January Newsletter

Pershing Elementary

6402 Judson Street, 68507

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

Phone: 402-436-1160



Nature Learning Night January 23rd 6:30-7:30

Bring the whole family to Nature Learning Night on January 23rd from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the gym! You will see animals from the Nature Learning Center, complete activities, as well as learn more about Nebraska animals and much, much more.

Additionally, each grade level team of teachers and Early Childhood teachers will showcase learning strategies associated with their grade level curriculum. It will be a night full of family fun with plenty to explore. Don't miss out on Pershing's most popular event! Enter through door #2. We cannot wait to see you!



Upcoming Events

January 1-6

No School for all LPS Students

January 7

School resumes for all LPS students 6:00 p.m. PPTO Meeting

January 9

Enrollment for CLC Quarter 3 clubs opens

January 13-14

Grades 3-5 MAP Testing

January 20

No School for all LPS Students

January 22

Qt. 3 CLC Clubs begin

January 23

6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Nature Learning Night

January 28

PLC Early Dismissal @ 1:33 p.m. No Preschool

Like us on Facebook!

SAVE THE DATE:

January 23rd 6:30-7:30 Nature Learning Night

IMPORTANT!

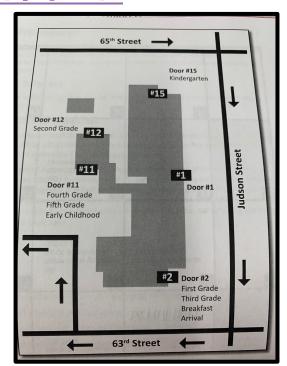
Arrival Drop off & Dismissal Pick-Up

*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.

ARRIVAL & Dismissal DROP OFF & PICK UP:

- To ensure a smooth and safe drop off for all students, please make sure you are following our traffic plan as pictured to the right. If you prefer to walk your child to school, wait to watch them walk in the building, or anything that requires stopping time, please find designated parking around the building and walk with your child to school or pull into the cut-out and park your car there. Please do not stop and park your car in the drop off lane that runs west on Judson.
- We are trying to decrease as much congestion as possible at arrival and dismissal, following the traffic plan will make drop off and pick up efficient and safe so that we do not back traffic up along Judson.
 Please pay extra close attention to students and families walking to and from school. We appreciate your patience during this time.



Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) at Pershing

Research indicates that you can improve behavior by 80% just by pointing out what someone is doing correctly. **Acknowledgement** is paying attention to and recognizing appropriate behaviors. There are many ways that you can acknowledge appropriate behaviors you see. At Pershing, we provide specific positive feedback to let students know exactly what they have done correctly, and we sometimes pair that feedback with a ticket from our acknowledgement system, such as a Comet Ticket. When we give specific positive feedback we know it increases the likelihood that appropriate behavior will happen again. We try to acknowledge positive behaviors four times more often than correcting inappropriate behavior. Outside of school, consider using specific positive feedback to shape the behavior you would like to see repeated.

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

Listening to Others

- 1. Look at the person.
- 2. Stay quiet.
- 3. Wait until the person is finished talking before. you speak.

Accepting Feedback

- 1. Look at the person.
- 2. Say "okay".
- 3. Stay calm.
- 4. Make a good choice.

Volunteering

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.

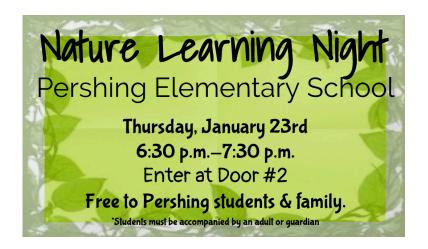
Level 1: If you are interested in a Level 1 volunteer activity, simply contact Pershing. You are not required to fill out a volunteer form. (Examples may include but are not limited to: helping with a school mailing or helping in the media center shelving books.)

