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MEDIA RELEASE

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ASHWAUBENON TO HOLD JAGUAR QUAD EVENT

<u>Ashwaubenon, WI – June 2nd, 2021</u> – On Friday, June 4th, the Peer Mentor Program of Parkview Middle School, along with the Goody Triathletes of Ashwaubenon High school, will be participating in the 4th annual Jaguar Quad event. This event, consisting of running, biking, cornhole, and kickball events, is a culmination of the students' hard work both inside and outside of the classroom. Events will kick off on Goelz field at 12:25 p.m. and conclude at 2:30 p.m. with closing ceremonies.

Parkview's Peer Mentor program was founded eight years ago and strives to pair students with special needs with their non-disabled peers for academic and social support. Unfortunately, due to covid, we were unable to run the Peer Mentor Club at its full capacity. However, last year alone, staff were able to match approximately 20 students with special needs with 100 peer mentors. Throughout the year, students came together for training on how to work with students with special needs, including various afterschool social gatherings. This program has helped to shift the culture of Parkview, making sure all students feel included in and outside of the classroom.

The special event pairs up each mentee with special needs with a mentor. All students will participate in the day's events. The Jaguar Quad is modeled after the Goody Triathlon, a community event hosted by the Pulaski school district, where students participate in swimming, biking, and running. This year, however, the Goody Triathlon was limited to only the participants in their school district.

Physical Education teachers, Kerry Janquart and Kim Treml, along with Special Education teacher, Vanessa Talus, have spent a majority of the school year reaching out to sponsors and planning this event. Various staff members, community members, and parent volunteers will be graciously helping the day of the event.

Thank you to our sponsors Ashwaubenon Optimists, Dick's Sporting Goods, The Barbershop, Ashwaubenon Girls Basketball, Team Apparel and Witt Ford.

For more information, please contact Vanessa Talus, Parkview teacher, at 920-492-2945 extension 4104 or vtalus@ashwaubenonk12.org.

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