



Pearl City School District

October 2021 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

Curriculum

This year the district is implementing a new ELA curriculum K-12. The elementary ELA curriculum is a researched based curriculum that is centered around reading stories and gaining the interest of the students in each of the units. The elementary teachers also have taken part in professional development to implement a new phonics program that will help our students with their reading fluency and comprehension. The JH/HS ELA curriculum is set up to engage students in a variety of research based strategies and also has a focus on grammar. The JH/HS has also implemented a new Social Science curriculum. This is a digital curriculum that allows the teachers and students to study and examine not only historical facts, but also to examine why the historical events took place and how these events are affecting the current world.

The district is looking to improve and update the following curriculum areas for the 2022-2023 school year: JH/HS Science, Elementary Social Science, Foreign Language, Agriculture, and Business. We want to continue to provide our students with the most updated ways of learning to increase their success in whatever they choose to do in the future.

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.

Building and Grounds

The district completed two large construction projects over the summer. The majority of the school roof was replaced. A large portion of the roof was way past warranty and continued to leak into the classrooms or the hallways. The entire parking lot and recess area was also sealed. The main parking lot, by the bus garage, was torn out and replaced due to many years of wear and tear. The district is now looking for ways to improve on the classrooms and also the HVAC system in parts of the school building.

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. 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.

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



Ensuring Reading and Math Success Through "Well Checks" with AIMSweb Benchmarks Grades K-6

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.

Parent -Teacher Confer- ences

Conferences will be held Wednesday, October 27th from 2:30 pm-7:30pm, and Thursday, October 28th from 2:30 pm- 7:30 pm. No school on October 29th. Please reach out to your child's teacher to begin scheduling a conference time that will work for you. 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.

Elementary Homework Helper

Pearl City School will be offering Homework Helper for students in grades 3, 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 2 times per week. The time is from 3:15-4:00. On Tuesdays and Thursdays it is in Mrs. Pitts'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—Thursday with Mrs. Hamilton. 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.



School Picture Re-takes

Pre-K through Grade 12 pictures are scheduled for Thursday, October 21st. Please contact our District office with any questions.

Important Dates to Remember

October 2nd - Homecoming Dance

October 6th—Winter Sports meeting (JHBB, JHGB, HSBB, HSGB, Speech, Scholastic Bowl)

No School Columbus Day
Mon, Oct. 11th

PSAT/NMSQT for
11th grade—Oct. 29 (optional)

October 14th - Blood Drive

End of the First Quarter
Oct. 15th

October 21st - Lifetouch picture
Retakes for Daycare - 12th grade

October 22nd-24th--Fall Play in
Pearl City

October 26th--5th grade Operetta
in small gym

Parent Teacher Conferences Oct.
27 & 28 from 2:30-7:30. Student
attendance 8:00-1:00 both days.

Oct. 29th No School



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 Eli Baker
8th Eden Schubert
9th Zxandyr Lott Klatt
10th Lisa Baker
11th Nathan Brinkmeier
12th Owen Joseph
TOP DOG ~ Riley Schauer
Congratulations!!

EPC Drama Department Presents:

MURDER ON THE MENU



Come to The Manor Restaurant (aka-the Pearl City Cafeteria) for a pasta dinner and stay to help us solve a murder in this Murder Mystery Dinner!

Artemus Ward, head of the lucrative family publishing business, meets his demise while dining at The Manor but who is the killer? It's hard to say who did it considering everyone has a motive. Reginald? Major? Alexis? Bernie? Eileen? Jeannie? Put on your sleuthing hat and help us solve the case!

Tickets are **\$12** each which includes **salad, pasta, garlic bread, dessert, a beverage, and of course, entertainment!**

Where? The Pearl City Cafeteria

When? Saturday October 23rd at 7:00

Sunday October 24th at 2:00

Seating is limited and tickets can be purchased through the cast and crew and will go on sale October 8th.

Current Stephenson County Covid rules for indoor spaces will be enforced.

Questions? Contact Mrs. Graf- jgraf@pcwolves.net



PC Booster Club:

The PC Booster Club is often approached to donate money to sports activities to support our student athletes. We ask for your support of the PC Booster Club. We strongly encourage all parents of student athletes to donate or participate in our fundraisers to accommodate these requests.

Winter Sports Meeting:

Wednesday, October 6th at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.

(If you haven't already, please fill out the 2021-2022 Student Athlete Contact information google form prior to the meeting.

<https://forms.gle/JWGpe4awRXTZZc69A> This is the same google form that was sent out prior to the school year and given to fall athletes)

Next PC Booster Club Meeting:

Sunday, October 17th at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.
(Subject to change- A school reach will be sent out closer to the date to confirm date, time, and location)

PC Booster Club Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser:

Save the Date: Saturday, June 4, 2022 at Lake Carrol Golf Course

Volunteers: We are looking for volunteers to help run the golf outing during the day.

If you're interested in volunteering your time, please let Ashley Gronewold know. She can be reached at PCBoosterClub@gmail.com or 815.541.0394

Other ways to help:

- Gather a foursome and sign up to golf
- If you have a personal business or would like to donate personally, please consider a sponsorship. We will be looking for sponsors closer to the Golf outing
- Volunteer to gather sponsorships from businesses
- Donate items for the raffle

If you're interested in sponsoring or donating items, please let Ashley Gronewold know. She can be reached at PCBoosterClub@gmail.com or 815.541.0394

PC Booster Club Concessions:

The Boosters can consistently earn funds during athletic seasons to support the programs with a successful concession stand. We require parent volunteers of student athletes of the current sports season to volunteer for concession stand slots to provide an open stand for the fans and athletes at the games.

