



THE BUZZ

AT PJHS

PERRYSBURG JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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

ISSUE 39
JUNE 2023

ADMINISTRATION

Scott Buker,
Principal

Brandon Decker,
*7th Grade
Assistant Principal*

Chad Warnimont,
*8th Grade
Assistant Principal*

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear PJHS Families,

Thank you!

This past school year has been tremendous for our students, staff members, families and our PJHS community. We cannot thank you enough for your support of your student, our staff members and our school. May brings mixed emotions to many people. An excitement for our current 8th grade students to enter high school and the next phase of their life. A calm for our current 7th grade students, knowing that there won't be quite as large of a transition next school year. And a sense of relaxation as everyone looks forward to warm weather and sunshine that the June, July and August months bring.

Our spring at PJHS certainly was eventful. In March, we featured Dr. Irene Butter, a Holocaust Survivor, as she presented her life story to our 8th grade students, who recently completed a unit on the Holocaust. I was inspired by our students' engagement and the thoughtful questions they asked of Dr. Butter. In addition, our 8th grade students spent a morning at Penta Career Center learning about the different programs and career exploration that Penta offers beginning their sophomore year. In April, our students had an opportunity to show their learning through the various Ohio state tests and we successfully navigated those assessments. 8th graders were treated to the annual FroshFest in which they experienced what life at Perrysburg High School could be like next year as freshmen. The students came back excited, thrilled and perhaps a little less nervous about that transition.

Our 7th graders became the first class to participate in the YouScience SnapShot Career Inventory. The program will allow us and the students to see aptitudes of strength and possible career fields for the students in the future. This is a building block for career exploration for students as they continue their secondary education, grades 7 through 12.

Our PJHS Band Program held a successful Band on the Run at Levis Commons in May and both our girls and boys track and field teams claimed NLL Championships. Our Spring Spirit Assembly recognized students in Chess Club, Freedom Shrine, Girls in STEM, History Bee, Math Counts, Military Families, Mock Trial, Peer Mentors, Ping Pong Club, Power of the Pen, Rotary Essay, Science Fair, Show Choir, Spirit Squad, Student Council, WEB, World Language Club, Yearbook, and Youth to Youth.

The school year concluded with us being honored to present Outstanding Students in all of the content areas at our morning recognition ceremonies and then recognizing all 8th grade students

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LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

continues...

rising to 9th grade at the evening recognition ceremony at Perrysburg High School. On the last day of school, students were treated to our annual PJHS Talent Show that featured various musical acts, dance routines, artwork and even the debut of the PJHS teacher Band, *The Clipboards*.

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. Have a great summer!

Go Jackets!

Scott Buker
PJHS Principal



THE COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Congratulations to our 8th grade class for having a wonderful Junior High career! You will be missed and we wish you the best in high school. We look forward to having our 7th grade class become the leaders next year! Hoping all students and staff members have a fun and relaxing summer. *Andrea Monheim & Tom Przybylski*

How do I find out final grades?

Please use the link below to help you find your grades in PowerSchool.

Grades will be posted the week of May 29th.

<https://tinyurl.com/39mj4za2>

Need help over the summer for you or a friend?

Below are two great resources.

Crisis Text Line - text "4hope" to 741 741

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 the mobile service carrier.

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline offers 24/7 access to trained counselors who can help people experiencing mental health-related distress. People in distress can call and text 988, or chat with someone on 988lifeline.org. People worried about a loved one who may need crisis support may also use these services.

Jr. High Parents' Organization (JHPO) Update

Thank you families for your continued support of our mission to assist the PJHS school community throughout the 2022-23 school year!

Over the past few months we have thanked teachers and staff members with a Yogurt Parfait and Pastry breakfast, a 'May the 4th' themed snack bar, lunch from Condado Tacos and Burt's Bees lip balm for 'bee-ing' so great.

We have held one fundraiser with a dine-out night at Odd Fodder, and families have provided supplies, food and funds for each of our teacher appreciation events.

Along with donations from the Perrysburg High School's Parents Helping Students/Staff, Perrysburg Pride #TheSwarm, Perrysburg Schools Alumni Association, Perrysburg Schools Foundation, Perrysburg Theatre Boosters, Perrysburg Vocal Music Boosters, PHS Athletic Booster Club, PHS Athletic Department, and PHS Band Boosters, we paid for T-shirts distributed in time for 8th graders to wear when they attended 'Frost Fest' at PHS.

