



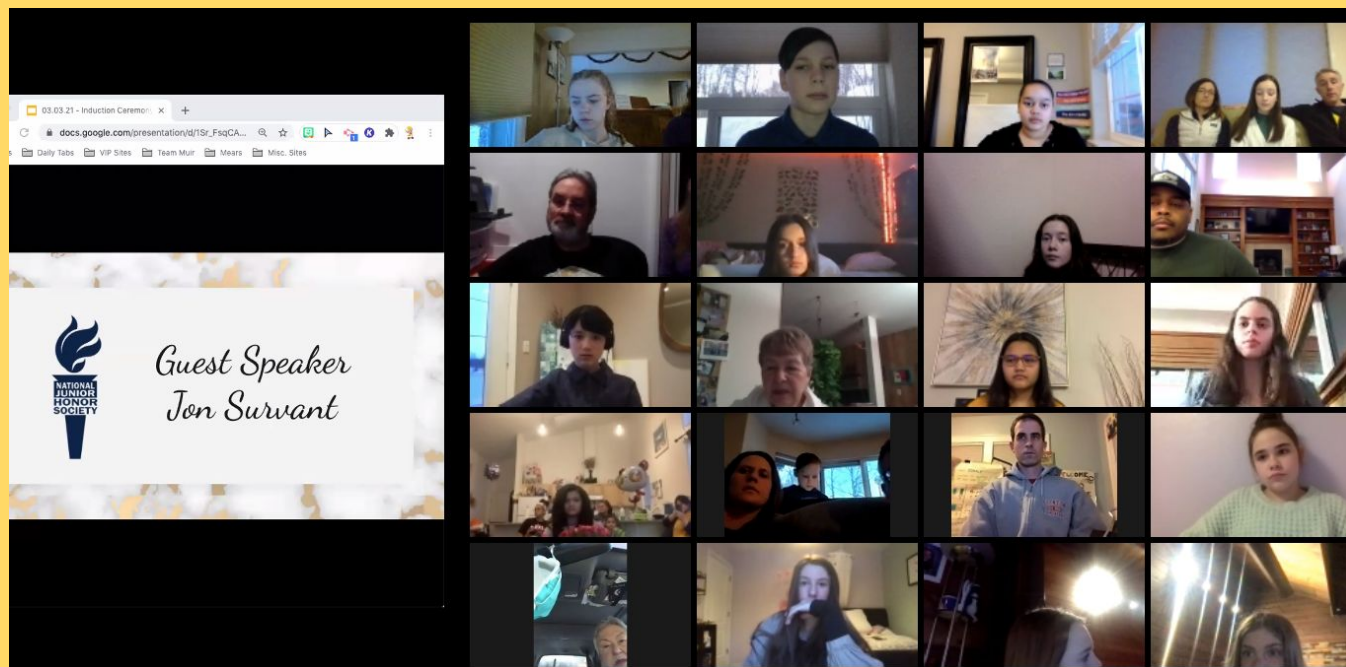
Mears Middle School

Panther Pride News

Respect, Responsibility, Creativity, and Academic Excellence

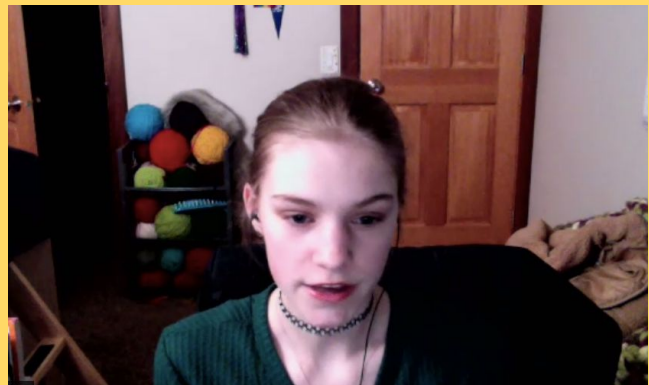
Friday, March 5, 2021

Mears Welcomes New NJHS Inductees



On Thursday evening, March 3, Mears hosted its annual National Junior Honor Society Inductee Ceremony. Special thanks goes out to Jon Survant, who gave an inspirational keynote address, and also to Ms. Marah Lambert and Ms. Mia Sison, Mears faculty coordinators of NJHS, who did a tremendous job organizing this wonderful celebration of an amazing group of young people. We would also like to thank all the parents and families who joined us for the online event and for your ongoing support of our students and for Mears Middle School. --Eric

