



Pearl City School District

October 2018 Newsletter



"Inspire in everyone a passion to excel"

District Website
www.pcwolves.net

Dear Parents/Guardians and Pearl City Community Members:

It is hard to believe that we are already into October when this newsletter reaches your house. The start of school has been very smooth. After a year plus review of math curriculums, the Board of Education approved a K-12 curriculum for the 2018-19 school year. A new curriculum has been targeted as a school improvement goal of which teachers are now able to provide a comprehensive curriculum that incorporates proven teaching strategies aligned to State goals, technology and allows fluid transitions to/and from all grades. Please feel free to contact our staff if you have questions regarding math throughout the year.

We have received our District PARCC testing results from last year. Once the State embargo on the release of scores has been lifted, we will share our scores. Until then teachers and administrators are going over the scores and looking at ways to improve. Please keep in mind that these test results are only one of many measures that we use to track a student's progress in school. We will pass on more detailed information on PARCC once the embargo has been lifted.

The Board of Education approved the 2018-19 school budget at the September 19th board meeting. This budget is a balanced budget of \$91,700 and contingent on the State making all of their obligated payments this year and last fiscal year. To access a complete copy of the District budget, please go to the home page of the district website and click on the link under District information.

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 into the county clerk. Petitions can be circulated starting September 18, 2018.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 815-443-2715.

Tim Thill

Superintendent Pearl City Schools

Parent -Teacher Conferences

Conferences will be held Thursday, October 25th from 1pm-8pm, and Friday, October 26th from 8am-1pm. 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 filling out the form posted on the website and mailing the form back to the office or by emailing the form to Mrs. Strock at tstrock@pcwolves.net.

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 Study Labs

The Junior High and Senior High will be offering Study Labs. Students will have the opportunity to come in and get extra help from teachers. For High School students there is a Study Lab from 7:15- 7:45 on Mondays with Mrs. Hamilton. For Junior High students there is a Homework Helper from 3:15-4:00 on Monday and Wednesday afternoons in Mrs. Pitt's room and Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in Miss Lee's room. This is a great time for your child to receive extra help on subjects that he/she is having trouble with. These study labs provide free tutoring for our students. If your child is struggling at any time, please have them utilize them.



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. 4

El. Fire Safety Day with Smoke
House Presentations with Firemen
Fri. Oct. 5

No School Columbus Day
Mon, Oct. 8

PSAT/NMSQT for
11th grade—Oct. 10th

PTO Meeting
Mon, Oct 15 6:30

End of the First Quarter
Oct. 19

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

No School Parent Teacher
Conferences Fri. Oct 26
8:00-1:30

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

Our PTO meetings are held the third Monday of each month at 6:30 pm in Mrs. Wallace'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. We will let you know the date and time of the Cookie pick up as soon as we know it.

**PTO
Meeting**



Picture Retakes

Pre-K through Grade 8 picture retakes are scheduled for Thursday, October 4th. 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. 4th.



The EPC Drama Department Presents:

The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon

The fairy tales of the Brothers Grimm are turned on their heads in this fast-paced, rollicking ride as two narrators and several actors attempt to combine all 209 stories ranging from classics like *Snow White*, *Cinderella*, and *Hansel and Gretel* to more bizarre, obscure stories like *The Devil's Grandmother* and *The Girl Without Hands*. A wild, freeform comedy with lots of audience participation and madcap fun. Come join the EPC Drama Department as our large cast brings this farcical, fun-fest to life on the stage at Eastland at 7:00pm on Friday, November 9th, and Saturday, November 10th. Tickets are \$5 in advance from cast members, and \$6 at the door.

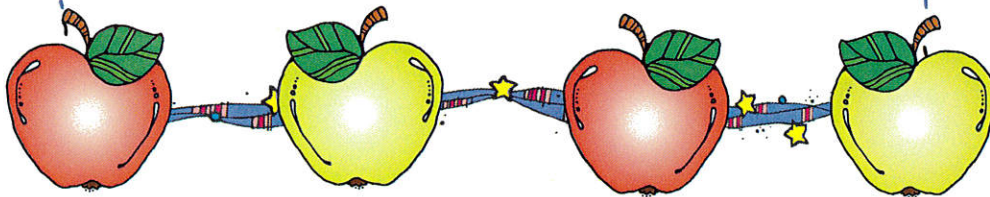
Where: Eastland High School

When: Friday, Nov. 9, 2018
7:00pm curtain

Advance Tickets: \$5 all ages

Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018
7:00pm curtain

Monthly Newsletters



Starting in November the school newsletter will be reaching our current school families by email. Those in the community will still receive the hard copy if they requested it to be sent to them.

