



Pearl City School District

October 2019 Newsletter

"Inspire in everyone a passion to excel"

District Website
www.pcwolves.net

Students, Staff, Parents, and Community Members,

The world of Education is always changing and should continue to adapt to the way students learn. Sometimes as adults we do not always understand these changes because simply put "That is not the way I learned it!" Adults would be correct in this statement, but we need to realize the way we learned is not the best way for our children to learn, in today's world. Because of advancements in the field of technology roughly 70% of our students will have careers that do not even exist yet. This is the challenge we face as a school and district. To provide our kids with the best education, we must also prepare them for the future by providing and teaching them with research-based teaching strategies, rigorous standards, and the best possible tools to go out in the world and be successful. The vision statement for the Pearl City School District is to promote educational excellence in a positive environment to inspire life-long learning and responsible citizenship. Below are a few ways that we are doing this in the Pearl City School District

Communication Plan- One of the main goals of the Pearl City School District is maintaining open communication with the parents and community of the school district. A survey has been created to have all stakeholders in the district provide feedback on ways to increase the communication from the school district. This survey will be sent out electronically toward the end of October. The main objectives of this plan is to continue to have transparency and to ensure that a vocal minority does not dominate (overwhelm) the goals and agenda of the district. Lastly, it will ensure that our trust capital remains high. Budget deficits come and go but trust deficit is here to stay. Studies have shown that with a strong parent and community base schools can be successful.

Curriculum/Assessment- The district has received the IAR and SAT testing results from last year. Once the state embargo on the release of the scores has been lifted, we will share our scores. Until this time the teachers and administrators are going over the scores and looking at ways to continue to improve. I can share we are pleased with the results but also understand there are areas for improvement. Please keep in mind that these test results are only one of several measures that we use to track a students' progress in school. A second measurement is by using the AimsWeb and MAP data. All of our students have recently taken the AimsWeb and MAP data. We will analyze this data and then measure the progress of the students when they again take the AimsWeb and MAP in the winter. We are looking forward to measuring the growth of the students as they progress through the year.

School Messenger- Pearl City School District is utilizing the SchoolMessenger automated notification system for families, parents, and/or guardians of children attending Pearl City Elementary School, Pearl City Jr/Sr. High School, Pearl City PASS Program, and Pearl City DayCare Center. SchoolMessenger allows the Superintendent to record a brief message, which can be sent to parents simultaneously. Once the message is recorded, it only takes a few minutes to distribute. The system can be used if school is canceled for the day or if school is dismissed early. If you have any questions concerning the SchoolMessenger emergency notification system or would like a different contact number to be called, please contact your child's building office administrator or administrative assistant.



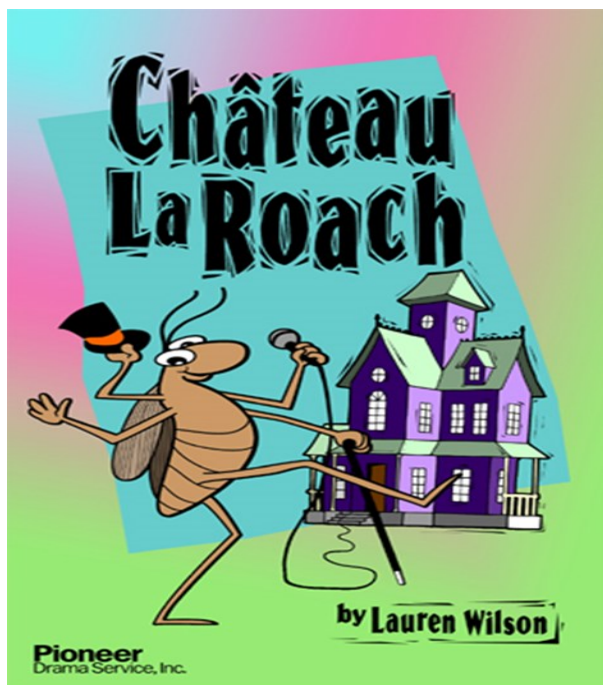
Finances- The district is proud to let the parents and community know that this year the district has a balanced budget. This is an important step for the school district and the community. However, we also need to be aware of the financial mandates that are being added to the school districts in the coming years. There are also some significant improvements that will need to be made to the facilities roofs and exterior walls in order to maintain a safe environment for the students. Even with financial concerns, the district has continued to move forward by enhancing educational opportunities in the classrooms. We will continue to provide the best educational opportunities for the students with the funding we receive. Dr. Schiffman will be hosting a Community Forum in Oct. to share the finances of the school district.

There is a lot of information on the Pearl City website www.pcwolves.net I would encourage you to browse the site for additional information.

