

Pershing Elementary

October Newsletter

6402 Judson Street, 68507

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

Phone: 402-436-1160

LIKE us on Facebook: Pershing Elementary School



Dear Families,

Fall is here, which means cool weather, pumpkins, changing leaves, and cozy blankets. This is one of my family's favorite seasons! I hope that your family can take more time to enjoy one another. My family does our best to find a minute or two to share a 'Glow' from the day. As many of you experience, sometimes our evenings are spent in the car going from one activity to another, but even in the car, we try to make time to share the positives from the day.

Pershing wants to continue to thank our families for your continued support of teachers and staff. It has been a different start to the year, and our teachers, staff, and students are working harder than ever to be the best version of themselves. We are learning and growing as we go this year, each day is a little bit better.

Our students continue to show resilience and grit and I am encouraged and proud of them each and every day!

Here's to a great month of teaching, learning, and being Relentless!

Sincerely,
Jamie Cook, Principal

Upcoming Events

October 6

Lockdown Drill

October 11 & 13

Parent-Teacher Conferences

October 14

Last Day of Quarter 1

October 15

No School for PK-5th grade students: Elementary Plan Day

October 18 & 19

No School for LPS Students: Fall Break

October 26

Early Release PLC Day-
Students dismiss at 1:33 p.m.
No Preschool

October 29

6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.: Fall Festival

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A Message From.....

Mr. Koenig, Assistant Principal

Reading at Home

With reading being one of Pershing's School Improvement Goals, we thought it would be good to share some ways you can work with your young scholar(s) to continue to grow in this area. The Nebraska Reading Improvement Act, in conjunction with the NebraskaREADS Initiative, has made reading improvement a focus in our state and put out some at-home reading tips:

- Read something every day. Reading together for at least 20 minutes every day can help your child become a strong reader.
- Have children lead their own story time. When children read aloud, they are better able to learn sounds that letters make and sound out new words.
- Encourage them to practice reading aloud by having them host story time for your family pet or their favorite stuffed animal.
- Ask a teacher or librarian to help choose the right books. Make sure the books your child is reading match their interests and are at just the right level—not too hard and not too easy.
- Visit the library often. Many libraries host family events such as story time, book clubs, and author meet-and-greets, and provide resources.
- Find reading opportunities in everyday activities. Reading is involved in many of your daily routines—you just might not realize it! Encourage your child to read street and store signs, directions on the GPS, or recipes while making dinner.
- Have your child write. Writing grocery lists, flashcards, or letters to family members and friends helps children connect spoken words to written words.
- Pick a word of the day. Select a common word, such as “open” or “juice,” and make it your family’s word of the day. Have each member look for it when they’re out and about, reading, or watching television, and then have everyone share where they saw the word throughout the day.
- Use refrigerator magnets to practice spelling. Spelling and reading go hand-in-hand. Stick a set of alphabet magnets to your fridge and have your child
- spell out words.
- Be a reading role model. Children often copy the things they see the adults around them doing. Take time to read for yourself each day, and talk to your child about your favorite books, authors, and stories.

IMPORTANT! Arrival Drop off and Dismissal Pick-Up

- For morning drop off please see Pershing's arrival traffic plan located in the Student/Parent Handbook. It is important that you become familiar with this traffic pattern to ensure the safety of all our Pershing students and staff. The south side of Judson street is not a safe spot to drop students off. This side of the street is a No Parking Zone, please do not drop students off on the south side. Follow the recommended traffic plan and use the cutout to temporarily park to drop students off, or the north side of Judson (along the school side) to drop students off.
- At dismissal, students should only cross at the crosswalks at 64th & 63rd and Judson. There are certified staff members placed at these locations and will be able to help students safely cross the street. Please do not waive

your student across the street. There are no parking signs along the south side of Judson. When you park across the street, it impacts the flow of traffic going east and west down Judson. Thank you for your flexibility and understanding in making sure that our students arrive and get home safely each day.

Volunteering at Pershing:

You can make a difference in the life of a student by serving in a 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 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 for our continuing effort to provide safety and security to our students and staff.

As a reminder, all students, staff, visitors, and families are required to wear a mask inside the school building.

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

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) at Pershing

At Pershing, we believe in the impact and importance of building positive relationships with all students. We do this by:

- Celebrating learning
- Cultivating a community
- Committing to core values
- Conveying genuine care

We understand that establishing and maintaining relationships creates a safe and predictable environment for all students to challenge themselves academically and develop self-discipline. This is especially important when students are learning both remotely and in person. We encourage your partnership in creating a positive community.

Bullying Prevention

The Power to Create a Positive School Climate



Research-Based

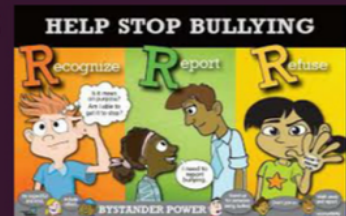
Second Step

....is our curriculum for social-emotional skill building that is taught by all classroom teachers. The counselor teaches the Second Step Bullying Prevention unit.

We teach students to.....



