



Mears Middle Schools

Panther Pride News

Respect, Responsibility, Creativity, and Academic Excellence

Friday, August 5, 2022

Mears Looks Forward to a Great Start



Mears Parents and Families,

I hope you all are having a wonderful summer and have had the opportunity to enjoy time with friends and family, along with recreating in Alaska's great outdoors.

Over the past two weeks, Mears' incredible main office staff, administrators, counselors, and ASD's maintenance team have been busy working to prepare for the return of our teachers, staff, and, most importantly, our wonderful students.

Since last week, Mears office staff have been connecting with new students and families, helping them register and transition into their new school. Our counselors have been working on finalizing student class schedules, along with reaching out to families. School administrators are busy working with district leaders, preparing for the return of teachers and staff and working to ensure that they are all well supported and prepared to do their very best work beginning on the first day of school. ASD's maintenance staff have also been working throughout the building to ensure its safety, security, and efficiency. Together, all of us have been putting forth our best effort to make sure that the 2022-23 school year has a great start and is positive and rewarding for every student throughout the year. At Mears, we are all committed to the important work of ensuring that all students receive the very best opportunities and support to ensure a school year that is fun, engaging, and full of meaningful learning and growth.

Beginning next week, there are a few important events that we encourage our new students and families to attend. Please mark your calendars and let us know if you have any questions as we prepare for the start of a great school year! **Go Panthers!** –Eric Backman, Principal

Stay Informed/Get Involved

Upcoming Events for Students, Parents, Families



Mears Incredible Main Office Staff Welcomes You!

Ms. Hayley Adams-Kelly, Registrar

Ms. Ava Goodman, Administrative Assistant

Ms. Robin Spartz-Hays, Budget and Finance

All families of returning ASD students are reminded that you need to register online for the new school year. If you have not done so already, be sure to register here:

[ASD Parent Connect Portal](#)

Wednesday, Aug. 10 – New Parent/Families Welcome and Orientation, Mears School Library, 6:00-7:00pm

Thursday and Friday, Aug. 11-12 – Panther Camp



If you have not already registered your student for Panther Camp, spaces are filling up quickly. Please be sure to secure your student's spot. Camp is highly recommended for all incoming 7th graders, along with any student who is new to Mears. Camp sessions will be held next week on Aug. 11 or 12. Students can attend camp on either day.

Use this link to register online: [Panther Camp Overview and Registration](#)

Thursday, Aug. 18 – First Day of School, classes begin 8:15am, school doors open to the multi-use room at 8:00am

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Mears Main Office at 907-742-6400. We look forward to welcoming each and every one of you to Mears Middle School for the 2022-23 school year. **-Go Panthers!**

Mears Activities Update

Mears Students and Families,

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.

Please be sure to read *Mears Panther Pride News* every week to stay up-to-date on all activities-related information.

Sports & Activities: Get Involved! 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.

SPORT	SEASON START:	SEASON END:
Cross Country Running	August 19th	October 8th
Basketball - Girls	August 19th	October 8th
Baseball / Softball (Coordinator)	August 19th	October 8th
Wrestling	October 11th	December 3rd
Volleyball	October 18th	December 10th
Cross Country Skiing	January 6th	March 4th
Basketball - Boys	January 10th	February 25th
Track & Field	March 14th	May 6th
Archery 1	September 13th	October 8th



ASD
MIDDLE
SCHOOL
BASEBALL

Starting Week of August 22, 2022
Sign-up now through
Alaska Legion Baseball

Contact Kathleen Navarre
(907)441-4375
knavarre32@gmail.com

SCAN ME

Register now at: www.alaskalegion.com

For Boys and Girls
All Skill Levels Welcome.
Practices are after school.
Games mostly on Saturdays in
September on turf fields.
ASD Hardship Waiver
available on registration.




Mears Counseling Corner

Mears is fortunate to have two exceptional counselors, Ms. Teresa Harrison (7th graders) and Ms. Caitlin Burr (8th graders), who bring a wealth of experience, compassion, insight, and professionalism to our school community. Ms. Harrison and Ms. Burr are already busy at school, working to finalize student schedules. We are thrilled to announce that Mears has already met its enrollment projection for 2022-23 (750 students), so we can anticipate that most classes will be full. While our counselors always do their best to create schedules that include student's first choice requests for electives, it is not always possible for students to get all of their requests right away. Please keep in mind that over the course of their two years at Mears, the vast majority of students will have the opportunity to take all of the electives they have requested.



Teresa Harrison, 7th Grade
harrison_teresa@asdk12.org
907-742-6428



Caitlin Burr, 8th Grade
burr_caitlin@asdk12.org
907-742-6424



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



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/>

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.

PTSA Volunteer Interest Form:

<https://forms.gle/P8yYKMPSuwzPR2ZU8>

Welcome to Mears Middle School



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](#)