

July 2016

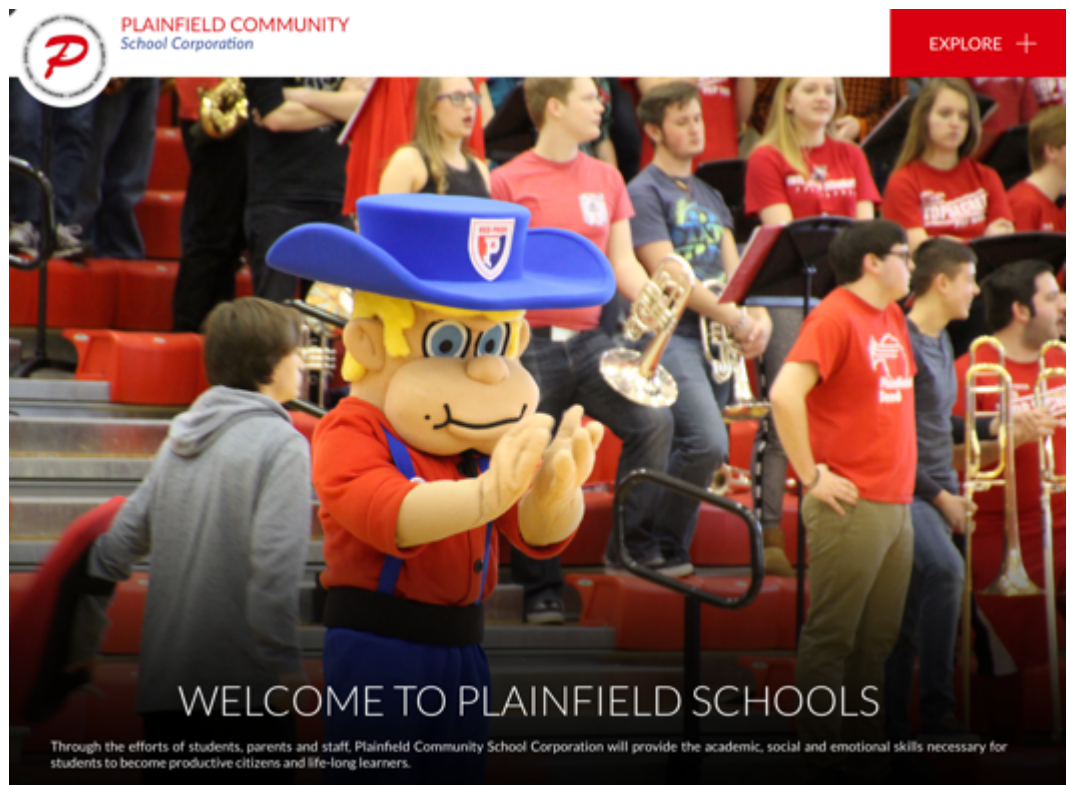
Navigating the new PCSC Website

**The URL hasn't
changed:
plainfield.k12.in.us**

Over the course of the last several months, PCSC staff have been working to create an entirely new website and mobile app for the corporation. On these pages we'll explain how to navigate the new sites.

Why a new website? Why now?

In today's world, people are accessing online data from their phones or mobile devices more than ever. In fact, 80% of adults in the United States use their mobile phone to consume online information. Furthermore, according to a recent Yahoo! study, 90% of consumers spend their mobile time using apps, not browsers. With that in mind, we recognized the need to transition to a website that works as effectively as a mobile application as it does on a desktop computer.



So now that we've explained a bit about the why, let's talk about the how. How will you find the information you need to support your child, to be involved, to stay in-the-know about your child's education? We think it will be pretty simple, once you understand the new layout!



Basic Website Navigation

ROTATING PHOTOS

When you're looking at the website via desktop or laptop browser, you'll see a rotating gallery of photos. These photos change with each **SITE** you visit. It's been said "a picture is worth a thousand words;" when it comes to our students and teachers, we think there's a lot of truth to that.

A picture is worth a thousand words.



