



Mears Middle School

# Panther Pride News

Respect, Responsibility, Creativity, and Academic Excellence

Friday, December 19, 2019

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## *Students Embrace the Holiday Spirit*



Students and faculty at Mears had a great time on Wednesday during the holiday sweater competition. Hosted by Mears teachers and administrators, dozens of students lined up to show off their holiday best. The winners of the competition were awarded gift cards to BurgerFi. Congratulations to all who participated for showing such great holiday spirit.

# Students and Staff Match Up



To close out the Fall semester, staff members challenged the varsity volleyball team to a match up. The annual volleyball assembly was a huge success with hundreds of students rooting on their favorite varsity players and teachers. The highly competitive game had an inconclusive end, as the final school bell rang before the final match was over.

# Debate Team Rivals Competition



Mears Debate Team did very well at the recent Mirror Lake Debate Tournament, where 25 middle school teams competed. Mears' Ella Jackson, Marissa Marrs, KC Milne placed 2nd in the JV Div. and Hezekiah Goins, RJ Jolin, and Logam Ehrhart placed 3rd in the Varsity Div. This was Mears very first debate tournament and we are all very proud of them! Special thanks to Mr. Nick Middleton for his excellent instruction and guidance.



# Taking a Closer Look



Young scientists in Ms. Callie Wilder's classes have been learning the important skill of using microscopes to view insects, cells and bacteria, and other organic and inorganic material. Students will benefit in high school and beyond from learning how to use this most powerful scientific tool.

# VB Celebrates Terrific Season



Congratulations to all of Mears' student-athletes who participated in an outstanding volleyball season. Mears' players exhibited excellent skill, competitiveness, and sportsmanship throughout the season. Special thanks goes out to Mears incredible team of coaches: Mr. Dennis Sorenson, Ms. Callie Wilder, Mr. James McDonald, and Mr. Daniel Booher.



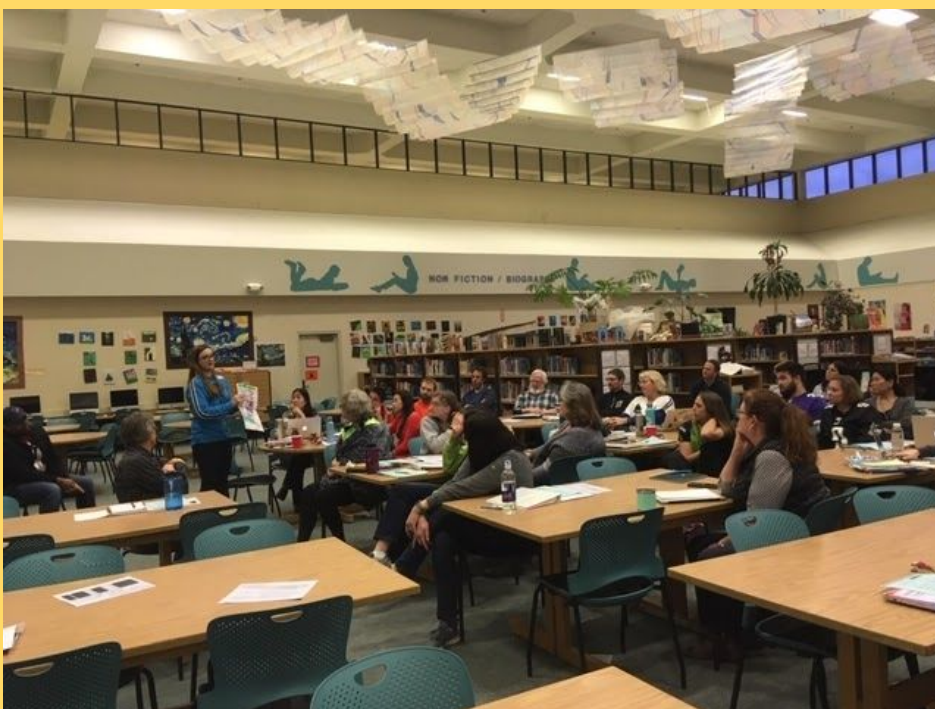
# Mears Musical Showcase



Congratulations to all of Mears amazing young musicians and their incredible teachers who put on quite a performance last week during the annual Winter Concerts. The series of events showcased Mears Jazz Band, Orchestra, Choir, and Concert Band. It is wonderful to be a part of a school and district

that is so committed to supporting the arts.