The Five Pillars



Pictured here are 8th graders Katie Reinbold (NJHS President) and Paige Hays (NJHS Historian) during the candle lighting ceremony. One candle is lit for each of the Five Pillars. During the ceremony, Mears student leaders commit to the aspirations and values promoted by National Junior Honor Society, and in so doing inspire each of us to be our very best. Congratulations to our new inductees and our returning members! --Eric

Mears New 2021 NJHS Inductees:

Rowan Adams, Ruby Beardsley, Mackenna Berkey, Jackie Desroches, Jillian Dolph, Avery Driscoll, Joshua Gooden, Tyler Grzegorzcyk, Jacqueline Hill, Ella Jackson, Sabreen Kazim, Celestial Faamatuinu-Luafulu, Chloe McKay, Kailyn Middleton, Carissa O'Rourke, Everett Scott, Sophie Scott, Ella Wheelles, Elyse Wilkson

Mears Current Members (Inducted 2020):

Arwen Baldwin, Raine Delmendo, Evan Hamey, Paige Hays, Noa Kam-Magruder, Sophia Randazzo, Katie Reinbold, Grace Yackel

Important Reminders For the Return to School

1. 7th graders signed up for the Mears in-person program will return to school on Monday, March 15. Regrettably, we cannot accommodate any 8th graders during the school day on March 15. 8th graders should remain home and attend class online on March 15.
2. 7th and 8th graders signed up for Mears in-person will all attend school on Tuesday, March 16.
3. All Mears Online students will meet with their teachers on Wednesdays during scheduled block periods:
 - 1st Block -- 10:15 - 11:15am
 - 2nd Block -- 11:25am - 12:25pm
 - 3rd Block -- 12:55 - 1:55pm
4. Mears Online students can access meeting links and other important information about their classes on their teacher's Canvas pages.
5. For students riding the bus: [ASD's Bus Transportation Video](#)

Are you an 8th Grader who is New to Mears?

For those 8th graders who are brand new to Mears, we will host short school tours on Monday, March 15 at 2:30pm. The tour will be guided by the school principal and members of the Mears counseling team. Please use this form to sign up for this optional tour if you are interested in seeing the school prior to your first day back.

[School Tour for 8th Graders New to Mears](#)

Safety Mini-Lessons Review

During the week of March 1st, second-period teachers have dedicated time to review different aspects of Mears Middle School's safety plan with students. These mini lessons reflect the school-adopted, District-approved plan available to all on the ASD website.

The following mini lessons were delivered during 2nd period during the week of March 1-5.

Monday, March 1st-Mini Lesson 1: Student Safety:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1lf1t37o0rfVs-odoDr5iJdEBWuF0fdAn6cctjMD7N4/edit?usp=sharing>

Tuesday, March 2nd-Mini Lesson 2: Student Nutrition During COVID-19:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1AKvTJIMRu2kiWXROHaAIHGqBbCcizv4TvkLCKlh0d5c/edit?usp=sharing>

Thursday, March 4th-Mini Lesson 3: Student Movement in the Building:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1PbxdvBK2i6b_2LO3-RZMNvM-7hJXjfEr2jyhTgAkJtw/edit?usp=sharing Thank you for taking the time to review this important information. --The Mears Safety Team

Teachers and Staff Meeting Schedule

For the week of March 15-19, there are currently no meetings scheduled for teachers and staff.

M, T, Th, F Class Schedule for Students and Teachers

Arrival time -- 8:30am

1st period -- 8:45am - 10:15am

2nd period -- 10:25am - 12:20pm (includes nutrition break)

3rd period -- 12:30pm - 2:00pm

Bus pick up -- 2:00pm - 2:15pm

Wednesday Class Schedule for Online Students and Teachers

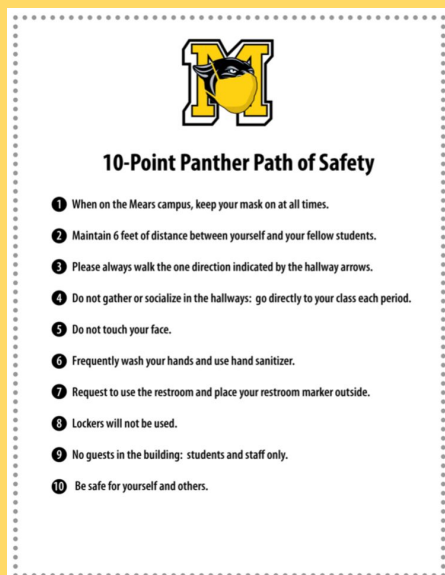
Note: Attendance on Wednesday is required for all Mears Online students.

