. Research states students that are not reading at grade level by third grade are four times less likely to graduate high school on time than their peers who could. However, we can't do it alone. Your support at home is essential in reinforcing literacy skills. You can support your child's literacy development by reading together, asking them questions, visiting the library, and writing about what they have read. Consistent attendance often predicts academic success and is important in the development of critical thinking, problem-solving, and social skills.

This year we say goodbye to Mrs. Michelle Blumer, who has decided to retire and enjoy her family. We also say goodbye to Mrs. Ana Zeisel, our school secretary. We wish Mrs. Zeisel the best in her new journey. We welcome Mrs. Heidi Brown from Valeska Hinton. She will work with Mrs. Castleman and support our K-2 inclusion students. The part time position will split between Charter Oak in the afternoon and Kellar for the morning.

There will be consistent communication with weekly classroom newsletters, automated phone messages with weekly updates, and monthly school newsletters. Please follow us on our KELLAR PTO, KELLAR PRIMARY and Peoria Public Schools pages on Facebook. In addition, please make sure all contact information is updated and current.

At Kellar, we take pride in our tradition of academic excellence! Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we can make this a fantastic year of learning and growth for your child. Please do not hesitate to make an appointment with your child's teacher or myself to address any questions or concerns. The office number is 309-693-4439.

Please take note of the important dates on the next page as we move towards the beginning of the school year. These dates and events are subject to change.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Jaime Peterson
Jaime L. Peterson
Principal

*We are respectful, we are responsible, we are safe,
we are engaged because*
WE ARE KELLAR

Important Dates for Kellar Primary School

EVENT	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
Back to School Blacktop Party/Run with Reading	July 23, 2025	5:00-7:00 PM	Kellar Primary (Outside)
Class Lists Posted	July 25, 2025	4:00 PM	Kellar Primary (Front doors)
Jumpstart to Kindergarten	July 29, 2025	1:30-3:00 PM	Kellar Primary All families are welcome.
Open House Unpack Your Backpack		4:30-5:30 PM	Students drop off supplies and meet their teacher.

School Supply Lists

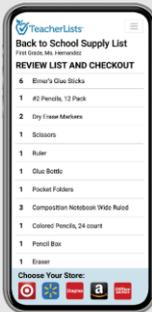
Shop online or in-store at your favorite major retailers:

Target • Walmart • Office Depot • Staples • Amazon

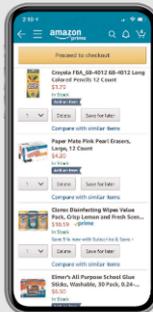
Back-to-school supply list shopping in 3 easy steps:

Shop your way

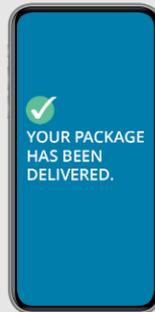
1 Find it



2 Buy it



3 Get it



Enrollment Verification and Registration

All returning students have been automatically registered for the 2025-2026 school year in Skyward Family Access.

To verify enrollment log-in to Skyward at:
peoriapublicschools.org/skyward
For help logging in, call 309-672-6761.

Have you moved?

If you have moved, please take two forms of proof of address to your school office after Monday, July 14, 2025. Only students new to the district must register online at:
www.psd150.org/enrollment.

Update Your Contact Info in Skyward Today!

Please log-in to Skyward to verify your contact information each school year. You can also access Skyward directly from the Peoria Public School App or visit: **www.peoriapublicschools.org/skyward**

For help logging in, call 309-672-6761.

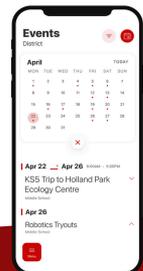
It's everything Peoria Public Schools,
in your pocket.



Download the **Peoria Public Schools, IL** app from the iOS App Store or Android Play Store and enable Notifications.



Download the **Peoria Public Schools, IL** app from the iOS App Store or Android Play Store and enable Notifications.



School Uniforms

All PPS primary and middle school students must wear black, navy blue or khaki pants, skirts, jumpers or shorts. All shirts must be solid color, short sleeve or long sleeve with a collar. Regardless of school, primary and middle school students may wear navy blue shirts.

