



Mears Middle School

# Panther Pride News

Respect, Responsibility, Creativity, and Academic Excellence

Friday, November 22, 2019

*Students Excel: 60% with GPAs of 3.0 and Higher*



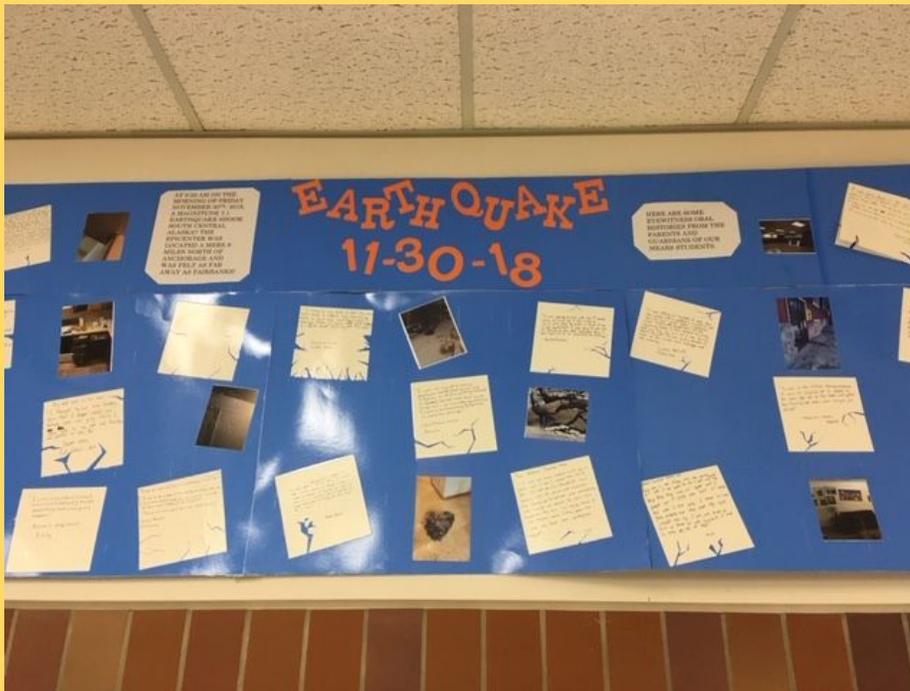
Over the last two weeks, Mears has distributed Honor Roll certificates to celebrate students' strong academic achievement for the first quarter of the year. Students were recognized for achieving cumulative GPAs of 3.0-3.9 and for GPAs of 4.0. An impressive number of students made Honor Roll. A total of 232 (63%) 7th graders and 222 (58%) of 8th graders received certificates. Such achievement by so many students speaks volumes about Mears' incredible students and the amazing team of educators who support and guide them. Go Panthers!

# Law Studies Visits Downtown Courthouse



Echo Team students in Mr. Nick Middleton's social studies classes visited Boney Courthouse last week. Students were given the opportunity to hear directly from city and state-level judges who presented on the role of the courts and justice system in a democracy.

# Social Studies Revisits Earthquake to Explore Primary Source Documents



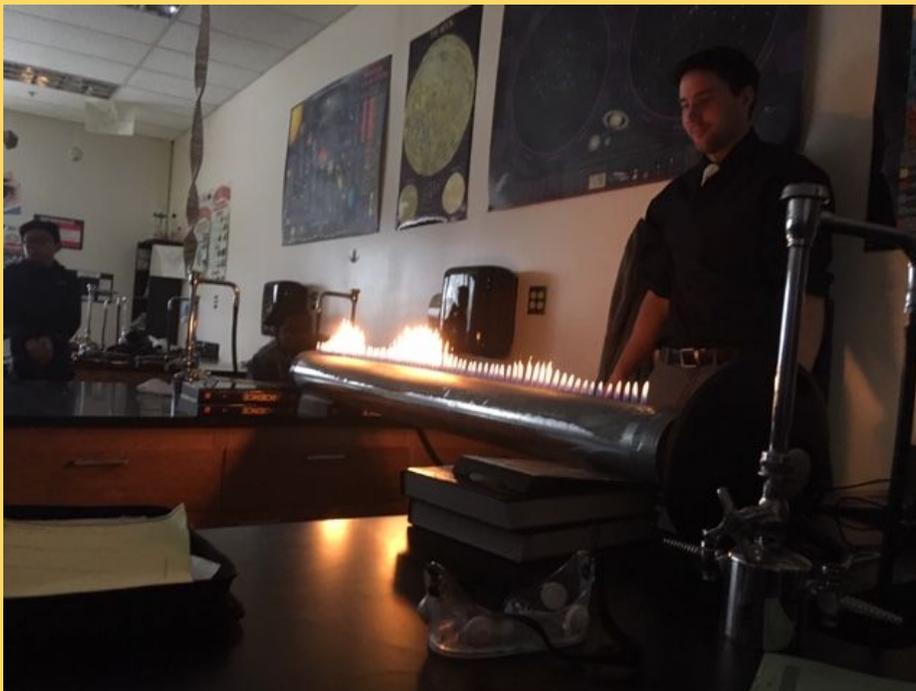
Social Studies teacher, Mr. Chris Buchanan, led students in an exploration of primary source research. Students conducted a series of interviews with family members about their first-hand experience of the 2018 earthquake in Anchorage. An impressive display of transcripts of those interviews and related photos is currently in the first floor hallway.

