



Pearl City School District

October 2022 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 may not be 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 Science Curriculum K-12, Agriculture curriculum and Foreign Language curriculum. The mentioned curriculums are researched based curriculums that are centered around creative thinking, hands on material, and digital material in order to stay up-to-date with all of the changes. The teachers also have taken part in professional development to implement the new programs. The district is looking to improve and update the Fine Arts curriculum for the 2023-2024 school year. This is all aligned with our four-year curriculum timeline. The district will have updated curriculum in all areas after the 2024 school year. The district will then set up committees to continue to review the curriculums. 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 School Messenger 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. School Messenger 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 School Messenger 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 is looking to complete two construction projects in the summer of 2023 or 2024. The district is first looking to update the HVAC in the High School hallway. The second project that the district is looking to do is build a Greenhouse for the Agriculture and Science programs. Both of these projects will be mostly funded by a federal and state grant.

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.

School Board Election- There are three (four-year term) seats available on the Pearl City School District School Board for anyone interested in running for a position as a school board member in the April 4th 2023 election. Interested candidates may pick up a packet at the Stephenson County Clerk's office in Freeport. Filing date is December 12-19. You may also go to the website below to see a candidate guide for April 4, 2023.

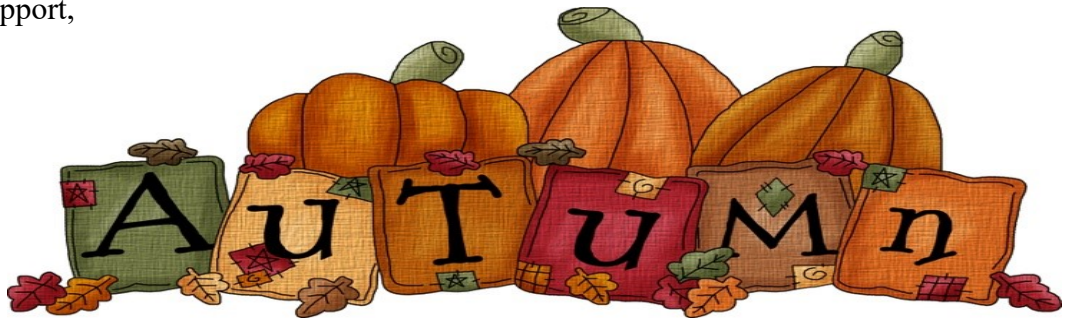
[Elections \(stephensoncountyil.gov\)](http://stephensoncountyil.gov)

It is important to note that the school is no longer the governing agent over the election process. This is now completely controlled by the Stephenson County Clerk. All required documents that need to be completed for a candidate to be placed on the ballot must be turned into the Stephenson County Clerk. Petitions can be circulated starting September 20, 2022.

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 Schifman
Superintendent



*At Eastland
In the old gym
On the Stage*

The Dearly Undeparted

Fall Play

November 5th—7 PM

November 6th—2 PM

A Comedy

The Dearly Undeparted

By: Michael Setaert



It's just an innocent omission, a little white lie; it's for her own good anyway. When grandma refuses to move to a nursing home to make room for her greedy relatives, they hold a fake séance so grandpa will tell her she should leave right away. But what would happen if the séance actually worked, and a stranger came over from the other side and like it so much he never wanted to leave!?

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Parent-Teacher Conferences

Conferences will be held Wednesday, October 26th from 2:30 pm-7:30pm, and Thursday, October 27th from 2:30 pm- 7:30 pm. No school on October 28th. 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 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. Mondays & Wednesdays from 3:15-3:45 in Mr. Maurer's room and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:15-7:45 in Mrs. Pitt's room.

High School Study Labs are on Mondays-Friday with Mrs. Hamilton. The time for this is at 7:15-7:45am.

These are great opportunities for students to get extra help on things they may be struggling with.



