



Pearl City School District

December 2018 Newsletter



District Website: www.pcwolves.net

"Inspire in everyone a passion to excel"

Superintendent News

As we prepare to enter the winter season we will be notifying students and families of cancellations, delays, early releases via the District calling system (School Messenger), website, local TV stations and local radio stations.

The Board approved an Estimated Tax Levy at the November board meeting. This year's levy is asking for a 3.78% increase, which includes the bond payment (5.12% increase) as approved in a referendum in 2000. Please understand that we do not receive what we ask for in the estimated levy, we only receive what the PTELL (Tax Cap) law allows. PTELL will limit our rate increase at 2.10% (Consumer Price Index), but levying at a higher rate ensures that the board will also receive any increases in EAV and any new construction. If a taxing body requests in its levy a dollar amount over 5%, a Truth and Taxation Hearing must be held prior to the adoption of the tax levy in December. Since we are requesting 3.78% we do not need to conduct a public hearing, but will do so anyway as a means to remain completely transparent. The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, December 19 at 6:20 pm. in the high school library.

There are three (four year term) seats available for anyone interested in running for a position as a school board member in the April Election. Interested candidates may pick up a packet at the Stephenson County Clerk's office in Freeport. It is important to note that the law has changed. The school is no longer the governing agent over the election process. This is now completely controlled by the county clerk. All required documents that need to be completed for a candidate to be placed on the ballot must be turned in to the county clerk.

The Board of Education has selected the Illinois Association of School Boards to conduct a superintendent search to help in the process of selecting a new superintendent for the 2019-20 school year. Your input is valuable, so please contact board members with your thoughts during this process. It is anticipated that the interview process will start shortly after the new year.

If you have any questions regarding this topic or any other topics, please feel free to contact me at 815-443-2715.

Tim Thill

Superintendent, Pearl City Schools

Thank You

For Veterans Day we had a very successful celebration of The Veterans in and around Pearl City. We had 35 Veterans and people currently serving join us. I would like to thank each and every one and offer them a Hardy Welcome Home! I had many veterans and spouses thank me for our celebration. I may get the thank you, but it is all of you that make it possible. From our staff, that bring their students and explain why we do this, to the other staff that fill in and watch classes so that myself, and others can run around and make sure things get done. To Chris and Kelly that allow me to be their boss for a short time because they know I'm a little picky when it comes to our Veterans. Also Henry that secured the flags that were a nice addition and Bud that helped with the legion, to Scott and Steve for their talents, to our student MCs and Caitlin for speaking, and to the office girls for their assistance, and Trina, who does all of my typing and helps me lay out the cover and posters. Basically it takes the whole school to make it work.

THANK YOU

Bill Johnson



Important Dates
to Remember

8th Grade Pancake Breakfast
At Applebee's \$5
8-10am

EL/JH/HS. 5th-12th Band & Choir
Winter Concert
Dec 5 7:00 PM

No PASS Classes
Dec. 10

6th Grade Cake Raffle
Dec. 14

HS Finals Open Campus
Dec 17th -22nd

El. Holiday Parties
Dec. 20 2:00

No PASS Classes
Parent Interaction day
Dec. 22

Early Release
Dec. 21 1:00

Winter Break
Dec. 24-Jan. 2

School Resumes
for Students
Jan. 3

End of 2nd Quarter Jan. 4



**Student of the Month
for
November
and
Top Dog for
Jr./Sr. High**

**7th Lisa Baker
8th Laine Rosenstiel
9th Oliver Petta
10th Alexis Daves
11th Autumn Gray
12th Libby Dixon**

**Top Dog
Andrew Lorig**

High School Semester Finals

As in previous years, semester finals will be prior to break. The finals will begin on Monday, December 17th. This will be a full day of school. Then beginning on Tuesday, December 18th, Pearl City will have open campus. Students will only be required to come to school when they have a final. The schedules for finals will be posted on the website and students received a paper copy on November 26th during their 3rd period class. Finals count for 15% of the students' semester grade. Please make sure your child knows when his/her finals are. If a student misses a final, they will receive a zero on that final.

Winter Clothing

Winter clothing is an important part of winter fun. The elementary students will be going outside for recess as often as the weather permits. Coats, hats, snow pants, boots, and mittens or gloves are a must.



Read, Read and Read Some More!

Take some time to enjoy a good book with your child. No matter their age, read to them, read with them, read and discuss what you are reading, model for your child daily. READ, READ, READ. Admire the book by noticing the cover, pictures and other features. Who wrote it? Who illustrated it? To whom is it dedicated? Take your time instead of flying through pages, turn them slowly to build anticipation. What will happen next? Can you guess? Talk about it. What did you and your child think of the story? Did you agree? You don't have to agree. Do you want to read another book about the same topic or maybe the same author?

When you read with your child, especially with excitement, you show how much fun reading can be. That is a gift that can last a lifetime.

The Renaissance Home Connect can help you and your child choose books at an appropriate level.

Visit the Pearl city School elementary page for a full list of great books.



Elementary Young Author Program

Everyone should be thinking about story ideas for their Young Author's book. More information will be coming about due dates and requirements. These books will be judged and a representative will be selected to represent Pearl City School at the Illinois Young Author Conference in Bloomington, IL. in May.

AT-HOME HABITS LEAD TO SCHOOL SUCCESS

To support your child's learning experience:

Establish sleep routines. Kids who get enough rest are better able to concentrate and follow rules.

Have them clean out their backpack daily.

You're sure to find important papers, notes, permission slips and maybe a leftover snack.