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 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 Miranda Posey

8th Addison Bremmer

9th James Freytag

10th Jase Sheffey

11th Kayla Runkle

12th Lydia Lott

TOP DOG ~ Kayla Runkle

Congratulations!!

PEARL CITY BASEBALL & BASKETBALL

Music Trivia

FUNDRAISER

\$120 per team

TEAMS OF 6

Registration deadline: October 12th to Tim Pauley 815.541.6642

Make checks payable to Pearl City Baseball

Team Name: _____
Name: _____
Name: _____
Name: _____
Name: _____
Name: _____
Name: _____

20
OCTOBER
2018

Pearl City
Fire Station



6:00 P.M. Food
7:00 P.M. Trivia

Silent Auction
Various great prizes including:
Four (4) tickets to the Milwaukee Bucks/Chicago Bulls game (11/16/18)
Four (4) tickets to the Chicago Bears/Minnesota Vikings game (11/18/18)



2018 October

Menu



Pearl City Schools

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sep 30	1 Bacon Scrambled Egg Square Hot Dogs	2 Pretzels w/cheese Pancakes & Sausage	3 Donuts Cheese Filled Breadsticks	4 Bagels Chicken Strips	5 French Toast & Sausage Mexican Pizza	6
7	8 No School	9 Cereal & Toast Breaded Chicken Sandwich	10 Combo Bar Corn Dogs	11 Breakfast Sandwich Taco's	12 Pancake & Sausage Stick Tenderloin Sandwich	13
14	15 Sausage & Potato Patties Pepperoni Pizza	16 Donuts Chicken & Noodles	17 Pretzels w/Cheese Turkey Wraps	18 Sausage Pizza Taco Casserole	19 French Toast & Sausage Chicken Nuggets	20
21	22 Combo Bar Chicken Quesadillas	23 Pancake & Sausage Stick Spaghetti	24 Trix Cereal Bar BBQ	25 No School	26	27
28	29 Bagels Pulled Pork Sandwich	30 Donuts Sub Sandwich	31 Pretzel w/Cheese Mini Corn Dogs	Nov 1	2	3
4	5	<p>*Calendar is subject to change* Lunch us Offer vs. Serve Each meal is provided with Milk & Whole Grain Bread/Breading</p>				

2018 October



Pearl City Schools

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Sep 30	1 JHVB @ Aquin (St. Joe's) 5:30pm 5:00 PM EPC (F) Football @ Byron Jamboree	2 BG Regionals @ Galena 5:30 PM JHVB vs. Stockton (H) 6:00 PM VB @ Warren	3 GG Regionals (H) 5:00 PM VB vs. E DBQ (H)	4 Elem Picture Retake Day	5 5:30 PM EPC FB @ W. Carroll 5:30pm	6 JHVB Conf Tourn @ Le-Win 9:00 AM EPC Cheer Camp	
7 No School	8	9 6:00 PM Winter Sports Meeting	10 6:00 PM VB vs. Scales Mound	11 5:00 PM VB vs. West Carroll (Senior Night)	12 VB @ Plainfield Tourn 5:30 PM FS/V Football vs Dakota (Lanark)	13 8:00 AM F VB Jamboree (PC)	
14 8:30 AM (F) EPC FB @ Galena Jamboree 6:30 PM PTO Meeting	15	16	17 5:00 PM VB vs. Eastland (Cancer Awareness) 5:30 PM Booster Meeting 6:30 PM Board of Education Meeting	18 3:00 PM JHBB pictures 6:00 PM VB @ Stockton	19 6th Grade Cake Raffle End of 1st Quarter 5:30 PM EPC FB vs. Polo (Lanark)	20 9:00 AM F/S VB @ West Carroll	
21 VB Regionals 5:30 PM JHBBB vs. Eastland (H)	22	23 4:00 PM JHBBB @ Forreston	24	25 No School 1:00 PM Parent/Teacher Conferences 5:30 PM JHBBB @ Aquin (St. Joe's)	26 8:00 AM Parent/Teacher Conferences	27	
28 4:00 PM JHBBB @ W. Carroll	29	30 5:30 PM JHBBB vs. Dakota (H)	31	Nov 1	2	3	
4	5	Notes					

****Calendar is subject to change ****