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

October 9th—
Winter Sports meeting (JHBB,
JHGB, HSBB, HSGB,
Speech, Scholastic Bowl)

Mon, Oct. 10th
No School Columbus Day

Oct. 12
PSAT/NMSQT for
11th grade—(optional)

Oct.—13
Pink Night
HS Volleyball vs Aquin

October 18th -
Lifetouch picture Retakes for
Daycare - 12th grade

Oct. 21st
End of the First Quarter

Parent Teacher Conferences
Oct. 26 & 27 from 2:30-7:30.
Student attendance 8:00-1:00
both days.

Oct. 28th No School



School Picture Re-takes

Daycare through Grade 12 picture retakes are scheduled for Tuesday, October 18th. Please contact our District office with any questions.

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 Kassidy Dorty
8th Sherlyn Hernandez
9th Gracie Ditsworth
10th Natalie Greene
11th Kyle Niehaus
12th Dylan Olvera
TOP DOG
Jordan Johnson
Congratulations!!

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.



The Sweetest Way to Support Pearl City High School—Seniors

Fundraiser Cake Flavors Available:

Chocolate Chip / Red Velvet / White Chocolate Raspberry
Lemon / Confetti / Classic Vanilla / Carrot / Strawberries & Cream
Gluten—Free Chocolate Chip Cookie

Individual Bundtlets Cost: \$5
8" Cakes Cost: \$24

**Contact a Senior Class Member
Or contact one of the advisors at**

hvenhuizen@pcwolves.net—dservin@pcwolves.net

**Selling
October
17th—27th**

**Delivery
November
9th**

SAVING IS EARNING

Earn 5 cents per UPC from any Country Hearth, Village Hearth, Artisan Hearth, or Fiber Up Product!



Deposit UPCs in our school collection box!

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE BAKERS OF

**Country
Hearth.**
NATURAL BREADS

**Village
Hearth**

**ARTISAN
HEARTH.**
BREADS & ROLLS

**Fiber
Up**

Loaves 4 Learning

By Pan O Gold

Do you use Country Hearth, Village Hearth, Artisan Hearth (Bread & Rolls) and Fiber Up Bread Products? If you do, the Bar Code on the bottom of the wrapper may be used by our School to support programs and/or projects; This program is called Loaves 4 Learning.

At Pearl City the High School Life Skills Independent Living Class uses them to support their Field Trips and supplement the cost of running their “PC Perk” Coffee Shop. The students run a coffee shop with drinks, snacks and treats for the school staff to purchase. Students cook/make the snacks on Mondays, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday they operate the Coffee Shop. The students learn job skills such as team work, personal communication skills and how to fill orders, and make change.

If you would like to help out these students you may drop off the UPC code or the whole wrapper (the students will cut them out) in the main office at the school.

If you have any questions about the program you can contact:



Mrs. Spahr (mspahr@pcwolves.net) or
Mrs. Lott (mlott@pcwolves.net) at the school.



PCEF 2022 Upperclassman Scholarship Recipients

- Nicki Adolph
- MacKenzie Endress
- Zander Endress
- Anna Harrington
- Timothy Harrington
- Hailey Johnson
- Isabella Kostallari
- Caden Kuberski
- Zach Lieb
- Andrew Lorig
- Lydia Lott
- Sydney Monks
- Caitlin Niesman
- Alayna Palmer
- Isabel Pena
- Sarah Pena
- Cody Pitts
- Liana Rosenstiel
- Kayla Runkle
- Ella Williams
- Riley Wright



Pink Night—October 13th

The Servant Leaders and volleyball team are planning a Pink Night event on October 13. As part of this event, we would like to honor our local heroes who have fought or are currently fighting any type of cancer. If you know someone that has fought or is currently fighting cancer, please send his/her name to Jen Petta or Deb Hamilton so that we may honor these heroes at the volleyball game on October 13.

Survivors and fighters will get into the game for FREE. It is the PC/Aquin Volleyball game.



