

# THE BUZZ AT PJHS

## PERRYSBURG JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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

ISSUE 38  
MARCH 2023

### ADMINISTRATION

**Scott Buker,**  
*Principal*

**Brandon Decker,**  
*7th Grade  
Assistant Principal*

**Chad Warnimont,**  
*8th Grade  
Assistant Principal*

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear PJHS Families,

Spring is in the air, which leads to many end-of-the-year activities within our school community. We have already begun the transition to Quarter 4 while it seems not long ago we were welcoming students through our doors in August.

As Quarter 4 advances, here are some important dates to mark on your calendar:

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Monday, March 27:    | OST Testing ELA Part 1 (both Grade 7 and 8)   |
| Wednesday, March 29: | OST Testing ELA Part 2 (both Grade 7 and 8)   |
| April 1 - 10:        | Spring Break  |
| Tuesday, April 11:   | School resumes  |
| Tuesday, April 25:   | OST Testing Math Part 1 (both Grade 7 and 8)  |
| Thursday, April 27:  | OST Testing Math Part 2 (both Grade 7 and 8)  |
| Friday, April 28:    | Grade 8 Students visit Perrysburg High School for FroshFest   |
| Tuesday, May 2:      | No School - Teacher Inservice   |
| Wednesday, May 3:    | OST Testing Science Part 1 (Grade 8 only)<br>Grade 7 completes YouScience Career Inventory during testing   |
| Thursday, May 4:     | OST Testing Science Part 2 (Grade 8 only)<br>Grade 7 completes YouScience Career Inventory during testing   |
| Wednesday, May 24:   | Last Day for Grades 7 and 8<br>Grade 7 and 8 Recognition Ceremonies in the morning (times TBA)<br>Grade 8 Recognition Ceremony at Perrysburg High School, 6:00 p.m. |

We had several highlights during our Quarter 3. Our athletic programs were highly successful with our Grade 7 and Grade 8 Boys Basketball teams both winning NLL Championships, our Grade 7 Girls Basketball Team winning their NLL Championship and our Wrestling Team securing their league title. Our Show Choir has routinely placed high in their competitions in Loveland and Chicago, and we had several students excel at recent Power of the Pen, MathCounts and Science Fair competitions. We

*continued on next page...*

## LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

*continues...*

celebrated those student achievements and more, including student participants in our music programs who earned OMEA honors, Quiz Bowl, Cheerleaders, Winter Running Club, Pep Band and History Bee competitors, at our Winter Spirit Assembly in February. We also distributed our Jacket Way prize items through the student raffle, which saw students win a mini-refrigerator, JBL Speaker, \$100 Visa Gift Card, a Popcorn Machine and a Meta Virtual Reality System.

We had two fantastic student events with our annual Student Council Lock-In and our HIPP Dodgeball Tournament. The Lock-In saw more than 150 students come back to PJHS in the evening to participate in activities such as basketball, dodgeball, karaoke, yard games, crafts, ping pong and more. Our dodgeball tournament was held after school and featured eight teams made up of students and staff members competing for bragging rights.

In February, our Jacket Way PBIS Team went through their annual Tiered Fidelity Inventory, which measures implementation of a PBIS Program. Our Jacket Way Program excelled with this, securing a 95% implementation score, which saw outside observers come into PJHS to randomly survey students and staff members. With our most recent Jacket Way data analysis, over 76% of our student body has redeemed Jacket Way tickets during the course of this year.

Once again, thank you to all of our families for your support of your student and our staff members here at PJHS. We are certainly very grateful to be a part of such a strong community.

Go Jackets!

Scott Buker, *PJHS Principal*



## NEWS FROM THE CAFETERIA

As we celebrated National School Breakfast Week at the beginning of March, we added a few new items students are enjoying! The smoothies and parfaits were a big hit with students and staff alike.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Choir Concert:** Thursday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m.

**Solo & Ensemble:** Tuesday, March 28 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

**Showcase Concert:** Thursday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m.

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## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

### Important Dates

**March 14th:** 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.

**April 29th:** FroshFest for 8th grade students.

The 8th grade will travel to the high school for half of the day to participate in tours, play games and learn about all of the activities offered at the high school.

