



# THE BUZZ

## AT PJHS

### PERRYSBURG JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

550 E. South Boundary  
Perry'sburg OH 43551  
419-874-9193

ISSUE 43  
FEBRUARY 2024

#### ADMINISTRATION

**Scott Buker,**  
*Principal*

**Brandon Decker,**  
*8th Grade  
Assistant Principal*

**Chad Warnimont,**  
*7th Grade  
Assistant Principal*

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear PJHS Families,

Our second semester is under way, which means several exciting events have either already occurred, will occur or are still ongoing. Our winter sports teams that include wrestling, boys and girls basketball and cheerleading have wrapped up their seasons. Our track and field teams are prepping for their season. Our Golden Jackets ShowChoir is in the middle of their competition season and our competitive clubs such as Power of the Pen, Mock Trial, Math Counts and Science Fair are preparing for their end of the year competitions.

We have been excited to debut our Career Cafe Sessions that began on January 23. These sessions have been coordinated by Mrs. Christine Albright, Coordinator of Careers & Community Service Liaison for PHS. Our first session featured Brad Pierson, the Assistant Athletic Director for Sports Medicine at The University of Toledo. Other sessions include:

- Amanda Jerzykowski, Digital Marketing Manager for the Toledo Walleye and Toledo Mud Hens
- Jennifer Irelan, Director of Talent at the Toledo Zoo and Aquarium
- Rieko Skinner, Research and Development Specialist at Principle Business Enterprises
- John Amato, Screen Printer and Owner of Jupmode

In April, we will begin our State Testing Season. Below is a schedule of those dates:

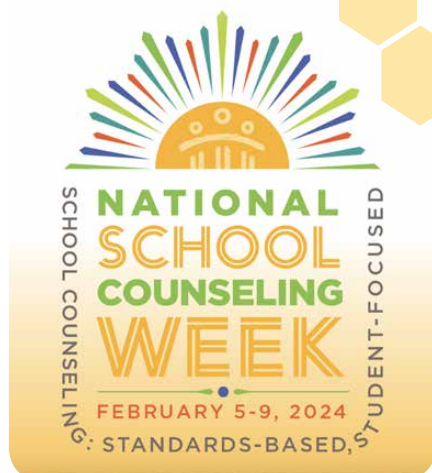
- Tuesday, April 2 - ELA Day 1
- Thursday, April 4 - ELA Day 2
- Tuesday, April 16 - Math Day 1
- Thursday, April 18 - Math Day 2
- Tuesday, April 23 - Science Day 1 (8th Grade Only)
- Thursday, April 25 - Science Day 2 (8th Grade Only)

On the Science Ohio State Test Dates, our Grade 7 students will complete the YouScience Career Inventory. The YouScience SnapShot uses fun, engaging 'brain games' to capture student aptitudes and then translates those aptitudes into real-world and high-demand career possibilities. On that Tuesday, students will be completing the assessment and on that Thursday, students will explore their results and the possible career fields that best fit their aptitudes. As we get closer, more information will be sent to our Grade 7 Families.

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

*Go Jackets!*

Scott Buker  
Principal



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## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

### 8th Grade Registration

Forms are due **Monday, February 5th** to Jacket Period teachers.

PHS offered an 8th Grade Open House to allow incoming students and their families an opportunity to get introduced to the school, course offerings, student experiences and to see the school on January 29. This event was a great chance for students and families to see all the great things PHS can offer all students and families. Thanks to all who participated!

### Freshman Year Course Registration

**Tuesday, January 30**

- School counselors from Perrysburg High School visited all Grade 8 students in their Social Studies Classrooms to share with students everything PHS has to offer. Counselors discussed coursework, credits, graduation requirements, extracurricular activities and answered questions.

**Wednesday, January 31**

- The freshman year course registration window opened via PowerSchool.

**Monday, February 5**

- School counselors from PHS will be present during all three student lunches to answer any questions students may have about high school class registration.

**Wednesday, February 7**

- The window to register for freshman year classes via PowerSchool closes.

**Thursday, February 8**

- School counselors from PHS will be present at PJHS, meeting with each Grade 8 student individually to introduce themselves, get to know the student and review the student's course selections.