We have also purchased a microwave for the 2nd floor staff lounge to replace one that was no longer working.

We are thankful for all our volunteers and donors who make these activities possible. We thank our outgoing JHPO officers, Karri Knoblauch, Cordula Mora and Tim Wozny, and are excited for our newly elected officers, Kit Medjesky, Nikki Clark, Kara Svendsen and Emily Hayward. We are looking forward to continuing to serve students, teachers and staff members in 2023-24.

What is your plan for RETIREMENT?



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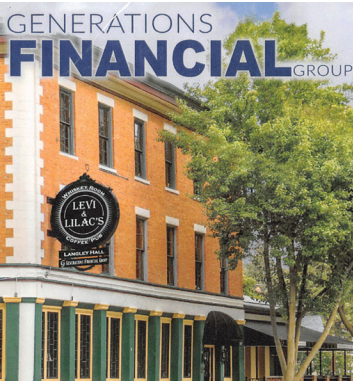


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FROM THE MEDIA CENTER

As the end of the year quickly approaches, please be on the lookout for PJHS Library materials sitting around the house. Students with overdue materials should have received weekly emails from Follett with a list of overdue books via their school email account. All library materials are due Friday, May 19th.

Don't forget to keep reading all summer long with access to the digital materials below!

- **PJHS Library Catalog** (gofollett.com) - Over 350 ebooks and digital audiobooks
- **INFOhio** (www.infohio.org) - Articles from magazines and encyclopedias
- **Way Public's Digital Library** (https://digital.waylibrary.info/) - Use your eCard information to access ebooks, digital audio, movies and more. Use the QR Code below to find more information.

*Need help with passwords or have questions? I'll be checking my school email and my Schoology messages periodically.

Cleaning out your craft or game closet? If you have any items you are cleaning out, please consider donating them to our library Makerspace. We welcome a wide variety of items for our library Makerspace, including but not limited to: yarn, ribbon, beads, Rainbow loom supplies, perler beads, scrapbook supplies, origami, Legos, Knex, circuits and games! We also recently added 2 sewing machines and an embroidery machine and would welcome donations of fabric and other sewing notions. Items may be dropped off at the Junior High office. Thank you for keeping us in mind.

Have a great summer!

-Ms. Franck
lfranck@perrysburgschools.net



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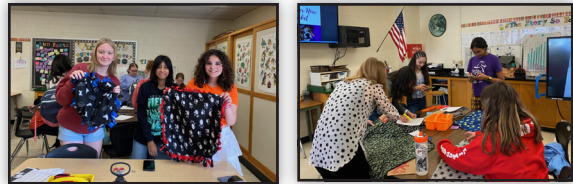
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STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council has continued their mission to help the PJHS community and beyond throughout the last few months. Most notably, in April, Student Council members partnered with Youth to Youth to create animal enrichment items for the Toledo Humane Society. Students made tie blankets, tug toys and other enrichment items out of simple materials like fleece and toilet paper rolls. Students from both clubs were humbled to support a worthy cause together.

Additionally, we celebrated Spring Spirit Week! We recognized all of the spring athletic teams and yearlong school clubs with some fun spirit days, followed by a Spirit Assembly.



And finally, to finish up the year, we collected Soccer Gear for Gambia once again. Donations of gently used soccer equipment, clothes or soccer balls were collected through May 12.

Soon, Student Council members will be celebrating our achievements this year with a party at our last meeting of the year. We are looking forward to planning for next year!

GIRLS IN STEM

Girls in STEM, along with students, teachers, staff and community members, continues to support the growth and development of PJHS's outdoor prairie/classroom. Currently, we are working on the design, measurements and facilitation of a student-led and developed mural. A big thank you for cross curricular involvement with our amazing and very talented art teachers, maintenance crew, science, math, social studies teachers and staff members sharing tools and expertise with our student group members.

Some of our STEM classes will be offered an opportunity to highlight specific attributes of interest on customized signs and donated posts. We hope that all stakeholders will enjoy reading facts and stories related to prairie life. We appreciate the efforts of our STEM teacher and group of students!