### State Testing

Please mark your calendars - state testing will be held on April 5, April 7, April 19, April 21, April 26 and April 28. These tests will take place in the morning. Please do not schedule appointments during that time.

### Summer STEM Camp via Penta Career Center

Week 1 will be June 5-9 (grades 7-9, current grade)

Week 2 will be June 12-16 (grades 7-9, current grade)

\*\*Registration will begin online

[www.pentacareercenter.org](http://www.pentacareercenter.org)

If you have any questions on the Penta camps, contact: [stemcamp@pentacc.org](mailto:stemcamp@pentacc.org)

### Ohio's Whole Child Framework

Please go to the website below to learn about the Ohio Department of Education's Whole Child Framework. I would also suggest that you watch the video. It explains the framework really well.

<https://tinyurl.com/2p8turtb>

### 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 following link.

<https://tinyurl.com/2p8tz7vf>



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## STUDENT COUNCIL

In January, Student Council sponsored the PJHS Lock In, and it was a huge success! We had over 150 students attend and they all had a great time, playing games, eating food and enjoying being together with their friends for an evening. Thank you to all who came!

Student Council also recently supported Winter Spirit Week with some super fun spirit days. Character versus Celebrity day, Neon versus Grayscale day and Country versus Country Club day. It was fun to celebrate all of the Winter athletes and clubs/activities.

In the spring, Student Council will be supporting a few more service projects. Be on the lookout for more information!



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## PJHS STUDENT ACTIVITIES

### MOCK TRIAL

The mock trial team recently traveled to the Wood County Court of Common Pleas, where Judge Matthew Reger gave them a tour of the historic courthouse. The students enjoyed learning about its colorful history and snapped photographs of the beautiful murals and marble stairway. They talked to Judge Reger about their interests in the law, their experiences in mock trial and their understanding of justice and equality. To help prepare the students for the upcoming competition, Judge Reger also spoke about the rules of evidence and their importance in trials and other court proceedings. The students then practiced a few direct and cross-examinations of witnesses in Judge Reger's courtroom, with several of their teammates in the jury box and Judge Osterud on the bench.

Not surprisingly, this outstanding group of students made their coaches proud and enjoyed themselves. Eighth grader Zachary Meyer "found the field trip to be very interesting" because he "learned so much about our county's court system" and because it "was awesome to practice in the courtroom." Another eighth grader, Annie Sawaya, "had a great time going to the county court" and found it "really cool to learn the history of the building." According to Annie, "practicing in the courtroom was really cool and felt very official" and made her "excited for this year's Mock Trial season to continue." Seventh grader Maesyn Crane "had a great time" and found that the "paintings and architecture were beautiful!" She loved getting "the feel of being in an actual courthouse." And seventh grader Jackson Riha commented that "it was an experience that will stick with me for all my life." He was very impressed by "the ornate architecture and design, not to mention the magnificent woodwork of the courtroom itself." The students are very grateful to Judge Reger for hosting the event and to PJHS for the early dismissal and bus ride.



### HIPP DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT

The annual PJHS Dodgeball Tournament was held on Friday, February 24th.

The Championship went to the Ohio Shiestys Elite team, consisting of Madi Crowley, Ethan Devries, Braylon Foster, Adam Gray, Jordan Langford, Ryan Olson, Ben Pamer, and Ben Patterson.



The Runner-Up trophy went to Team Amanda, consisting of the following staff members: Mr. Buerman, Officer Dayton, Miss Derr, Mrs. Gressman, Mr. Kulka, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Schutt, and Mr. Suttles.

### SCIENCE FAIR

On Wednesday, February 15th, PJHS held its 2nd Annual Science Fair.

The students have been working hard since September on their experiments and all of the projects were very impressive. Ria Khatri and Maanya Parikh earned a ranking of Excellent. Isaiah Lake, Michaela Lake, and Avnish Shenge earned a rating of Superior and are invited to present at the District 2 Science Day held by The University of Toledo.