Thank you for all of your support,

Mike Schiffman
Superintendent

The EPC Drama Department Presents:



**WHERE:
PEARL CITY HIGH SCHOOL**

**WHEN:
SATURDAY, NOV 2, 2019
7:00PM CURTAIN**

**SUNDAY, NOV 3, 2019
TIME: TBD**

Come to the beautiful Château Laroche for a week-end get-away, where you'll be greeted by a friendly host of... cockroaches!! Crawling with slapstick humor and circus-like stage action, this award-winning comic farce will take you through a week-end in the lives of François and Mimi Laroche, the French proprietors of the chateau on the shores of a peaceful American lake.

The owners are horrified to discover the enormity of their cockroach problem as they prepare for a big weekend of visitors. Why do the cockroaches have to appear just when they're trying to make a good impression on a famed travel writer?! On top of that, they've learned the health inspector is making a surprise visit — disguised as a typical guest! Could the inspector be one of the young honeymooners? The wealthy widow or her hypnotist? The British bicyclist? The manager of a bratty child star? François launches an all-out war on the creepy-crawly creatures as the disgruntled staff members struggle to hide the pesky problem from the hotel guests. Even with the help of a zealous exterminator, Miss Roskel T. Goomey, the roaches quickly and hysterically adapt to the chemical assault and begin to grow bigger, while the supposed health inspector hallucinates after mistakenly using the toxic bug powder on his spaghetti, thinking it was Parmesan cheese! You'll have a foot-stomping, roach-slapping good time with this eccentric and eclectic cast of characters!

With lively and fast-paced dialogue and great opportunities for physical humor, the play provides a hilarious look at the price humans pay for attempting to control nature and is sure to delight audiences of all ages!

Parent -Teacher Conferences

Conferences will be held Thursday, October 24th from 1pm-8pm, and Friday, October 25th from 8 am-1:30 pm. Parent-Teacher conferences give teachers and parents the opportunity to discuss the academic progress, behavior, and social skill development as well as progress towards meeting the grade level benchmarks. Parents have the opportunity to share valuable insights about the child's interest, study skill and homework habits. Together, parents and teachers can work toward making the school year a positive learning experience. The key to a successful conference is preparation—for both the teacher and the parent. Even if the conference is a few weeks away, begin to think about it now. Ask your child what is going well at school and if they have any concerns. Write down questions and prioritize them in case you run short on time. You may want to take notes at the conference, especially if there are things that the teacher asks you to do with your child at home. Remember, the Parent-Teacher Conference is only one way to communicate about your child's progress: notes, phone calls, online through Skyward, and email are also ways to continue to communicate with your child's teacher. Parents can sign up for Parent Teacher Conferences by logging into Skyward. On the left hand side it will say conferences. You are then able to schedule which teachers you would like to meet with. If you need help, please contact Brenda Forth at 815-443-2715.

Elementary Homework Helper

Pearl City School will be offering Homework Helper for students in grades 4, 5, and 6 at no cost. This program is available for students to get extra help on an academic subject, work on homework with a teacher present, or get caught up on missing assignments. Students whose grades fall below a passing grade or who are missing assignments will be requested to attend Homework Helper. Homework Helper will be staffed by one of the elementary teachers and will be available on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school from 3:15 to 3:45 p.m. If your child is having difficulty completing or needs assistance with homework, please consider Homework Helper.

JH/HS Homework Helper/Study Labs

The Junior High Homework Helper will be offered 4 times per week. The time is from 3:15-4:00. On Mondays and Wednesdays it is in Mrs. Pitts' classroom. On Tuesdays and Thursdays it is in Mrs. Rasmussen's classroom. This is a great opportunity for students to get extra help on things they may be struggling with. Students may also go if they want to get their work done prior to going home. High School Study Labs are on Mondays with Mrs. Hamilton and Wednesdays with Mrs. Rasmussen. The time for this is at 7:15-7:45am. This is a free program for your students.



Skyward Family Access

Pearl City Schools have been using Skyward, a software program to manage student information.

Parents can go online and view current grades and assignments. The mobile app is also available.



**Important Dates
to Remember**

PreK-8 Grade Picture
Retakes Thurs. Oct. 3rd

El. Fire Safety Day with Smoke
House Presentations with Firemen
Fri. Oct. 11

No School Columbus Day
Mon, Oct. 14

PSAT/NMSQT for
11th grade—Oct. 16th

End of the First Quarter
Oct. 18

No School Parent Teacher
Conferences Thurs. Oct 24
1:00-8:00

No School Parent Teacher
Conferences Fri. Oct 25
8:00-1:30

Pre K—6th
Halloween Parade 1:30
Halloween Parties 2:00
Thursday, Oct. 31

Our PTO meeting for October will be Monday, October 7th at 3:30 pm in Mr. Chrisman's office. All parents are encouraged to attend and participate in decision-making. The PTO has been responsible for funding many activities and purchasing needed items for the classrooms. Please plan to attend, volunteer, or help out sometime throughout the school year.