Shirt color choices for each school are:

<p>Annie Jo Gordon CLC Kindergarten - red First Grade - royal blue Second Grade - hunter green Third Grade - navy blue Fourth Grade - orange Fifth Grade - maroon Sixth Grade - light blue Seventh Grade - gold Eighth Grade - black</p>	<p>Lincoln K-8 School Kindergarten - red First Grade - royal blue Second Grade - hunter green Third Grade - navy blue Fourth Grade - orange Fifth Grade - maroon Sixth Grade - light blue Seventh Grade - gold Eighth Grade - black</p>
<p>Charter Oak Primary School navy, red, white, light blue or black</p>	<p>Mark Bills Middle School navy, white, black, light blue, yellow</p>
<p>Dr. C.T. Vivian Primary School navy, white, red, light blue, black</p>	<p>Dr. Maude A. Sanders Primary School navy, red, white, royal blue, light blue, yellow</p>
<p>Elise Ford Allen Academy navy, red, white, black, orange, grey, royal blue, light blue, hunter green</p>	<p>Multicultural Dual Language Academy blue, red, yellow, green and purple</p>
<p>Franklin Primary School red, black, white, black, grey, or any shade of blue</p>	<p>Northmoor Primary School navy, red, white, light blue</p>
<p>Glen Barton School any color collared shirt</p>	<p>Reservoir Gifted Academy navy, yellow, white, royal blue</p>
<p>Glen Oak CLC navy, white, red, black, light blue, green, gold</p>	<p>Rolling Acres Middle School navy, white, red, black</p>
<p>Harold B. Dawson Middle School navy, light blue, red, gray, kelly green, black, white</p>	<p>Sterling Middle School navy, white, black, maroon, red, royal blue, navy, light blue</p>
<p>Hines Primary School navy, light blue, red, white, yellow, green</p>	<p>Trewyn School navy, red, black</p>
<p>Jamieson School navy, red, white, light blue</p>	<p>Valeska Hinton ECE no uniforms required</p>
<p>Kellar Primary School navy, light blue, white, hunter green</p>	<p>Von Steuben Middle School navy, white, black, light blue, royal blue, red, gold, grey, green</p>
<p>Liberty Leadership Middle School navy, white, light blue, royal blue</p>	<p>Whittier Primary School navy, white, hunter green, light blue</p>

High school students are not required to wear a uniform, but must follow the dress code in their school handbook.

Childrens uniforms can be found here:
 Walmart, Target, Kohls, Old Navy The Children's Place, Sam Harris

2025-2026 Standard School Year Calendar

2025

Mon., July 28	Teacher Institute	No school for students
Tues., July 29	Teacher Institute	No school for students
Wed., July 30	First Day of School for Students	
Wed., August 27	School Improvement Day (SIP)	Half-day for students
Mon., September 1	Labor Day	No school, offices closed
Wed., September 24	School Improvement Day (SIP)	Half-day for students
Tues., September 30	Parent/Teacher Conferences	Conferences 4-7pm
Thurs., October 2	Parent/Teacher Conferences	Conferences 4-7pm
Mon., October 6	First Day of Fall Break	No school for students
Mon., October 20	School resumes	
Wed., November 26	Thanksgiving Break	No school
Thurs., November 27	Thanksgiving Day	No school, offices closed
Fri., November 28	Thanksgiving Break	No school, offices closed
Fri., December 19	Last day before winter break	One-hour early dismissal
Mon., December 22	First day of winter break	No school
Wed., December 24	Christmas Observed	Offices closed
Thurs., December 25	Christmas Day	Offices closed

2026

Thurs., January 1	New Year's Day	No school, offices closed
Fri., January 2	Winter Break	No school
Mon., January 5	Teacher Institute	No school for students
Tues., January 6	School resumes	
Mon., January 19	Dr. MLK Day	No school, offices closed
Mon., February 16	President's Day	No school, offices closed
Wed., March 4	School Improvement Day (SIP)	Half-day for students
Mon., March 30	First day of Spring Break	No school for students
Fri., April 3	Good Friday	No school, offices closed
Mon., April 6	Easter Monday	No school, offices closed
Mon., April 13	School resumes	
Wed., May 6	School Improvement Day (SIP)	Half-day for students
Mon., May 25	Memorial Day	No school, offices closed
*Fri., May 22	Last day of school (if no "emergency days" needed)	Half-day for students
Tues. – Fri., May 26-29	Emergency Days (if needed)	Additional school days if e-learning not utilized
Mon., June 1	*Last day of school (Five emergency days)	Half-day for students

2025-2026 Bell Schedules

High schools will dismiss at 1:30 p.m. each Wednesday

Tier 1: 7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

- Elise Ford Allen Academy
- Glen Barton School - Dismissal at 1:00pm
 - *RISE Academy & Day Treatment*
- Glen Oak Community Learning Center
- Harold B. Dawson Jr. Middle School
- Liberty Leadership Middle School
- Lincoln K-8 School
- Mark Bills Middle School
- Manual High School
- Peoria High School
- Reservoir Gifted Academy
- Richwoods High School
- Rolling Acres Middle School
- Sterling Middle School
- Von Steuben Middle School
- Valeska Hinton ECEC at WCTC

