



Mears Middle School

Panther Pride

Respect, Responsibility, Creativity and Academic Excellence

Friday, August 23, 2019

Panthers Hit The Ground Running



Mears Middle School welcomed 767 students to its campus on Tuesday, August 20th, the first day of the 2019-20 school year. Students received their new schedules, visited their lockers, and opened their new combination locks for the first time. They reconnected with old friends and began making new friends as well. Mears' teachers hit the ground running in their classrooms with exciting lessons designed to introduce students to new and engaging content and higher expectations. Teachers also engaged students in a number of community-building activities designed to create a sense of belonging and familiarity.



Pictured here is Mr. Ben Armentrout, Mears' 8th science teacher, who intrigued students with a demonstration that involved lighting different chemical compounds on fire to produce a variety of colors of flame--orange, violet, green, blue... The demonstration was used to introduce students to writing an effective hypothesis.

Historic Inventions



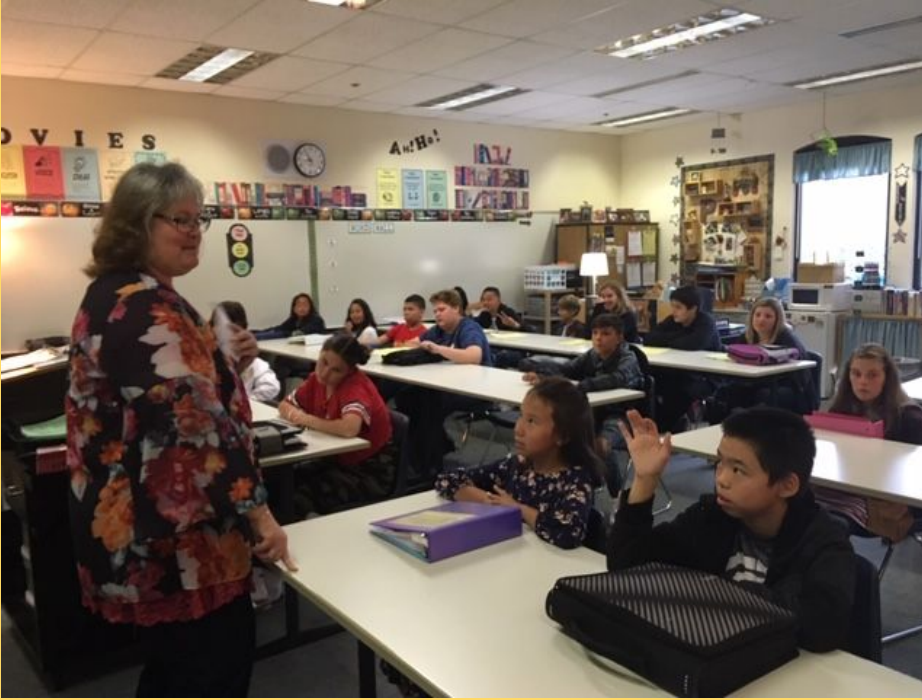
Ms. Diane McLaughlin, Applied Technology teacher, gave a fantastic first-day lesson focused on great inventions of history. Students began learning about inventions like television, penicillin, the internet, the automobile, the wheel and many others.

Kon'nichiwa



Ms. Hiromi Chambers organized a series of fun and engaging community-building activities in her Japanese Immersion class on Tuesday. Smiles and laughter were abundant throughout the classroom.

Favorite Books



On their first day of class, Ms. Lisa Peckham, 7th grade Language Arts teacher, engaged students in a discussion about their favorite books.

Locker Decor



Evan Hamey, Mears 7th grader, has shown great school spirit and a commitment to staying organized by decorating her locker, complete with a miniature white board and hanging succulent plant!

Building Community



A group of students enjoy reconnecting during lunch on their first day back to school.

Stay Informed/Get Involved

Mears Teachers and Staff

Thursday, Aug. 29 -- Staff Meeting, Mears Library, 3-4:00pm

Thursday, Sept. 5 -- Open House, 6:30pm

Mears Parents and Guardians

Monday, August 26 - Girls Basketball & Soccer BEGIN - 3pm-4:30pm

Thursday, August 29 - School Photos

Monday, Sept 2 - HOLIDAY - NO SCHOOL

Thursday, Sept 5 - Open House - 6:30pm

Thursday, Sept 12 - Cross Country Running Meet @ Service HS - 3:30pm

Monday, Sept 16 - Archery I BEGINS - 3pm-4:30pm

Thursday, Sept 19 - Cross Country Running Meet @ Chugiak HS - 3:30pm

Mears PTSA Community Education Series and Activities Calendar, 2019-20

Parents, Guardians and Community Members,

Be sure to mark your calendars for this year's calendar of events hosted by Mears' PTSA. This series of educational events and activities is designed to address important topics of interest to our school community and the young people we serve.

