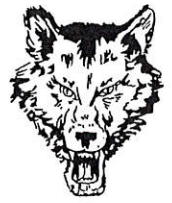




Pearl City School District

October 2017 Newsletter



"Inspire in everyone a passion to excel"

District Website
www.pcwolves.net

Dear Parents/Guardians and Pearl City Community Members:

As we progress through the school year, the school calendar changes. Even though we put out hard copies of calendars, please make sure that you continually check the district website calendar to ensure accuracy. We are using this calendar as the "official" school calendar and when this calendar is updated all calendars linked to it automatically change as well.

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.

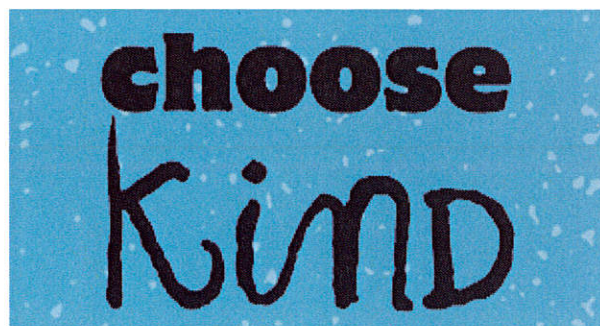
The Board of Education approved the 2017-18 school budget at the September board meeting. This budget is a deficit budget of \$137,132 and contingent on the State making all of their obligated payments this year and last fiscal year. We will use reserve funds to make up this difference. The Legislature finally approved a new funding formula including a hold harmless clause, which provides revenue at the same level from last year. The new formula creates targets based on the wealth of districts. These targets take into account all funding sources and in theory will equalize funding for all schools in the State. Our target should create additional State revenue in the years to come. What is not guaranteed is the fact that the State will make all of its obligatory payments. Past history has shown they will not. In addition, the State still owes us \$74,347 from mandated categorical payments from last year. By passing a new funding formula and raising the income tax significantly does not make Illinois financially sound. There are many unknowns moving forward and the impact on our District is still unknown. As we learn of any financial changes, we will keep the community informed.

The Board hired Phil Sieber as our night custodian. Please welcome him when you see him at nighttime activities. Welcome aboard Phil!

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

Tim Thill

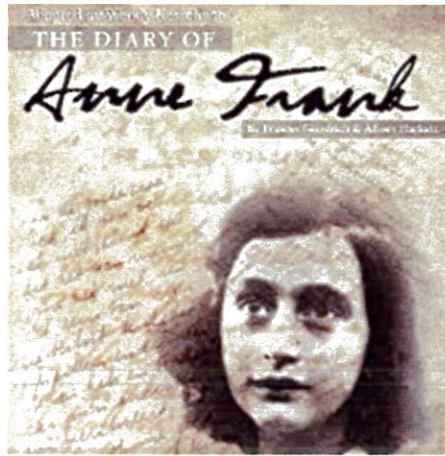
Superintendent Pearl City Schools



Parent - Teacher Conferences

Conferences will be held Thursday, October 26th from 1pm-8pm, and Friday, October 27th 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.

The EPC Drama Department Presents:



Where: Pearl City High School High School Gym

When: Friday, Nov. 3, 2017
7:00pm curtain
Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017
7:00pm curtain
Tickets: \$5 all ages

This play adaptation is one of the most famous and haunting stories to emerge from the 20th Century. The memoirs of this young Jewish girl, forced to hide for nearly two years to escape Nazi persecution, are an essential part of how we remember one of the darkest periods of our human history. For nearly two years, Anne, her father, mother, and sister, joined with the Van Daan family, to hide in a secret annex space above her father's former office in Amsterdam, as the Nazis deported the Jews of Holland to their deaths. In her secret attic, Anne comes of age: she laughs, plays, fights with her mother, and falls in love for the first time. In spite of her oppressive circumstances and the horrors that surround her, Anne's spirit transcends, as she voices her belief, "in spite of everything, that people are truly good at heart." Anne's dynamism, her luminous spirit, and her story of resilience continue to resonate deeply, making her story as vital today as when her diary first was published. Come join us for performances of this production Nov. 3 and Nov. 4 at 7:00 both evenings in Pearl City's small gym (grade school gym). The cost is \$5 per ticket and can be purchased in advance or at the door. Seating is limited.



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.

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 Tuesdays and Thursdays 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 Mr. Scott'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.



Important Dates to Remember

- PreK-8 Grade Picture Retakes
Wed. Oct. 4
- Homecoming Parade 5:30
- Pep Assembly 6:30 in Eastland-
Wed., October 4th
- Homecoming Dance- October 7th
in Pearl City 7pm- 10pm
- No School Columbus Day
Mon, Oct. 9
- No PASS Classes Oct. 11
- PSAT for 8th, 9th, 10th—Oct.
11th
- PSAT/NMSQT for 11th—Oct.
11th
- Experience Highland- 12th grade-
Oct. 19th
- PTO Meeting Mon, Oct 16 6:30
- 6th Grade Cake Raffle Oct. 20
- End of the First Quarter Oct. 20
- 5th Grade Puppy Chow Sale
Oct. 24
- No School Parent Teacher
Conferences Thurs. Oct 26
1:00-8:00
- No School Parent Teacher
Conferences Fri. Oct 27
8:00-1:30

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 also 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 Addie Bremmer, 8th James Freytag, 9th Estrella Ayala, 10th Autumn Gray, 11th Mackenzie Endress, 12th Peyton Asche. Top Dog for September was Peyton Asche. Congratulations!!

