



Mears Middle School

# Panther Pride News

Respect, Responsibility, Creativity, and Academic Excellence

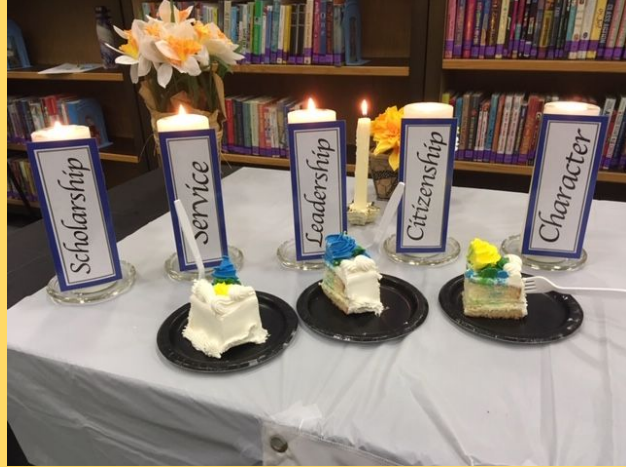
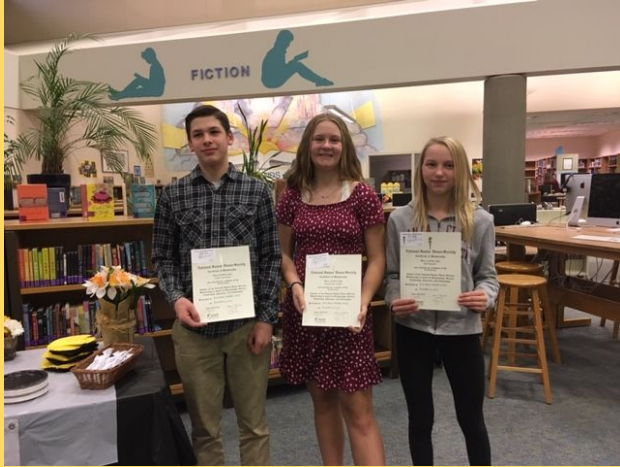
Friday, December 6, 2019

## *Mears Girls Explore Engineering Careers*



Anchorage School District, ExxonMobil and Girl Scouts of Alaska invited 120 middle school girls to come together in hopes to inspire young women to explore careers in science, engineering, and math. A cohort of Mears students, along with others from throughout the district, spent the day creating towers, building penny boats, making lip balm, lava lamps and other various experiments, led by a variety of local professionals including chemical, drilling, electrical, equipment, and downstream engineers from ExxonMobil. The conference is a great example of ASD's commitment to ensuring all students are college and career ready.

# National Junior Honor Society



Congratulations to Caden San Juan, MacKenzie Tasker, and Ellie Paulson, Mears' newest inductees to the National Junior Honor Society. Members of this prestigious national organization are accepted based on their achievement and commitment to NJHS's five pillar values: scholarship, service, leadership, citizenship, and character. Each of these students is a notable leader at Mears and we are all very proud of their accomplishments. Special thanks to teachers Ms. Janie Klueber, Ms. Marah Lambert, and Ms. Lani Roylance for their mentorship of Mears NJHS students.

## Mears 7th Grader Goes to Rodeo Finals



Congratulations to Frank (Buckshot) Koloski, Mears 7th grader, who has been invited to compete in the Junior National Rodeo Finals this week in Las Vegas, Nevada. As a representative of Mears and the State of Alaska, Koloski will be competing for a chance at a world title!

## Students SLAM Poetry



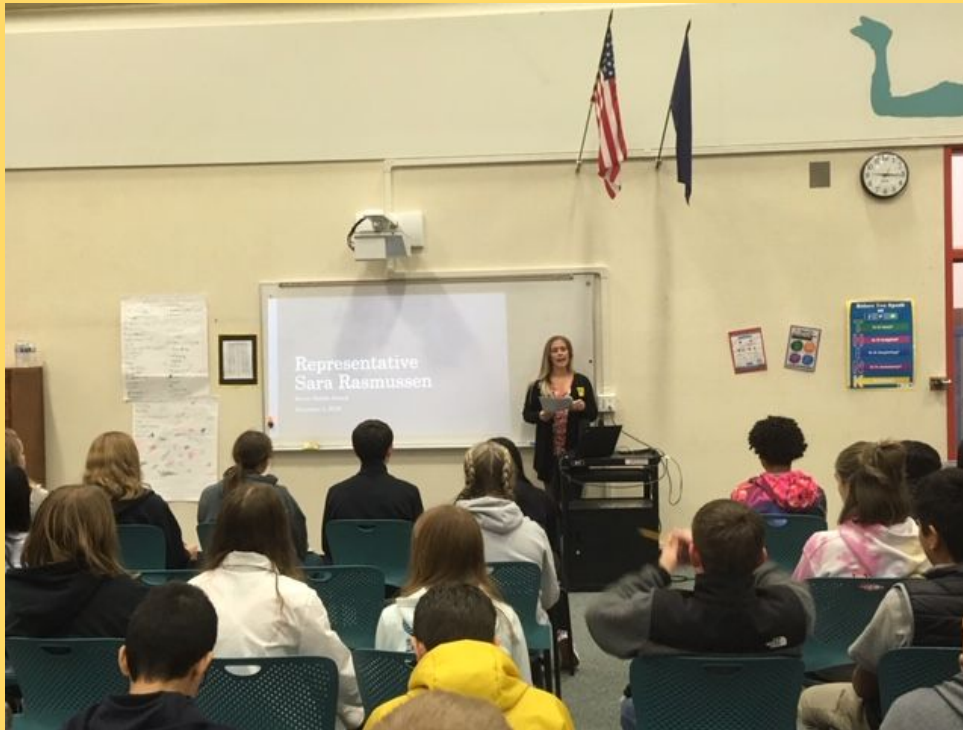
Students in Mr. Thomas Pease, Ms. Liza Tran, and Mr. Matthew Bennice's classes have been preparing for a Poetry Slam this Friday. With the mentorship of outside coaches, students have been writing their own poems and working on developing communication skills including volume, pacing, expression, and action. Students in these classes are learning an essential lesson about the power of the spoken word.

