

# Parent Newsletter

January 12, 2026



We hope everyone had a wonderful break and had time to rest and recharge. As we kick off 2026, we're excited to welcome everyone back and look forward to a great start to the new year.

Please join us tonight for the January PTO meeting to learn more about PRISM and how you could help.

## Upcoming Dates

- 1/16: Community Service Day
- 1/19: No School (MLK Day)
- 1/30: Winter Game Night
- 2/6: Cultural Day
- 2/6: Community Service Day

## **PRISM 101 + January PTO Meeting**

Join us for a quick, virtual, and informative session for parents! Come learn how it works and how you can participate (with zero pressure!).

In the January PTO meeting, we'll answer:

- ❖ What is the purpose of the fundraiser?
- ❖ How does PRISM work?
- ❖ What is our fundraising goal?
- ❖ What participation is required for students and parents?
- ❖ How much time will this take for families?
- ❖ What are the key dates?
- ❖ Are donations tax-deductible + can employers match gifts?

All Parents & Guardians Welcome!

Come for clarity, connection, and a quick overview of our biggest fundraiser of the year. If you can't make it, just reach out separately to Annie (Anniej@gmail.com) and we can chat!

## **PTO Meeting Information**

PTO Meetings are held the first Monday of every month via Zoom, from 6:00-6:45. January is an exception, being held January 12, due to the holiday. Connection info is below:

### PTO Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 949 775 3403

Passcode: 1SYauh

## PTO Updates

### Cultural Day: February 6th

We are thrilled to see you Feb 6th!

Dear parents, foster a culture of giving during our favorite event of the year. February 6, about 4 weeks from now, we will celebrate Cultural Day, honoring two wonderful countries: **Japan** by the Pitners family and **Guatemala** by the Wyrick family.

We need parent volunteers during the event to guide kids through the planned activities. Join us and help us make it an easy and enjoyable experience for everyone. Don't forget that all volunteers' hours are counted. For more information about the type of help we need, follow the link →

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C44AFAF2CA3FC1-61287885-cultural#/>

### Game Night: Friday, January 30th

**When:** Friday, January 30th; 7:00-9:00 PM

**Cost:** \$5.00; Proceeds go to support student activities

This winter, instead of the usual dance, the PTO is hosting a Game Night! This will be a relaxed setting with some light snacks and lots of games! Don't worry, we're not giving up our dances - the Spring Dance is still scheduled for May 1st when we will celebrate our 8th graders in a big way! We're just mixing things up a little this winter.



Game night will have something for everyone. Basketball, 4 square, gaga ball, spikeball, and other physical games will be available in the gym. A variety of chill games, such as Heads Up, Pictionary, 5 Card Stud, Monopoly, and a whole lot more will be available in the cafeteria. Students are welcome to bring their favorite games from home, too! As this is a new event, we will not be hosting outside friends this time.

All students who attend will be entered into a raffle filled with prizes to help them host their own epic Game Night!

**Donations and Volunteering:** This event will be more low-key than a typical dance. We will provide light snacks, but not a huge spread. We are in need of a handful of volunteers to oversee the games. Chaperones are welcome to hang out or join in and play! We would love to have 1-2 volunteers that are comfortable reffing basketball. Please sign up to volunteer or provide snacks here: [ASMS Game Night!](#)

RSVP is not required, but it does help us plan a successful event. Please mark your child's attendance here - [ASMS Event: Game Night!](#)

## Community Updates

### Corning Cinderella Softball

*Grab your glove and join the fun!*



**SPRING 2026 REGISTRATION**  
\*\*OPENS JANUARY 1, 2026\*\*

-  T-ball & 6U - \$50  
10U & Older - \$75  
\$5 Sibling Discount\*
-  Try outs: Saturday, March 21st
-  Registration Deadline: March 22nd
-  Opening Day: Saturday April, 25th

**MORE INFORMATION**



 [instagram.com/corningcsl](https://www.instagram.com/corningcsl)  
 [facebook.com/CorningCinderellaSoftball](https://www.facebook.com/CorningCinderellaSoftball)

 [www.corningcinderella softball.com](http://www.corningcinderella softball.com)  [corningcsl@gmail.com](mailto:corningcsl@gmail.com)  12 Spruce St, Corning, NY

## Library Corner

### A Parent's Guide to Research and NoodleTools at ASMS

Dear Parents,

You may have noticed that your children are working on research-based projects in several classes. All three grades are currently engaged in research or will be beginning soon.

As we move into science and research project season, I'd like to highlight the research tools and support available to students at ASMS.

### Sources and Research Resources

All information-literacy resources are available on our [Information Literacy](#) website. Students should have bookmarked this site but these materials can also be accessed through the Student Internet Resources section of the school website. Students have been introduced to this site and regularly use it at school.

This section includes links and passwords for the databases and online encyclopedias we subscribe to as a school, including:

- **Gale Database:** Widely used in educational institutions. Sixth graders are encouraged to use Middle School in Context for best results.
- **Encyclopedia Britannica:** An excellent starting point for general background research.
- **Infobase:** A collection of mostly nonfiction digital books.
- **Library Catalog:** Allows students to search the ASMS library collection for print and digital sources.

In addition, I often create project-specific resource sites for most research assignments. These links are typically linked on the [Information Literacy](#) website and posted in Google Classroom and within the appropriate class and often include additional recommended sources. Our goal is to help students move away from “Googling” and toward higher-quality, more reliable research tools.

## **NoodleTools**

All students now have experience using NoodleTools, a platform that helps them organize, evaluate, and cite sources. This tool is used across all three grades and throughout the curriculum to reinforce research and citation skills.

For parents who would like support using NoodleTools with their students, instructional videos covering the basic functions can be found [HERE](#).

Students are guided to record one idea per digital note card, usually pulling a quote of about one sentence. The paraphrasing section is especially important, as it shows the student’s understanding of the information. The “My Ideas” section is used differently depending on the project and allows for some flexibility in how students organize their thinking.

## **Public Library Resources**

ASMS maintains a school account with the public library and can request physical materials for student use. We also ask that all students have their own library card and know their password so they can access additional digital research resources independently.

If your family needs help obtaining a card or resetting a password, I’m happy to assist.

As always, I’m available to help students find and evaluate sources and to support both students and parents with NoodleTools.

Happy reading—and researching!

Mrs. D

Don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or suggestions! - ASMS Parent Organization

PTO Board  ---  Current Team																								
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---|---| | ★  President :  
  | ★  <b>Annie Brink</b>        | | ★  Newsletter:  
  | ★  <b>Julie Daugherty</b>    | | ★  Treasurer:   
  | ★  <b>Bridget Aitsebaomo</b> | | ★  Social Chair:  
  | ★  <b>Laurie Reimel</b>      | | ★  Dance Chair:   
  | ★  <b>Regan Orr</b>          | | ★  Liaison:   
  | ★  <b>Angela Daniels</b>     | | ★   Staff Appreciation :  
   | ★  <b>Michelle Schaut</b>    | | ★  Sign Up Genius:   
   | ★  <b>Kristie Swanson</b>    | | ★  Community Service:  
   | ★  <b>Jieun Kim Han</b>      | | ★  Cultural Day Chair:   
   | ★  <b>Colleen Hart</b>      | | ★   Liaison:  
   | ★  <b>Laura Alvarado</b>   | | ★                        |   | |