



# *Pearl City School District*

## *December 2023 Newsletter*

District Website: [www.pcwolves.net](http://www.pcwolves.net)

"Inspire in everyone a passion to excel"

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

The school year is already half way through the second quarter, with the semester due to end before the Winter break. I guess either I am getting older because time is flying by or maybe we are just having fun. I am believing it is because we are having fun in the district. I want to share a few things that are going on in the district.

### **E-Learning Plan**

The Pearl City School Board approved the use of e-Learning days to replace severe weather or emergency days. Therefore, instead of having a snow day and going later into the school year the district will utilize the e-Learning Plan. This plan is the same as what we have done on past e-Learning days. The district will still utilize the School Messenger system to notify parents of the e-Learning Day. You can find the e-Learning plan by going to [www.pcwolves.net](http://www.pcwolves.net) and clicking on the District Information tab.

### **Levy**

The Pearl City School Board approved an estimated tax levy at the November board meeting. This year's levy is asking for an 8.73% increase. Please understand that the district does not receive what we ask for in the estimated levy, the district receives CPI (6.59%) or a maximum of 5%, whichever is less. Levying a higher rate ensures that the district will also receive any increases in EAV and any new construction. If a taxing body requests in its levy a dollar amount over 5% a Truth and Taxation Hearing must be held prior to the adoption of the tax levy in December. Since the school district is requesting 8.73% the district will hold a Public Hearing on Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:20pm in the high school IMC.

### **Citizenship**

There are so many ways that the students of Pearl City show citizenship in the communities. Many of our classes have written letters to veterans and currently military personnel. Students in different organizations have created food and clothing drives in the district. Students have raised funds for those in need in the local community. Some of our High School students are mentors and reading buddies for elementary students and are also tutors for JH/HS students. Our high school students are required to complete a set number of community service hours each school year.

There are a lot of great things going on in the Pearl City School District. The district is very proud of all of the hard work and dedication that the educators, coaches, students and parents put into all aspects of the district. Thank you for continuing to support the Pearl City School District. There is a lot of information on the Pearl City website [www.pcwolves.net](http://www.pcwolves.net) I would encourage you to browse the site for additional information.

Thank you for all of your support,



### Important Dates to Remember

December 7th  
K-4 Winter Concert @ 6:00 pm

Dec 15th -21st  
HS Finals Open Campus

Dec. 21st  
End of 2nd Quarter/1st Sem.  
1:00 pm Dismissal

Dec. 22nd-Jan. 3rd  
Winter Break

Jan. 4th  
School Resumes

### Winter Clothing

Winter clothing is an important part of winter fun. The elementary students will be going outside for recess as often as the weather permits. Coats, hats, snow pants, boots, and mittens or gloves are a must.

Please send your children dressed appropriately for all conditions. Also, please have winter clothing for your children to use during recess.

Having Gym shoes to change in to in case their shoes get wet is also vey helpful.



## Way to go!

### **November Student of the Month for JH/HS & Top Dog for HS Citizenship/Leadership**

**7th Hendrix Feld  
8th Marlee McPeck  
9th Scarlett Snyder  
10th Kip Martens  
11th Natalie Greene  
12th Lakota Scace**

#### **Top Dog**

**Ava Bremmer**

#### **High School Semester Finals**

As in previous years, semester finals will be prior to break. The finals will begin on Friday, December 15th. This will be a full day of school. Then beginning on Monday, December 18th through Thursday December 21st, Pearl City High School will have open campus. Students will only be required to come to school when they have a final. The schedules for finals will be posted on the website and sent to parent emails. Finals count for 15% of the students' semester grade. Please make sure your child knows when his/her finals are. If a student misses a final, they will receive a zero on that final. Students must also be on time to their final. Please encourage your student to study early and often.



