



THE BUZZ

AT PJHS

PERRYSBURG JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

550 E. South Boundary
Perrysburg OH 43551
419-874-9193

ISSUE 42
DECEMBER 2023

ADMINISTRATION

Scott Buker,
Principal

Brandon Decker,
8th Grade
Assistant Principal

Chad Warnimont,
7th Grade
Assistant Principal

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear PJHS Families,

It's hard to believe that half of our school year is almost complete. It's been an exciting first semester for our staff members and students and we look forward to continuing to build that into January and second semester.

In November, our Drama Club presented their annual theatrical performance with this year's show being *High School Musical, Jr.* Over three performances, our students did an outstanding job! What made this year's show even more special was it was entirely student led. We can't be more proud of those students involved.

Our winter athletic seasons have kicked off with boys and girls basketball, wrestling and cheerleading. Many of our clubs are actively engaged throughout the year and we introduced several new clubs and programs to the junior high recently, including Ruling Our eXperience (ROX), Making Positive Choices, Valuing Roles, Planning for the Future (MVP), a Taylor Swift Fan Club, a Dungeon and Dragons Club and an Art Club.

As we turn our attention to January, a couple key dates to have marked on your calendar:

- Wednesday, January 24 - Registration Night #1
- Wednesday, January 31 - Registration Night #2

More information will be emailed about these nights and specific nights to attend, but these nights are designed to retrieve information about next year's course registration, specifically for incoming Grade 7 and Grade 8 students. Incoming Grade 9 students will have a Curriculum Night at Perrysburg High School on a different evening.

The last day of the semester for students is Tuesday, December 19. As a reminder, if your student is leaving school early for family travels to complete a Pre-Planned Absence Form, which may be obtained in our Student Services Office or online at the school district website under the "Parents" tab or at the QR Code below. Students are responsible for coordinating with their teacher on when any missing assignments are due.

Thank you again for your support of your students, our staff members and our PJHS Community.

Go Jackets!

Scott Buker
Principal





BE GRATEFUL

The Ohio Department of Education sends out parent/guardian tips each month. This month the focus is on being Grateful and how it can affect our mental health. Ways to teach your children to be grateful are:

1. Be the example
2. Volunteer together
3. Encourage your children to express gratitude
4. Practice looking for the good
5. Write thank you notes

More information about this can be found at:



Mrs. Monheim is running 8th grade Stress Management Groups and Self-Acceptance Groups now through December. Thanks to all of the students who signed up. She will have sign ups in January for Grief, Family Changes and Internet Addiction Groups. Tell your child/children to look for announcements on Schoology after winter break.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

The Ohio Department of Education sends out parent/guardian tips on their website. Currently, the focus is on attendance and a program called "Stay in the Game." **Student success starts with school attendance.** Students who are absent from school miss important learning opportunities, which can be difficult, or even impossible, to make up. The mission of the **Stay in the Game! Network** is to prioritize attendance by connecting its users to resources aimed at tackling chronic absenteeism.

To view an informative video on the importance of attendance, please visit this webpage below and watch the Stay in the Game video.



HOUSE BILL 410

What is the difference between chronic absenteeism, habitual truancy and excessive absences?

	Consecutive hours	Hours per school month	Hours per school year
Habitual Truancy	30 without legitimate excuse	42 without legitimate excuse	72 without legitimate excuse
Excessive Absences	--	38 with a nonmedical excuse or	65 with a nonmedical excuse

JUNIOR HIGH PARENTS ORGANIZATION (JHPO)

Perrysburg Junior High Parents Organization (JHPO) had a great fall supporting PJHS students, teachers and staff members:

- We provided a 'Survival Bag' of snacks for our teachers and staff members the week of Parent Teacher conferences to get them through those long hours.
- We hosted a fun and well attended student Boo Bash Dance.
- Our book fair earned \$975 in credit with Gathering Volumes based off our sales, which will be spent by our school librarian to benefit all students.
- We funded teacher requested Mini-Grants. Our first funded grant provided Mr. Ferguson with supplies for his students to create felt poppies for themselves and veterans as part of their study of the poem 'In Flanders Fields' by John McCrae.

