



Mears Middle Schools

Panther Pride News

Respect, Responsibility, Creativity, and Academic Excellence

Friday, September 9, 2022

Strong Start for Mears XC Team



Mears Cross-Country runners had an outstanding meet this week at Service High School.

Whoever said running isn't fun hasn't seen Mears Cross-Country Team! Mears currently has 65 runners, who are training hard every day after school and are now competing at cross-district meets. This week, Mears XC team had a very strong showing on the trails at Service High School. The Panthers represented Mears well by demonstrating terrific sportsmanship and giving it their all during the races. Go Panthers! -Eric

Mears v. Goldenview: Video Highlights



[Mears v. Goldenview Basketball Highlights](#)

Mears Hosts Principal Visit



Mears was privileged to host this month's ASD Middle School Principals' meeting. Led by Mr. Joe Zawodny, District Director of Middle Schools, the team met to discuss district-wide programs and initiatives that service middle schoolers. The group also had the pleasure of touring the campus, visiting classrooms, and meeting many of Mears awesome students.

Upcoming Events for Students, Parents, Families

Monday 9/12: Archery 1 begins @ Mears MS 3 p.m.

Wednesday 9/14: Cross Country Running Meeting @ Kincaid Park, Starts @ 5:30 p.m.

Thursday 9/15: Girls Basketball Games Mears JV & Varsity @ Mears, first game 5 p.m.

Thursday 9/15: Girls Basketball Games Mears C1 & C2 @ Wendler MS, first game 5 p.m.

Thursday 9/22: Mears Back-to-School/Open House Event, MPR & Classrooms, 6-8:00pm

Teachers and Staff

Friday, 9/9: ASD Middle School Principals visit to Mears, 8:00-11:00am

Tuesday, 9/13: Leadership Team Meeting, 3:00-4:00pm, Library

Reminder: Mears Behavioral Expectations



Video: [Mears Schoolwide Expectations](#)

- Cell Phones/Electronic Devices - No cell phone use from 8:00 am -2:45 pm in Hallways or at Lunch. Teachers will determine use in classrooms.
- Dress Code/Decorum - School appropriate to maintain safe, focused, and respectful learning environment
- Backpacks,Purses, Handbags or other assorted personal storage items must be stored and locked in individual lockers. They cannot be carried about during the day, with the EXCEPTION of Mears Tote Bags. These can be purchased in the main office or at the school store.

Transportation Update

Average Daily Attendance Rate for this week: **93%**

After the second full week of school, Mears students have an average daily attendance of 93%. Thank you parents and families for all that you are doing to get our students to school on time and every day. Strong daily attendance is one of the key indicators for success in school. Let's keep up the good work!



All drivers are reminded of the importance of the 5 MPH speed limit on all school campuses. Student safety is our #1 priority. Please always drive the speed limit.

Transportation: Planning Ahead

Mears families are reminded that buses will resume their full schedule at Mears beginning on Monday, Oct. 3.

All Mears busses #80-87 will run during Cohort 3. See below for Cohort bussing schedule:

Cohort 1 (Bus #1-38): Aug. 18-Sept. 9

Cohort 2 (Bus #39-77): Sept. 12-Sept. 30

Cohort 3 (Bus #78-116): Oct. 3-Oct. 20

ASD has made available individual bus schedules and information for all students. Please visit [Q ParentConnect](#) to see your student's schedule.

Here's a step-by-step guide for accessing Q Parent Connect:
<https://confluence.asdk12.org/x/QQP6Cg>

Mears Activities & Sports



Mears XC boys had a very strong race at Service High School earlier this week.

Welcome to the 2022-23 school year, which will provide our students with many incredible opportunities to learn and grow through academic and extracurricular activities.

Middle school is a great time to try new things and meet new people. Here at Mears we have an amazing array of activities & sports for everyone. Below is a list of the upcoming Interscholastic and Intramural options. Here is a direct link to our Sports & Activities on our [Mears Website](#) for more information on signing up. You can find the sign up forms on our website. Once completed, [scan](#) and email the forms to our AAFP: spartz-hays_robin@asdk12.org or forms can be dropped off at the main office between periods 1 & 2 *Fee waivers are granted based on need.



Mears baseball players practice batting in the MPR on a rainy day.

Mears Counseling Corner

New counselor video on how to contact us! [This video](#) is entertaining as well as informative!



Teresa Harrison-7th Grade
harrison_teresa@asdk12.org

Direct: 907-742-6428

Caitlyn Burr-8th Grade
burr_caitlin@asdk12.org

Direct: 907-742-6424

Mears is fortunate to have two exceptional counselors, Ms. Teresa Harrison and Ms. Caitlin Burr who bring a wealth of experience, compassion, insight, and professionalism to our school community. Questions, comments, concerns? Email or [Contact Request Form](#)

Mears Student Health Update



ASD will be holding flu clinics on October 26th and 27th. Please stay tuned for more information regarding times and locations for the clinics.

Links to important information:

“When to Keep Your Child Home From School” policy:
<https://www.asdk12.org/Page/6622>.

[Here is a link to ASD’s “Return/Stay at School Protocol”](#)

I hope everyone is staying healthy and please reach out to me with any health-related questions you have. -**Mears Nurse Karin Richards**

Mears Library



We are coming up on Battle of the Books season! Mears will hold its first meeting on Tuesday, September 13th, during lunches. All meetings will take place during lunch. There will be a meeting during each lunch, one for 7th graders and another for 8th graders. Books are already available in the library for check out.

Links to official lists, bookmarks, and more are available on the [Mears Battle of the Books](#) website and in the Mears Battle of the Books Canvas shell.



PTSA General Meeting Schedule: All Mears Community Members are Welcome -- Second Wednesday of each month

Semester 1: Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 14

Semester 2: Jan 11, Feb. 8, Mar. 8, Apr. 12, May 10

Topic: Mears PTSA General Meeting

Time: Sep 14, 2022 05:30 PM Alaska

[PTSA Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Meeting ID: 981 2989 0912

Passcode: 986530

Parents and Family Members, please consider supporting Mears PTSA by becoming a volunteer, which is a fun and valuable way to support our students and teachers.

The Student Store is Now OPEN!



Special thanks to all of our amazing PTSA volunteers!

PTSA Volunteer Interest Form:

<https://forms.gle/P8yYKMPSuwzPR2ZU8>

Be Sure to Get Your Mears Gear for 2022-23!



PTSA is proud to announce its new online store. Items can be purchased online and delivered directly to your home.

<https://mearsptsa.squarespace.com/>

No-Tech Fun During Lunch



Increasingly, students are engaging in fun activities during lunch time. Students are playing cards and other games. They are also walking the track, playing in open gym, and (weather permitting) going outside to play basketball or practice volleyball. Mears prohibition on phone use during lunch time encourages students in participate in healtier social and physical activity during this unstructured time.



We are on Dena'ina Homeland

Mears Middle School acknowledges that we operate and gather on the traditional land of the Dena'ina Peoples and honor, with gratitude, the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations.

Mears Middle School Mission

Through teamwork and cooperation, all students become partners in their own educational progress, fostering self-respect, responsibility and integrity.

[Mears Middle School Website](#)