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), 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:

Nature Learning Night: Thursday January 23rd:



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Additional News

LPS Important Information Booklet:

ATTENDANCE (pg. 36-37):

Every person residing in a School District within the State of Nebraska who has legal or actual charge or control of any child who is not less than age six (as of January 1 of the current school year) and not more than 18 years of age, or who is younger than six years of age and is enrolled in any public school, will cause the child to attend school regularly. Lincoln Public Schools has established procedures (Policy 5140 and accompanying regulations) that will assist parents to meet this responsibility by encouraging regular and punctual student attendance.

Uninterrupted attendance in regularly scheduled classes allows students to obtain maximum benefits from the District's instructional program. Cooperative efforts of parents/guardians and school staff to promote regular student attendance are encouraged.

An absence from school will be reported as School Excused or Not School Unexcused. Absences should be cleared through the office in advance whenever possible. All absences, except for illness and/or death in the family, require advance approval.

- A. School Excused. Any of the following circumstances that lead to an absence will be identified as a School Excused absence, provided the required attendance procedures have been followed:
 - a. Impossible or impracticable barriers outside the control of the parent or child prevent a student from attending school. The parent must provide the school with documentation that demonstrate the absence was beyond the control of the parent or child. This could include, but is not limited to documented illness, court, death of a family member, or suspension.
 - b. Other absences as determined by the principal or the principal's designee.
- B. Not School Excused. Absences that are not school excused are school unexcused. Such absences may result in a report to the county attorney and may be classified as follows:
 - a. Parent acknowledged absences are those in which the parent communicated with the school in the prescribed manner that the child is absent and is the parent's responsibility for the extent of the school day. This includes, but is not limited to, illness, vacations, and medical appointments.



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**.

b. Other absences are those in which the parent has not communicated a reason for the student's absence.

School staff will keep parents informed regarding the attendance of their student(s) and will assist parents in correcting attendance problems. It is the responsibility of the student to make up work which has been missed because of any absence. The school staff will support the student's initiative to make up work missed.

Unexcused absences and tardiness are a violation of school rules. Disciplinary measures may be imposed.

If a student is excessively absent, an administrator will serve a written notice to the person violating the compulsory attendance statutes, warning him or her to comply with its provisions. When a students continues thereafter to have absences which are Not School Excused and the absences are of concern due to the effect of the absences on student's academics, the student's attendance history, the time of the school year, the reasons for the absences, or other circumstances, one or more meetings will be held between the school (a school attendance officer, a school administrator or his or her designee, and/or a school social worker), the child's parent or guardian, and the child, when appropriate, to address the barriers to attendance. The result of the meeting or meetings shall be to develop a collaborative plan to reduce barriers identified to improve regular attendance. If the results of these efforts are ineffective or if a dangerous condition exists, a report on the circumstances may be made to the county attorney.

CELL PHONE AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES (pg. 46):

Cell phones, smart watches, and other personal electronic devices are considered nuisance items if seen or heard during the school day. If students bring a personal electronic device to school, it should be kept in their backpack, locker, or location designated by school staff (Main Office) during the school day. The school is not responsible for damaged, lost, or stolen devices. Please note that it is unlawful, and therefore prohibited on school grounds, to take a picture or record audio or video of another person without their consent.

From Computing Services:

Student Data Privacy

LPS cares deeply about protecting students DIGITALLY. We go to great lengths to ensure that your child's digital interactions are safe and appropriate, that the data we collect about them is secure, and that we are guiding them to make good digital decisions. Because these efforts are less visible than our physical security efforts, we have assembled this resource to shine light on these important measures that are happening in LPS every day: https://home.lps.org/cs/?page_id=18083

Instructional Technology Tools (ITTs) in LPS

LPS believes that high-quality curriculum and instruction can and should include instructional technology for improving student achievement and preparing learners for adult success. To that end, a District Instructional Technology Tool (ITT) Committee works to identify those ITTs that are safe for student use, support district learning goals, and encourage innovative teaching and learning.

All reviewed ITTs are cataloged in the LPS ITT Matrix [https://www.lps.org/apps/matrix/].

