



# THE BUZZ

## AT PJHS

### PERRYSBURG JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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

ISSUE 49  
FEBRUARY 2025

#### 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 are finishing 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 Math Counts, Mock Trial, Power of the Pen and Science Fair are preparing for their end of the year competitions.

February will bring several exciting opportunities for our students. On Friday, February 7, all of our students will experience the annual PJHS Career Day, which is organized by the Perry'sburg High School DECA Program. Over 40 presenters will be on campus to share what their careers are like and the pathways that are available to students who wish to pursue that.

On February 26 our Grade 8 students will once again visit Penta Career Center for an introductory view of what Penta has to offer. Students interested in enrolling in Penta may do so as early as their sophomore year of high school.

The week of February 17 will serve as our Winter Spirit Week to recognize our winter athletics and winter clubs. We will also conduct our second Jacket Way Raffle at the Spirit Assembly on Friday, February 21. This is also the date of our annual HIPP Student Body Dodgeball Tournament immediately after school.

When we return from our Spring Break (March 24 - 28) we will quickly jump into our Ohio State Testing Window. The dates of those tests are below:

- Tuesday, April 1 - ELA Day 1
- Thursday, April 3 - ELA Day 2
- Tuesday, April 15 - Math Day 1
- Thursday, April 17 - Math Day 2
- Tuesday, April 22 - Science Day 1 (8th Grade Only)
- Thursday, April 24 - Science Day 2 (8th Grade Only)

We ask that families try to avoid scheduling various appointments or trips during those testing dates as students will be required to make-up those state assessments.

On the Science OST 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 translate those aptitudes into real-world and high-demand career possibilities. On Tuesday, students will be completing the assessment while on 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



## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

### Want to know more about CCP?

Go to the important meeting at the high school on **February 5, 2025**. Click on the link below to learn more about this meeting and the requirements of CCP.



Current 8th grade student families: a CCP breakout session will occur February 6th during 9th grade open house.

Registration is happening now! Please click on the links below to see the next year's courses.



9th Grade  
Course  
Guide

PHS will offer 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. This event is a great chance for students and families to see all the great things PHS offers. The event will take place on Thursday, February 6th.

### Freshman Year Course Registration

#### Monday, February 3rd

- School counselors from Perrysburg High School will be visiting all Grade 8 students in their Social Studies Classrooms to share with students everything PHS has to offer. Counselors will discuss coursework, credits, graduation requirements, extracurricular activities, and answer any other questions students may have.

#### Monday, February 3rd

- The freshman year course registration window will open via PowerSchool on this date.

#### Sunday, February 9

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

#### Wednesday, February 12

- 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.



PJHS Grade 8 Course  
Description Guide

8th Grade Registration  
Forms are due Friday,  
February 7th to Jacket  
Period teachers.



PJHS Grade  
7 Course  
Description  
Guide

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## Other Important dates:

### February 26th

- 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.

### FroshFest

#### Friday, May 2

- All Grade 8 students will experience the annual FroshFest at PHS in which students will be 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, specific timeline and details will be communicated.

### State Testing

- Please mark your calendars. State testing will be held on April 1, April 3, April 15, April 17, April 22, and April 24. These tests will take place in the morning. Please do not schedule appointments during that time.

## Ohio's Whole Child Framework

Please go to the website below to learn about the Ohio Department of Education & Workforce's approach.

**Ohio Means Jobs:** This is a great website for your child to explore careers and future jobs!



To learn more about this website,  
click on "For Students":



## CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

School counselors respect the right to confidentiality of students, teachers, parents/guardians and staff members. Disclosures of abuse and/or imminent danger to self or others are reported to the appropriate agency in accordance with the law. Situations jeopardizing student safety, including incidents of abuse, imminent danger to self or others, bullying and sexual harassment are reported to the building administration.

*If you are worried that someone is experiencing a mental health crisis, tell a family member or trusted adult right away. Call 911 or the Police if there is any concern about anyone's safety.*

Crisis Hotline text "988"

Safer Ohio School Tip Line 844-723-3764

This is a free service that accepts call and texts 24/7 and allows anyone to anonymously share information with school officials and law enforcement about threats to safety.

Crisis Text Line - text "4hope" to 741741

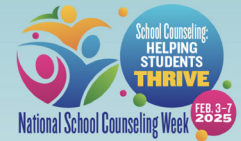
People of all ages may reach out by text 24/7 to communicate with someone trained to listen and respond in a method that is free, private, secure and confidential. Data usage while texting Crisis Text Line is free and the number will not appear on a phone bill with a mobile service carrier.