*Pearl City Schools*  
*Elementary Winter Concert*



December 7th  
6:00 PM



**Pearl City Technowolves  
Lego League**

The PC Technowolves have been hard at work programming Spike robots and creating a 5-minute skit about an innovation, all to connect to this year's theme: Masterpiece! Team members include: Hannah Dinderman (8th), Kass Dorty (8th), Hendrix Feld (7th), Aubri Mefford (7th), Kolton Kampmeier (7th), Jonah Ehlers (7th), Abby Ditsworth (7th), Jace Forth (6th), and Dalia Cervantes (5th). To solve a problem with how to share hobbies with the world using technology, the innovation they created, called "The Holofanner Ceiling Banner," involves replacing a ceiling tile with a box that contains a hologram fan and videos of students sharing their favorite hobbies. The fan turns the videos into holographic images projected down from the ceiling, and it could be used in our own school lobby! On the robot side of the competition, they've been practicing several Lego table missions, hoping for the most points possible. The team will compete on Dec. 9 with a student-written skit about the innovation and the robot table at the Rockford Christian qualifier, with hopes of moving on to the next level. Go, Technowolves!



## **Read, Read and Read Some More!**

Take some time to enjoy a good book with your child. No matter their age, read to them, read with them, read and discuss what you are reading, model for your child daily. READ, READ, READ. Admire the book by noticing the cover, pictures and other features. Who wrote it? Who illustrated it? To whom is it dedicated? Take your time instead of flying through pages, turn them slowly to build anticipation. What will happen next? Can you guess? Talk about it. What did you and your child think of the story? Did you agree? You don't have to agree. Do you want to read another book about the same topic or maybe the same author?

**When you read with your child, do it with excitement and show how much fun reading can be. That is a gift that can last a lifetime.**

Also please work with your children through their work and reading. Parent interest and participation helps students to be successful in their school work.



## **Elementary Young Author Program**

Everyone should be thinking about story ideas for their Young Author's book. More information will be coming about due dates and requirements. These books will be judged and our young authors will be reading their creations April 29th and April 30th.

## **AT-HOME HABITS LEAD TO SCHOOL SUCCESS**

To support your child's learning experience:

**Establish sleep routines.** Kids who get enough rest are better able to concentrate and follow rules.

**Have them clean out their backpack daily.** You're sure to find important papers, notes, permission slips and maybe a leftover snack.

**Keep a class schedule handy.** This makes it easy to ask specific questions about school, such as, "What did you do in P.E. today?" Logging into Skyward to see what kinds of assignments they are doing could also be a good conversation starter.

**Get organized.** Does your child always know where to find their backpack, jacket, glasses, shoes and other items? Pick a special place to keep them. Do they know where they are going after school, so they are not worrying about that all day when they should be concentrating on lessons.

**Practice manners.** Role-play challenging situations. "You and a classmate disagree about who is first in line. What should happen next?" Give them positive words to use when they are upset.

**Answer questions.** Encourage your child to ask you and their teachers-if they are confused. "What does this mean?"

**Read together.** In addition to reading to your child and listening to them read, read the same books separately and discuss them.

**Make a study spot.** Choose a comfortable homework location. Stay nearby to offer support and supervision. Come up with a study schedule with an ending time. Remember home work should equal 10 minutes x their grade level—1<sup>st</sup> grade 10x 1 = 10 min. 2<sup>nd</sup> 10 x 2 = 20 min. 3<sup>rd</sup> 10 x 3 = 30 min. 4<sup>th</sup> 10 x 4 = 40 min. 5<sup>th</sup> 10 x 5 = 50 min. 6<sup>th</sup> 10 x 6 = 60 min. This is an average amount of time for each night. We all know that some nights will have less homework and some nights might have more. If you child has more than this regularly—contact their teacher.