Tues., Sept. 24 -- Digital Citizenship, 6:30-8:00pm

Wed., Oct. 30 -- Bullying Prevention, 6:30-8:00pm

Wed., Nov. 20 -- Vaping, 6:30-8:00pm

Tues., Jan. 28 -- Teenage Health and Development, 6:30-8:00pm

Wed., Feb. 19 -- Family Dance Night, 6:30-8:00pm

Wed., Mar. 25 -- STEM Night/Team Competition, 6:30-8:00pm

TBD, April -- 9th Grade Preview Night @ Dimond HS

Fall Sports....

Cross Country Running - 8/22-10/11

Soccer (no fee) - 8/26-9/20

Girls Basketball - 8/26-10/11

Archery I (no fee) - 9/16-10/11

If your student is participating in a fall sport the following items are required:

1. Current physical (within the last 18 mos.)
2. A completed participation form
3. Fee for interscholastic sport, \$110 (cash/check) or a receipt of payment made online
OR a completed and approved fee waiver.

All forms are available on the ASD website or the Mears office.

Be Informed: Know the Law

Parents and Community members, please be aware that new laws prevent cell phone use on mobile communication device while driving a moving vehicle in active school zones.

Be Sure to Complete the Activities Form

[illegible]

Mears Parents and Guardians,

Be sure that when you fill out the 2019-20 Middle School Activities Form, you complete the entire form, including initializing and signing the document. Our office cannot process incomplete forms. Thank you!
--Eric

⇐Backman Recommends⇒

Teacher Teams Return



Pictured above are Team Blackstone and Team Eklutna.

Mears Parents, Guardians and Community Members,

Mears Middle School is excited to announce the return of Teacher Teams! A district-wide initiative, middle schools throughout Anchorage have all organized their school schedules to include cohorts of students who share teachers in common. Mears teachers, who are now organized in teams, have shared collaborative meeting time built into their weekly schedules. Teachers are able to use this time to better support students by sharing important information about grades, attendance and behavior. Teacher teams will also be able to plan for exciting team-building activities and projects, as well as celebrate student success. The overall goal of teacher teams is to ensure greater support for students and to build a stronger sense of community and belonging for everyone at Mears. --Eric



Want to help the school earn more money at no extra cost to you?

Added benefits for Mears Middle School and the PTSA. If you shop at any of these places be sure to use the links provided or sync up your rewards card to Mears Middle School PTSA

Amazon: <https://smile.amazon.com/>

Shutterfly: <http://mearsptsa.shutterflystorefront.com/>

Fred Meyer Community Rewards: Login into your account from a computer or web app (not phone apps) and add Mears Middle School to your Community Rewards program. It's that simple. FAQs
<https://www.fredmeyer.com/topic/community-rewards-9>

WE ARE CURRENTLY SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR THE BLACK CAT CAFÉ & SCHOOL STORE. To see the volunteer opportunities and sign up visit www.MearsPSTA.com

Memory Book Pre Ordering can be done through www.ybpay.com and school id is **13921120**

Don't forget to join us on August 22nd at 6:30pm for our first general meeting. We will be voting on the budget. To vote you must be a member.

Everyone that becomes a member by Open House in September will be entered into a drawing for a free memory book. We will also be doing a membership drive where teams will be competing against one another.

Thank you for supporting the Mears PTSA.

April Eide

Mears PTSA President

Proud to be 2019/2021 National PTA School of Excellence

www.mearsptsa.com

www.Facebook.com/MearsPTSA

<http://rmd.me/b?rid=52215806>

Citizenship



Special thanks goes out to Alanya Monaghan, 8th grade, who has joined me each morning this week to greet students as they enter the multi-use room. Alanya is recognized for her display of kindness to others and good citizenship. --Eric

Go Panthers!

Mears Middle School Mission

Through teamwork and cooperation, all students become partners in their own educational progress, fostering self-respect, responsibility and integrity.

[Mears Middle School Website](#)