Girls in STEM recently participated in The University of Toledo Girls in STEM Day. They spent the day working and learning from women leaders in STEM-related fields. PJHS Girls in STEM students had a chance to build a pipeline over obstacles and around requirements to achieve a specific goal. They developed water treatment stations to purify groundwater and runoff for drinking water applications in areas that may not have water purification systems. Our students built models to simulate an earthquake-resistant structure in areas prone to natural disasters. They met with pharmacists developing new medicines to fight ailments and created their own lip balm in cosmetic pharmacy. We ended the day with a panel of experts and a Q&A session where our students enjoyed receiving answers to so many possibilities about future opportunities.

Collaborative efforts reach beyond the classroom. Girls in STEM wishes to thank Perry'sburg Schools Foundation, Perry'sburg School Board, our administration, Sherwin Williams and countless others all volunteering time and energy providing our students with authentic learning experiences that will foster a deeper understanding in knowledge and application.

POWER OF THE PEN

Power of the Pen is heading to states at Ashland University on Friday, May 19th. The following students have qualified and will be competing:

Alex Ban, Myla Dawson, Mona Gill, Ria Khatri and Maanya Parikh. Students will be participating in three rounds of writing where they will have 40 minutes to write to a given prompt. The top 54 finalists will compete in a fourth writing round. Wish these students good luck as they head to their final tournament!

MATHCOUNTS

On Saturday, March 11, the Perry'sburg Junior High School MathCounts Team consisting of Angela Choi, Simon Deng, Elizaveta Krasikova and Zachary Meyer competed in the State MathCounts Competition in Columbus, Ohio. The Team earned 7th place overall and Simon Deng earned 4th place individually. Simon qualified to compete in the National MathCounts Competition, which will be held in Orlando, Florida, in May. We are very proud of our MathCounts Team on a successful year and wish Simon luck as he continues onto the National competition.



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MOCK TRIAL

As this article is being written, the students are getting ready for their dress rehearsal at the Perrysburg Municipal Court and the Middle School Mock Trial Showcase in Columbus. These students have put in extra practice time recently, both in person and on Zoom, to polish their trial practice skills. They recently scrimmaged the Independence Middle School team over Zoom.

Alex Ban, Allison Harrold, Kara Luce and Lucas Sackman portrayed prosecution attorneys who elicited testimony and introduced exhibits in an effort to show, beyond a reasonable doubt, that Warden Walker committed the offenses of child endangerment and felonious assault. On the other hand, Mackenzie Frye, Rollin Kossick, Zachary Meyer, and Jackson Rihaplayed defense attorneys who also called witnesses to the stand and introduced exhibits to demonstrate to the court that the State had failed to meet its heavy burden of proof. Lulu Al-Akhras, Maesyn Crane, Lillith Dunn, Luella Eynon, Bismah Gill, Hasan Khatri, Freyja Langrish, Annie Sawaya, Kennidee Schley, Kendalyn Serres, and John Simpson took on witness roles. Elena Fuentes acted as a bailiff/timekeeper. Emily Chetal, Gabriella Cipriani, Allyson Cook, Daniela Stanchev, and Cooper Street, although unable to attend the Showcase due to band competitions, also played witness roles and assisted the student attorneys in developing their direct and cross-examination questions. Rounding out the teams, Robert Courtney and Morgan Easter helped get the attorneys and witnesses ready for competition.

The students would like to thank Judge S. Dwight Osterud (who started the PJHS mock trial program approximately eleven years ago), their parents for so much support and encouragement and the high school students (Ella Hahn, Carter Harrold, and Ailey Merrick) who helped hone their trial skills. They are also very grateful to Judge Aram Ohanian and his staff at the Perrysburg Municipal Court for the invaluable experience of presenting the case in actual courtrooms.



TALENT SHOW

PJHS students will take the stage May 26th to showcase a variety of talents to celebrate a successful year. The Golden Jackets (PJHS show choir) will showcase selections from their competitive season. These are only a few highlights of the outstanding performances by all students involved.

WORLD LANGUAGE CLUB

Throughout the school year, the World Language Club participated in a variety of activities that incorporated a wide range of cultures. Our focus has become to promote an environment that is culturally inclusive and represents our students who participate in the club throughout the school year. Our students began the year with a movie night as they watched Encanto in Spanish. Students enjoyed baking Mexican Wedding Cookies from scratch in our cooking lab. Students enjoyed preparing and bringing in foods from countries near and dear to their experiences. Our PJHS students also represented our club at the PHS Mardi Gras celebration back in March. They created a game that was showcased during the event. It was a very enjoyable year!