# Making Waves



Students in science 8 classes are studying a unit on the different types of waves. This week, Mr. Brandon York led students in a fun and enlightening hands-on lab in which students used giant slinkys to explore the role motion plays in generating waves.

# Science Labs Are On Fire!



Mr. James McDonald thoroughly enjoyed teaching a recent lesson in his science classes using a Ruben Tube. The device allows students to actually see sound waves reacting to music. This photo shows how the compression of sound waves affects the motion of flame produced by gas in the tube.

# Panthers Take to the Court



Mears Volleyball Teams are having an exceptional season. With 113 student-athletes competing on three teams, volleyball is among Mears most popular sports. Pictured here the Panthers taking the court in a match against Central Middle School.

## *Stay Informed/Get Involved*

### **Mears Teachers and Staff**

Tuesday, Nov 26 - Wrestling Meet @ Dimond High School - 5:00pm

Thursday, Nov 28-29 - No School - Thanksgiving Break

Monday, Dec 2 - Volleyball Games JV1; JV3; C1 & C3 @ Goldenview - 5:15pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Dec 3-5 - MAP Testing - ALL Math classes will be testing!!

Wednesday, Thursday, Dec 4-5 - Wrestling Tournament @ Goldenview - 1:30pm

Wednesday, Dec 4 - Volleyball Games V; JV2; C2 & C4 @ Mears MS - 5:15pm

## **Mears Parents and Guardians**

Tuesday, Nov 26 - Wrestling Meet @ Dimond High School - 5:00pm

Thursday, Nov 28-29 - No School - Thanksgiving Break

Monday, Dec 2 - Volleyball Games JV1 & 3; C1 & 3 @ Goldenview - 5:00pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Dec 3-5 - MAP Testing - ALL Math classes will be testing!!

Tuesday, Dec 3 - Parent Informational Meeting in the Library - Vaping!! - 6:30pm

Wednesday, Thursday, Dec 4-5 - Wrestling Tournament @ Goldenview - 1:30pm

Wednesday, Dec 4 - Volleyball Games V; JV2; C2 & C4 @ Mears MS - 5:15pm

## **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 will begin at 5:00 pm due to bussing constraints.**

## **Take the Survey**

Mears Community Members,

Be sure to take the ASD Strategic Planning Survey. Make sure your voice is heard as district leadership works to determine the next set of priorities to guide our schools and programs. --Eric

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KYRJY56>

# Important Notice for Mears' Certificated Staff:

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.