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

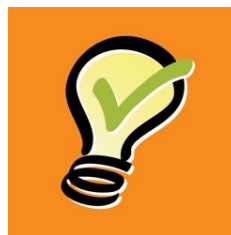
PC Booster Club Concessions:

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/8050845ABAE2A47F94-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

2022 October



Pearl City Schools

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Sep 30	1 JH Volleyball Conf. Tourney @ Eastland
2	3 IHSA B Golf Regionals IHSA G Golf Sectionals 5:30 PM EPC/JV @ Galena	4 5:30 PM EPC JHFB @ West Carroll 6:00 PM HSVB @ Orangeville (JV & Varsity Only)	5	6 5:00 PM HSVB @ Dakota 6:00 PM 5th & 6th Grade Volleyball vs Aquin	7 Boys and Girls IHSA State Tournament 7:00 PM EPC/FB vs West Carroll (E)	8
9 Winter Sports Meeting	10 No School 5:30 PM EPC/JV vs West Carroll (E)	11 5:00 PM HSVB @ Scales Mound	12	13 5:00 PM HSVB vs Aquin	14	15 8:30 AM HSVB - JV PC Invite 1:00 PM EPC/FB @ Fulton - Fulton HS
16 5:00 PM HSVB vs Milledgeville 5:30 PM EPC/JV @ Fulton	17	18 Lifetouch picture Retakes for Daycare - 12th 5:00 PM HSVB @ Pecatonica 5:30 PM JHB Basketball vs Pecatonica	19 4:30 PM JHB Basketball @ Polo 6:30 PM Board of Education Meeting	20 5:00 PM HSVB vs Le-Win	21 End of 1st Quarter	22 HSVB @ WC Tourney 1:00 PM EPC/FB @ Chester - Tremont HS
23 HSV B IHSA Regionals 5:30 PM JHB Basketball @ Eastland (Shannon)	24	25	26 1:00 PM Early Dismissal-Parent Teacher Conferences 2:30 - 7:30 5:30 PM JHB Basketball vs West Carroll	27 1:00 PM Early Dismissal- Parent Teacher Conferences 2:30 - 7:30	28 No School	29
30 HSV B IHSA Sectionals 5:30 PM JHB Basketball @ Le-Win	31	Notes <i>*Calendar is subject to change *</i>				

2022 October

Menu



Pearl City Schools

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Cinnamon Pastry, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Salisbury Steak, Baked Beans, Peaches and Milk	Pretzel w/Cheese, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Nachos, Corn, Applesauce & Milk	Pancakes, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Chicken Alfredo, Broccoli, Pineapple & Milk	Apple Fritter, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Tater Tot Casserole, Green Beans, Pears & Milk	Donut, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Bosco Sticks, Carrots, Apple Slices, Dessert & Milk	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
No School No School	French Toast, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Mini Tacos, Corn, Applesauce & Milk	Apple Frudel, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Goulash, Green Beans, Oranges & Milk	Coffee Cake, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Chicken Strips, Baked Beans, Pears & Milk	Mini Donuts, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Orange Chicken, Broccoli, Peaches, Dessert & Milk		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Waffles, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Pulled Pork, Carrots, Mandarin Oranges & Milk	Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Taco in a bag, Corn,, Applesauce & Milk	Mini Cinnamon Rolls, Fruit, Juice and Milk Macaroni and Cheese, Green Beans, Pears & Milk	Dutch Waffle, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Chili, Broccoli, Peaches & Milk	Cereal Bar, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Corn Dogs, Baked Beans, Apple Slices Dessert & Milk		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Mini Bagels, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Shredded Chicken Sandwich, Green Beans, Pears & Milk	Biscuits and Gravy, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Quesadilla, Corn, Applesauce & Milk	Scrambled Eggs and toast, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Pizza, Carrots, Orange Slices, Dessert & Milk	Cereal bar, Cereal, Fruit, Juice & Milk Beef Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Peaches & Milk	No School No School		
30	31	Notes				
Pork Tenderloin		<p>*Calendar is subject to change* Lunch is Offer vs. Serve Each meal is provided with Milk & Whole Grain Bread/Breading</p>				