Tier 2: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

- Annie Jo Gordon CLC
- Charter Oak Primary School
- Dr. C.T. Vivian Primary School
- Glen Barton School - Dismissal at 2:30pm
 - *PAT Academy (Peoria Adult Transition)*
- Rolling Acres Developmental Center
- Franklin Primary School
- Hines Primary School
- Kellar Primary School
- Robert A. Jamieson School
- Dr. Maude A. Sanders Primary School
- Multicultural Dual Language Academy
- Northmoor Primary School
- Trewyn School
- Valeska Hinton ECEC at Main Campus
- Whittier Primary School

Show Up to Glow Up!

Having students at school and in class every day is a primary goal of the Peoria Public Schools. Attending school regularly helps students feel better about school and themselves.

For Primary School Students:

Attendance matters even as early as kindergarten. Students who miss too many days in kindergarten and first grade can struggle academically in later years and often are not reading at grade level by the end of the third grade.

For Middle and High School Students:

By middle and high school, poor attendance is a leading indicator of dropping out of high school.

Absences add up!

Both excused and unexcused absences represent lost time in the classroom and a lost opportunity to learn. Too many absent students can affect the whole classroom, slowing down instruction. Being late to school also disrupts the start of class and can make your student miss important lessons. Help your student build the habit of good attendance early so they learn that going to school on time, every day, is important. Developing good attendance prepares students for success in high school, college, on the job and in life.

Absenteeism and Truancy

Children must be at school every day, on time and ready to learn. Parents can help.

- Talk to your child about the importance of school;
- Make sure they get adequate sleep (8-10 hours);
- Plan appointments for children outside the school day;
- Understand and follow the Attendance Plan;
- Encourage your child to stay home only when an illness is major;
- If they must miss school, or are unavoidably late, call the school first thing.
- If family issues prevent good attendance, contact your school administration, counselor or teacher; Project TARGET (truancy support) at 309-672-6086.

What happens when students are absent from school? For each absence:

- An automated or personal phone call will be made to parents.
- Parents have 48 hours to provide a note to the school.
- Requests by a student to be absent from school during semester exams shall be considered unexcused absences.
- Second, third, and fourth absence (excused or unexcused): The teacher will call home.
- Fifth excused or unexcused absence: Letter will be sent home.
- Sixth unexcused absence: Letter sent home; referral to Project TARGET (elementary students).
- Seventh absence (excused or unexcused): The administrator will call home; an intervention plan will be developed.
- Ninth excused absence: Certified letter sent home.
- Ninth unexcused absence: Certified letter sent home; student labeled as a chronic truant
- 10th absence (excused or unexcused): Certified letter sent home; doctor’s note may be required for future absences.
- 18th excused or unexcused absent (high school only): Certified letter warning of danger of being dropped after 20 absences will be sent home.

Students who are absent for reasons other than for personal illness, professional appointments or important personal family reasons shall be considered unexcused.

Students should stay home from school if they are ill and have the following symptoms:

- Fever of 100 degrees or higher
- Diarrhea/Vomiting
- Hepatitis A virus infection
- Rash with fever
- Pink eye
- Tuberculosis
- Impetigo
- Strep throat
- Scabies
- Chicken pox
- Ringworm
- Any other obvious signs of illness

Fall and Spring Intersession Registration Information

Over the first week of fall and spring break, all students can participate in PPS’s optional learning sessions. Transportation and meals are provided. Registration is required.

Fall Intersession

October 6 - October 17, 2025

Register directly with a community partner:
by September 19, 2025

Program Info:
www.psd150.org/fall

Spring Intersession

March 30 - April 10, 2026

Register directly with a community partner:
by March 13, 2026

Program Info:
www.psd150.org/spring

PPS Transportation Department

1525 W. Northmoor Rd. Peoria, IL 61614 | (309) 693-4418

Transportation is provided for all students residing over 1.5 miles from their school. If your student is not eligible for District transportation, the PPS Transportation and School Safety Departments work together to ensure their safety whether they get a ride from a parent or friend, walk, or ride their bicycle to school. We have identified safe routes to school for many of our buildings. To find safe route maps, see the shortcuts at www.peoriapublicschools.org.

Here are tips to help your student walk safely to and from school:

- Walk the route to and from school with your student. Be sure your student knows the way.
- Talk about safety as you walk and discourage shortcuts.
- Dress your student in brightly colored clothing and carry a brightly colored backpack with reflective strips to motorists can more easily see them.
- Identify classmates in your vicinity and make walking together a habit.
- Establish a return to home time expectation.
- Stress communication concerning days when extracurricular activities may delay arrival.
- Consistently update the emergency contact list at your student's school.