Our Fall Cookie Sale went very well. The Cookie pick up will be October 8th after school.

**PTO
Meeting**



Picture Retakes

Pre-K through Grade 8 picture retakes are scheduled for Thursday, October 3rd. If your child was absent or did not order a package and you would like to order now, please send order forms and payment on or before that day. If you are not satisfied with your child's picture, please send the whole packet back to school on or before Oct. 3rd.



Ensuring Reading and Math Success Through "Well Checks" with AIMSweb Benchmarks

As our children grow, most of us see charts. Our doctors weigh our children and measure how tall they are. This chart shows where our child stands compared to other children and how fast they are growing. These charts help doctors to understand if our children are growing properly or if something may be wrong, enabling them to do something to help as soon as possible.

Doctors use children's height and weight as "Well Checks", or vital signs of development. We all know how important it is for our children to "grow" in reading as well. In fact, successfully learning to read at an early age is probably one of the most important factors in a child's learning, both inside and outside of school.

Because reading and reading growth are so important, on a regular basis, our school is going to give you "Well Check" information indicating how well your child is reading. We now know what the goals of the reading "Well Checks" should be, and will give this information to you three times per year. Generally, the first "Well Check" was given within the first few weeks of school.

The reading "Well Checks" are simple and accurate. We will have your child read 3 stories from passages comparable to their grade level and we will count the words they read correctly, as well as how well they read the stories. The "Well Checks" take less than 5 minutes. We like to think of it as taking your child's reading temperature.

Teachers will use these "Well Checks" to help them plan their reading instruction. This information will also help them individualize for students who are above or below average in their reading abilities. The "Well Check" information for your child will be put on a chart, and your child's teacher will explain it to you at conference time.

In Winter, your child's teacher will do another "Well Check" to see if an improvement in your child's reading ability has been made. This chart will indicate what your child's score was in the fall and what your child's score is in Winter.

These reading "Well Checks" will be done again during the last several weeks of school (Spring). We will then be able to inform you of how much reading growth your child has made throughout the year, and what may be needed in order for your child to become a truly successful reader.

As a school staff, we are excited about our ability to know where all of our students are at on their path to being successful readers and learners. We hope that you are excited as well. We also look forward to seeing and talking with you regarding the progress of your child.

Incentives

The faculty and staff of Pearl City School are always continuing to look for ways to motivate and reward our students for exceptional behavior. This year we are offering several different types of incentives. We have the Student of the Month Award and Top Dog Award. Student of the Month is given to a student in each high school grade level who shows success in and out of the classroom. These students are chosen by the teachers and staff. Top Dog is chosen from teacher nomination on different attributes that we are looking for each month. For example, in September it is for Respect. Teachers and staff vote on the winner and this student is awarded Top Dog! We will also be providing incentives for attendance, good grades and overall behavior. Student of the Month winners for September were;

7th Brinkley Knoup

8th Austin Gravert

9th Jordan Johnson

10th Sydney Wright

11th Alexis Daves

12th Zander Endress

TOP DOG ~ Mitchell Brinkmeier

Congratulations!!