Please help us in our work by:

- Coming to our next monthly meetings on Wednesdays, 12/13, 1/17, 2/21, 3/20 & 4/24 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the school library.
- Attending our monthly Dine Out Nights including Chipotle from 5 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, 12/5.
- Volunteering time and/or making donations for the Thursday, 12/14, teacher appreciation 'Cookie Jar' event - watch our social media and the weekly school email announcements to sign up.
- Liking our Facebook page, @PerrysburgJHPO and Instagram page, @JHPOPerrysburg.
- Making a monetary donation to JHPO by check mailed to or dropped at school, or through Venmo to @jhpoperysburg.
- Participating in Box Tops for Education for 'Perrysburg Junior High School', Kroger Community Rewards for Org. UV412, Office Depot/Office Max Give Back to Schools Program for ID 70079938.

Thank you for helping us support our school community!

What is your plan for

RETIREMENT?

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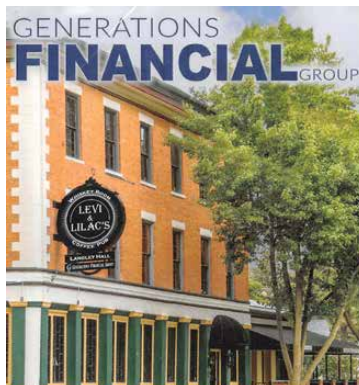
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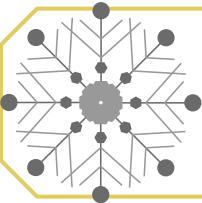
PJHS LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Students have been busy making and creating during class, study hall and makerspace lunch. So far this year, Ms. Bohnsack's health classes have used the makerspace to help decorate their mental health toolboxes and Mrs. Scasny's English Language Arts lab has decorated their mantra rocks. Students from study hall have an opportunity to create once they have finished their homework and have made bracelets, crocheted, 3D printed their own designs and built numerous items with Legos, K'nex and cardboard amongst other things. Makerspace lunch takes place once a week and gives our students a chance to meet in the library to eat their lunch and to complete a scheduled craft, play a game with friends or work on their own project. To continue this effort and encourage creativity, if you have unused craft items, please consider donating them to our library makerspace.



With the holidays coming up, students are encouraged to use the eBooks and digital audio books available through our library catalog (gofollett.com), INFOhio resources (www.infohio.org) or any of Way Public Library's digital resources with their eCard (digital.waylibrary.info/index.php). Students have directions for accessing these resources in Ms. Franck's Junior High Library Resources Group in Schoology, but they may also contact Ms. Franck through school email (lfranck@perrysburgschools.net).

Have a safe and happy holiday season!



WINTER READY

Winter is coming!! Do you need help getting coats, boots or shoes for your children?? If so, please reach out to Mrs. Monheim or Mr. Przybylski and let them know your needs. All information will be kept confidential!!



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PJHS CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

PJHS STUDENT COUNCIL

PJHS Student Council has been busy the past few weeks!

At our most recent meeting we honored Veterans Day by writing thank you letters to our local veterans and coloring red poppies that were displayed throughout the school on Veterans Day. We also helped at the Veterans' reception after the assembly, serving cookies and punch to veterans and having conversations with them about their service to our country. Student Council members thoroughly enjoyed talking with the veterans about their experiences.

Before the semester's up, Student Council members will be collecting canned food items for Operation Bread Basket from Nov 27-Dec 15 to support local families. There will be a competition between the Jacket Period classes to see who can collect the most canned goods, with the winning JP class in 7th and 8th grade earning an ice cream party!

We are excited to continue finding ways to support our school and community and are looking forward to what the next semester brings!



PJHS WINTER RUNNING CLUB

Who: Any PJHS student

What: The Winter Running Club is an opportunity for spring athletes to prepare themselves for the upcoming season. It's also an opportunity for anyone to stay active during the cold winter months and, hopefully, have fun doing it. Training plans/suggestions are available to those students who are interested. However, they are not required. The entry fee is **\$10.00**. This money is used to purchase club shirts and gloves for members. **Make checks payable to Perrysburg Junior High School.**

When:

- The Google Form sign-up AND the \$10 fee must be turned in by **Friday, December 1st**.
- Running begins Friday, December 1st and ends Thursday, February 29th.
- Running will take place **Monday-Friday from 3:00-4:00 pm**. Attendance is purely voluntary, but students are encouraged to attend as many days as possible.

