



Pearl City School District January 2020 Newsletter

"Inspire in everyone a passion to excel"

District Website—www.pcwolves.net

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

The school year has reached the mid-way point. There have been some advances to our curriculum, teaching strategies, schedules and the way our students are learning. However, the one thing that has not changed is the commitment and dedication of the entire Pearl City School District educational staff. They continue to strive for excellence and they continue to prepare all students to make positive contributions in an ever-changing world.

Emergency Closings

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 station. We will try to have our message out to everyone between 5:30am and 6:00am.

Levy

The Pearl City School Board approved the 2019 tax levy at the December board meeting. This year's levy is asking for a 4.94% increase. Please understand that the district does not receive what we ask for in the estimated levy, we only receive what the PTELL (Tax Cap) law allows. PTELL will limit the district's rate at 1.9% (Consumer Price Index), but levying a higher rate ensures that the district will also receive any increases in EAV and any new construction. However, since the current Facility Use Bond is being paid off the district tax payers will still see a continued decrease in their property taxes.

Communication Survey

Thank you to everyone that participated in the communication survey. The results were shared with the Pearl School Board at the November school board meeting. Below are a few results of the survey.

- There were 104 individuals that completed the survey
- 91% found the overall communication to be excellent or good. No one found it to be poor
- 84% found the amount of Communication received was about right
- 84% shared that they felt comfortable expressing their opinions and concerns
- 80% shared that having a district facebook page would be beneficial

64% shared they were in favor of having an e-learning day. 26% shared they would like more information

The survey results can be found on the School District website under the Superintendent News Tab, which can be found in the District Information section or at the link below. http://www.pcwolves.net/district_information/superintendent_news

Lego League Participants

On Dec 14th, we had some of our PC students participate in a 32 middle school Lego competition in Rockford. More than 500 students from Northern Illinois met on Dec. 14th. The students programed robots to complete an obstacle course and completed a research project where they had to come up with a solution for a crisis situation in their community. The Pearl City team researched better ways to protect students in the school during a tornado. The students then presented their projects in front of a panel of judges. This year the Pearl City students won the Spirit award out of the 32 teams. Members of the team are: Miranda Posey, Kendra Kuhlemeier, Natalie Greene, Xander Krolow, Kayden Martin, Tana Gravert, Mackenzie Lotz, Parker Allen. Coaches: Sandy Scott and Mike Tresemer. We are very proud of these students! Below is a news link about the competition. <https://www.wifr.com/content/news/Celebrating-innovation-at-the--566217151.html>



Important Dates to Remember

School Resumes Jan. 6th

MAP Testing Jan. 8th

Report Cards Sent Home Jan.10

**AIMS Web Benchmark Testing
Jan. 13–16**

**No School-District Institute—
Jan. 17th**

**No Early Learning Classes
Jan. 17th or 20th**

**No School-
Martin Luther King Day Jan.
20th**

PTO Mtg. Jan. 27th 3:30



Young Authors Stories

Everyone should be thinking about story ideas for their Young Author's book. Students will be working on completing their Young Author Stories in January. More information will be coming about due dates and requirements. These books will be judged and several representatives will be selected to represent Pearl City at the Illinois Young Author Conference in Bloomington, IL in May.



Winter Clothing

Winter clothing is an important part of winter fun. The students will be going outside for recess as often as the weather permits. Coats, hats, snow pants, boots, and mittens and gloves are a must. If you need help providing these items for your child, please contact Mr. Chrisman.



Spelling Bee

The students will be having classroom bees to choose representatives to participate in the Pearl City School Spelling Bee. More information will be sent home. The Regional Spelling Bee will be held on Tuesday, February 18th in Pearl City. Winners from the Regional Bee will be going directly to the competition in Washington DC this year.





Be Safe On-Line General Tips for On-Line Safety

There are some very important things that you need to keep in mind when you're on your computer at home or at school.

First, remember never to give out personal information such as your name, home address, school name, or telephone number in a chat room or on bulletin boards. Also, never send a picture of yourself to someone you chat with on the computer without your parent's permission.

Never write to someone who has made you feel uncomfortable or scared. Do not meet someone or have them visit you without the permission of your parents.

Tell your parents right away if you read anything on the Internet that makes you feel uncomfortable.

Remember that people online may not be who they say they are. Someone who says that "she" is a "12-year-old girl" could really be any age from anywhere in the world!

Student Absence Procedures

As we enter the time of year when students seem to be missing more school due to illness, I feel it has become necessary to remind parents and guardians of our district procedures. If your son or daughter is absent, please follow these steps.

1. On the day of the absence call the district office.
2. Tell the office staff **why** your son/daughter is absent.
3. Provide the office with a written confirmation of the absence upon your son's/daughter's return to school.
4. If a phone contact is not made, office staff will call the students parent/guardians by 10:00 am.

Yearbooks are on sale now!!