District Reporting Line

Use this email or phone number to report a concern or information to the Perrysburg Schools Board President, Executive Director of Human Resources, and Director of Student Services and Well-Being.

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# Thank You, SCHOOL COUNSELORS



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# CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

## WORLD LANGUAGE CLUB

The World Language Club has enjoyed several fun opportunities to celebrate the cultures of the world. This semester, we look forward to opportunities to celebrate Chandeleur, which is a French holiday celebrating crêpes and our Mardi Gras celebration put on by the French Club at PHS on March 8th from 11-2 p.m. Our students are looking forward to a few additional activities coming soon as we approach the spring months.



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## MATHCOUNTS

MathCounts is well underway and around twenty students come each week to attack challenging math problems. Working together, they complete problems that push their mathematical understanding beyond the typical classroom walls. We are so 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 February. The following ten students will be moving on to the next level of competition: Hasrith Chatla, Eileen Chen, Dingzi Hong, Mithum Jayamaha, Teertha Kattamuri, Jonas Meyer, Ayaan Ravi Shankar, Anvita Sista, Eric Sun, and Ean Wilson. Congratulations and best of luck to these students as they continue competing.

## TAYLOR SWIFT CLUB

The Taylor Swift Club is back in full swing! Our members created locker signs and voted on their favorite. We have also had fun making bracelets, trading stickers, and playing Taylor Swift-based games.

## JUNIOR HIGH PARENTS ORGANIZATION

Watch our Facebook page and Schoology for signs up for upcoming events!

You can always reach us at [jhpoperysburg@gmail.com](mailto:jhpoperysburg@gmail.com) with any questions / concerns / ideas on how to improve the teacher/student experiences!

Please consider us if you shop at Kroger by signing up for Community Rewards and having the contributions set to PERRYSBURG JUNIOR HIGH PARENTS ORGANIZ! We wish all our families a safe and wonderful 2025!

GO JACKETS!

## MOCK TRIAL

The dedicated, enthusiastic, and creative mock trial students have been learning their roles in preparation for the Middle School Mock Trial Showcase, which will take place in downtown Columbus on Friday, April 25, 2025. The student attorneys have been drafting direct-examination questions for their witnesses and learning that this part of a trial involves "shining the spotlight" on the witnesses to give them the chance to convince the judges of their credibility. Students will soon write cross-examination questions designed to "poke holes" in the other side's case. Student witnesses are working on memorizing their parts and figuring out how their characters can best contribute to the case.

In addition to preparing for the competition itself, the students are developing skills that will hopefully benefit them long into the future. Mock trial requires students to prepare and present coherent and persuasive arguments and to disagree respectfully and professionally with opponents. Although all of them do not aspire to be attorneys down the road, their coaches hope that they gain an appreciation for resolving disputes peacefully and fairly. Most importantly, the PJHS mock trial students have fun spending time together during after-school practices, supporting each other in challenging situations, and getting ready for their field trip to the exquisite Thomas J. Moyer Ohio Judicial Center in the spring.



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## STUDENT COUNCIL

We had a great time at the January PJHS lock-in. Students enjoyed a 2-hour, fun-filled event, including a slice of pizza and chips. Students had the opportunity to sing karaoke or play on an Ultimate Frisbee, Dodgeball, Volleyball, or Flag Football Team. There were lots of games, activities, and concessions throughout.



## POWER OF THE PEN

The Power of the Pen season officially kicks off on February 8th at Tiffin Middle School. Twelve students will compete at the district tournament with the hopes of advancing to the regional tournament on March 8th. At each competition, students complete three rounds of writing, and they have 40 minutes to write a story to a given prompt. Students have been preparing since October and they're excited for the season to begin!

### Power of the Pen Team

8th Grade: Nella Gallant, Aubrie Ghesquire, Natalie Miller, Francesca Pallitta, Evelyn Souvenir, Elaine Tan, Delilah Torio, and Advika Vijay

7th Grade: Sophie Carter, Fiona Davies, Lucy Feyes, Cheyenne Grounds, Emily Hanf, Bently Ray, and Dima Yasin

## ROX

The Ruling Our eXperiences (ROX) groups are finishing up lessons on social media, collaborative connections, and healthy friendships. Our next set of lessons will cover healthy dating relationships, boundaries, dealing with pressure, standing up for yourself, and personal safety/self-defense. The 7th and 8th grade ROX groups will learn self-defense moves from trained facilitators using air strikes and ROX equipment/targets. They will have the opportunity to practice using their assertive voices and strikes to help empower them if they are ever in an unsafe situation.