Where: Students must report to **room 106** by 3:00 p.m. on Monday-Friday and they must be picked up by 4:00 p.m.

Note: There will be no adult supervision past 4:00 p.m. Students will not be monitored after that time.

Why: To prepare for spring athletics and promote overall physical fitness. You are worth the effort!

Questions: Additional details/rules/guidelines are linked in the Google Form. If you still have questions after reading, contact Coach Murray (smurray@perrysburgschools.net).

<https://forms.gle/3aCmAXz257NXfMys7>

HIPP VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

The HIPP Volleyball Tournament was held on October 28. We had 16 teams participate in the double elimination tournament. Congratulations to the Diggy Piggies for being our tournament champions and congratulations to team Too Easy for being runner-ups!



MOCK TRIAL

The middle school mock trial case of *Elsewhere v. Jonas* will soon be in session.

Based on the book, *The Giver*, by Lois Lowry, this year's case involves allegations of kidnapping and endangering children. The prosecution charged 13-year-old Jonas with these offenses for taking "newchild" Gabriel away from The Community and exposing him to harsh and dangerous conditions without proper clothing or sustenance. Jonas though denies the charges, instead pointing out that he fled The Community to save Gabriel's life and used his special training from the Giver to survive the conditions and protect Gabriel.

The team will meet on Monday afternoons from 2:50 - 4:30 p.m. in room 209. Students will take on the roles of attorneys, witnesses and bailiff/timekeepers. During practices, they will learn trial-practice and procedure skills to prepare for the Middle School Mock Trial Showcase, which takes place in the spring at the Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center in downtown Columbus.

Although mock trial itself centers on presenting a case before volunteer judges and attorneys, this extracurricular activity is not only for students who may be interested in a career in the law. In mock trial, students learn and practice the invaluable skills of making coherent and persuasive arguments and "thinking on their feet."

If you are interested in joining the PJHS mock trial team, it's not too late. We would love to have new members! Just contact Mrs. Shultz at jshultz@perrysburgschools.net if you have any questions or want to join the team.



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PING PONG CLUB

Ping Pong Club is up and running every Wednesday after school until 4 in the cafeteria. We are averaging 30 students each Wednesday - boys and girls and 7th and 8th graders. Just have to show up to play. Please email Mr. Blue if you have any questions.

QUIZ BOWL

The Quiz Bowl team's season is just coming to a close. Throughout the season, these exceptional students have showcased brilliance, teamwork and a commitment to being lifelong learners. What truly set the team apart was their unity and support for each other, displaying not just individual prowess but a collective strength forged through collaboration. The team finishes the season winning 3 of the 7 matches. Here's to the Quiz Bowl team for an extraordinary season!



WORLD LANGUAGE CLUB

The World Language Club has enjoyed some exciting activities during the months of October and November. Our students came together for a diverse and cultural painting experience where they chose something important that pertained to their own cultures. We then had a movie night in November showcasing the film "The Book of Life" while one of our students, Myla Dawson, prepared some delicious Pierogis to share with other club members. Our club has decided to have individual students bring in a recipe that is near and dear to their cultures each meeting. The World Language Club is an inclusive and diverse club where culture shines bright!



MATHCOUNTS

PJHS MathCounts is a club for 7th and 8th grade students who want to be involved in math problem solving and if interested, in math competition against other schools. The PJHS MathCounts club began meeting in late September and will continue meeting through the end of our competition series (typically February - March) to practice our math problem solving skills. The club meets after school with Mr. Zwyrer from 2:50-3:45 p.m. once a week.

MathCounts club members will have the opportunity to take part in math problem solving competitions and will be eligible to compete for a spot on the team that could head to a national competition. Students are encouraged to attend even if they don't want to be a contest-going mathlete.

See Mr. Zwyrer in room 212 or email Mr. Zwyrer with any questions.

POWER OF THE PEN

The following students tried out for Power of the Pen and earned a spot on the team: Owen Bettin, Audrey Canales, Myla Dawson, Morgan Easter, Helena Gallant, Aubrie Ghesquire, Momina Gill, Freyja Langrish, Amelia Mazzarella, Natalie Miller, Colton Reeves, Maci Smithers, Elaine Tan, Lillian Taylor, Abigail Van Dam and Anushree Verma.