1st period -- 10:15am - 11:15am

2nd period -- 11:25am - 12:25pm

3rd period -- 12:55pm - 1:55pm

Mears 10-Point Safety Plan for Students



The small in-school program at Mears will support students, while at the same time allow school personnel the opportunity to fine tune safety protocols and build community confidence as we prepare for a broader reopening of school at the beginning of 4th quarter on March 15.

As always, we will continue to provide our school community with updates in this newsletter, which is published every Friday. Go Panthers!

Here is a link to the [ASD School Safety Plans](#), where you will find all the details for Mears' Covid safety protocols.

Recently Updated: ASD's Health and Safety Covid Matrix

ASD's planning and decision-making process for determining the District's risk level for conducting school takes multiple community factors into consideration. The District conducts this process in close conversation with the Municipality of Anchorage and the State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services.

In recent months, organizations such as the Center for Disease Control, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the World Health Organization have expanded their guidance and resources regarding safely providing public education. This new information includes a range of metrics and other criteria that allows districts, in close coordination with state and local health officials, to revise and adapt school opening guidelines based on the unique context of their community.

Here is a link: [ASD's Covid Matrix](#)

Mears Counseling Corner

If you need any assistance in preparing for the 4th quarter, please fill out a HELP Ticket: <https://www.asdk12.org/domain/4978>



Brent Haugen,
907-742-6428

Caitlin Burr,
907-742-6424

Crysta Svendsen,
907-742-6426

Visit this link to meet Mears Counselors:

<https://sites.google.com/asdk12.net/mearsteachervideointros/home>

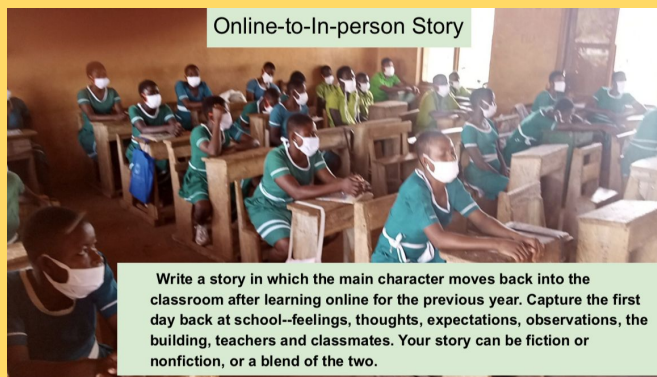
Panthers are Writers

March Writing Contest



The Return: Write a story that includes a transition from online to in-person learning. (See next slides for details.)

Deadline for entries: Wednesday, March 31st.



Online-to-In-person Story

Write a story in which the main character moves back into the classroom after learning online for the previous year. Capture the first day back at school--feelings, thoughts, expectations, observations, the building, teachers and classmates. Your story can be fiction or nonfiction, or a blend of the two.

Returning to school...

- Stories can be written in conventional paragraph format, or can use alternate formats. Consider using blog posts, IM, or text messages to tell your story. Or a combination of several forms...!
- Stories should be no more than 1,000 words.
- Submit stories by following the directions inside the Panther Pride Canvas on or before Wednesday, March 31st.
- Link to Panther Pictures submission page:
<https://asdk12.instructure.com/courses/167345/assignments/3736105>



Mears March Creative Writing Contest

Results for the February "Write It Like Amanda" Mears Creative Writing Contest:

First place went to Kadee Farmer for her poem, "Bruised but Whole."

Runner-up was Ella Wheelles for her poem, "Weathered and Witnessed."

Congratulations to our winners, and thank you to all who submitted poems. All winning entries can be viewed online on Mears website.

