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## December Newsletter

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# Pershing Elementary

6402 Judson Street, 68507

Website: <http://wp.lps.org/pershing/>

Phone: 402-436-1160

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### Strategies in the Classroom:

#### Opportunities to Respond

One of the best ways for teachers to know if students understand the material is to ask them! When teachers give all students opportunities to respond (OTR's) to academic prompts, their students' learning quickly becomes visible. Teachers are then able to adjust their teaching to meet the needs of all the learners in their class.

At Pershing, we use a variety of methods to make student learning visible including written responses, non-verbal responses, and verbal responses. Research shows that using a variety of opportunities to respond results in an increase of on-task behavior and academic engagement.

#### **Please Join us for our Winter Concert**

Performances by the Orchestra, the Band, & The Galaxy of Sound Chorus.

**When:** Monday December 10<sup>th</sup>

**Where:** Pershing Gym

**Time:** 1:30 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Hope to see you there! Mr. Packard, Mrs. Bouffard, & Mrs. Kollbaum

### Upcoming Events

#### December 6

9:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m.: Grade 5 to UNL Campus for showing of Amahl & the Night Visitors

#### December 7

6:30 p.m.: Movie Night @ Pershing (Gym)

#### December 10

Instrumental Music Concert  
1:30 & 6:00

#### December 14

Last Day of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter CLC Clubs

#### December 18

PLC Early Dismissal @ 1:33 p.m.  
No school for Pre School

#### December 20

Last day of Quarter 2  
Classroom Winter Parties @ 2:15

#### December 21-January 4

Winter Break: No School

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Like us on Facebook!

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

January 24<sup>th</sup> 6:30-7:30  
Nature Learning Night

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### Important: Arrival

\*Students may arrive at 7:45 a.m. for breakfast

\*Students not eating breakfast should arrive at 8:00 a.m. **Students should not arrive prior to 7:45 as there is no supervision before then.**

### Hour of Code:

Join us for this year's Lincoln Hour of Code city-wide event. This FREE event is geared toward K-8 students and their families. The event will be held on Saturday, December 8th from 9 a.m. to noon at Nebraska Innovation Campus (2021 Transformation Drive, Lincoln, NE 68508).

The Hour of Code is co-sponsored by LPS, the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, UNL, and many other local groups. We will have opportunities for students to take part in coding activities and explore over 20 interactive booths and activities. Come join us for an hour or all three hours! This event is part of Computer Science Education Week (December 3rd-9th).

Registration is requested. Please visit <https://lincolnhourofcode2018.eventbrite.com> to register. All students need to be accompanied by an adult. Please park in the paved lot north of Transformation Drive.

# HOUR OF CODE

It's a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify "code" and show that anyone can learn the basics to be a maker, a creator, an innovator.

**Ages 4 to 104**

coding opportunities + tech fair ▼

free and open to the public ▼

bring your laptop or tablet  
(computers available in limited supply) ▼

December 8, 2018 | Nebraska Innovation Campus | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Visit [codeInk.org](http://codeInk.org) to register

## Pershing Staff Highlight: Mrs. Salomons, Special Education Coordinator



Hello, Pershing families! My name is Anna Salomons (formerly Anna Schmidt up until September 21st of this year!), and I am the Special Education Coordinator here at Pershing. I've spent most of my "educational life" in Lincoln Public Schools, as I graduated from LPS myself before pursuing my undergraduate degree at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in Elementary and Special Education. I've enjoyed my time in education so much that I decided to marry a teacher myself! My recent husband, who is also a Lincoln Public Schools educator, and I spend most of our free time (attempting to) educate our own two year old chocolate lab, Goose!

Previous to coming to Pershing, I taught special education and acted as the special education team leader at Beattie Elementary here in Lincoln Public Schools. I chose to make a shift towards administration last spring after graduating with my masters in Educational Leadership from Doane University, and I feel very fortunate to have been able to join the Comet family this year. This is a new role for Pershing, and has allowed for us to bring even more support to all students! I get to spend my days coaching and supporting teachers as I observe all the learning that happens in every one of our classrooms on a day to day basis! As a part of my role, I help families, students, and staff navigate through processes and plans to help students receive the supports they need. Working with students of all cognitive, behavioral, and developmental levels has always been a passion of mine, so whether you have questions about your own student or about the processes in general, I would love to help out. Please feel free to reach me with any specific questions, comments, or concerns by phone (402-436-1160) or email ([asalom@lps.org](mailto:asalom@lps.org)).