- Recognize when bullying is happening, report the bullying to a caring adult, and refuse to let bullying happen.



- Be a bystander who helps stop bullying.



- Support someone being bullied by standing up for that person and being kind and inclusive.



- Recognize, report, and refuse cyber bullying when they see or know about it happening.



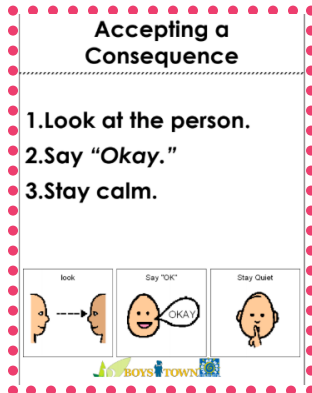
"Relationships are so key in solving bullying issues. Kids have to trust that the adult cares. That's why it's so important that every single adult in a building has the strategy and the knowledge to listen to a student and validate what they're saying." Kim Bilanko

****Additional News****

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.

Accepting Feedback or a Consequence

1. Look at the person.
2. Say "Okay" or nod your head.
3. Stay calm.



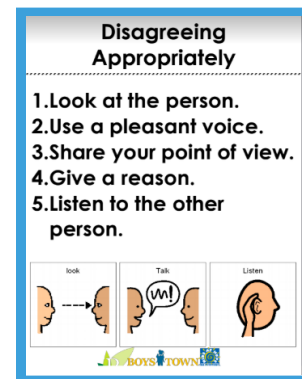
Getting Adult's Attention

1. Look at the person.
2. Raise your hand and stay calm.
3. Wait until the adult says your name.
4. Ask your question.



Disagreeing Appropriately

1. Look at the person.
2. Use a pleasant voice.
3. Tell why you feel differently.
4. Give a reason.
5. Listen to the other person.



Reading at Home

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

Comprehension Activities

Before Reading Activities

- ☐ Take a picture walk with your child. Have your child go page-by-page through the book and look at all of the illustrations, including the cover image. Ask your child what they think is going to happen in the book based on what he/she sees. Who does your child think the story will be about? What does he/she think is going to happen? How does your child think the story will end?

Alternate version: If you are reading a non-fiction text, have your child look at the different text features to help him/her make predictions about the text.

What is non-fiction?

Writing that is based on facts, real events, and real people, such as biography or history

What is fiction?

stories that describe imaginary events and people

What are *text-features*?

Text features are all of the parts of a story or article that are not the main text. They include the table of contents, index, glossary, headings, bold words, sidebars, pictures, captions, and labeled diagrams.

- ☐ Read the title of the text to your child. Ask him/her what the title makes them think of – a movie, a television show, another story, or an event from their own life.
- ☐ If you are reading a non-fiction text, have a discussion with your child to learn what he/she already knows about the topic. Ask your child if there are any questions about the topic they hope to find answers to as they read the book.
- ☐ Set a purpose for reading. It might be to learn something new or to enjoy a story together. Having a reason for reading can encourage reluctant readers to open a book!
- ☐ If you are reading a chapter book with your child over several days, have your child give you a recap of what has already happened in the story before starting the new chapter.

Library News:

Need a Library Book Now?

Borrow and read one of the thousands of high-interest, popular books in Sora.

- Go to portal.lps.org.
- Log in with your LPS credentials. Contact your school office if your student does not know his/her username and password.
- Select Sora from the alphabetical listing in the LPS portal.
- Browse and check out a book.
- You can also download the Sora App on your devices.



Digital Citizenship Tips

Our students are learning about digital communication and online etiquette. Here are some prompts to help you continue the conversation at home:

- What do you like to do online? What are some positive ways you use technology?
- How do you use good manners online?
- What is the difference between face-to-face and online conversations? When would it be better to talk to someone in person rather than texting or posting something online?
- Should you ask permission before posting a photo or video of someone else online?
- How do you avoid other online distractions (games, browsing other websites, etc.) while doing schoolwork online?

Pershing Book Fair

Pershing Families:

We're excited to invite you to our upcoming Scholastic Book Fair. Hosted by our staff, this event is an opportunity for students of all ages to build their home libraries and further their love of reading. As always, all purchases benefit our school.

After missing out on many beloved traditions, our fall Book Fair will be a familiar, welcome, and safe event for our students. Here's what you need to know about the Fair, which will take place from Oct. 11 & 13th from 3:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. at Pershing's Media Center.

- Our Book Fair offers a cash-free payment option called eWallet. It's a convenient digital account that your child can use for shopping at our Fair. Grandparents, friends, and others can contribute, too!
- If you can't make it to the Fair, then shop online at our school's Virtual Book Fair. All orders ship directly to your home and shipping is free for book orders over \$25. Your online orders will also benefit our school.

Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with eWallet and online shopping:

- <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/pershingelementaryschool>

We're excited to celebrate our love of books together at the Book Fair. We look forward to seeing your child there!

Happy reading!