## **Missing School Means Missing out on Learning**

A missed day here, a missed day there. Does being absent really affect learning? "Yes!" say experts. When kids miss too much school, everyone suffers. Absent students may fall behind, and catching up distracts from lessons and may be disruptive to the rest of the class. Some absences are unavoidable, of course, but it helps when families:

- Please talk to your child's teacher concerning make-up homework
- Prepare at night. Choose outfits, pack lunches and prepare school bags at night. Get to bed on time and set a morning alarm. Fall asleep relaxed, knowing you're ready for the next day.
- Streamline mornings. Wake up at the same time each day and stick to a routine. If your child tends to forget certain responsibilities, make a chart to keep them on track. Take family pride in being prompt.
- Avoid conflicts. When possible, schedule appointments and trips when school isn't in session. If your child needs to miss school, notify the school and ask about make-up work.
- Learn school procedures. Find out when students should stay home from school and the difference between excused and unexcused absences, check the handbook or ask school personnel.



2023 December



# Pearl City Schools

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	Nov 30	1	2
					5:30 PM JHBB vs Galena	HSBB @ Le-Win Shootout 8:00 AM EPC Speech @ Dekalb
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	4:30 PM HSBB JV vs Eastland 5:30 PM HSGB @ Pecatonica	5:30 PM HSBB @ Polo 5:30 PM HSGB vs Durand	JHBB Conf. Tourney @ Le-Win 6:00 PM K - 4 Elementary Concert	5:30 PM HSBB vs Pecatonica	HSBB @ PC Tourney - TBD Highland Servant Leadership 8:00 AM EPC Speech @ Rochelle	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
HSGB @ PC Tourney - TBD	HSGB @ PC Tourney - TBD 5:30 PM HSBB @ Galena	HSGB @ PC Tourney - TBD 6:00 PM HSBB @ West Carroll	HSGB @ PC Tourney - TBD	HSGB @ PC Tourney - TBD		HSBB @ Forreston Tournament 8:00 AM EPC Speech @ Byron 9:00 AM HSBB JV & Freshman vs Eastland
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
HSBB @ Forreston Tournament	HSBB @ Forreston Tournament 6:00 PM HSGB @ Stockton	HSBB @ Forreston Tournament	HSBB @ Forreston Tournament 6:30 PM Board of Education Meeting	End of Second Quarter HSBB @ Forreston Tournament 1:00 PM Early Dismissal 6:00 PM HSGB @ Galena	*** CHRISTMAS BREAK*** HSBB @ Forreston Tournament	HSBB @ Forreston Tournament
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
*** CHRISTMAS BREAK***		*** CHRISTMAS BREAK***				*** CHRISTMAS BREAK***
31	Jan 1	Notes				
*** CHRISTMAS BREAK***		<i>*Calendar is subject to change *</i>				

# December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> Chicken Strips Broccoli, Pineapple Dessert  Muffin Tops	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Beef Hot Dog Baked Beans, Pears  French Toast Sticks	<b>5</b> Taco in a Bag Carrots, Peaches  Mini Cinnis	<b>6</b> Chicken Dumpling Soup Green Beans Apple Slices  Variety Breakfast	<b>7</b> Pancakes and Sausage Hashbrowns Applesauce  Breakfast Pizza	<b>8</b> French Bread Pizza Broccoli, Orange Slices Dessert  Cereal/Cereal Bar	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Macaroni and Cheese Peas, Pears  Long Johns	<b>12</b> Taco Casserole Corn, Applesauce  Mini Waffles	<b>13</b> Chicken Noodle Soup Green Beans, Peaches  Uncrustable	<b>14</b> Christmas Dinner Mashed Potatoes, Carrots Fruit, Roll, Dessert  Cereal/Cereal Bar	<b>15</b> Orange Chicken Broccoli, Pineapple  Pretzel w/ Cheese	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Cheeseburger Carrots, Mandarin Oranges  Donuts	<b>19</b> Quesadillas Corn, Applesauce  Dutch Waffle	<b>20</b> Potato Bacon Soup Green Beans, Peas  Cereal/Cereal Bar	<b>21</b> Corn Dogs Baked Beans, Peaches Dessert  Variety Breakfast	<b>22</b>  NO SCHOOL	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  NO SCHOOL	<b>26</b>  NO SCHOOL	<b>27</b>  NO SCHOOL	<b>28</b>  NO SCHOOL	<b>29</b>  NO SCHOOL	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>		Important Reminders				