## Volleyball Triumphs



Congratulations to Mears' incredible volleyball players for their inspired performance during this week's volleyball matches. All of Mears teams, had highly competitive and fun matches against Wendler and Goldenview. Special thanks to Mr. Dennis Sorensen, Ms. Callie Wilder, Mr. James McDonald, and Mr. Dan Booher for their wonderful coaching and guidance of Mears' student-athletes.

# Senator Rasmussen Returns to Mears



This week, Mears welcomed special guest, Ms. Sara Rasumussen, Alaska State Senator, back to her old middle school. A graduate of Mears and Dimond High, Ms. Rasmussen, who represents district 22 in Anchorage, spoke to social studies students about representative government, separation of powers, and various current events relevant to Alaska politics.

## *Stay Informed/Get Involved*

### **Mears Teachers and Staff**

MAP Testing - Reading - Monday Dec 9 - Friday Dec 13

Thursday Dec. 12 - 3pm Staff Meeting - Library

Friday Dec. 13 - 9am Music Assembly - MPR

Monday Dec. 16 - Friday Dec. 20 - Secret Santa Week

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

Thursday Dec. 19 - 6:30pm - PTSA Mtg - Library

Friday Dec. 20 - NO SCHOOL - Teacher Grading Day

## **Mears Parents and Guardians**

Saturday Dec. 7 - 9am - Volleyball Tournament - JV1 @ Goldenview; JV3 @ Romig; C1 @ Hanshew; C3 @ Mirror Lake

Monday Dec. 9 - Friday Dec. 13 - MAP Testing - Reading

Monday Dec. 9 - 5:15pm Volleyball games @ Hanshew - JV1; JV3; C1 & C3

Tuesday Dec. 10 - 7pm Intermediate Winter Music Concert - MPR

Wednesday Dec. 11 - 5:15pm Volleyball games @ Mears - V; JV2; C2 & C4

Thursday Dec. 12 - 7pm Advanced Winter Music Concert - MPR

Saturday Dec. 14 - 9am - Volleyball Tournament - V @ Mears; JV2 @ Hanshew; C2 @ Chugiak HS; C4 @ Clark

## **SPORTS....**

Sign ups for Cross Country Skiing, Boys Basketball, and Archery 2 will begin on Monday, November 25th.

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.**

## **Be Sure to Sign Up for Youth Mental Health**

To meet the mental health needs of students, one of the elements of this year's initiative is to train all staff in Youth Mental Health First Aid. Dimond is scheduled to be trained with Mears. Please select one of the all-day trainings on MLP. Classified staff may attend depending on available space and principal permission.

Group 2 Dimond HS, Mears MS; All Times 8:00 am- 3:30 pm

December 10---Education Center Lime Room

December 12---Education Center Learning Lab

Saturday Sessions; paid

December 14---Education Center Learning Lab

January 25---Education Learning Lab



Looking for stocking stuffer ideas? Visit our [online store](#) to purchase some of our new items. Water bottle, phone stand, chapstick/mints combo, metal straws and gift cards.



**Holiday shopping** is upon us, so while you're shopping at any of the places listed below, considering using these links. A portion of each sale these stores gives back to the school.

**Shutterfly -**

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

Coupon books have been given to all students and extras can be found in the main office.

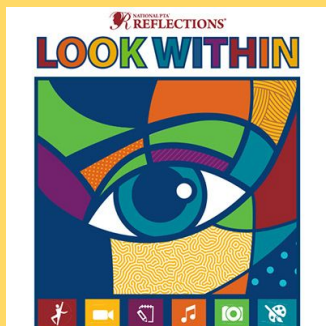
**Amazon-**

<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.

**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.



**Reflections Art Contest is DUE by December 12.** Turn in completed entries to the school store during lunch or before school.

Fore more information and student entry forms visit

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

Categories include: Literature, Music Composition, Dance Choreography, Film Production, Photography and Special Artist

## Mears Coach Sorenson Makes News



Be sure to watch this great news clip featuring Mears' Coach Dennis Sorenson, who, for the last two decades, has made significant positive contributions to student-athletes on and off the ice.

<https://www.ktuu.com/video/?vid=565759>

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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](#)