CLC Semester 1 Club Enrollment Information



Enrollment Period: CLC Clubs will go through

Resources for families

If you are in crisis and need immediate assistance, these services are available any time of the day or night, any day of the week:

- CenterPointe Helpline (Lincoln): 402-475-6695
- Nebraska Family Helpline: 1-888-866-8660
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255

- Your Life Your Voice (Boys Town) 1-800-448-3000 or text VOICE to 20121 (text charges from your phone carrier may apply)
- Lincoln Police Department (non-emergency) 402-441-6000 or 911 (emergency)

Additional community resources can be found at MyLink - a website (<https://mylnk.app>) and a mobile app (for Apple and Android - search MyLink). It can be downloaded in a wi-fi environment and then used when wi-fi is not available.

Translations are provided in Arabic, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Come join the LPS family as a substitute teacher!

Did you know that if you currently hold a Bachelor's degree you might be eligible to be a substitute teacher?

- Meaningful impact on students - we rely on our substitute teachers to ensure that the well-being and education of our students continue when their permanent teacher is absent. This is a great way to invest in our youth.
- Great pay – Subbing in Lincoln Public Schools equates to almost \$150 per day. You can even choose to fill half-day sub positions.
- Subbing is a great way to stay abreast of what's happening in our schools.
- You can set your schedule and sub over 85 school days. This allows you the flexibility to take care of other responsibilities.
- We even provide a half-day orientation to prepare you to be a successful sub in our district. Our next local sub training is September 9, 2021.

Go to the following link for more information: <https://home.lps.org/hr/local-substitute-information/>

From the Health Office...

Reminder to all Centerbase, Kindergarten and any parents of Students with missing Immunizations, they are due [Oct 15th](#). Please call the health office with any questions or if you need assistance with resources. Immunizations are required by Nebraska State Law. *Students could be subject to exclusion if immunizations are not received.*

If your student had an action plan last year or needs an action plan for diabetes, asthma, anaphylaxis or seizures, please contact the health office right away. If your child uses any medication, we need medication consent as well.

Finally, parents if you have not turned in your child's KG or Centerbase physical and vision exam, please do so as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 402-436-1160 (Option 2). We wish you a very Happy and Healthy Fall and enjoy caring for your students each and every day!

Thank you so much!

Nicole Fuller RN, MSN (School Nurse)
nfuller2@lps.org

Nicole DeLong Health Technician
ndelong@lps.org

Red Ribbon Week



Monday, Oct. 25th

- Sock it to Drugs: Wear crazy socks

Tuesday, Oct. 26th

- Red Ribbon Run

Wednesday, Oct. 27th

- Pershing Says No to Drugs: Wear Pershing shirt or purple

Thursday, Oct. 28th

- Team up Against Drugs: Wear favorite team clothing

Friday, Oct. 29th

- Superhero! Be Brave Against Drugs: Wear your favorite superhero shirt, cape and/or socks (**NO COSTUMES**)

CLASS Survey

During the month of October, Meadow Lane parents will have the opportunity to participate in a brief LPS CLASS Plan Survey. The data will help LPS evaluate ongoing CLASS Plan implementation, align professional learning efforts, and inform technology purchasing decisions.

To participate, please visit the following link: <https://lps.org/go/BOPG>

Your responses will remain anonymous to protect you and your students' privacy. The last day to complete this questionnaire is Friday, October 29th.

Thank you for taking the time to share your feedback on this important survey!



Reminders

IMPORTANT: Arrival Times

- ★ Students may arrive @ 7:45 a.m. for breakfast
- ★ Students who are not eating breakfast should arrive @ 8:00 a.m.

****No supervision prior to 7:45 a.m.**

Community Spirit Day

Every Friday is Community Spirit Day!

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



More News & Important Information*

LPS Important Information Booklet:

Cell Phone & Electronic Devices (pg. 46)

Cell phones, smartwatches, and other personal electronic devices are considered nuisance items if seen or heard during the school day. If students bring personal electronic devices 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.

Late Pick-Up Procedures

Staff will supervise students at dismissal. When outside supervision concludes, students not picked up are brought inside to the office to ensure safety. Parents are contacted and asked to come into the school and sign students out. If parents/guardians and all emergency contacts cannot be reached, the police may be contacted to help with unification.

BUBBA'S CLOSET

Families who are in need of winter coats for their pre-school and elementary-aged children are asked to fill out a form (bit.ly/Bubbas2021) by Friday, Oct. 8. You will need to include your contact information, the child's size, age and school. Elementary principals cannot guarantee a new coat for every child, but they will do their best to fulfill as many requests as possible. Coats will be distributed to students through their school in late October or early November.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's school.

Donating to Bubba's Closet: Those who are interested in donating to Bubba's Closet this year are encouraged to give through the Foundation for Lincoln Public Schools Fund a Need campaign [LINK](#). Funds raised will be used to help fill the coat requests from families.

Fall Festival



Please join us for Pershing's Annual Fall Festival!

When: Friday, October 29th from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Where: Pershing

Who: All Pershing students and Parents (students must be accompanied by an adult)

Students are encouraged to wear a family-friendly costume. **No toy weapons should be brought to school, even if they are part of the costume.**

There will be activities set up outside in the staff Parking Lot and on the Playground. Join us for fall-themed activities, and prizes to win.