### FroshFest

**Friday, May 3**

- All Grade 8 students will experience the annual FroshFest at PHS in which students are treated to the PHS Experience during their regular school day. This "Welcome Day" gives the students a glimpse of what PHS is all about from the student experience perspective. As we get closer to the date, a specific timeline and details will be communicated.

### Other Important Dates

**February 27th:**

- 8th grade Career Expo. The 8th grade will take a field trip to Penta Career Center in the morning to learn about various career options and potential career paths.

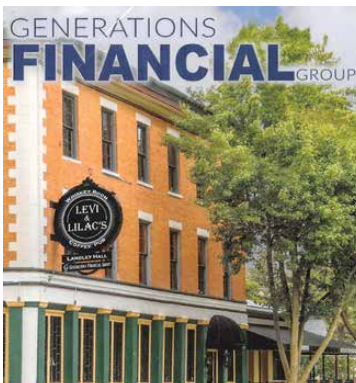
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Please go to the website below to learn more about the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce's collaborative approach to learning and wellness.

[https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/  
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### Ohio Means Jobs

This is a great website for your child to explore careers and future jobs! To learn more, please click on "For Students" at the link below: <https://jobseeker.k-12.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/seeker.aspx>



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## JUNIOR HIGH PARENTS ORGANIZATION

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

- We provided cookies and 'to go' containers to teachers and staff members with our annual 'Cookie Jar' appreciation event in December - thank you to everyone who provided cookies, provided funds to purchase cookies and containers and for those who donated their time to organize and set up the event.
- We funded teacher-requested Mini-Grants. Mini-Grants funded the past few months include providing datebooks for one team of students, leadership books to be read by students involved in HIPP, novels to be read by 8th grade ELA and painting and decorating the 2nd floor teacher lounge.

Please help us in our work by:

- Coming to our next monthly meetings on Wednesdays, 2/21, 3/20 & 4/24 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the school library
- Run to be on the JHPO Board for the 2024-25 school year - our President and Treasurer have students moving on to PHS next year
- Volunteering time and/or making donations for teacher appreciation and student events - 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
- Purchase gift cards to popular retailers from [www.RaiseRight.com](http://www.RaiseRight.com) and enter JHPO's enrollment code: JUQAAGVZHRH
- 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!





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# PJHS CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

## YEARBOOK

7th and 8th Grade students in the yearbook club are working hard to finish up the second half of the yearbook, having succeeded in meeting their first deadline this January. Yearbook students continue to photograph, interview and create unique spreads to make this year's yearbook one to remember!



**2023-2024**

## MOCK TRIAL

The dedicated students participating in mock trial this year have been hard at work preparing for the Middle School Mock Trial Showcase, which will take place on April 19, 2024, in Columbus. Student attorneys are drafting direct-examination questions for their witnesses and cross-examination questions for opposing witnesses. Student witnesses are memorizing their parts and focusing on how their characters can best contribute to the case.

Based on The Giver by Lois Lowry, this year's case involves kidnapping and child-endangering charges against Jonas, a teenager recently chosen to be the next "receiver of memories." The prosecution will attempt to meet its burden of proving that Jonas kidnapped a "newchild" when he exposed him to harm by knowingly removing him from The Community and taking him to Elsewhere and that Jonas recklessly endangered the child's safety by violating a duty of care or protection. Defense attorneys, on the other hand, will attempt to call into doubt the credibility of the prosecution's evidence and will urge the judges to find Jonas not guilty. Jonas will even waive his rights under the Fifth Amendment and testify on his own behalf. With solid evidence on both sides, Jonas's fate remains to be seen.

More important than the ultimate outcome though, the students are learning how to apply laws to established facts, to think on their feet and to work together in presenting coherent and persuasive arguments.

## WORLD LANGUAGE CLUB

After a wonderful first semester of World Language Club events, our students are ready for another few months filled with culturally rich activities and experiences. Our students will be meeting on Friday, February 2nd to enjoy a taste of culture with food brought in by some of our amazing and dedicated students. Our club decided to have individual students bring in a recipe that is near and dear to their cultures each meeting and will be continued this half of the year as well. Our students will also be preparing their contribution for the Perrysburg High School Mardi Gras celebration that will take place on Saturday, February 24th in the commons from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Students, families and community members will be able to come and enjoy a variety of foods, games and fun experiences as well. We hope to see you there! The World Language Club is an inclusive and diverse club where culture shines bright!

