A Message from the Health Office

When to Keep Your Child Home From School?

Take a minute each morning to verify your child feels well. If any concern, check their temperature before sending them off to school.

Keep your child home if they have a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater. Your child should be fever free for 24 hours without the use of medications, before they return to school.

Keep your child home if they are vomiting or have diarrhea. They should not return to school until there is no vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours.

Keep your child home if they have pink/red eyes with drainage. They should not return to school until the eyes are clear, with no drainage, OR a medical provider’s note stating the child is not contagious.

Knowing the above information - if your child has other symptoms and you are still unsure if your child should stay home from school, please call your school office and ask to speak to the School Nurse. Remember that each day your child misses school impacts their education!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Cook, Miss Nicole & Miss Nicole

Upcoming Events

November 29
Elementary Plan Day: No School for Elementary & Preschool students

November 30
PLC Early Dismissal @ 1:33 p.m.
No Preschool

December 6
2:00 p.m.: Winter Strings & Chorus Concert

December 14
PLC Early Dismissal @ 1:33 p.m.
No Preschool

December 22
Last Day of Quarter 2
NO CLC Clubs

December 23–Jan. 4
Winter Break: No School
Mr. Koenig, Assistant Principal

NSCAS Winter Pilot Testing

Dear Parent/Guardians of Students in Grades 3-5:

Students in Grades 3-5 at Pershing will be participating in the state English Language Arts (ELA) and Math Pilot (NSCAS) this winter with their teachers. Below are the test dates:

- ELA: December 1-3
- Math: January 18-20

These tests are an early measure of whether students are meeting the state standards in these subject areas. They will provide an indication of whether students are “on grade level” based on state expectations. This pilot will allow teachers and students to try out the new online testing platform before the spring tests and provide feedback so that the state can make improvements in online testing and reports.

There are several things you can do to positively contribute to your child’s success. Encourage your child to put forth their best effort with positive statements expressing confidence in their abilities and their efforts. A good night’s sleep and a nutritious breakfast will go a long way to help your child best show what they know and are able to do on the test. Finally, being in school during testing is very important. Please reschedule any appointments that may take your child out of school on the testing dates listed above. As always, we appreciate your support!

Please call me at 402-436-1160 or email at dkoenig@lps.org if you have any questions about the NSCAS testing. Please contact your child’s teacher if you have questions specific to your child’s classroom testing schedule or other test administration questions.

Mrs. Salomons, Coordinator

Our EDAS (Extended Day Academic Support) after school clubs have been underway for a couple of months now! Communication regarding your individual student’s club participation will come primarily through the teacher that is supporting this club. Just a reminder to check-in with a teacher regarding any potential schedule changes/ending of a club surrounding winter break! Not every club will continue to the following quarter. Please feel free to contact the main office if you need assistance with who to contact for your student’s club. (Reminder that some clubs are run through CLC, NOT Pershing staff).
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 being far away from the corner you are. Stopping in the middle of the crosswalk is not safe and will create a major backup.

Your help with the following procedures will help students start their day safely and efficiently.

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 before 7:45 a.m. Please follow these guidelines for arrival time to best support your student(s) at Pershing.

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**Pandemic Reminders:**

**Recess/PE:**
- Face coverings must be worn during PE/Recess due to updated regulations from the health department. Students will be offered face-covering breaks in the classroom in small groups and may have a face-covering break outside in the designated space.

**Face Covering**
- Students are required to have these on as they enter our building. Please be sure to have students put their face covering on before they exit the vehicle. It is also helpful to have a backup in their backpack in the event they have additional moisture building up on their face covering. These need to be laundered to keep your child and others safe.

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**More from the Health Office**

PARENTS: Please help us reinforce these good health habits with your child...