Keep a class schedule handy. This makes it easy to ask specific questions about school, such as, "What did you do in P.E. today?" Logging into Skyward to see what kinds of assignments they are doing could also be a good conversation starter.

Get organized. Does your child always know where to find their backpack, jacket, glasses, shoes and other items? Pick a special place to keep them. Do they know where they are going after school, so they are not worrying about that all day when they should be concentrating on lessons.

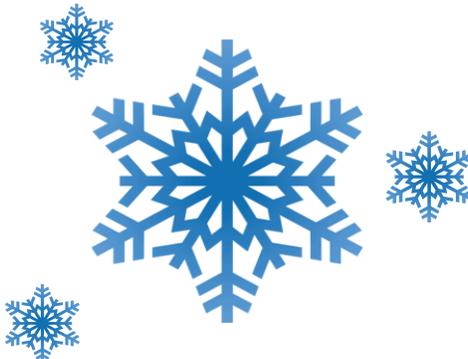
Practice manners. Role-play challenging situations. "You and a classmate disagree about who is first in line. What should happen next?" Give them positive words to use when they are upset.

Answer questions. Encourage your child to ask you-and their teachers-if they are confused. "What does this mean?"

Read together. In addition to reading to your child and listening to them read, read the same books separately and discuss them.

Make a study spot. Choose a comfortable homework location. Stay nearby to offer support and supervision. Come up with a study schedule with an ending time. Remember home work should equal 10 minutes x their grade level—1st grade 10x 1 = 10 min. 2nd 10 x 2 = 20 min. 3rd 10 x 3 = 30 min. 4th 10 x 4 = 40 min. 5th 10 x 5 = 50 min. 6th

10 x 6 = 60 min. This is an average amount of time for each night. We all know that some nights will have less homework and some nights might have more. If you child has more than this regularly—contact their teacher.



Missing School Means Missing out on Learning

A missed day here, a missed day there. Does being absent really affect learning? "Yes!" say experts. When kids miss too much school, everyone suffers. Absent students may fall behind, and catching up distracts from lessons and may be disruptive to the rest of the class. Some absences are unavoidable, of course, but it helps when families:

- Prepare at night. Choose outfits, pack lunches and prepare school bags at night. Get to bed on time and set a morning alarm. Fall asleep relaxed, knowing you're ready for the next day.

- Streamline mornings. Wake up at the same time each day and stick to a routine. If your child tends to forget certain responsibilities, make a chart to keep them on track. Take family pride in being prompt.

- Avoid conflicts. When possible, schedule appointments and trips when school isn't in session. If your child needs to miss school, notify the school and ask about make-up work.

- Learn school procedures. Find out when students should stay home from school and the difference between excused and unexcused absences, check the handbook or ask school personnel.



2018 December

Menu



Pearl City Schools

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	Nov 30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sausage Pizza Salisbury Steak	Scrambled Eggs & Toast Pepperoni Pizza	Donuts & String Cheese Corn Dogs	French Toast Tacos	Combo Bar & Toast Chicken Strips		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Variety Pizza Chicken Patty Sandwich	Pretzels w/cheese Pancakes & Sausage	Pancakes & Sausage Hot Dogs	Sausage & Potato Patties Christmas Dinner - Hot Pork	Bagels Mexican Pizza		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Bacon Scrambled Egg Square Chicken Nuggets	Scrambled Eggs & Toast Mini Corn Dogs	Donuts & String Cheese Pulled Pork Sandwich	French Toast Tenderloin Sandwich	Combo Bar & Toast BBQ Sandwich		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Winter Break						
Winter Break						
30	31	Notes				
Winter Break		<p>*Calendar is subject to change* Lunch is Offer vs. Serve Each meal is provided with Milk & Whole Grain Bread/Breading</p>				
Winter Break						

2018 December



Pearl City Schools

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	Nov 30	1 8:00 AM 8th Grade Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's 8:00 AM Speech Meet @ Stockton 3:30 PM V GBB @ Amboy Shootout vs. Indian Creek 4:30 PM BBB @ Le-Win Shoot Out 4:30pm
2	3 5:30 PM JHBBB vs. Tri County	4 6:00 PM GBB @ W. Carroll (Savanna) 6pm	5 7:00 PM Elem (5th & 6th)/JH/HS Band/Choir Winter Concert	6 JHBBB Conf Tourn @ Le-Win 6:00 PM BBB @ W. Carroll 6:00 PM GBB vs. Le-Win	7 JHBBB Conf Tournament 6:30 PM FFA Volleyball @ Scales Mound	8 8:00 AM Speech Meet @ Rochelle 9:45 AM F/S GBB Galena Tournament vs. Oregon 9:45am 2:00 PM BBB @ Eastland 6:30 PM V GBB PC
9 No PASS 8:00 PM V GBB PC Tournament vs. Dakota	10 6:00 PM BBB @ Le-Win 6:30 PM F/S GBB Galena Tournament	11 4:30 PM FFA Agronomy CDE @ Warren	12	13 6th Grade Cake Raffle	14 BBB Forreston Tournament 8:00 AM Speech Meet @ Byron	15
16 BBB Forreston Tournament	17 6:00 PM GBB vs. Warren	18 5:30 PM Booster Meeting 6:30 PM Board of Education Meeting	19	20 1:00 PM Early Release 6:00 PM GBB vs. Galena	21	22
23 No School - Winter Break	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 No School - Winter Break	31	Notes <i>*Calendar is subject to change *</i>				