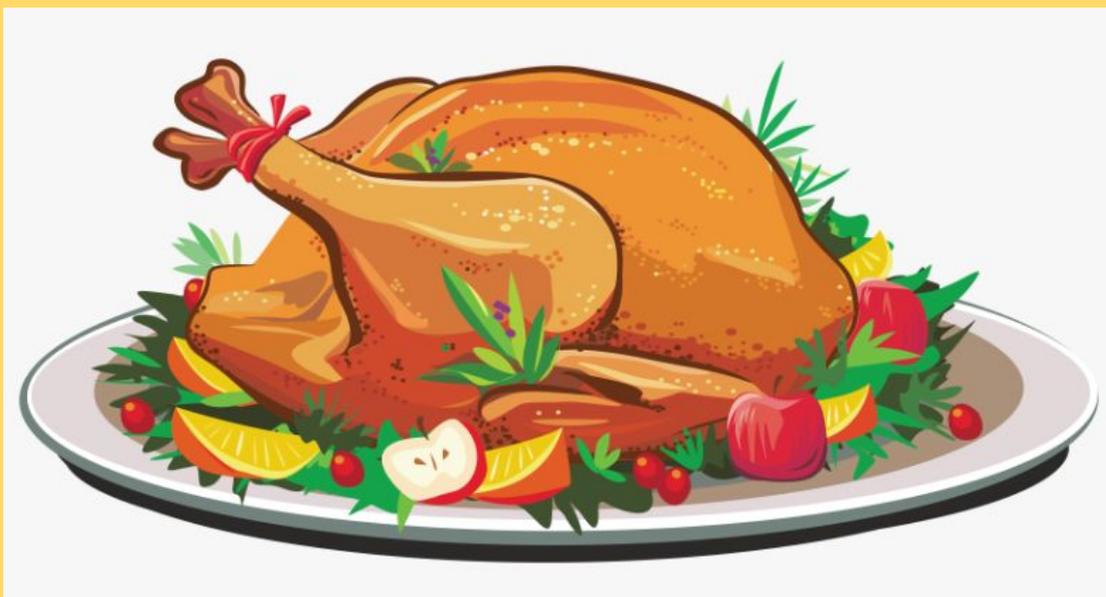
## Group 2 Dimond HS, Mears MS; All Times 8:00 am- 3:30 pm

December 3----Education Center Lime Room  
December 5----Education Center Learning Lab  
December 10---Education Center Lime Room  
December 12---Education Center Learning Lab

Saturday Sessions; paid

October 12---Education Center Learning Lab  
December 14---Education Center Learning Lab  
January 25---Education Learning Lab

## Mears' Thanksgiving Drive Final Request



Mears Families,

Please join us in our final push to collect food items for those in need this Thanksgiving. Students are working to complete 16 Thanksgiving meal boxes to donate and we still need turkeys and/or hams. If you are in a position to support this important cause, please consider purchasing a turkey or ham and bring it to Mears on Monday, November 25th to donate. We can store donated products in school refrigerators. Thank you for your generosity. --Eric

⇐ *Backman Recommends* ⇒



Mears Families,

As Thanksgiving Week approaches, it is a good practice for each of us to take a moment to consider those people in our lives that we are grateful for. With this in mind, I invite you to reflect for a moment on the good fortune we all have--parents, students, teachers, and staff--to be connected to Mears, an incredible neighborhood public school that serves a wonderful group of students and families. Essential to the strength of this community are the teachers and staff at Mears, who dedicate themselves every day to supporting our students with engaging and relevant learning opportunities, guidance, and care.

A great way to show your gratitude is to encourage your student to write a letter of appreciation to a Mears teacher who is making a positive difference in their lives. Of

course, parents and caregivers are invited to do the same. Visit this link for tips on writing a [letter of appreciation to your teacher](#).

Thank you all for your ongoing support for Mears Middle School and for everyone who works here on behalf of your children. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving Week. --Eric



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.

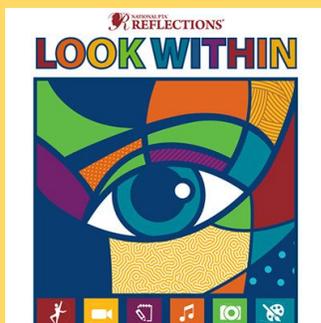
**Shutterfly** - <http://mearsptsa.shutterflystorefront.com/> Coupon books have been given to all students and extras can be found in the main office.

**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** has begun.

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

# Happy Thanksgiving



Mears staff enjoyed a Thanksgiving meal together this week. Thank you to all who contributed to making this wonderful meal. A very special thanks goes out to Ms. Mary Andrus, Ms. Jennifer Palinko, and Ms. Janie Klueber for all their work to prepare the beautiful turkeys. At Mears, we are a team of educators committed to our students and their families, and also to each other and the bond of collegiality and friendship we share.

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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](#)