

# Pershing Elementary

## January Newsletter

6402 Judson Street, 68507

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

Phone: 402-436-1160

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## Nature Learning Night: Virtual Omaha Zoo Tour

We are excited to share that in partnership with our YMCA CLC, we are able to offer our Pershing families a virtual Nature Learning Night Experience.

On Thursday, January 28th from 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. the Omaha Zoo will hold a virtual Penguin learning experience for Pershing families via Zoom. More information will be coming in Thursday folders on Jan. 14th.

We will be asking families to R.S.V.P as we are limited in the number of zoom spots the Omaha Zoo can accommodate. However, if we have enough interest we will consider holding another Omaha Zoo virtual experience for families.

Additionally, each grade level team of teachers, specialists, ELL, and Early Childhood teachers will showcase learning strategies associated with their grade level curriculum via short videos. These videos will be shared in an email to all families.

This year's Nature Learning Night event will be a new and exciting opportunity for our students and families! We can't wait to share our learning with all of you!

Sincerely,  
Jamie Cook, Principal  
Natalie Lord, Pershing CLC Site Coordinator



## Upcoming Events

### January 4

Winter Break

### January 5

First day of Quarter 3

### January 12

Early Dismissal @ 1:33 p.m.

### January 18

No School for LPS Students

### January 20

First day of Quarter 3 CLC Clubs

### January 26

PLC Early Release @ 1:33 p.m.

No Preschool

### January 28

6:00–7:00: Virtual Nature Learning Night

# A Message From.....

## Mr. Koenig, Assistant Principal

### Student Supports

At Pershing, we have systems and teams in place to identify student's needs and provide support in the areas of academics, behavior, social/emotional, attendance, and community resources.

In addition to this, we also have a **Pershing Parent Request for Assistance Form**. The purpose of this form is to allow parents/guardians a way to make a request for supports that are not currently in place for a student.

This form can be completed at any time and can be accessed by going to -

- ❖ [pershing.lps.org](http://pershing.lps.org)
  - Pershing Parent Center
    - Pershing Parent Request for Assistance

Once the form is completed, our team is notified and requests are followed up the person submitting the form within one week.

## Mrs. Amen, School Counselor

There are several resources available to you within our community but it can be difficult to know what is available. In Lincoln/ Lancaster County we are fortunate to have the MyLink app. The MyLink app is an app that is free and provides a one-stop guide of resources for people in need. This app makes it easy for families, case managers, and agencies to learn about, connect, and utilize services. MyLink works without a data plan or Wi-Fi. It is available to download for both Android and Apple phones.

## **IMPORTANT!** Arrival Drop off and Dismissal Pick-Up

When dropping your student off at arrival time you have several options for a safe drop off.

1. Pull up to the curb in the drop off spot leading to door #2. Please have your child ready to exit the curbside of the car. There is NO PARKING in this area
2. Pull in the cutout in front of the school and park. This is a good option if your child is not ready to get out of the car, you are early for drop off, or you want to watch/walk your child up to Door 2.
3. Pull around the corner of 63rd in front of the cone. Please be mindful of far away from the corner you are. Stopping in the middle of the crosswalk is not safe and will create a major back up.

Your help with the following procedures will help students start their day in a safe and efficient manner.

- **Students should arrive between 7:45 a.m.-8:00 a.m. if they are eating breakfast at school.** We must stop breakfast at 8:00 a.m. to get students to class on time and begin preparation for lunch.
- Students **not eating at Pershing should arrive between 8:00 a.m.-8:15 a.m.** School start time is 8:15 a.m.
- There is NO SUPERVISION outside prior to 7:45 a.m. Please follow these guidelines for arrival time to best support your student(s) at Pershing.

## Remote Learning Material Pick Up Dates:

- Friday, January 15th– 9:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m & 3:00 p.m. –4:00 p.m.
- Friday, January 29th– 9:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m & 3:00 p.m. –4:00 p.m.
- Friday, February 12th– 9:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m & 3:00 p.m. –4:00 p.m.



## CLC Quarter 3 Club Enrollment Information



**First Day of CLC Clubs:** Jan. 20th

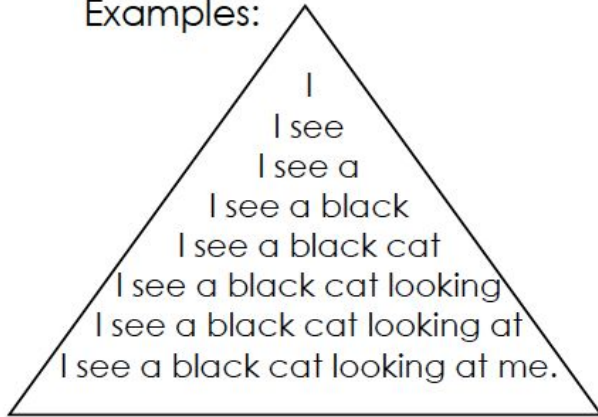
## Reading at Home

### Fluent Phrase Reading Activities

- Print or write out on notebook paper the lyrics of your child's favorite songs (make sure to copy the short phrases exactly). Have your child practice reading a single line until he/she can read it smoothly, then move onto the next.  
*Alternate version:* This activity can also be done with poetry or rhyming books. Shel Silverstein, Jack Prelutsky, Bill Martin Jr., Sandra Boynton, Dr. Seuss, and Anna Dewdney are a few of the many authors whose poems and books work with this activity.

- Draw a large triangle on a piece of paper. Think of a sentence you want your child to practice reading (this can be a sentence you make up, or one from a text). In the triangle, write a line for each word in the sentence, adding a word from the sentence on each line. Have your child read through the entire triangle, until he/she can read the final sentence fluently.

Examples:



Resource from *NDE At Home Reading Plan for Success-*  
[LINK](#)

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## **\*\*Additional Information\*\***

### **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.
  - 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 student 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.



## Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) at Pershing

We understand that a new year can be a busy and exciting time for many of our staff, students and families. It is often seen as an opportunity to “reset” and return to a more normal schedule and pace. At Pershing, we always take time in January to focus on our school-wide expectations, Be Safe, Be Respectful, & Be Responsible, so we can be sure we are maintaining a safe and effective learning environment for all students.

Research shows that re-teaching and reviewing school-wide/classroom expectations creates predictable adult behavior across all settings, providing students with a sense of security. Providing this structure reduces stress and reminds students that it is “business as usual” at school. This decreases the likelihood of problem behavior. Additionally, increasing our specific positive feedback will not only support students to demonstrate positive behavior, but cultivate a safe, successful and positive learning environment for all.

**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 taking before you speak.

### **Accepting Feedback**

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

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## \*\*More News & Important Information\*\*

### **Valentine’s Celebrations**

We are currently working through alternatives for Valentine’s Day due to the pandemic. **Please DO NOT purchase Valentine’s cards or treats.** We will provide more information as the district works with the health department on appropriate protocols.

### **Pershing Library Media**

Due to the pandemic, our library has been hit hard in regards to children’s books that were lost during this time and not returned to Pershing. Our library currently has a deficit of about \$2,612. Please take some time and search for any of our missing library books. This will greatly help us build back what we lost during remote learning.

### **Mental health resource for parents**

Blue Valley Behavioral Health has recorded a short, four-part series on mental health designed for parents/guardians. Each part is 10-15 minutes long and is accessible by [clicking this link](#). Thank you to the Foundation for LPS, which sponsored this series with funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) from the U.S. Department of Treasury and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, CFDA Number 21.019.