### Student Supports @ Pershing:

**Boys Town Social Skills:** Below are the following social skills we have been teaching, practicing, and reinforcing. These are great skills you can teach, practice, and reinforce at home as well

#### Having a Conversation

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a pleasant voice
3. Listen to what the other person says
4. When there is a break in the conversation, ask a question or share your thoughts.

#### Working with Others

1. Identify the task to be completed
2. Assign tasks to each person
3. Discuss ideas in a calm, quiet voice and let everybody share their ideas
4. Work on task until complete

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## Volunteering at Pershing:

You can make a difference in the life of a student by serving in variety of volunteering opportunities: reading to a child, shelving books in the library, and much more. Each and every volunteer helps our students learn, grow and succeed. We are grateful to you for sharing valuable time with Pershing and LPS.

We have established several volunteer “levels”, based on contact with students and supervision by LPS staff. Please see below to determine which level applies to your volunteer interest.

Level 1: If you are interest in a Level 1 volunteer activity, simply contact Pershing. You are not required to fill out a volunteer form. (Examples may include but are not limited to: helping with a school mailing or helping in the media center shelving books.)

Level 2 or 3: If you are interested in a Level 2 or 3 volunteer activities, please fill out the volunteer form located on our volunteer webpage. Make sure you fill out all the application fields completely and accurately. The link is also located on the front of the LPS website ([www.lps.org](http://www.lps.org)), under Popular Pages.

You will be asked to provide basic information, as well as sign a Volunteer Code of Conduct and a Personal Disclosure. This information is necessary in our continuing effort to provide safety and security to our students and staff.

Link: <https://wapp.lps.org/gold/volunteer/volunteer.cfm>

## Pershing Family Engagement:

### **Movie Night: December 7<sup>th</sup>:**

- During the week of Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>, students voted on the movie for our Family Moving Night, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Movie night is free for families, a bag of popcorn will be provided as well as water. You are welcome to bring additional snacks to share with your family. Please bring blankets and/or lawn chairs to sit on and of course Pajamas are welcome! There will be 3 raffles prizes to be won, all families that attend will be entered into a drawing for one of 3 prize baskets. These are displayed in the main office, the basket themes included: Movie Night, Family Game Night, & School Supplies. We cannot wait to see families on Friday Dec 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m



## Reminders

### **IMPORTANT: Arrival Times**

- ✓ Students may arrive @ 7:45 for breakfast
- ✓ Students who are not eating breakfast should arrive @ 8:00

\*\*No supervision prior to 7:45

### **Community Spirit Day**

Every Friday is Community Spirit Day!

Students can wear their Pershing shirt or **purple**

**OR**

Students can wear their Husker shirt or **red**.

## **\*\*Additional News\*\***

### **LPS Important Information Booklet:**

#### **OUTDOOR RECESS:**

We recognize the need for students to play outside and therefore, every attempt will be made to use the playground when possible. There is not a district-wide temperature that requires schools to have indoor recess. Every playground has unique characteristics and locations that may protect or expose students to the elements. At the building we will make the determination of indoor/outdoor recess based on the temperature, wind chill, precipitation, progress of snow and ice removal of the grounds.

Students are encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather. During wet, snowy weather, students not adequately dressed for the conditions will be asked to remain on the concrete play area for recess..

If students are not well enough to play outside, they are usually not well enough to be in school. Unless a physician's excuse has been obtained, a note from the parent/guardian is required each day that a student is to remain indoors during recess. The note should state the reason for the request.



#### **TREATS & INVITATIONS:**

Classrooms recognize birthdays in a variety of ways. Students are not allowed to bring birthday treats (edible or nonedible). Please do not send gifts, party favors, balloons, or flowers. These items will not be delivered to classrooms.

Invitations will not be distributed during the school day. Teachers should be notified ahead of time if a student has invitations to distribute after school. Phone numbers and addresses cannot be distributed by an school personnel.



#### **Safety Reminder**

We are working really hard to teach students how to be safe when they come to school and leave school. Please help us by reminding your children to use the crosswalks at all times. Crosswalks signal drivers that adults and children may be crossing, so they are more aware in these areas. With cars coming up and down Judson and the pull up lane, it is important

students have distance between themselves and the moving traffic. Thank you for your participation in keeping all students safe!