We are excited about this year's team, and we have started preparing for our first tournament on February 3rd!

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NURSE'S NOTES



Are you ready to fight the flu this season?

The best protection against the flu is getting the flu vaccine.

What is the flu?

Influenza (flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat and sometimes the lungs. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death.

What are flu symptoms?

Flu symptoms are different from a cold. Flu usually comes on suddenly.

People who have the flu often have some of all of these symptoms:

- Fever or feeling feverish/chills – it is important to note not everyone has a fever
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny/stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue
- Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea

How does the Flu Spread?

Most experts believe that flu viruses spread mainly by tiny droplets made when people with flu cough, sneeze or talk. These droplets can land in the mouth or nose of people who are nearby. A person might get the flu by touching a surface or objects that has the flu virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose or eyes (called the T-Zone).

Period of Contagiousness

People with the flu virus are most contagious in the first 3-4 days after the illness begins.

Preventing Seasonal Flu

The CDC recommends getting the flu vaccine every year. The CDC also recommends everyday preventive actions like staying away from people who are sick.

- Stay home from school if you are sick. This will help present the spread of illnesses!
- Cover your cough or sneezes with your elbow (do not use your hands).
- Frequently washing your hands will help slow down the spread of germs.
- Do not put your fingers in your eyes, nose or mouth.

Orchestra

The 7th and 8th Grade Orchestra students performed their first concert of the school year on November 2nd. PJHS Orchestra students are now preparing music for their next orchestra concert on February 21st at 7:00 p.m. at the PJHS Auditorium. Save the date!

7th and 8th Grade Orchestra students attended a performance by the Toledo Symphony Orchestra (TSO) this fall. In November, the 7th grade orchestra attended a Young People's Concert at the Toledo Museum of Art Peristyle Theater called the Symphonic World of Water. Pictured here is the 7th grade orchestra outside the Toledo Museum of Art. In October, the 8th grade orchestra attended a concert at the Valentine Theater where famous classical violinist Rachel Barton Pine performed the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with the TSO. Thank you to the Perrysburg Schools Arts Council for their financial support of this experience for our PJHS Orchestra students!



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PERFORMING ARTS

Choir

The PJHS Choirs will perform their winter concert December 11th. The choirs will perform a variety of show-stopping numbers. Highlights from the concert will include a combined song entitled "Christmas in about Three Minutes," 8th grade girls singing "Carol the Bells," 7th grade girls performing "Rudolph on the Housetop" and boys singing "Snowy Day."

Concert Schedule:

Winter Concert. Monday, December 11 7 p.m.
 Evening of Love Concert Fundraiser Tuesday, February 13 7 p.m. at PHS
 Festival Concert. Tuesday, March 12 7 p.m. at PHS
 Showcase Concert. Thursday, May 16 7 p.m.

High School Musical Jr.

Disney's "High School Musical Jr." soared into the Perrysburg Junior High School auditorium this past weekend. The entire production, under the direction of Katherine Kuhlman (Director), Joel Hamilton (Musical Director) and Elise Hanson (Choreographer), was focused on allowing PJHS students to take the lead. From cast and stage crew, lighting and sound techs, as well as three student directors, 7th and 8th grade students were engaged in all aspects of the musical.

The show featured multiple memorable vocal and acting performances from seasoned lead cast members. Nora Mennitt returned to the PJHS stage as a lead player, skillfully portraying the shy and sweet Gabriella Montez. Maggie Gawron showed acting dexterity as the acerbic Sharpay Evans, who gracefully redeems herself at the end of the play. Edison Eggenberger showcased his spot-on comedic timing as Ryan Evans, Sharpay's beleaguered brother. The main cast also welcomed theater newbie Troy Hammond, effectively playing the popular and handsome basketball-star-turned-singer male lead, Troy Bolton.

The PJHS talent bench ran deep this year with several additional notable performances. Chase Cannon, playing East High's driven athletic director Coach Bolton, frequently sparred with the delightfully theater obsessed drama teacher Ms. Darbus; played brilliantly by 8th grader Magdalena Sadowy. Seventh-grader Delilah Torio served up the part of the shy but talented composer Kelsi Nielson with great finesse and believability. And, Riley Davidson shined as Gabriella's intelligent best friend Taylor McKessie.