Alternative Pickup/Drop Off

Transportation is provided to and from daycare facilities if:

- The facility is within the student's school attendance boundary and
- The student's home address is outside the 1.5-mile ineligible boundary from the school.

Pay transportation is available to and from the daycare facility if:

- A school bus is already in the area of the daycare facility,
- The facility is within the school attendance boundary,
- The student's home address is inside the 1.5-mile ineligible boundary, and
- A fee of \$150.00/student per year is paid.

These bus stops may not necessarily be at the front door of the facility, but may be at the closest and/or safest stop. An authorized adult or staff member must be present at the bus stop to receive all pre-kindergarten and special needs students.

Frequently Asked Questions

The decision to approve or deny an alternative pick-up and/or drop-off location will be at the discretion of the Director of Transportation.

Q: I will be at work when my student is released from school/picked up in the morning, so my student has a babysitter. Can he/she ride the bus to the babysitter's home/business after/before school?

A: Yes, as long as the babysitter's address is located within the schools attendance area.

Q: As a parent, how do I determine which daycare providers are eligible to be a bus stop?

A: The daycare provider needs to be within the attendance area of the school and outside the school's ineligibility area.

Q: Who would I contact to check if a daycare/babysitter's location is eligible for a bus?

A: Contact the transportation department at 309-693-4418 and ask for a supervisor.

Q: The daycare provider/babysitter I want to use is NOT in the attendance area of the school. Will any exceptions be made to have my student transported by school bus?

A: The daycare/babysitter must be within the attendance area of the school, however, special circumstances may exist that would allow the transportation department to grant this request. Special circumstances could be a bus already in the area requested, or services being provided by the daycare facility to a student with special needs.



In-School Health Clinics

Get to Know In-School Health

The School Based Health Clinics are located within Peoria Public Schools and have been serving students from kindergarten to high school, no matter their financial status for almost 20 years. Our highly qualified health care staff provide care to students with demanding medical needs while also keeping students in school, healthy and ready to learn. Our goal is to create a welcoming and safe environment where students will receive the care they deserve, while reducing absenteeism.

Staffing

- Advanced Practice Nurses (APN)
- Certified Medical Assistants (CMA)

Appointments

All clinics can see students from any District school. Each clinic follows the school schedule and appointments can be made by calling the number below. Participation for each site requires a consent and health history form to be completed by parent or guardian.

Locations:

Trewyn School

1419 S. Folkers Ave.
Peoria, IL 61605
309-671-0550

Manual H.S.

811 S. Griswold
Peoria, IL 61605
309-495-8509

Peoria H.S.

1615 N. North St.
Peoria, IL 61604
309-282-1020

Richwoods H.S.

6301 N. University
Peoria, IL 61614
309-643-6285

Available Services

- School & Sports Physicals
- Immunizations
- First Aid
- Prompt Care
- Sexual Health Services
- Asthma Management
- Diabetes Management
- Individual/Group Health Education
- Laboratory Testing
- Other Services

Unavailable Services

- Treatment for complex medical or psychiatric disorders
- X-rays
- Stitches or castings

Additional Healthcare Resources

PEORIA CITY/COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT - 309-679-6655

3521 N. California Ave, Peoria, IL 61603
By Appointment M-F 8am-4:30pm

HEARTLAND HEALTH SERVICES - 309-680-7600**Sheridan Health Center**

2116 N. Sheridan Rd.
Peoria, IL 61604
Mon. 8am - 12pm
Wed. 1pm - 4:30pm
Fri. 8am - 12pm

Knoxville Health Center:

1800 N. Knoxville Ave., Suite A
Peoria, IL 61603

HOURS:

Mon. - Fri. 8am - 4:30pm

WALK_IN HOURS:

Mon. - Fri. 5pm - 8pm
Sat. 9am - 1pm

East Bluff Health Center

2321 N. Wisconsin Ave.
Peoria, IL 61603
Mon. - Thur. 8am - 4:30pm

Garden Health Center

1701 W. Garden St.
Peoria, IL 61605
Mon. - Fri. 8am - 4:30pm

Stay in Touch w/ Peoria Public Schools!

Peoria Public Schools communicates with parents, students, and community supporters through various mediums.



The PPS District website has the most updated information and resources including employment opportunities, enrollment and registration details, school board policies, important dates, and much more.

Each school also has a website with school-specific information and teacher web pages.

