



Pearl City School District January 2018 Newsletter



"Inspire in everyone a passion to excel"

District Website—www.pcwolves.net

Superintendent News

CONGRATULATIONS to Kayla Niehaus and Matt Werkheiser for receiving academic excellence by attaining status as Illinois State Scholars.

As we continue into the winter months, I would like to remind you of our procedures in case we need to use an emergency (snow) day due to weather. On such a day, I will be doing a school messenger call around 5:30 -6:00am informing our students and staff of the status for the day. In addition, we will post the status on the website, on the three Rockford television stations and on WCCI and Big Radio.

There isn't any change with State funding. Like last month, the State is making the General State Aid payments, but has not made any of the categorical payments owed to the school for this school year. Two mandated categorical payments that were not made last year have been made in this fiscal year. In total, the State is behind by \$41,743 in obligated dollars to the school. This will double as the second mandated categorical payment is due on 12/30. The new funding formula allocation has yet to determine the targets that are associated to each district. These targets determine the funding commitment to the schools by the State. We do know that we will not receive anything less than we received last year. As we move through the year, I will keep you updated on the State finances and the impact they are having on our school.

The Board approved the 2017 Tax Levy at the last board meeting. This year's levy is asking for a 7.30% increase, which includes the bond payment as approved in a referendum in 2000. We only receive what the PTELL (Tax Cap) law allows plus any outstanding bond payments. PTELL will limit our rate increase (2.1%) but levying at the higher rate ensures that the board will also receive all possible tax dollars on any increases in EAV and any new construction.

If you have any questions on any topics regarding our school, please feel free to contact me at 815-443-2715.

Tim Thill
Superintendent, Pearl City Schools

Important Dates to Remember

School Resumes Tues. Jan. 3

MAP Testing Jan. 4-8

End of 2nd Quarter Jan 5

Report Cards Sent Home Jan. 11

No Pass Classes Tues. Jan. 12

District Institute—Jan. 12

NO SCHOOL-MLK Day Jan. 15

AIMS Web Testing Jan. 16-27

PTO Meeting Jan 22 6:30

Winter Clothing

Winter clothing is an important part of winter fun. The students will be going outside for recess as often as the weather permits. Coats, hats, snow pants, boots, and mittens and gloves are a must. If you need help providing these items for your child, please contact Mrs. Wallace.



Spelling Bee

The students will be having classroom bees to choose representatives to participate in the Pearl City School Spelling Bee. More information will be sent home. The Regional Spelling Bee will be held on Tuesday, February 20th in Pearl City. Winners from the Regional Bee will be going directly to the competition in Washington DC this year.



Be Safe On-Line

General Tips for On-Line Safety

There are some very important things that you need to keep in mind when you're on your computer at home or at school.

First, remember never to give out personal information such as your name, home address, school name, or telephone number in a chat room or on bulletin boards. Also, never send a picture of yourself to someone you chat with on the computer without your parent's permission.

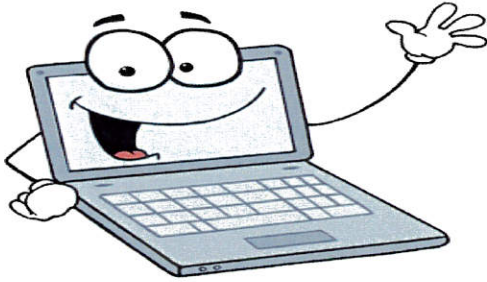
Never write to someone who has made you feel uncomfortable or scared.

Do not meet someone or have them visit you without the permission of your parents.

Tell your parents right away if you read anything on the Internet that makes you feel uncomfortable.

Remember that people online may not be who they say they are. Someone who says that "she" is a "12-year-old girl" could really be any age from anywhere in the world!

<http://www.fbi.gov/kids/k5th/safety2.htm>



Student Absence Procedures

As we enter the time of year when students seem to be missing more school due to illness, I feel it has become necessary to remind parents and guardians of our district procedures. If your son or daughter is absent, please follow these steps.

1. On the day of the absence call the district office.
2. Tell the office staff **why** your son/daughter is absent.
3. Provide the office with a written confirmation of the absence upon your son's/daughter's return to school.
4. If a phone contact is not made, office staff will call the students parent/guardians by 10:00 am.



Young Authors Stories

Everyone should be thinking about story ideas for their Young Author's book. Students will be working on completing their Young Author Stories in January. More information will be coming about due dates and requirements. These books will be judged and several representatives will be selected to represent Pearl City at the Illinois Young Author Conference in Bloomington, IL in May.