Additional Wildcat supporting cast members included: Shubham Brahme in his stage debut as athlete Chad Danforth, Madi Gankosky as the tap dancing Martha Cox, Alex Krieter as the cake-making Zeke Baylor, Nella Gallant as Science Teacher Ms. Tenny and Jaydon Whiting as witty East High announcer Jack Scott.

Rounding out the large cast were dozens of Thespians, Brainiacs, Cheerleaders and Jocks whose efforts and time spent in weeks-long practices in both vocal performance and choreography paid off and truly made this show an outstanding success.



Band

The PJHS Bands Holiday Concert on Monday, December 18th at 7:00 p.m. at Perrysburg Junior High School and will feature the three concert bands of the PJHS Bands - the Jacket Band, Gold Band and Commodore Band. These groups have prepared a wonderful evening of excellent musicianship, memorable music and holiday excitement. There will be a small reception afterwards to celebrate the success of our young musicians.

The PJHS Pep Band has completed their rehearsals and is ready to start rocking the historic PJHS gymnasium in January. You won't want to miss the energy of the basketball players, cheerleaders and the PJHS Pep Band as they combine to provide the BEST JH basketball experience in our region. Here are the upcoming PJHS Pep Band performances:

1/9/2024 Boys Home vs. Donnell @ 4:30 PM
 1/16/2024 Girls Home vs. Washington @ 4:00 PM
 1/18/2024 Girls Home vs. Napoleon @ 4:30 PM
 1/22/2024 Boys Home vs. Anthony Wayne Home @ 4 PM
 1/25/2024 Boys Home vs. Fremont Home @ 4:30 PM
 1/29/2024 Girls Home vs. Bowling Green Home @ 4 PM
 1/30/2024 Boys Home vs. Fassett Home @ 4:30 PM
 2/8/2024 Girls Home vs. AW PHS Varsity @ PHS @ 7:15 PM



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ATHLETIC AVENUE

Quiz Bowl just completed their season. Their record was 3-4. They had many close matches and fun was had by all. Thank you to our advisors Mrs. Scasny and Ms. Gressman for a great season! Thank you to our readers Laura Franck, Matt Ferguson and Sean Murray.

Winter Sports are under way! Below are links to the winter sports schedules. Please come out and support your Jackets!

WHERE EVERYONE BELONGS (WEB) PROGRAM

The PJHS Jacket Way Program continues to recognize students for their positive behaviors shown at school! October was a big month of rewarding our students for all the great things they do. Students have the ability to earn raffle tickets by turning in Jacket Way tickets during our "Ticket Redemption Fridays." During our October Spirit Assembly, the winning raffle tickets for the Jacket Way Raffle were drawn. Congratulations to the following students for winning the raffle items: Bryan Wright - Gaming Package, Jaydon Whiting - mini fridge, Monima Gill - \$100 gift card package, Mike Jaksetic - projector and movie package. We also picked six students to play our giant game of Plinko for gift cards. Our Plinko gift card winners were: Isla Davies, Evan Dowling, Lily Johnson, Emma Novinsky, Jade Saxton, and John Wiseman. We would also like to congratulate our October Subway lunch winners: Cohen Bonino, Taylor Hennen, Owen Hoskins, Brynly Koval, Eliza Kramer, Joe Silloway, and Cullin Toland. The Jacket Way team is excited about all our winners and the great things our students do! Our WEB mentoring program continues to thrive! The WEB Program is a peer mentoring and transition program that helps 7th graders transition to PJHS. The 8th Grade WEB Leaders are responsible for planning the first day of school and directing monthly class meetings with their 7th grade WEB Groups. The 8th grade WEB leaders have led three class meetings in addition to the orientation day. The class meeting topics were: Study Skills, Cooperation and Sparking Creativity. The WEB leaders are also going to lead a Toys for Tots Teddy Bear toss at a PJHS girls basketball game in December. The WEB coordinators have been very impressed with the leadership of our 8th grade leaders.



GIRLS
Basketball



BOYS
Basketball



GOLD
Wrestling
2023-24 Schedule
Gold Wrestling



BLACK
Wrestling
2023-24 Wrestling
Black Schedule