### MATHCOUNTS

Perrysburg MathCounts competed on Saturday, January 28 at the Chapter MathCounts Competition at The University of Toledo.



Our "mathletes" used problem-solving skills, worked very hard and competed with excellent results. Simon Deng earned 1st place and Angela Choi earned 3rd place individually in our Toledo Area Ohio Chapter. In addition, our Team of Angela Choi, Simon Deng, Elizaveta Krasikova and Zachary Meyer earned 1st place of all the teams who competed and the four students all advanced to the State MathCounts competition in March in Columbus, Ohio. We are very proud of all individuals who participated and wish continued success to those four students who will compete at the State level.



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## WORLD LANGUAGE CLUB

In February, the PJHS World Language Club met to make Valentine's Day cards in multiple languages such as: Chinese, French, Gaelic, Hindi, and Spanish to name a few.

In March, we are thrilled to be joining the PHS French Club in their Mardi Gras event that will be held on Saturday, March 18th. The PJHS World Language Club has created a game titled "Guess the Language," where individuals will get to choose a card in another language, read it and then guess which language it is written in. This will be our club's first time attending and participating in this event and we hope that it raises awareness and interest for languages around the world.



## POWER OF THE PEN

On Saturday, February 4th, the 7th and 8th grade Power of the Pen Teams competed at Tiffin Middle School in the Power of the Pen Northwest Ohio District Tournament. Students completed three rounds of writing, and during each round they had 40 minutes to write to a given prompt. The 7th and 8th grade teams were both victorious and finished first out of 15 schools. The following 7th grade students earned individual medals: Momina Gill placed 3rd and Amelia Mazzarella placed 4th. For the eighth grade team, two Perrysburg students tied for first place. However, after a tie-breaker, Alexander Ban earned the first place title and Ria Kathri placed second. Overall, 11 students qualified to write at the Regional Tournament on March 11th. The following students will be competing:



7th Grade - Myla Dawson, Momina Gill, Amelia Mazzarella, Maura Tehan and Anushree Verma

8th Grade - Alexander Ban, Luella Eynon, Ria Khatri, Maanya Parikh, Krisha Raichura and Alexandra Severt



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## PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

### Band

The PJHS Bands began their transition from winter to spring by wrapping up their PJHS Pep Band season with a rousing performance at a Perrysburg High School Girls Varsity Basketball game! Over 110 members of the PJHS Pep Band swarmed Perrysburg High School to join with their big siblings in the PHS Pep Band to bring their unique blend of musicianship, enthusiasm and school spirit to PHS. Thank you to the PHS Bands for being amazing hosts!

35 performers showcased their talents as soloists or in small ensembles during the PJHS Bands Recital Day on March 16th. These students worked independently on challenging music and were able to perform with minimal director instruction. Soloists had the experience of working with a professional piano accompanist to enhance their performance. Congratulations to all of our performers!

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The PJHS Bands now set their sights on their Spring Concert on Wednesday, April 26th. All three concert bands have been arduously practicing their pieces in class and are thrilled to once again perform for a full auditorium of family and friends. This performance will also serve as a practice for the bands as they prepare for their performance at the Ohio Music Education Association Large Group Adjudicated Event in May. We look forward to seeing everyone at the PJHS Bands Spring Concert!

The HPI and PJHS Bands invite everyone to participate in the 10th annual HPI/PJHS Band on the Run 5K! This year's event takes place on Saturday, May 6th at Le-vis Commons. You may sign up through the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/4wcm72uu>.



### Orchestra

PJHS Orchestra students performed their winter concert in mid-February. Please save the date for their next concert on Wednesday May 3rd at 7:00 p.m. at the Perrysburg Junior High School Auditorium. We'd love to see you there!



