



Mears Middle Schools

Panther Pride News

Respect, Responsibility, Creativity, and Academic Excellence

Friday, September 30, 2022

Talk to a Trusted Adult



This week, Mears' incredible counselors, Ms. Teresa Harrison and Ms. Caitlin Burr, created an educational video on the important subject of teasing that was the focus of Wednesday's Homeroom lesson. All students watched the video and responded to a short series of related questions. The lesson promotes awareness about the importance of recognizing when teasing has gone too far, and what to do about it when that happens. Special thanks goes out to Mears counselors for doing such great work this year to offer students helpful and proactive guidance designed to make Mears a safe, friendly, and inclusive school community for all. Go Panthers!

Watch the video here: [Talk to a Trusted Adult Video](#)

Spirit Day Fridays



Every Friday, Mr. Bart Parker, a member of Mears Security Team, greets students as they enter school. To promote Mears school spirit, he offers a treat to any student who is wearing Mears gear on Friday. Today it was a lollipop! Thanks, Mr. Parker, for all that you do to help make school safe and fun.

Upcoming Community Events

- **SAT 10/1: Girls Basketball Jamboree; players please get with your coaches as to the location and times you will be playing.**
- **MON 10/3: Think Pink MS Co-Ed Relay! @ Kincaid Park hosted by Romig MS & Winterberry K - 8, races start at 5:50 p.m.**
- **THU 10/6: Girls Basketball C1 & C2 @ Romig MS first game 5 p.m.**
- **THU 10/6: XC Running All School Championships @ Kincaid Park, hosted by Goldeview MS, races start @ 1:30 p.m.**
- **SAT 10/8: Girls Basketball Jamboree; players please get with your coaches as to the location and times you will be playing.**
- **MON 10/17: Girls Volleyball 1st Practice**

Mears Staff Calendar

- **WED 10/5: Mears Collaborative Team Leads, Library, 3:00-4:00pm**

Reminder: Behavioral Expectations



Cell Phones/Electronic Devices - No cell phone use from 8:00 am -2:45 pm in Hallways or at Lunch. Teachers will determine use in classrooms.

Dress Code/Decorum - School appropriate to maintain safe, focused, and respectful learning environment

Backpacks,Purses, Handbags or other assorted personal storage items must be stored and locked in individual lockers. They cannot be carried about during the day, with the EXCEPTION of Mears Tote Bags. These can be purchased in the main office or at the school store.

Video: [Mears Schoolwide Expectations](#)

Transportation Update

Average Daily Attendance Rate for the week of 9/26-29:

94%

This week, Mears students have raised the average daily attendance oto 94%! Congratulations on a job well done! Thank you parents and families for all that you are doing to get our students to school on time and every day. Strong daily attendance is one of the key indicators for success in school. Let's keep up the good work!

Busing Service Begins, Oct. 3



Mears families are reminded that buses will resume their full schedule at Mears beginning on Monday, Oct. 3.

Please note that student drop-off and pick-up zones will not change once busing resumes. Parents may continue with the routines they have already established.

All Mears busses #80-87 will run during Cohort 3. See below for Cohort bussing schedule:

Cohort 1 (Bus #1-38): Aug. 18-Sept. 9

Cohort 2 (Bus #39-77): Sept. 12-Sept. 30

Cohort 3 (Bus #78-116): Oct. 3-Oct. 20

ASD has made available individual bus schedules and information for all students. Please visit [Q ParentConnect](#) to see your student's schedule.

Here's a step-by-step guide for accessing Q Parent Connect:

<https://confluence.asdk12.org/x/QQP6Cg>

Mears Activities & Sports



Middle school is a great time to try new things and meet new people. Here at Mears we have an amazing array of activities & sports for everyone. Below is a list of the upcoming Interscholastic and Intramural options. Here is a direct link to our Sports & Activities on our [Mears Website](#) for more information on signing up. You can find the sign up forms on our website.

Once completed, [scan](#) and email the forms to our AAFP: spartz-hays_robin@asdk12.org or forms can be dropped off at the main office between periods 1 & 2. *Fee waivers are granted based on need.

Mears Library



Battle of the Books!

Battle of the Books meetings will be held on Tuesdays, in the library. All meetings will take place during lunch. More copies of the books have arrived and are available for checkout.

Links to official lists, bookmarks, and more are available on the [Mears Battle of the Books](#) website and in the Mears Battle of the Books Canvas shell.

Mears Counseling Corner

Winner!

**Alexis M.
Prizewinning Advice**

You should follow up with the person who is teasing you and tell them that they need to stop and it's not okay what they are doing. If your friend is being teased you should encourage them to talk to someone if it's going too far and tell a trusted adult what's going on. Teasing can sometimes be serious and you may not realize if someone is being teased, so if you see something say something.



Teresa Harrison-7th Grade
harrison_teresa@asdk12.org
Direct: 907-742-6428

Caitlyn Burr-8th Grade
burr_caitlin@asdk12.org
Direct: 907-742-6424

Questions, comments,
concerns? Email or
[Contact Request Form](#)

Winner! Alexis M. is the winner of this AMAZING tortilla plush blanket because of her award winning advice on teasing! Watch for the next counselor video in October!

Mears Student Health Update



ASD will be holding flu clinics on October 26th and 27th. Please stay tuned for more information regarding times and locations for the clinics.