The most frequently used, approved ITTs are made available to students and staff in the LPS Portal [https://home.lps.org/cs/2016/08/08/the-lps-portal/].

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Reading at Home: Reading Fluency

Sight Word Activities

Cut out squares of paper or use notecards to create sight words. Use the Fry Sight Word Lists and start with the first 100. Once your child can read those words easily and fluently, move to the second 100. Continue on until your child can fluently read all 1,000 sight words.

Alternate version: Use a timer to see how long it takes your child to read through a sight word list. Correct the words read wrong and try again. Keep track of the time each time your child reads through and see how his/her reading speed increases.

- □ Write targeted sight words on a blank tic-tac-toe board drawn on notebook or printer paper. Using coins for chips, call out sight words and have your child cover them with a chip. When he/she gets five in a row, have your child read the words out to check for accuracy and to win.
- □ Write your child's sight words on notecards or squares of construction paper. Set the timer for 30 seconds and see how many sight words he/she can read. As your child reads, separate the words into a "Words I Can Read" pile and a "Words I Need Help With" pile. Review the cards in the "Words I Need Help With" pile before trying again.

Fry's 1st 100 Words

a, about, all, an, and, are, as, at, be, been, but, by, called, can, come, could, day, did, do, down, each, find, first, for, from, get, go, had, has, have, he, her, him, his, how, I, if, in, into, is, it, like, long, look, made, make, many, may, more, my, no, not, now, number, of, oil, on, one, or, other, out, part, people, see, said, see, she, sit, so, some, than, that, the, their, them, then, there, these, they, this, time, to, two, up, use, was, water, way, we, were, what, when, which, who, will, with, words, would, write, you, you

Fry's 2nd 100 Words

After, again, air, also, America, animal, another, answer, any, around, ask, away, back, because, before, big, boy, came, change, different, does, end, even, follow, form, found, give, good, great, hand, help, here, home, house, just, kind, know, land, large, learn, letter, line, little, live, man, me, means, men, most, mother, move, much, must, name, need, new, off, old, only, our, over, page, picture, place, play, point, put, read, right, same, say, sentence, set, should, show, small, sound, spell, still, study, such, take, tell, things, think, three, through, too, try, turn, us, very, want, well, went, where, why, work, world, years

Fry's 3rd 100 Words

Above, add, almost, along, always, began, begin, being, below, between, book, both, car, carry, children, city, close, country, cut, don't, earth, eat, enough, every, example, eyes, face, family, far, father, feet, few, food, four, girl, got, group, grow, hard, head, hear, high, idea, important, Indian, it's keep, last, late, leave, left, let, life, light, lists, might, mile, miss, mountains, near, never, next, night, often, once, open, own, paper, plant, real, river, run, saw, school, sea, second, seem, side, something, sometimes, song, soon, start, state, stop, story, talk, those, thought, together, took, tree, under, until, walk, watch, while, white, without, young



Are You Ready for the 5th Grade Science Fair?

ATTENTION 5th Grade Families: The Science Fair is coming up! If your student is looking for great resources for their project or for exciting project ideas, consider PowerKnowledge. PowerKnowledge has three modules: Life Science, Earth and Space, and Physical Science. Each module contains articles on a variety of topics. PowerKnowledge can read articles to students, and students can have the information translated to another language if needed. PowerKnowledge even provides citations for you! Check out PowerKnowledge today and find great science resources for all students!



To access PowerKnowledge from home, students should use the portal. Go to portal.lps.org and enter your student's LPS ID number and password. You can also talk to your school librarian about accessing these resources!

Digital Citizenship Tips

LPS teachers instruct students about digital law when they help students explore how terms of service agreements and privacy policies are important and have real-world implications. Topics for a family discussion might include:

- What is a privacy policy? (Tells how an application or service will use your personal information, photos, videos, and may include age requirements for the application or service.)
- Why are privacy policies important? (It's important at a young age to decide how much information you want to share with an application or service and what information you want to keep private).

This Common Sense Media site provides additional information for parents concerning privacy and internet safety.



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!

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