## MATH COUNTS

Working together, they complete problems that push their mathematical understanding beyond the typical classroom walls. We are beyond proud of all the students who come to work on math for fun after school each week. Ten of these students have qualified to move on to the next level of the competition against other schools in northwest Ohio. We will continue to practice and prepare for this competition that will take place in early February. The following ten students will be moving on to the next level of competition: Hasrith Chatla, Paul Davies, Elizaveta Krasikova, Thomas McQuillen, Jonas Meyer, Eric Sun, Anna Waldo, Aiden Wilson, Ean Wilson and Heidi Yan. Congratulations and best of luck to these students as they continue competing.

## POWER OF THE PEN

The Power of the Pen season officially kicks off on February 3rd at Tiffin Middle School. Twelve students will compete at the district tournament with the hopes of advancing to the regional tournament on March 3rd. At each competition, students complete three rounds of writing, and they have 40 minutes to write a story to a given prompt. Our students have been working hard and preparing since October and they're excited for the season to begin!

### Power of the Pen Team

8th Grade: Audrey Canales, Myla Dawson, Morgan Easter, Momina Gill, Freyja Langrish, Amelia Mazzarella, Maci Smithers and Anushree Verma

7th Grade: Owen Bettin, Nella Gallant, Aubrie Ghesquire, Natalie Miller, Colton Reeves, Elaine Tan, Lily Taylor and Abigail Van Dam



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## STUDENT COUNCIL

Recently, Student Council sponsored the PJHS Lock In, and it was a huge success! The Lock In is a fundraiser that Student Council puts on annually to support the variety of activities we do throughout the year. The event was open to all 7th and 8th grade students. Students purchased a ticket for the event, and then they had lots of options of activities to do with their friends while they were "locked-in" the school. In the Aux Gym, many students enjoyed launching dodgeballs, while in the Main Gym, other students played some pick up basketball or volleyball games. In the cafeteria, you could find students enjoying snacks, playing ping pong or working on some fun crafts. New this year – Student Council members organized a face painting station! This was a big hit with the students. Additionally, in the library, students enjoyed some more relaxing activities with videogames, puzzles, board games and hanging out with our very own facility dog, Salts! Over 150 students attended and they all had a great time, playing games, eating food and enjoying being together with their friends for an evening. Below are some pictures from the event. We are very grateful to all of the staff members who volunteered their time and effort to support this event, as well as all of the students who participated in the event for the night.



In the next few months, Student Council will also be supporting Winter Spirit Week with some super fun spirit days. Also coming in the spring, we will be supporting a few more service projects helping our local community. Be on the lookout for more information!



cheering on the Yellow Jackets as they defeated the Northview Wildcats 58-36. ROX participants from across the school district are going to join together again in March to organize a food drive. Each ROX group will collect different food items at their schools, and then assemble the food baskets at the Perrysburg Heights Community Center. The baskets will be distributed in time for the spring holidays.

## ROX

"Girls supporting other girls" is one of the ROX principles. On 1/25, the District ROX group did just that by having around 40 ROX girls attend the Varsity Girls' Basketball game. The girls had a great time

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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 may 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 (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 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends getting the flu vaccine every year. The CDC also recommends everyday preventive actions, such as:

- Staying away from people who are sick.
- Staying home from school if you are sick. This will help stop the spread of the illness!
- Cover your cough or sneezes with your sleeve (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.

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# FROM THE PERFORMING ARTS



## Choir

### Evening of Love

Tuesday, February 13th 6:30 p.m. at Perrysburg High School

Students are preparing for their annual fundraiser concert, Evening of Love. This cabaret style event features all PJHS choir students including solo and small group performances. Tickets are available to purchase through ShowTix4U.com.

## Band

The PJHS Bands rang in the new year with the exciting news that 19 PJHS students were selected for the Ohio Music Education Association District 1 Honor Band. That is the most students selected from any of the 30 participating schools in NW Ohio and the 8th consecutive year PJHS Bands had the most students selected. Students performed a concert at the Stranahan Theater in Toledo on Sunday, January 14th. Congratulations to our

students for representing our school, district and community with pride and musical excellence!