Links to important information:


“When to Keep Your Child Home From School” policy:

<https://www.asdk12.org/Page/6622>.

[Here is a link to ASD's “Return/Stay at School Protocol”](#)

I hope everyone is staying healthy. Please reach out to me with any health-related questions you have. -Nurse Karin Richards

Community Health Events




Don't Get the Flu. Drive on Thru!
ROLL DOWN YOUR WINDOW, ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVE,
-THEN ROLL ON DOWN THE ROAD-

WHO
Participants 9 years and older

WHAT
Free flu shots and windshield or headlight washing

WHEN Sep - Oct 2022
5:30 - 8 p.m.
Tuesday, September 20
More dates to come as vaccine arrives
(No appointment necessary)

WHERE
Alaska Regional Hospital
Parking lot of Building C
2801 Debarr Rd.
Anchorage, AK, 99508


alaskaregional.com

BENEFITS OF FLU VACCINATION

- Getting a flu shot is more important than ever, but it does not protect against COVID-19
- It's especially important if you have heart disease, diabetes, pulmonary or other chronic diseases, are pregnant, immunocompromised or over 50.
- The vaccine may make your illness milder if you do get sick.
- Flu vaccination may reduce the risk of serious flu outcomes, like hospitalization.

VACCINE INFORMATION

- The standard and high doses are quadrivalent: designed to protect against four different viruses.
- They do not contain latex or thimerosal.
- The high dose vaccine (for people 65+) will NOT be available at the drive-thrus.
- There are many flu viruses. The vaccine protects against those believed to be most common and is updated each year.
- You cannot get the flu from the vaccine.

Everyone in vehicle must be masked!
Questions? Call Ruth: 264-1823



Mindful Mammograms

As October gets closer, the color pink begins to appear in stores, nudging you to be proactive in the fight against breast cancer. One in eight women will develop invasive breast cancer in her lifetime. Don't be one of them.

If you are 40 or older, schedule your mammogram now!

We have planned a special day to get your mammograms in a soothing atmosphere with extra benefits! Relax with a chair massage, practice some yoga postures and participate in a calming practice of mindfulness before or after your appointment.

Enjoy refreshments and relax while doing something positive for your health.

Saturday, Oct. 1st 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Alaska Regional Imaging Alliance
Medical Office Building E, Suite #180
Alaska Regional Hospital, 1200 Airport Hts. Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99508
Schedule your appointment by calling (855) 226-9105
(masks required)



(Insurance will be billed. Self-pay screenings will be discounted)

Employment Opportunity at Mears

Parents are Perfect Hunger Healers

Join our dedicated team of School Nutrition professionals!



Benefits of Working for Student Nutrition:

- ✓ Take your kids to work!
- ✓ Work with incredible people.
- ✓ Weekends, holidays & summers off!
- ✓ Retirement benefits with the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS).
- ✓ Up to \$2,500 hiring bonus!

Full, part-time and temporary positions available:

School Cafeteria Assistant - Café Assistant Manager - Café Manager
Mobile Manager - Substitute Cafeteria Assistant

Apply now at: <https://www.asdk12.org/cafejobs>

Click on box halfway down page: "View Current Employment Opportunities"

In the left column, look for the categories that start with Food Service.

Questions? Call 907-348-5185



PTSA General Meeting Schedule: All Mears Community Members are Welcome -- Second Wednesday of each month

Semester 1: Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 14

Semester 2: Jan 11, Feb. 8, Mar. 8, Apr. 12, May 10

Topic: Mears PTSA General Meeting

[PTSA Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Meeting ID: 981 2989 0912

Passcode: 986530

Parents and Family Members, please consider supporting Mears PTSA by becoming a volunteer, which is a fun and valuable way to support our students and teachers.

The Student Store is Now OPEN!

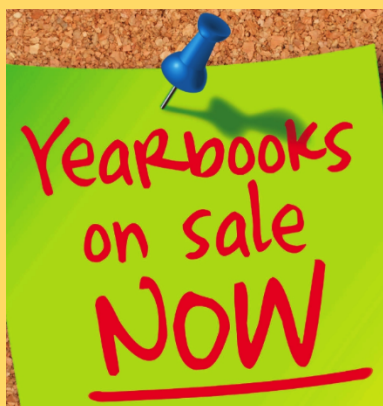


Special thanks to all of our amazing PTSA volunteers!

Join Team PTSA: Volunteer Interest Form:

<https://forms.gle/P8yYKMPSuwzPR2ZU8>

The 2022-23 Mears Yearbook is Now on Sale



Mears families can also order online by going to: ybpay.com using access code 13921123 (see the attachment). Please be certain to print and keep a copy of your receipt after completing and paying for the online purchase. Please do not wait to submit your yearbook order(s). Understand that orders made online after 11:59 p.m. on night of March 26, 2022 are not guaranteed a yearbook order. Questions? Please contact the Mears MS PTSA via email at: mearsms.ptsa@gmail.com

Be Sure to Get Your Mears Gear for 2022-23!



PTSA is proud to announce its new online store. Items can be purchased online and delivered directly to your home.

<https://mearspsta.squarespace.com/>

Mears Staff Photo, 2022-23



Mears Teachers and Staff are proud to serve the Mears/Dimond community!



We are on Dena'ina Homeland

Mears Middle School acknowledges that we operate and gather on the traditional land of the Dena'ina Peoples and honor, with gratitude, the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations.

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](#)