Many PJHS orchestra students participated in this year's OMEA District 1 Junior High Honors Orchestra, based on their submitted auditions. Congratulations to the following students: Sammy Alnaqeeb, Alex Ban, Samiyah Bennett, Elise Born, Paige Dickman, Habeba Elmalhoud, Elaina Farley, Liam Hamilton, Elyssa Hinesman, Beatrice Hudson, Elise Kaiser, Gurbani Kaur, Lauren Longenecker, Emma Newhouse, Ria Khatri, Preston McClain, Rory Moreno, Maanya Parikh, Nadia Phillipi, Aaralynn Rodrigues, Elise Segovia, Allie Severt, Jonah Sweetser, Quinn Vail, Anushree Verma, Iris Weisstein, Katelin Williams, Max Williamson and Aiden Zechman.

### Choir

#### Golden Jackets Show Choir:

The PJHS Golden Jackets are in their 7th year as a competitive show choir. The group is composed of 35 seventh and eighth graders from the PJHS choral program. Their competition set is entitled "The Daily Grind." Musical selections include "Opening Up," "Come Alive" and "It's My Life."

The PJHS Golden Jackets Show Choir has participated in three competitions since February. Groups were judged on vocals, choreography and overall performance. The Golden Jackets won 2nd Runner Up, 5th Runner Up and Outstanding performers (Cameryn Secret, Jaydon Whiting and Zach Walton).

The group is directed by Katie Kuhlman and Joel Hamilton and choreographed by Elise Hanson.

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## ATHLETIC AVENUE

The Perrysburg Junior High Athletic Department concluded its 2022-2023 winter sports season with tremendous success. Preparation for winter sports began in November and ran through the beginning portion of February that saw the Jackets compete in boys and girls basketball, wrestling and cheerleading.

The 7th grade boys basketball team, coached by Justin Fahncke, finished their season with an overall record of 18-1. The Jackets were the number 2 seed in the NLL Tournament and finished as NLL Champions. The 8th grade boys basketball team, coached by Dave Perez, also played to an 18-1 record, a number 1 seed in the NLL Tournament and completed the boys sweep bringing home the NLL Championship.

Craig Krueger coached the 7th grade girls basketball team to a 17-2 record. The Jackets entered the tournament as the number 2 seed and also finished the season as NLL Champions. The 8th grade girls basketball team, coached by Tom Przybylski, finished the season at 13-5 and entered the tournament as the number 3 seed. The Jackets ended their season as an NLL Semifinalist.

The 7th and 8th grade wrestling team finished their undefeated season as NLL Champions. The Jackets were invitational champions at the Genoa Invitational, Lake Invitational, Fostoria



Invitational, Wauseon Invitational and the Berea-Midpark Duals. Colin Bagdonas, Hughie Carpenter, Tanner Derr, Cairo Kendrick, Noah Madden, Ben Takats, and Colin Tomlinson were all NLL Champions. The Jacket Wrestling Team was coached by Alan Bagdanas, Randy Musgrove, Matt Shultz, and Nick Tomlinson.

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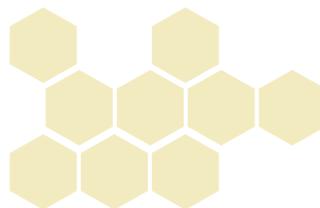
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### JACKET WAY

The PJHS Jacket Way Program celebrated the winter months with the Jacket Way Raffle at the Spirit Assembly on Friday, February 24th. Over 1,500 Raffle Tickets were distributed to students who had elected to redeem their Jacket Way Tickets for that option. During the spirit assembly, student winners of the raffle included:

- Elise Born, Astro Mini-Fridge
- Treyin Cole, Oculus Quest 3
- Karley Dauer, JBL Charge 4 speaker
- Carter Hulbert, Pop corn machine with popcorn
- Lily Palmer, \$100 Visa Gift Card



Three Jacket Way tickets that were redeemed were randomly selected and those students played Plinko for a chance to win a gift card of their choice, sponsored by JHPO. Those students were:

- Jeffrey Ligman, 7th grade
- Adrianna Poirier, 8th grade
- Audrey Schroeder, 8th grade

Class Meetings continued in February. Our 8th grade class meetings focused on characteristics from the Portrait of a Graduate, emphasizing Empathy and being a Purposeful Communicator. Our 7th grade class meetings were led by our 8th Grade WEB Leaders and focused on “Lifting Others Up” with our words and actions.