2019 October



Pearl City Schools

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

29		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
29		Sep 30		1		2		3		4		5	
HOCO Week				4:00 PM Girls Golf @ Polo (Silver Ridge) 4:00 PM JH Volleyball @ W. Carroll 6:00 PM HS Volleyball vs. Le-Win				Boys/Girls Golf @ NUIC Conf Tourn Polo (Silver Ridge) Elem Retakes 5:00 PM HOCO Parade & Pep Rally (Lanark)		7:00 PM V EPC FB vs. Aquin (PC) HOCO		JH Volleyball NUIC Conf Tourn (Lanark) 8:00 PM HOCO Dance	
6		7		8		9		10		11		12	
8:00 AM Boys Golf Regionals @ Eastland 5:30 PM JV EPC FB vs. Aquin (PC)		5:30 PM JH Volleyball vs. Stockton 6:00 PM HS Volleyball @ Polo		8:00 AM Girls Golf Regionals @ Eastland 5:30 PM JH Volleyball @ Aquin 6:00 PM HS Volleyball vs. Scales Mound		4:00 PM JH Volleyball @ Chadwick		7:00 PM V EPC FB @ Amboy					
13		14		15		16		17		18		19	
BG/GG Sectionals No School 5:30 PM JV EPC FB vs. Stockton (PC)		6:00 PM Winter Sports Meeting		6:00 PM HS Volleyball @ Warren 6:00 PM Booster Meeting 6:30 PM Board of Education		6:00 PM HS Volleyball vs. W. Carroll (Senior Night)		End of 1st Quarter 7:00 PM V EPC FB vs AFC (PC)		8:30 AM JV Volleyball PC Jamboree			
20		21		22		23		24		25		26	
5:30 PM JV EPC FB vs. AFC (PC)		6:00 PM HS Volleyball vs. Stockton		4:00 PM JH Boys Basketball @ Pecatonica		No School 1:00 PM Parent/Teacher Conferences 6:00 PM HS Volleyball vs. Galena		8:00 AM Parent/Teacher Conferences 7:00 PM V EPC FB @ Forreston		9:00 AM F/S Tourn @ W. Carroll			
27		28		29		30		31		Nov 1		2	
Varsity Volleyball Regionals 5:30 PM JH Boys Basketball @ Eastland 5:30 PM JV EPC FB @ Forreston		5:30 PM JH Boys Basketball vs. Chadwick		5:30 PM JH Boys Basketball vs. Aquin									
3		4		Notes									
<i>*Calendar is subject to change *</i>													

2019 October

Menu



Pearl City Schools

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	Sep 30	1 Breakfast Pizza Tacos	2 Cherry or Apple Strudel Beef Hot Dog & Chili	3 Donut Holes Popcorn Chicken	4 Mini Pancakes BBQ	5
6 Biscuits & Gravy Chicken Strips	7 Waffles Taco in a bag	8 Funnel Cake Pancakes & Sausage	9 Scrambled Eggs Pork Tenderloin	10 Chocolate Croissant Hamburgers	11	12
13 No School No School	14 Mini Pretzel Bites Nachos	15 French Toast BBQ Chicken Sandwich	16 Pancakes Cheese Tortellini	17 Breakfast Pizza Beef Hot Dog & Fries	18	19
20 Muffins Orange Chicken	21 Funnel Cake Taco Salad	22 Biscuits & Gravy Mini Corn Dogs	23 No School No School	24	25	26
27 French Toast Pulled Pork	28 Chocolate Croissant Tacos	29 Cherry or Apple Strudel Hot Beef Sandwich	30 Scrambled Eggs Pizza	31	Nov 1	2
3	4	<p>*Calendar is subject to change* Lunch is Offer vs. Serve Each meal is provided with Milk & Whole Grain Bread/Breading</p>				

Pearl City Education Foundation

HALLOWEEN HUSTLE

5k Race

Family Fun Run/Walk

9:00 am October 26, 2019

Prizes for top overall Male & Female &

Top 3 winners in each age bracket

Name: _____

Gender: Male Female Age: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fees:

- ◆ 5K—\$20
- ◆ 1 mile fun run - \$10
- ◆ Any registration after 10/18/19 does not guarantee race shirt

Unisex shirt size:

___ Adult -SM ___ Youth—SM

___ Adult-M ___ Youth—M

___ Adult L ___ Youth-L

___ Adult XL

___ Adult 2XL

- ◆ Checks payable to:

Pearl City Education Foundation

Total Enclosed: _____

Race day Registration Begins at 8:00am at Pearl City High School

Race Safety Waiver:

I know that running a road race is potentially hazardous activity, which could cause injury or death. I will not enter and participate unless I am medically able and properly trained, and by my signature, I certify that I am medically able to perform this event, and am in good health, and I am properly trained. I agree to abide by any decision of a race official relative to any aspect of my participation in this event, including the right of any official to deny or suspend my participation for any reason whatsoever. I assume all risks associated with running in this event, including but not limited to: falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather, including high heat and/or all such risks being known and appreciated by me. I understand that bicycles, skateboards, baby joggers, roller skates or roller blades, animals, and personal music players are not allowed in the race and I will abide by all race rules. Having read this waiver and knowing these facts and in consideration of your accepting my entry, I, for myself and anyone entitled to act on my behalf, waive and release the Pearl City Education Foundation, the Pearl City School District, the city of Pearl City, IL, and all event sponsors, their representatives and successors from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event, even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons named in this waiver. I grant permission to all of the foregoing to use my photographs, motion pictures, recordings or any other record of this event for any legitimate purpose.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent's Signature if under 18 years: _____

Date: _____

***A separate registration form is required for each participant**

*Event will be held rain or shine. If the event is cancelled due to extreme weather, we thank you for your donation.

* Race to benefit Pearl City School Student and Teacher scholarships and educational programs!