BELOW THE FOLD

When you're on a main page – one that contains the rotating photo gallery, we encourage you to scroll down, below the fold, essentially. There you will find three key features of the site: **LIVE FEED**, **NEWS**, **UPCOMING EVENTS**.

- **LIVE FEED**, contains our tweets and Facebook posts, all in one spot
- **NEWS**, most like the Noteworthy News, or blog section of the previous website; more in-depth than most social media posts, but not as long as you might expect in a newsletter or newspaper
- **UPCOMING EVENTS** – similar to how this section worked on the former site

Use the *EXPLORE* button to explore!

EXPLORE

The upper right corner of every page on the website is anchored by a red box. On the main pages, that box includes the word **EXPLORE** and a plus (+) sign. Once you click into the box, the words change to **MENU** and **SITES**.

SITES

To select an individual school or building, you'll click on **SITES**. We didn't call it **SCHOOLS** because we added Athletics to the list.

MENU

Once you've selected your site, go back to the red box, then click **MENU** (or just click in the box and it will reveal that site's menu).

The Menu pages are arranged with six icons and several section headings. We are still working on the layout of this page, so it could change slightly.

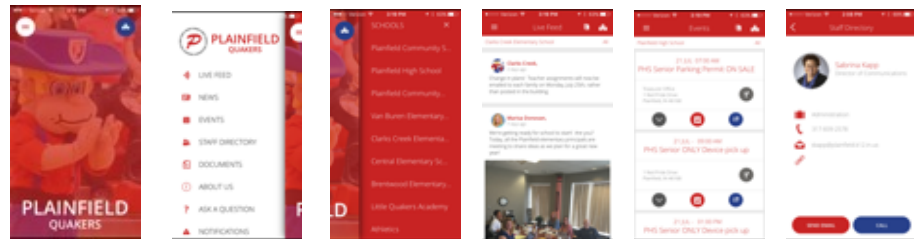
The icons are considered "dynamic" sections – you'll find them on the mobile app, and they contain information that will change frequently: social media feeds, short news stories, weekly school menus, documents and a staff directory.

Section headings are considered "static." The content on those pages won't change as frequently, and can only be accessed from your web browser (on a mobile or desktop device).

Basic Mobile App Navigation

On your mobile device, you can download the app by going to the App Store (Apple or Google) and searching "Plainfield Community School Corporation." The app is free, of course. The app should appear any day in the Google store.

Check out the mobile app in the Google or Apple app store!



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Like the website, the app is divided into key areas based on navigation at the top of the page.

- Photo 1 (above) represents the opening page of the app. Once you've opened the app, you may not see this page again until you turn off/on your device.
- Photo 2 occurs when you click the three parallel bars in the upper left corner of the app. It reveals the items in the app's menu.
- Photo 3 reveals the list of schools, which can be found when you click the round blue button on the upper right corner

- Photo 4: Meet the Live Feed! This is where you'll find our Facebook or Twitter posts, by school (and athletics).
- Photo 5 is the Events section. We think you'll enjoy the fact that you can expand an event for more details, download it to your calendar, forward via email to a friend, or get directions to the event's location.
- Photo 6 represents the new Staff Directory. Not everyone has created their profile yet, but we'll get that done by the first week of school. Now you can call or email a teacher, with just one or two clicks from your phone.
- Other key areas of the app? Documents are sorted into folders (by school) with important files you may need throughout the year. Notifications? We're not using it yet, but plan to test it in the future. And finally, Settings. Like most mobile apps, this is where you go to create your own preferences.

These are just some of the features that we really like. Having said that, we know that CHANGE IS HARD. And we are still tweaking, adding, making improvements.

**EXPLORE with the
EXPLORE button!**

If you're on the website and can't find something, go back to the big red **EXPLORE** button and see if that helps. Trying to find something and can't figure out how we've organized files? Check the Documents section.

If all else fails, email me: skapp@plainfield.k12.in.us. We really want this to be a tool that makes it easy to stay connected with our school family. We feel like we're close, and your input will get us even closer.