# Teachers Focus on Best Practices



Here is Ms. Marah Lambert presenting a best teaching practice to her colleagues at this week's staff meeting. Mears teachers are focused on continuous growth in the area of instruction and curriculum development and often share innovative ideas with one another.

# Thank You, Romy!



Here's Romy, Mears Head Custodian, who is, once again, assisting teachers in displaying student work in the hallways. It goes without saying, that Mears is incredibly indebted to Romy and the entire custodial crew who keep the building safe, clean, and student-friendly. Thank you to all of Mears' custodians!

## *Stay Informed/Get Involved*

### **Mears Teachers and Staff**

Thursday Dec. 19 - 2pm Staff vs. Student Volleyball Game

Friday Dec. 20 - NO SCHOOL - Teacher Grading Day

Monday Dec. 23- Friday Jan. 3 - NO SCHOOL - Winter Break

Monday Jan 6 - 8:15am - School BEGINS

Monday Jan 6 - 3pm - CC Ski BEGINS

Wednesday Jan 8 - 7:15am - Collaborative Team Leadership Mtg

## Mears Parents and Guardians

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## SPORTS....

Sign ups for Cross Country Skiing, Boys Basketball, and Archery 2 has begun!!

See Ms. Megan Perkins if you have any questions about Skiing, Mr. Jason MacDonald with questions about Basketball, and Ms. Heather Fleming with questions about Archery.

See Mrs. Daniels in the office if you have any questions regarding paperwork and/or payment.

**Note: All after school sports practices begin at 3:00 and all meets will begin at 5:00 pm due to bussing constraints.**

## Mears Alumni Gets Props



**Daishen Nix, Alaska's hottest high school basketball player, will finally play in Alaska - Anchorage Daily News**

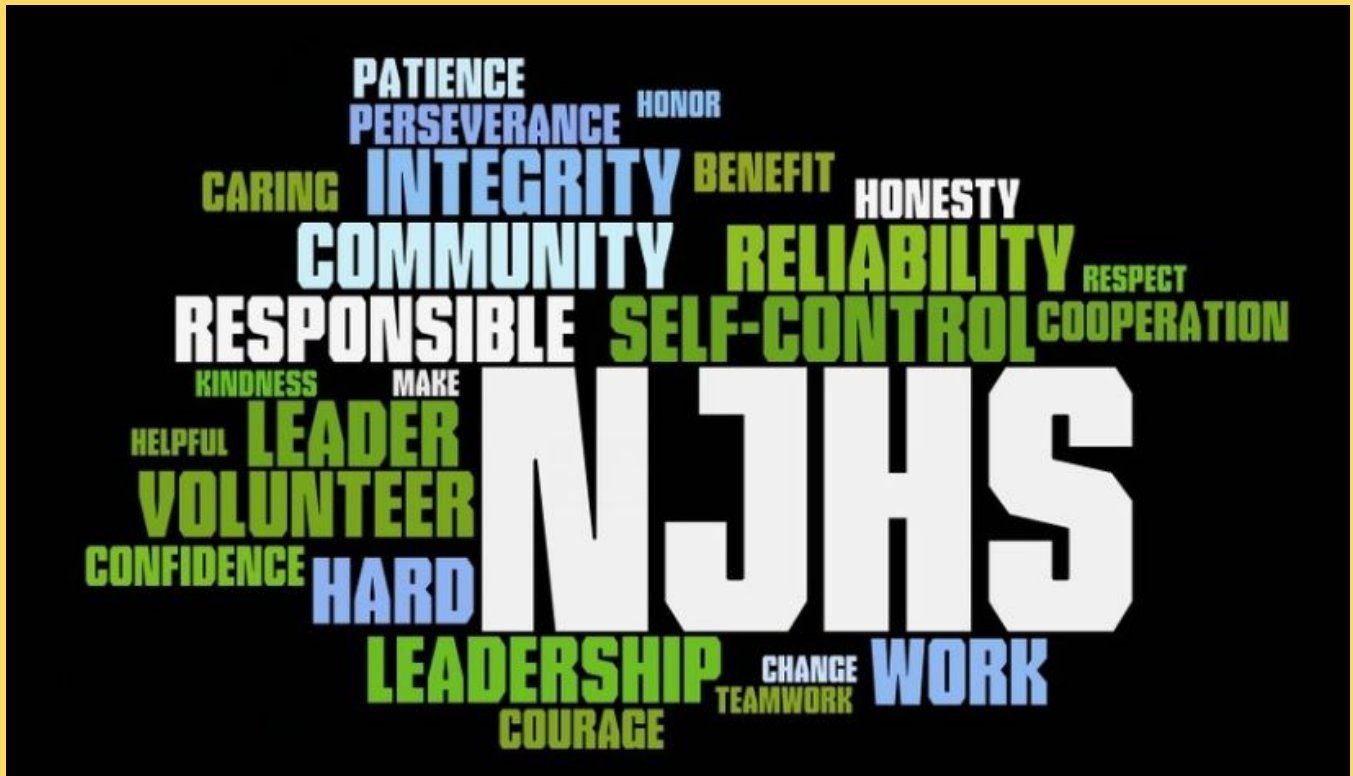
Alaska's hottest high school basketball player is bringing his game to town next month, and the occasion is likely to be Anchorage's hottest sports ticket of 2020. Daishen Nix, the Anchorage ...