The PJHS Pep Band is thrilled to be back at PJHS Boys and Girls Basketball games this season! The Pep Band started performing in January and will be in attendance at PJHS games through the beginning of February. We're also excited to combine with our big siblings in the PHS Pep Band for the PHS Girls Varsity game vs. Anthony Wayne on Thursday, February 8th at Perrysburg High School. Come out to PJHS Boys and Girls basketball games and experience the electric atmosphere created by our athletes, cheerleaders and the PJHS Pep Band!

Be on the lookout for more information about this year's PJHS Bands Recital Day happening on Monday, March 18th at 7:00 p.m. Students will perform a variety of solos, duets, trios and quartets while collaborating with a professional piano accompanist. The PJHS Bands hope to see you soon, and until then... GO JACKET BANDS!



## Orchestra

PJHS Orchestra students will perform their next concert on Wednesday, February 21st at 7:00 p.m. at the Perrysburg Junior High School Auditorium. Please save the date. We'd love to see you there!

Congratulations to 40 PJHS orchestra students who were selected to participate in this year's OMEA District 1 Junior High Honors Orchestra, based on their submitted auditions. This was the highest number of students accepted from any school in Northwest Ohio! We are so proud of the PJHS orchestra students for representing our school district in such an impressive way!



- Violin - Sarah Ali, Sammy Alnaqeeb, Elise Born, Ore Dada, Momina Gill, Estelle Heath, Zaid Ishkhatem, Jed Jiang, Lily Johnson, Jeffrey Laing, Jeffrey Ligman, Preston McClain, Emily McFall, Rory Moreno, Mahi Patel, Lily Taylor, Anushree Verma, Advika Vijay, Abby Wong, Aidan Zechman
- Viola - Samiyah Bennett, Olivia Boice, Jocelyn Brown, Elaina Farley, Lola Koppitsch, Emma Newhouse, Joey Orlop, Jayden Rodriguez Pate, Heidi Yan
- Cello - Logan Adams, Grace Allen, Marissa Bayer, William Fisher, Jacqueline Jimenez, Grace Keller, Kaden Nicholson, Katelyn Phothisrath
- Bass - Brayden Moore, Aidan Rominski
- Harp - Jonah Sweetser

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### ATHLETIC AVENUE

Track and Field is the only Spring OHSAA sport. Typically, we will have 200 athletes who participate in this sport. The great thing about track and field are all of the different events and opportunities to participate. There's long distance running, sprints, hurdles, long jump and high jump, and throwing shot and discus.

*If your child has not participated in any other sports this year, you need to attend the **Code of Conduct Meeting on Thursday, February 15 at 6:00-***

**6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium.** Then, meet the coaches after the athletic presentation. Buy your child's track and field T-shirt and also learn about the upcoming schedule. Get the Spirit Wear Link!!



***If you have already attended a Code of Conduct Meeting, you can come at 6:30 p.m. to meet the coaches and learn about the season.***

**To enroll your student/athlete and complete athletic department required forms, use this [Parent Playbook](#) to walk through the registration process on FinalForms. Make sure your athlete has signed up for Track in Final Forms.**

Official Track Practice starts on Friday, March 1st.



### JACKET WAY

The PJHS Jacket Way Program continues to provide students with positive behavior interventions as we progress through the year. This year our 8th grade students have been working on service-oriented projects to better our community. The students have decorated bookmarks to promote reading to Perrysburg Schools'

third grade students and made holiday cards for nursing home residents. 7th grade students recently attended a lesson on rumors and the impacts rumors have on individuals. This lesson was directed by our hardworking 8th Grade WEB Leaders. Congratulations to the following students for being selected as our latest Jacket Way Subway winners Grace Allen, Henry Barton, Caitlyn Brown, Kylie Diller, Ty Harris, Eli Lindsey, Calvin Martin, and Sophie Switala. Congratulations to our staff winners: Mrs. Drake, Mr. Kulka, and Mrs. Matolyak. The next Jacket Way Prize Raffle will be held on Friday, February 23 during the Spirit Assembly. Items in the raffle include: \$100 Visa Gift Card, a gaming chair, a convertible bean bag / bed, smart TV and skin care products. Students may turn in their earned Jacket Way Tickets for Raffle Tickets during their lunch on Fridays instead of taking the instant reward.