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# FROM THE PERFORMING ARTS

## Choir

Evening of Love Concert Fundraiser – February 11th

Our choir students are hard at work preparing for their largest performance of the year, the Evening of Love Concert Fundraiser, set to take place on Tuesday, February 11th at 6:30 p.m. at Perrysburg High School. This special event will showcase numerous solos, duets, and performances from all PJHS Choral ensembles.

In addition to the beautiful music, the evening will feature a silent auction with items generously donated by local vendors. It's a wonderful way to support our program while enjoying a night filled with music, treats served by PHS choral students, and, of course, lots of love!



Tickets are only available in advance using the following QR Code and simply search "Perrysburg Junior High School" to purchase your tickets.

Don't miss out on this magical evening. We can't wait to see you there!

## Band

The PJHS Bands rang in the new year with the exciting news that 16 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 schools! Students performed at the Stranahan Theater in Toledo. 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 at basketball games in December and will be in attendance at PJHS games through the beginning of February. We were also excited to combine with our big "siblings" in the PHS Pep Band for the PHS Girls Varsity game on February 3rd 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 Tuesday, 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 19th at 7:00 p.m. at Perrysburg Junior High School Auditorium. Please save the date. We'd love to see you there!

Congratulations to 41 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, Tala Awad, Sofia Castrillon Gomez, Nella Gallant, Valery Gibson, Jed Jiang, Lucy Johnson, Teertha Kattamuri, Hailey Kim, Peter Lee, Sophia Lee, Avni Rajesh, Diya Sukala, Lily Taylor, Swapanthi Tummala, Advika Vijay, Cynthia Wang, Abby Wong, Finnegan Ziemkiewicz

**VIOLA:** Leyana Aboujokh, Olivia Boice, Jocelyn Brown, Lola Koppitsch, Andres Wong, Heidi Yan, Henry Zimmer

**CELLO:** Katie Chen, Emerson Ebright, William Fisher, Matias Luna Calero, Kaden Nicholson, Zoe Sharp

**BASS:** Jack Koppitsch, Brayden Moore, Kayden Morgan, Aidan Rominski, Alex Scasny

**HARP:** Aubrie Ghesquire, Emily Hanf, Elaine Tan, Dima Yasin



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## NOTES FROM THE NURSE

### 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.

### 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 object 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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### JACKET WAY

The PJHS Jacket Way Program continues to support students with positive behavior interventions as we move through the school year. This year, our 8th-grade students have been completing lessons related to the "Portrait of a Jacket." In January, they focused on being persistent innovators, and in February, they will engage in lessons aimed at developing thoughtful problem-solving skills.

The 7th-grade students recently participated in a lesson about the impact of rumors on individuals, which was led by our dedicated 8th-grade WEB Leaders.

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as our latest Jacket Way Subway winners: Macyn Clark, Violet Dulovich, Jonah Ketterman, Lauren Kramer, Bryson Nichols, Isabella Rodriguez, Summit Wilkinson, and Zoey Zimmerman. Congratulations to our staff winners as well: Mrs. Downs, Mrs. Hackney, and Mr. Peters.

The next Jacket Way Raffle drawing will take place during the Spirit Assembly on February 21st. Prizes include an Apple Watch, JBL Flip speaker, mini fridge, \$100 Visa gift card, and a karaoke machine.

### ATHLETIC AVENUE

Winter Sports are wrapping up!! Boys and Girls Basketball will compete in the NLL Tournament. All teams look to finish high in the tournaments.

We want to thank the Pep Band for playing at seven of our home games!! All parties (even the visitors) enjoyed and were impressed with how great they sounded.

Thanks to our cheerleaders for leading the crowd at our home games. They also did many half time performances and coordinated dances with the Pep Band.

Wrestling will compete in their NLL tournament on Saturday, February 1st at Springfield Junior High. We had 8 individual champions and Perrysburg was the team champion. Congrats on a successful season!

The Spring Code of Conduct Meeting is February 12th 6:00-7:30 p.m. Please meet in the Media Center.

*If you have already attended a Code of Conduct meeting this past Fall or Winter, you do not have to attend. However, if your child is planning to participate in Track and Field in the Spring, please come at 6:30 and meet the Coach and attend a brief meeting. Girls will meet in room 106 and Boys will meet in the Media Center.*

*Sean Murray (smurray@perrysburgschools.net) is the Girls Head Coach and Matt Ferguson (mferguson@perrysburgschools.net) is the Boys Head Coach. Feel free to reach out to them with any questions.*