Yearbooks are on sale now!!

PreK-8 Yearbook

A year full of memories for only \$15.00. Checks can be made payable to the Pearl City PTO. Orders should be to the school office by February 23rd. You may also order your yearbook online at ybpay.lifetouch.com using yearbook ID Code: 6825918. Extra copies will be limited , so get your order in soon!

Skyward Parent Portal

With the parent portal of Skyward open, we are sure that many of you are keeping tabs on your child's daily grades. In addition to checking your child's graded work, make sure to use some of the other helpful features on the Skyward site.

If you click on the calendar button on the left side of the opening screen, you can see due dates of past and future assignments. This will give you an opportunity to ask your child about a test, quiz, or assignment before it is due instead of trying to play catch-up if it doesn't get turned in or is not done very well.

Another feature of Skyward is the discipline tab. Clicking on that tab on the opening screen allows you to see if your child has been warned in class for an offense of the discipline code or a teacher's classroom rules. Even if the offense was minor and/or did not warrant the giving of a detention, it is an opportunity for parents to keep track of their child's classroom behavior.

As many of the junior high parents found out at conferences, most junior high teachers are available before school, after school, and during 5th hour study hall for extra help. High school students have study hall during 8th hour. Also, most junior high teachers provide study sheets to fill out and review prior to taking tests. Some of these study sheets can be signed for extra credit, while some teachers have students get their graded tests signed for extra credit. Please impress upon your child to take advantage of these extra credit opportunities. Since you are going to see their grades on Skyward anyway, they might as well get some extra credit for having you sign it.

Junior High Promotion and Retention Policy

As we near the end of the first semester, I would like to remind parents/guardians the promotion & retention policy. The following is a copy of the policy.

The decision as to pupil placement (retention or acceleration) shall be made by the school principal after careful consideration of the following:

- Teacher Recommendation
- Attendance
- Grades
 1. Junior High Level (7-8) – must pass 4 of 5 academic subjects (Language Arts, Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies) to be promoted to the next grade.
 2. A student who fails either mathematics or reading will be required to attend summer school or will be retained at current grade level.
- Achievement Scores/Testing Program
 1. A student who falls below the “does not meet” level on the District administered reading and/or mathematics tests must attend summer school or will be retained at current grade level.

Procedures to be followed in promotion or retention shall be as follows:

1. A teacher feeling that a child’s problems can be improved by special grade placement or academic assistance should immediately inform the principal.
2. The principal, in conjunction with parents and teacher, may develop an academic assistance program for the student.
3. A teacher feeling that a child should be considered for summer school or retention should confer with the parent between December and March to gain their help and prepare them for promotion or retention.
4. In April, a teacher-principal conference will be held to review the student’ grades and achievement test scores.
5. Following this review, the principal will make the final decision regarding placement and notify the parents regarding their child’s status relative to summer school and/or retention.

The placement of a student who has actively participated in the remediation strategies suggested and offered by the school system, including retention, and who is still unable to meet grade and achievement standards will be determined at a conference held with district staff and parents. The principal based upon how best the student can meet academic goals will make the placement decision.



Pearl City National Honor Society holds a Snowvember Drive for Young students and Homeless Veterans

Pearl City School National Honor Society who had a Snowvember Drive for warm items (i.e. socks, hats, gloves) for elementary students and veterans. We collected a large quantity of items. The members from right to left are Kayla Niehaus, Jazmin Wingert, Caitlyn Krell, Isa Pena, Gwen Heimerdinger, Liana Rosenstiel, Mackenzie Endress, Riley Wright, Kilynn Perdue and Mrs. Whitebread.