1) **Cover your mouth and nose:** Cough/sneeze tightly into a sleeve not the air.
2) **Clean your hands:** Washing your hands often with soap and water (especially before eating lunch or a snack) or use a dab of hand sanitizer. Clean your hands after blowing your nose too.
3) **Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth** (also known as “The T-zone”). Germs that cause illness are usually spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth. Use the back of your wrist to itch your face, not your fingers, especially in a public place like school.
4) **Practice other good health habits.** Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food and drinks.

Thank You for helping to keep our school safe and healthy. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns!
**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 school personnel.

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**CLC Quarter 2 Club Enrollment Information**

Last Day of Quarter 2 Clubs:
Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) at Pershing

When a teacher prompts or solicits a student's response, it is called an “Opportunity to Respond”. Responses from students can be in a variety of forms including gestures (thumbs up, raise your hand, etc.), verbals (choral, individual answers, etc.), and written responses (on note cards, whiteboards, etc.).

**Teachers know that when planning for student responses, it is important to:**
- Make sure there are MANY opportunities to respond presented to students.
- All students have MULTIPLE opportunities to respond.
- Provide students with a variety of ways they can respond.

**Research shows that the use of multiple opportunities to respond results in:**
- An increase in on-task behavior.
- An increase of academic engagement with instruction.
- Increased rates of positive specific feedback.
- An increase in the number of correct responses.

At Pershing, teachers are encouraged to refine and develop their students’ opportunities to respond to increase the likelihood that students will meet their academic and behavioral expectations.

**Boys Town Social Skills:** Below is 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.

**Making an Apology**
1. Look at the person.
2. Use a serious, sincere voice.
3. Say:
   a. “I’m Sorry for…”
   b. “It was wrong because…”
   c. “Next time I will…”
   d. “Do you accept my apology?”
   e. “Thanks for listening.”

**Asking Permission**
1. Look at the person.
2. Use a calm and pleasant voice.
3. Say, “May I…?”
4. Accept the answer calmly.

**Staying on Task**
1. Identify the steps needed to complete the task.
2. Focus all of your attention on the task.
3. Stop working only when instructed.
4. Ignore distractions and interruptions from others.
**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 before 7:45 a.m.**

**Community Spirit Day**

Every Friday is Community Spirit Day!

Students can wear their Pershing shirt or purple

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**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.

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LPS Library Services has some great parent resources. Check them out at this [LINK](#)!
Do you remember the print edition of the World Book Encyclopedia that you may have consulted when you were in school? Your student still has access to this resource today – just in a different online format. World Book Web is bigger and better than ever and has components that serve preschool through adults. Your child can access this from their LPS portal.

- World Book Early Learning for very young learners
- World Book Kids for primary learners
- World Book Student for upper elementary and middle school learners
- World Advanced for high school through adult learners

Have your student go to this database to see these resources and more!

**Digital Citizenship Tips**
LPS teachers instruct students about their digital identity and help them learn how the use of digital tools can have both positive and negative effects on personal well-being. You may want to work together to create a plan that balances time spent online and offline. Talk with your learners about the importance of taking digital breaks. They can play in their rooms, draw, take a walk, play outside, etc.

**Lifetouch School Pictures**
LPS and Lifetouch have teamed up to offer a district-wide Picture Retake Day on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 8 – 11:00 a.m. and 12 – 3 p.m. in the gym at Riley Elementary School. This event will ONLY be for the students who missed their school picture opportunities.

To reduce overcrowding, students with last names starting with A–L are scheduled from 8 – 11 a.m., while students with last names M–Z are scheduled from 12 – 3 p.m.

To sign your student up for this event, please fill out this registration form. If you aren’t able to access the form or are having any troubles, please contact Tanisha Gray at 402-436-1668 or by emailing tgray2@lps.org.

Here are the directions for online ordering from Lifetouch. If you need a physical picture packet, they will be available at Riley, on Dec. 4. Picture packet orders should arrive no later than the beginning of the year in January.

We are grateful to hold this opportunity, as we know the pandemic has caused many changes and inconveniences. Those who register will receive a reminder email from Tanisha Gray as we get closer to the event.