We ask for you to sign up to volunteer for 2 slots per athlete per season. Please sign up for your slots, as we would rather you pick a date that works best for you versus us assigning out slots that may not work with your schedule.

We will be utilizing the SignUpGenius app this year to make signing up an easier process for all parents.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050845ABAE2AA7F94-pcparent>



Please take your turn and volunteer!

Find us digitally:

Please find or contact us on the below digital platforms for the most up to date information.

- PC School Website: Athletics- PC Booster Club
- Email: PCBoosterClub@gmail.com
- Facebook: @pearlcityboosterclub
- PayPal: PCBoosterClub@gmail.com
- Venmo: @PCBoosterClub200

PC Booster Club Contact Information:

Please contact us if you have any questions or ideas.

- Ashley Gronewold, President: 815.541.0394
- Angie Niehaus, Vice President: 815.266.7260
- DJ Scott, Treasurer: djscott@pcwolves.net
- Mel Bremmer, Secretary: 815.821.4715
- Amy Brinkmeier & Emily Dixon

2021 October

Menu



Pearl City Schools

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	Sep 30	1	2
					Donut, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Pork Tenderloin, Carrots, Banana, Dessert & Milk	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Dutch Waffle, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Pulled Port, Baked Beans, Applesauce & Milk	Scrambled Eggs, Cereal, fruit, Juice & Milk Mexican Pizza, Corn, Pears & Milk	Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Cheese Tortellini, Broccoli, Peaches & Milk	Cinnamon Roll, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Green Beans, Apple Slice & Milk		Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Cheese Filled Breadstick, Carrots, Orange, Dessert & Milk	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Muffins, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Taco Casserole, Corn Oranges & Milk	Pancakes, Fruit, Juice & Milk Goulash/Bread, Green Beans, Applesauce, & Milk	Mini Donuts, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Bacon Cheese Fries, Broccoli, Grapes & Milk		Cereal Bar, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Pizza, Carrots, Peaches, Dessert & Milk	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Cinnamon Pastry, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Hot Dog, Baked Beans, Warm cinnamon apples & Milk	Apple Fritter, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Taco Bites, Corn, Oranges & Milk	Coffee Cake, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Chicken Dumpling Soup, Green Beans, Pears & Milk	Scrambled Eggs, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Chicken Nuggets, Broccoli, Peaches & Milk		Dutch Waffle, Fruit, Juice & Milk Hamburger, Carrots, Applesauce, Dessert & Milk	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
French Toast, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Chicken Patty, Baked Beans, Applesauce & Milk	Donut, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Mini Tacos, Corn, Oranges & Milk	Cereal, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Potato Bacon Soup, Green Beans, Pears & Milk	Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Cheese Filled Breadstick, Carrots, Apple Slices & Milk		Untitled	
31	Nov 1	<p>*Calendar is subject to change* Lunch is Offer vs. Serve Each meal is provided with Milk & Whole Grain Bread/Breading</p>				

2021 October



Pearl City Schools

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	Sep 30	1	2
					Homecoming Week EPC/V vs Galena (PC) Homecoming - WCCI	Homecoming Dance JHVB Conference/Tourney @ Lena
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Boys Golf IHSA Sectionals Girls Golf IHSA Sectionals TBA 5:30 PM EPC/JV vs Galena (PC)	5:00 PM HSVB @ Orangeville 5:30 PM EPC/JH vs West Carroll (PC) 5:30 PM JHVB vs Stockton	JHBB, JHGB, HSBB, HSGB, Speech & Scholastic Bowl Winter Sports Meeting	4:00 PM JHVB @ Chadwick 6:00 PM HSVB vs Aquin		Boys Golf IHSA State Tourney TBA Girls Golf IHSA State Tourney TBA 7:00 PM EPC/V @ East Dubuque (E Drives)	10:00 AM Boys Golf IHSA State Tourney TBA 10:00 AM Girls Golf IHSA State Tourney TBA
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
No School 5:00 PM HSVB vs Dakota 5:30 PM EPC/JV @ East Dubuque (E Drives)	EPC/JH PLAYOFFS TBA	5:00 PM HSVB vs Scales Mound	Blood Drive		End of 1st Quarter 7:00 PM EPC/V vs Fulton (PC) - WCCI	8:00 AM PC JV Tourney
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
4:30 PM JHBB @ Pecatonica 5:30 PM EPC/JV vs Fulton (PC) 6:00 PM HSVB @ Milledgeville	5:00 PM HSVB @ Le-Win	5:30 PM JHBB vs Polo 6:30 PM Board of Education Meeting	School Picture Retakes (All) 5:00 PM HSVB vs Pecatonica			West Carroll Tourney JV only 1:00 PM EPC/V @ Walther Christian (PC Drives) 7:00 PM Fall Play Dinner Theatre in PC Cafeteria
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
2:00 PM Fall Play Dinner Theater PC Cafeteria	IHSA (VB) Regionals TBS 5:30 PM EPC/JV @ West Carroll (PC Drives)	5th Grade Operetta in small gym 5:30 PM JHBB @ Eastland	Early Dismissal 1 pm (2:30 PM) Parent Teacher Conferences 5:30 PM JHBB @ Orangeville		EPC/V PLAYOFFS TBA No School	
31	Nov 1	Notes				
<i>*Calendar is subject to change *</i>						