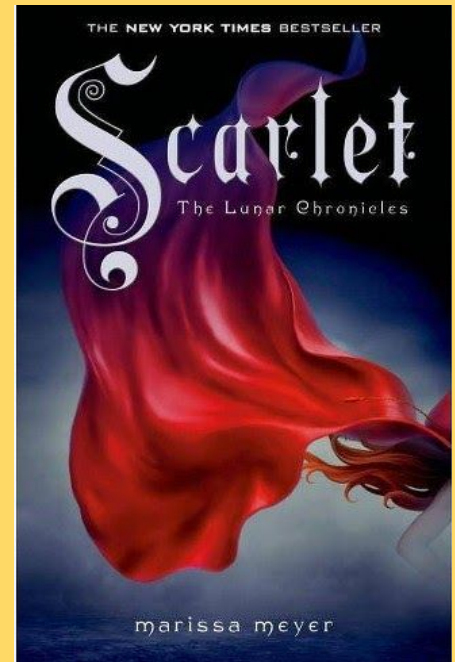
Panthers are Readers

Mears Reads Book Club

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

The next book club meeting will be on March 23rd, through Zoom. Yep, we will still use Zoom to meet. The meeting time is going to change. Students who are in school will have to get home before we start and we aren't sure how long it will take the busses to drop off students.

If you would like to join us contact Mrs. Fleming at 742-6432, fleming_heather@asdk12.org, or through a student's Inbox in Canvas.



Library at Mears Curbside Pickup

Jane Mears Library

CURBSIDE PICK UP



1

PLACE HOLD
in the Mears catalog

2

WAIT FOR NOTIFICATION
email, Remind, etc.

3

PARK & CALL
4th quarter times are still being determined

More information/details at: <https://www.asdk12.org/domain/5609>

The curbside pickup program will continue until the end of this school year for students who are remaining in online instruction. However, pickup times will change to be only outside of the school day. Stay tuned for updates as we figure out how this will work! You can check the Mears Library Website and watch for

announcements in the Library at Mears Canvas shell.



Mears Middle School Anchorage, AK

PTSA

PTSA Meetings

We have monthly meetings usually on the 3rd Tuesday of each month and you are welcome to attend. Here are our upcoming PTSA meeting held @ 6:00 pm via zoom

- March 23rd (after spring break)
- April 20th (Nominations for board positions accepted)
- May 11th (Vote in 2021/2022 board week prior to school ending)

PTA Fundraising Opportunity

2020 was a rough year for all businesses; the Black Cat Cafe is no exception. The lack of income means we need to get creative with our fundraising. Let me introduce my nominee: "Ducks 4 Bucks"!



Event Description:

We are selling Ducks for \$4 on our school store at the following link:

<https://mearsptsa.memberhub.store/store/items/671092>

We will securely attach your order number(s) to our yellow rubber duckies. These ducks will be fired from a *student* built [trebuchet](#) at a target 200 meters away. If the duck can successfully hit the target, you will be awarded a hoodie from our school store!

We currently sold more ducks than anticipated and we **need** PTSA assistance for this event.

I'm currently in **need** of

- social media type person
- graphics person
- writer
- few camera operators that are not afraid of flying ducks

More information at the **next** PTSA meeting. *By the way, did you pay this year's dues?*



<https://twitter.com/MearsPtsa>



Team Clothes Order Forms

- [Taku](#)
- [Echo](#)
- [Surprise](#)
- [Raven](#)
- [Muir](#)
- [Eklutna](#)
- [Blackstone](#)

Thank you for the continued support of the Mears PTSA. Our school store sells PE approved clothing, beanies, baseball caps, hoodies, and more is online www.MearsPTSA.com.

Join Mears PTSA Membership and become part of an organization that is the leading Child advocacy group in the Nation. You not only become a member of Mears. But Alaska PTA and National PTA. Membership benefits include Office Depot/Office Max, Hertz, and more. Learn more at www.MearsPTSA.com

Ways you can help us raise funds doing your day to day shopping and holiday shopping.

Amazon Smile smile.amazon.com/ch/92-0138999

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

ASD is Safe and Strong



Thanks Anchorage School District for working so hard to provide vaccines for health care workers, educators, and all the frontline workers. Go ASD! 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](#)