[peoriapublicschools.org](https://www.peoriapublicschools.org)



Skyward Family Access provides students and parents/guardians to access:

- student grades & attendance information
- bus information
- lunch menus
- library records, and
- student and lunch fee payment.

To obtain a Family Access username and password for a current PPS student, go to www.peoriapublicschools.org/skyward.



The Remarkable Times weekly e-newsletter is sent to parents, staff, and community members to showcase the remarkable activities across the District.

Catch up on The Remarkable Times at www.psd150.org/remarkabletimes!

peachjar | flyers

Peachjar is a service provider which emails school-approved flyers to parents on school and community events. Add "school@peachjar.com" to your email contacts to ensure smooth delivery.



Keep up with Peoria Public Schools on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn.

[@peoriapublicschools](https://www.instagram.com/peoriapublicschools)



Get the BUSQUEST App!

This Bus Tracking App is available in Apple Store, and Google Play.



Download the Peoria Public Schools App from the Apple Store, and Google Play.

Safety Resources

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

Call or text **988**

Crisis Text Line

Text **HOME** to **741741** to reach a trained Crisis Counselor

Safe2Help
24/7 Helpline
Text **72332** with any safety tips

Peoria Public Schools Administrative Cabinet

- **Dr. Sharon Desmoulin-Kherat**
Superintendent
E: sharon.kherat@psd150.org |
P: 309-672-6768
- **Dr. Alexander Ikejiaku**
Assoc. Superintendent for Human Resources
E: alexander.ikejiaku@psd150.org
P: 309-621-4506
- **Dr. Ann Bond**
Assistant Superintendent of Student Services
ann.bond@psd150.org | 309-672-6752
- **Dr. Comfort Akwaji-Anderson**
Coach and Strategic School Support
E: comfort.akwaji@psd150.org
P: 309-672-6512
- **Brandon Bell**
Director of Buildings & Grounds
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P: 309-672-6739
- **Demario Boone**
Director of School Safety
E: demario.boone@psd150.org
P: 309-672-6855
- **Dr. Annette Coleman**
Executive Director of Schools
E: annette.coleman@psd150.org
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- **Joshua Collins**
Director of Transportation
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P: 309-693-4418
- **Dr. Nicole Couri-Malson**
Executive Director of Schools
E: nicole.couri-malson@psd150.org.
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- **Tracy Donath**
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P: 309-672-6536
- **Geri Hammer**
Director of Employee Services
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P: 309-672-6770
- **Marjorie Kauth**
Director of Communications
& Community Engagement
E: marjorie.kauth@psd150.org
P: 309-672-6744
- **Shannon Marlin**
Director of Student Affairs
E: shannon.marlin@psd150.org
P: 309-672-6540
- **Robyn McCracken**
Competitive Grant Writer
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P: 309-672-6512
- **Christopher Rohwedder**
HR Recruiter
E: christopher.rohwedder@psd150.org
P: 309-672-6512
- **Michelle Seipel**
Director of Technology
E: michelle.seipel@psd150.org
P: 309-685-0181
- **Camila Soeiro Ferreira**
Director of Business Services
E: camila.soeiroferreira@psd150.org
P: 309-672-6711
- **Mick Willis**
Chief Financial Officer/Board Treasurer
E: mick.willis@psd150.org
P: 309-672-6735

2025-2026 Board of Education Meetings

All BOE meetings start promptly at 6:30pm

Tuesday, July 1, 2025*

Monday, July 24, 2025

Monday, August 11, 2025

Monday, August 25, 2025

Monday, September 8, 2025

Monday, September 22, 2025

Monday, October 27, 2025

Monday, November 10, 2025

Monday, November 24, 2025

Monday, December 8, 2025

Monday, January 12, 2026

Monday, January 26, 2026

Monday, February 9, 2026

Monday, February 23, 2026

Monday, March 9, 2026

Monday, March 23, 2026

Monday, April 13, 2026

Monday, April 27, 2026

Monday, May 11, 2026

Monday, June 8, 2026

Monday, June 22, 2026

*Annual Reorganizational meeting - Begins at 12pm



**3202 N. Wisconsin Ave.
Peoria IL, 61603**

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PERMIT NO. 35



**First Day for Students:
Wednesday, July 30, 2025**

Fall Break: Oct. 6 - 17, 2025

Winter Break: Dec. 22, 2025 - Jan. 5, 2026

Spring Break: March 30 - April 10, 2026

Last Day for Students: May 22, 2026



Medical Requirements

Pre-K, Kindergarten, 2nd, 6th, 9th, and 12th grades

Students must be in compliance with state physical/immunization requirements by October 15, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year. Students not in compliance will be excluded from attending school until all health documentation requirements are met.



Get immunization requirements & resources here>>