PreK-8 Yearbook

A year full of memories for only \$15.00. Checks can be made payable to the Pearl City PTO. Orders should be to the school office by March 15th, 2020. You may also order your yearbook online at ybpay.lifetouch.com using yearbook ID Code: 6825920. We will not have extra copies this year so order yours now!!



Planning for the 2020-2021 School Year

As we begin planning for the 2020-2021 school year, there is the option for Career Tec.

CareerTEC provides Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. Their mission statement, we are "Partnering to prepare students for tomorrow's careers." CareerTEC does this by coordinating and delivering CTE programs/classes that prepare students for careers and/or college; in the process, often providing dual credit and industry-recognized certifications.

Programs are designed to meet the workforce needs and attempt to fill the talent pipeline in high growth and in-demand fields. In conjunction with Highland Community College, CareerTEC put together a Career Guide highlighting the classes we offer in addition to spotlighting local individuals and businesses and other Career and Technical information. Students can get an application from Mr. Kreiser in the counseling office. There is also a handbook on the Junior/Senior High School page that goes in depth about each program.

High School Volunteer Hours

This is just a reminder that for students to graduate, they need to complete volunteer hours.

Seniors— 5 hours by March 31, 2020

Juniors— 10 hours by March 31, 2021

Sophomores— 15 hours by March 31, 2022

Freshmen— 20 hours by March 31st, 2023

The forms are available online as well as in the office.

JANUARY 13TH, 2020

ED CURRY MEMORIAL NIGHT



The Pearl City FFA and FFA Alumni will be hosting the Ed Curry Memorial Night on Monday, January 13th during the Lady Wolves home game against the RR/SM Wildcats.

- **Chili Meal for \$5**
- **FFA Quilt Raffle - \$5 per ticket, \$10 for 3 tickets**
- **Halftime Activities**

All proceeds will go to the Ed Curry Memorial Fund



PCEF News for PCHS Seniors

PCEF (Pearl City Education Foundation) is pleased to announce the availability of \$12,000 for scholarships to be awarded to Pearl City Seniors going on to college or vocational/trade school in the fall of 2020. The maximum amount per student has been increased to \$2,500. On going communications with prospective additional donors opens possibilities for scholarships in addition to the \$12,000. The updated 2020 Multiuse Application form should be available to you from the guidance counselor shortly after Christmas break. The deadline for completed applications to be turned in to the school office or guidance counselor is April 1, 2020. The guidance counselor, the school registrar, or a school administrator will assist with the required transcript requested on the application.

All PCEF Senior Scholarships are presented at the May Senior Honors program. We look forward to receiving your applications and presenting those Pearl City Education Scholarships.

The Pearl City Education Foundation wishes you a memorable and successful final semester!

Junior High Promotion and Retention Policy

As we near the end of the first semester, I would like to remind parents/guardians the promotion & retention policy. The following is a copy of the policy.

The decision as to pupil placement (retention or acceleration) shall be made by the school principal after careful consideration of the following:

- **Teacher Recommendation**
- **Attendance**
- **Grades**
 1. Junior High Level (7-8) – must pass 4 of 5 academic subjects (Language Arts, Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies) to be promoted to the next grade.
 2. A student who fails either mathematics or reading will be required to attend summer school or will be retained at current grade level.

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- **Achievement Scores/Testing Program**

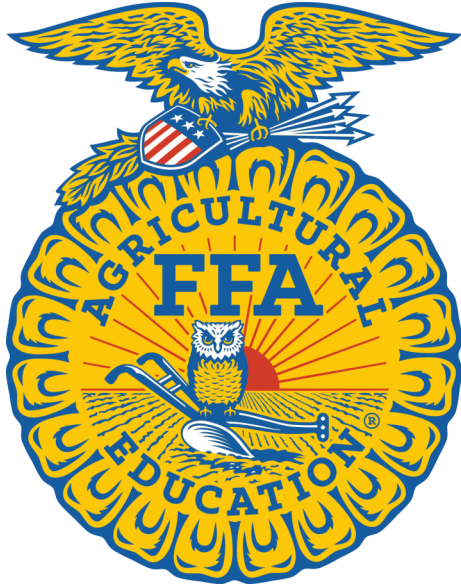
1. A student who falls below the “does not meet” level on the District administered reading and/or mathematics tests must attend summer school or will be retained at current grade level.

Procedures to be followed in promotion or retention shall be as follows:

1. A teacher feeling that a child’s problems can be improved by special grade placement or academic assistance should immediately inform the principal.
2. The principal, in conjunction with parents and teacher, may develop an academic assistance program for the student.
3. A teacher feeling that a child should be considered for summer school or retention should confer with the parent between December and March to gain their help and prepare them for promotion or retention.
4. In April, a teacher-principal conference will be held to review the student’ grades and achievement test scores.
5. Following this review, the principal will make the final decision regarding placement and notify the parents regarding their child’s status relative to summer school and/or retention.

The placement of a student who has actively participated in the remediation strategies suggested and offered by the school system, including retention, and who is still unable to meet grade and achievement standards will be determined at a conference held with district staff and parents. The principal based upon how best the student can meet academic goals will make the placement decision.