2018 January



Pearl City Schools

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec 31	1 NO SCHOOL	2 NO SCHOOL	3 School Resumes (including PASS) 6:00 PM GBB @ Polo	4 4:00 PM Academic Bowl @ Forreston 6:00 PM BBB @ Eastland	5 End of 2nd Quarter 6:00 PM GBB @ Warren	6 8:00 AM Speech Meet @ Le-Win 1:00 PM BBB @ Galena 1:00 PM GBB @ Pecatonica
7 4:00 PM Academic Bowl vs. Aquin 6:00 PM GBB vs. Milledgeville (Pep Band Plays)	8 6:00 PM BBB vs. Le-Win	9 Picture Day-JHGBB & Activity	10 6:00 PM BBB @ Aquin 6:00 PM GBB @ Le-Win	11 NO SCHOOL Teacher Institute	12 K-11 Show at Freeport Art Museum Speech Meet @ River Ridge (conf meet) 10:00 AM GBB Manny's Shoot Out vs. Camanche (Mt. Carroll)	13
14 K-11 Show at Freeport Art Museum	15 NO SCHOOL 6:30 PM PTO	16 4:00 PM Academic Bowl @ Durand 5:30 PM JH GBB @ Eastland 6:00 PM GBB vs. Galena	17 6:30 PM Board of Education	18 4:00 PM F/S Academic Bowl Tournament @ Pecatonica 5:30 PM JH GBB @ Aquin 6:00 PM BBB vs. W. Carroll	19 6:00 PM BBB @ Scales Mound	20 Speech-PJ Practice (IMC) 1:00 PM GBB vs. Aquin
21 K-11 Show at Freeport Art Museum	22 5:30 PM JH GBB vs. W. Carroll 6:00 PM GBB @ Dakota	23 4:00 PM Academic Bowl vs. Dakota 5:30 PM JH GBB vs. Orangeville	24	25 5:30 PM JH GBB @ Le-Win 6:00 PM GBB vs. E DBQ (Pep Band plays)	26 6:00 PM BBB vs. River Ridge (Pep Band plays)	27 F/S BBB Beecher Shoot Out Speech Meet @ Rockford/Auburn 9:00 AM Academic Bowl Conference Tournament @ Galena 10:30 AM Art Club Painting Workshop at FAM 1:00 PM GBB @ River
28 K-11 Show at Freeport Art Museum	29 5:30 PM JH GBB vs. Stockton	30 5th grade puppy chow sale 5:30 PM JH GBB vs. Warren 6:00 PM GBB @ Stockton	31 8:30 AM Elem Spelling Bee (Grades Elem Lib 8:30) 1:45 PM Spelling Bee Regional (IMC)	Feb 1	2	3
4	5	*Calendar is subject to change *				

2018 January

Menu



Pearl City Schools

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Dec 31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL	7:30 AM Cereal bar, Yogurt, Fruit 11:00 AM Pepperoni Pizza, Corn, Applesauce	7:30 AM Pancakes, Sausage, Fruit 11:00 AM Chicken Nuggets, Green Beans, Warm Cinnamon Apples	7:30 AM Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Apple Juice 11:00 AM Tenderloin, French Fries, Mixed Fruit	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
7:30 AM French Toast, Mozzarella Cheese, Fruit 11:00 AM Mini Corndogs, Baked Beans, Peaches	7:30 AM Egg & Cheese Biscuit, Fruit 11:00 AM Chicken & Noodles, Tuna Mac Salad, Peas, Mandarin Oranges	7:30 AM Danish, Mozzarella Cheese, Apple Juice 11:00 AM Sub Sandwich, Pickle, Apple Slices	7:30 AM English Muffin w/ Sausage 11:00 AM BBQ, Corn, Applesauce	NO SCHOOL		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
11:00 AM NO SCHOOL	7:30 AM Donut, Mozzarella Cheese, Apple Juice 11:00 AM Chicken Quesadillas, Carrots, Pineapple Tidbits	7:30 AM Bacon Scrambled Egg Square, Fruit 11:00 AM Pancakes, Sausage, Hashbrowns, Apple Juice	7:30 AM Combo Bar, Toast, Fruit 11:00 AM Nachos, Green Beans, Pears	7:30 AM Pancake & Sausage Stick, Fruit 11:00 AM Cheese Pizza, Corn, Applesauce		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
7:30 AM Sausage Pizza, Fruit 11:00 AM Chicken Strips, French Fries, Mandarin Oranges	7:30 AM French Toast, Yogurt, Fruit 11:00 AM Chili, Ham Slice, Pickle, Orange Slice	7:30 AM Bagel, Mozzarella Cheese, Apple Juice 11:00 AM Corndogs, Baked Beans, Peaches	7:30 AM Donut, Mozzarella Cheese, Fruit 11:00 AM Taco Casserole, Corn, Applesauce	7:30 AM Pancakes, Sausage, Fruit 11:00 AM Mostaccioli, Green Beans, Pears		
28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3
7:30 AM Variety Breakfast Pizza, Fruit 11:00 AM Orange Chicken, Brown Rice, Broccoli, Peaches	7:30 AM Pretzel w/ Cheese Sauce, Apple Juice 11:00 AM Chicken Noodle Soup, Grilled Cheese, Carrot Sticks, Apple Slices	7:30 AM Donut, Mozzarella Cheese, Fruit 11:00 AM Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Fruit				

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5 Notes

Calendar is subject to change

Lunch us Offer vs. Serve

Each meal is provided with Milk & Whole Grain Bread/Breading