[www.adn.com](http://www.adn.com)

<https://www.adn.com/sports/high-school-sports/2019/12/18/alaskas-hot-test-high-school-basketball-player-will-finally-play-in-alaska/>



# National Junior Honor Society



*What is NJHS? We are students and teachers who appreciate working hard for our academic and achievement goals, enjoy helping others through service in our school and neighborhood, and having fun at the same time.*

NJHS sponsors Janie Klueber, Lani Roylance, and Marah Lambert are looking for new members who find meaning in the above statement. If you are interested, please see any one of these teacher-sponsors who can help you join this prestigious organization.

Some of the projects NJHS participates in include:

- The *Pennies for Patients* campaign to raise awareness and funds to support the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
- The *Super Sweepers* program, sponsored by the Municipality of Anchorage during Spring Cleanup Week
- Selling Valentine candy-grams and/or flowers during lunch; having them delivered to individual students

All paperwork for new NJHS candidates is due to Mary Andrus by Friday, Feb. 7 at 3:00pm. The 2nd semester Induction Ceremony will be held on Thurs., Feb. 27 from 6:30-8:00pm in the MPR; refreshments will be served afterward. All candidates and members are expected to attend the evening ceremony. The rehearsal for this event will be held the previous afternoon in the MPR from 3:00-4:00pm.



**Mears Middle School**  
**Anchorage, AK**

**PTSA**

## **PARENT FAMILY ENGAGEMENT NIGHT**



**TOPIC: VAPING - more info to come.**

**WHEN: JANUARY 22, 2020 AT 6:30 PM**

## **100th and Victor Intersection Update**

On December 17 the Anchorage Assembly voted in favor of a resolution addressing dangerous street crossing for school students. This makes our intersection another step closer to finding a solution to make it a more pedestrian friendly intersection.

Nov 17 Bayshore-Klatt Council meeting they agreed upon multiple suggestions the community were comfortable with those were: Flashing Beacon, Raised intersection, reducing the number of lanes or a single lane roundabout. This intersection does not qualify for a full signal light. MOA reported that this intersection has the same amount of traffic as it did in 2010.



Thank you to everyone that has helped with input on this. I couldn't have gotten this far without you.

**Memory Book online ordering [www.ybpay.com](http://www.ybpay.com)**

Order today and save \$5. Prices go up January 1st. NEW this year you can personalize the memory book with your students name. Its an additional \$5.

Make checks payable to Mears PTSA or pay with a credit card online [www.ybpay.com](http://www.ybpay.com)

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**Ways to support Mears without spending any additional money.**

**Shutterfly - <http://mearsptsa.shutterflystorefront.com/> Coupon books have been given to all students and extras can be found in the main office.**

**Amazon- <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/92-0138999>**

**Fred Meyers- <https://www.fredmeyer.com/topic/community-rewards-4> Mears Code**  
We currently have 8 family members participating.

**Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, Happy Kwanza, Happy New Year. See you all in 2020.**

*Happy Holidays From Our Family to Yours!*



Mears Teachers and Staff would like to wish all of our amazing students and their families a very happy holidays and a joyous new year. We appreciate the opportunity to serve this wonderful community and to educate and support all the students who attend Mears!

**Go Panthers!**

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# 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](#)