SAVE THE DATE!!

Pearl City FFA & FFA Alumni
will be hosting their annual
Pork Chop Sandwich Dinner
Friday, January 24th
5-8pm \$7

Come out and enjoy a delicious pork chop
dinner while supporting the Wolves Boys
Basketball as they host the
Milledgeville Missiles

Students OF THE MONTH

December

7th - Joely Christiansen
8th - Logan Downs
Freshmen - Jeffery Wool
Sophomore - Xander Gray
Junior - Miranda Mellentine
Senior - Bella Dickman

Top Dog

Bella Kostallari



The elementary concert was about what the meaning of the holidays. Quote used in the concert was from The Grinch "Maybe the holidays don't come from the store, maybe the holidays mean a little bit more." Students learned the holidays isn't about the present that they may want, but about trying to make someone else's holiday a little brighter. Students donated items to the local food pantry, FACC, and Heifer International to try to brighten the holidays.



2020 January



Pearl City Schools

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

29	30	Dec 31	1	2	3	4
Winter Break - No School						
					5:30 PM HS Boys Basketball @ Lamoille	8:00 AM Speech @ Lena 6:00 PM HS Girls Basketball vs. W. Carroll
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
4:00 PM Academic Bowl vs. W. Carroll	3:00 PM JH Girls Basketball Pictures	6:00 PM HS Boys Basketball vs. Dakota	6:00 PM HS Girls Basketball vs. Le-Win	6:00 PM HS Boys Basketball @ Durand	6:00 PM HS Girls Basketball Manny's Shootout vs. So Beloit	8:00 AM Speech @ River Ridge Conf 1:00 PM HS Girls Basketball @ Warren
6:00 PM HS Boys Basketball vs. Pecatonica	6:00 PM HS Girls Basketball @ Orangeville					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
4:00 PM Academic Bowl @ Durand	6:00 PM HS Boys Basketball @ Orangeville	6:00 PM Booster Meeting 6:30 PM Board of Education Meeting	4:00 PM Academic Bowl @ Pecatonica (F/S Conf)	Teachers Institute-No School	8:00 AM Speech @ Fulton 9:00 AM JH Girls Basketball Le-Win Tour (7th - 9am/ 8th - 1pm)	
6:00 PM HS Girls Basketball vs. RR/SM			6:00 PM HS Boys Basketball vs. Le-Win	6:00 PM HS Girls Basketball vs. Aquin		
6:00 PM FFA Chili Dinner - Ed Curry Night						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
No School	4:00 PM Academic Bowl vs. Dakota	4:00 PM JH Girls Basketball @ Chadwick	4:00 PM Academic Bowl @ Galena	5:00 PM FFA Pork Chop Dinner	8:00 AM Varsity Academic Bowl NUIC Conf Meet	
5:30 PM JH Girls Basketball vs. Eastland	6:00 PM HS Girls Basketball @ Pecatonica	6:00 PM HS Boys Basketball vs. River Ridge	6:00 PM V - HS Girls Basketball vs. Durand	5:00 PM JH Girls Basketball @ Galena	9:00 AM Speech - PJ Practice (PC)	
				6:00 PM HS Boys Basketball vs. Milledgeville		
26	27	28	29	30	31	Feb 1
5:30 PM JH Girls Basketball @ Immanuel Lutheran	4:00 PM Academic Bowl vs. Eastland	6:00 PM HS Girls Basketball @ Dakota	5:30 PM JH Girls Basketball vs. Le-Win	6:00 PM HS Girls Basketball vs. Orangeville (Senior Night)		
	4:00 PM JH Girls Basketball @ W. Carroll		6:00 PM HS Boys Basketball @ Pecatonica			
	6:00 PM HS Boys Basketball vs. Aquin					
2	3	Notes				
<i>*Calendar is subject to change *</i>						

2020 January

Menu



Pearl City Schools

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	Dec 31	1	2	3	4
	Winter Break Winter Break					
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
French Toast Sticks Popcorn Chicken	Donuts Nachos	Breakfast Pizza Chili	Pretzel Bites Cheese Tortellini	Waffles Southern Fried Steak		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Pancakes & Sausage Mini Corn Dogs	Scrambled Eggs Taco Casserole	Cinnamon Roll Salisbury Steak	Biscuits & Gravy Pizza Baked Spaghetti	No School No School		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
No School No School	Breakfast Sandwich Tacos	French Toast Sticks Chicken Dumpling Soup	Donuts Country Fried Chicken	Funnel Cake Pork Tenderloin		
26	27	28	29	30	31	Feb 1
Pretzel Bites Chicken Nuggets	Breakfast Sliders Taco Bites	Scrambled Eggs Chicken Noodle Soup	Pancakes & Sausage Mostaccioli	Cinnamon Roll Cheese Quesadilla		
2	3	<p>*Calendar is subject to change* Lunch is Offer vs. Serve Each meal is provided with Milk & Whole Grain Bread/Breading</p>				