Picture Retakes

Pre-K through Grade 8 picture retakes are scheduled for Wednesday, 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.



PICTURE RETAKE DAY!

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 Thursdays 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.

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.

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.

Mr. Tom Bull wins the Honorary American FFA Degree

Pearl City School District is pleased to announce that Mr. Tom Bull has won the Honorary American FFA Degree for a teacher for 2017. The criteria for this award is as follows: Teachers who have created high-quality agricultural education programs, which inspire and motivate their students to strive for success are eligible for an Honorary American FFA Degree. Nominations for the Honorary American FFA

Degree must be sent to the teacher's State FFA Association for approval. State FFA staff forwards all approved nominations to the National FFA Organization.

In order to qualify for an Honorary American FFA Degree: Eighty-five percent of the teacher's agriculture students must have been in FFA in the last year.

The teacher must have been teaching agriculture for at least ten years.

Mr. Bull continually looks for ways to motivate students as well as improve and update his program to meet the needs of the changing field of agriculture. Mr. Bull will receive his degree at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN on the 27th of October. Pearl City School District could not be prouder of Mr. Bull and this accomplishment along with the difference he has made in all our students' lives throughout the years!



2017 October



Pearl City Schools

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 5:30 PM JV EPC Football @ Galena 5:30 PM JH VB vs. Dakota 6:00 PM VB @ E DBQ	2 B Golf @ Regionals 6:00 PM VB vs. Warren	3 G Golf Regionals @ Galena Pre K - 8 Picture Retakes Homecoming Parade 5:30 Pep Assembly 6:30 (both in	4 Senior Night for Golf 6:00 PM VB vs. RR	5 Homecoming 5:30 PM EPC vs. W. Carroll (PC)	6 Homecoming Dance	7
8 NO SCHOOL	9 6:00 PM VB @ Scales Mound	10 No PASS	11 6:00 PM VB vs. W. Carroll (Senior Night)	12 (5:30 PM) V-VB @ Plainfield 5:30 PM EPC FB @ Dakota	13	14
15 6:00 PM VB @ Eastland 6:30 PM PTO	16 JH BBB Pictures	17 6:30 PM Board of Education	18 10:00 AM RRVBC Blood Drive	19 6th grade cake raffle End of 1st Quarter 5:30 PM EPC FB @ Polo	20 9:00 AM F/S W. Carroll Tournament	21
22 VB Regionals 5:30 PM JH BBB @ Eastland	23 5th grade puppy chow sale 5:30 PM JH BBB vs. Forreston	24	25 NO SCHOOL Parent/Teacher Conferences 5:30 PM JH BBB @ Aquin	26 NO SCHOOL Parent/Teacher Conferences	27 EPC FB PlayOffs	28
29 5:30 PM JH BBB vs. W. Carroll	30	31	Nov 1	2	3	4
5	6 Notes					

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

2017 October

Menu



Pearl City Schools

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

1 Bacon scrambled egg square, Fruit, Milk Hamburger, Cheese, Pickle Slices, Fresh Carrot Sticks & Pineapple Tidbits	2 Scrambled eggs, WG toast, Apple Juice, Milk Pancakes, Sausage Patties, Hash Brown Patties & Apple Juice	3 Donuts, Mozzarella Cheese Stick, Fruit, Milk Orange Popcorn Chicken, Brown Rice, Broccoli, Pears & Bread	4 French Toast, Yogurt, Fruit, Milk Sub Sandwich, Dill Pickle Spear & Fresh Apple Slices	5 English Muffin w/ sausage & cheese, Fruit, Milk Corndogs, Baked Beans, Peaches & Bread	6 7
8 No School	9 Long John, Mozzarella Cheese Stick, Fruit, Milk Cheese Pizza, Corn, & Applesauce	10 Bagel, Cream cheese, Fruit, Milk Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Fruit & Bread	11 Pancakes, Sausage, Fruit, Milk Tacos, lettuce & cheese cups, salsa, sour cream, Green Beans & Pears	12 Sausage Pizza, Fruit, Milk Chicken Strips, Broccoli & Mandarin Oranges	13 14
15 Variety Pizza, Mozzarella Cheese Stick, Fruit, Milk Mini Corndogs, Baked Beans, Peaches & Bread	16 Pancake & Sausage stick, Fruit, Milk Spaghetti, Green Beans, Mandarin Oranges & Bread	17 Donuts, Mozzarella Cheese Stick, Apple juice, Milk Chicken Quesadillas, Salsa, Sour Cream, California Blend & Pineapple Tidbits	18 French Toast, Sausage, Fruit, Milk Taco Casserole, Salsa, Sour Cream, Corn, Fresh Orange Slice & Bread	19 Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Fruit, Milk Tenderloin, Peas & Applesauce	20 21
22 Bacon Scrambled Egg Square, Fruit, Milk Chicken Nuggets, Broccoli, Peaches & Bread	23 Pretzel w/ cheese sauce, Apple juice, Milk Chili, Ham Slice, Dill Pickle Spear, Fresh Apple Slices & Bread	24 Pancakes, Sausage, Fruit, Milk BBQ, Corn & Applesauce	25 No School	26 27	28
29 Trix Bar, Toast, Fruit, Milk Mexican Pizza, Corn & Applesauce	30 Donuts, Mozzarella Cheese Stick, Apple Juice, Milk Creamed Chicken over Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Fruit & Bread	31 Nov 1	2	3	4

5
6 Notes

****Menu is subject to change ****

Each meal is provided with Milk & Whole Grain