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THE JACKET WAY

The PJHS Jacket Way class meetings came to an end in March. During the meetings, the 8th grade students reflected on their Jr. High Jacket Way experience and provided valuable suggestions for future Jacket Way lessons and rewards. The 7th grade class meetings were led by our 8th grade WEB leaders and focused on teamwork and cooperation. The 8th grade WEB leaders did a fabulous job leading the 7th graders this year. The 7th graders had a great time participating in the WEB program and curriculum this school year. In April, we started the application process for our 7th graders to become our new 8th grade WEB leaders for next school year. We have such strong leaders in the 7th grade class; the Jacket Way team is very excited for our 7th graders to take on the role of WEB leaders!

To this point in our school year, the students at the Jr. High School have earned a total of 2,640 Jacket Way tickets. The students have an opportunity to redeem the Jacket Way tickets for raffle tickets to win some great prizes at our final spirit assembly that will be on May 12th. The spring raffle prizes include fishing gear, indoor basketball hoop along with real basketball, "summer of ice cream," a \$100 gift card to LuLulemon, massage gun and an electric scooter.

The Jacket Way program celebrated the students of the Month in March and April. We also celebrated the Jacket Way Subway winners.

March

**Academic student
of the month:**

Eva Yarcusko

**Extra Curricular
student of the month:**

Aiden Zechman

April

**Academic student
of the month:**

Cannon Whitesides

**Extra Curricular
student of the month:**

Avery Piland

March Jacket Way Subway Winners:

Connor Bazeley
Jocelyn DeLauter
Liam MacNeil
Emily Manges
Yara Mourad
Jacqueline Rippke
Kendalyn Serres
Rhea Wright



CAFETERIA

The PJHS Kitchen has been busy feeding our students this year. Some 2022-2023 school year facts:

1,513 Student breakfasts
were served.

57,997 Student lunches were
served (not including extras!)

6,782 large water bottles
and finally, 19,861 bags of chips!

Enjoy your summer break and
remember to eat healthy!



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FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Band

The 10th annual HPI/PJHS Band on the Run 5K featured over 300 runners, two pep bands and countless volunteers. This Perrysburg event has become one of the largest 5k events in our region. The "bandlings" played the forecasted rain away, keeping the skies clear and the runners dry. The sun always shines on the PJHS Bands!

This year's Ohio Music Education Association Large Group Event is hosted here at PJHS. 9 NW Ohio bands, totalling 465 band students, will give their best performances for the OMEA panel in hopes of bringing the highest rating back to their school. Best of luck to our three PJHS Bands – Concert Bands, Jacket Band, Gold Band and Commodore Band – as they perform in the highest divisions in the state!

Meet You in the Middle is a great HPI and PJHS tradition, and the PJHS Pep Bands are excited to be back in action at this year's experience. PJHS Pep Band members will welcome our rising 7th graders and enjoy some donuts together while enjoying their first day of summer.

The PJHS Marching Yellow Jackets will close the PJHS Bands 2022 - 2023 season with a performance at the Perrysburg Memorial Day Parade. Our band students will march down Louisiana Avenue while playing *America, the Beautiful* in honor of our country and those who we remember on this day. This experience is closely tied to the history of bands and we are fortunate to be a part of the event.



Thank you for all of your support of the PJHS Bands this year! You'll hear us again in August!

Orchestra

PJHS Orchestra students wrapped up their school year with a final spring concert on Wednesday May 3rd. Congratulations to all 7th and 8th grade orchestra students on a terrific school year!

56 PJHS orchestra students participated in this year's BGSU Middle School Honors String Festival on Wednesday, April 19, 2023. Students participated in orchestra rehearsals, sectionals, attended concerts and worked with BGSU music professors. They performed two songs with the BGSU

Philharmonic at a final concert called *Dance of the Tumblers* from *Snow Maiden* by Nikolay Rimsky-Korsakoff and arranged by Sandra Dackow and *O Mio Babbino Caro* from *Gianni Schicchi* by Giacomo Puccini and arranged by Sandra Dackow. We are so proud of the PJHS orchestra students for representing our school district in such an impressive way! Congratulations to the following participants:

Logan Adams, Grace Allen, Maya Ashour, Mack Avery, Alex Ban, Lillith Bell, Samiyah Bennett, Elise Born, Jaiden Carlisle, Hughie Carpenter, Kenma Carpenter, Ava Cufr, Paige Dickman, Habeba Elmalhoud, Elaina Farley, Taylor Gerwin, Momina Gill, Liam Hamilton, Makenzie Hill, Elyssa Hinesman, Bea Hudson, Zaid Ishkhatem, Jaqueline Jimenez, Lily Johnson, Elise Kaiser, Gurbani Kaur, Ria Khatri, Jeffrey Laing, Brayden Linkes, Lauren Longenecker, Emily Manges, Preston McClain, Emily McFall, Kalista McPherson, Harris Merer, Aurora Moreno, Emma Newhouse, Joey Orlop, Maanya Parikh, Sean Perry, Nadia Phillipi, Isaac Phillips, Aaralynn Rodrigues, Annie Sawaya, Elise Segovia, Sedona Seiverth, Allie Severt, Carolyn Stierman, Jonah Sweetser, Quinn Vail, Anushree Verma, Iris Weissstein, Cannon Whitesides, Katelin Williams, Max Williamson and Aidan Zechman



Choir

Showcase Concert: The PJHS choirs will close out the year strong at their showcase concert May 18th. The choirs will perform current pop songs and entertain the audience with their choreography. Mrs. Kuhlman and Mr. Hamilton would like to extend a special congratulations to all 8th grade students and wish them the best of luck at the High School.

ENCORE: The Perrysburg Association of Choir and Theater Boosters (PACTB) is hosting a week-long show choir summer camp Monday, June 5th - Friday, June 9th at PJHS. The camp is open to students who are currently enrolled in grades 4-8. Students will learn a variety of songs, choreography, participate in theater workshops and more. The camp will conclude with a performance by campers. To Register, text PburgShow to 91999 or visit our website at <https://tinyurl.com/yc3nu2fw>. Please contact Mr. Hamilton at jhamilton@perrysburgschools.net for questions.



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ATHLETIC AVENUE

The Jackets had an exciting spring athletic season on the track as both the boys and girls teams finished as NLL Champions again this season.

The following individuals earned NLL Championships: Jaydon Villarreal (High Jump, 200m), Parker Keaton (200m Hurdles), Noah Madden (400m), Kaedin Walters (Shot Put), Lauren McConnachie (100m Hurdles), Charlotte Baxter (1600m), 4 x 100m (Aliayah Chambers, Marlee Koval, Lauren McConnachie, Gracie Taylor), 4 x 200m (Parker Keaton, Cairo Kendrick, Alex Ko, Jaydon Villarreal), 4 x 200m (Aliayah Chambers, Marlee Koval, Kennedy Schramm, Gracie Taylor), 4 x 400m (Cairo Kendrick, Noah Madden, Mitchell McKay, Chris Purtee), 4 x 800m (Zach Dellisanti, Noah Madden, Mitchell McKay, Caleb Nichols), 4 x 800m (Charlotte Baxter, Violet Binge, Leah Getchy, Aaralynn Rodrigues).

Several athletes qualified to the Junior High State Track and Field Championships in Lancaster, Ohio on Saturday, May 13: Lauren McConnachie (100m Hurdles, 200m Hurdles), 4 x 100m (Aliayah Chambers, Marlee Koval, Lauren McConnachie, Gracie Taylor), 4 x 400m (Cairo Kendrick, Noah Madden, Mitchell McKay, Chris Purtee), 4 x 800m (Zach



Dellisanti, Noah Madden, Mitchell McKay, Caleb Nichols), 4 x 800m (Charlotte Baxter, Violet Binge, Leah Getchy, Aaralynn Rodrigues).

Fall athletics will be here soon! If your student plans to participate in athletics at PJHS, please be sure to complete enrollment on

FinalForms and have a doctor-signed physical before practices begin. Please go to **FinalForms Parent Playbook** at the top of the Junior High Athletics webpage and follow the playbook to complete the forms. Returning 8th graders will also need to complete new forms for the new season. There will be a mandatory Code of Conduct and Team Informational Meeting on Wednesday, July 12 at 6:30 p.m. at PJHS. If you cannot attend you must contact Scott Sorg, Athletic Director, at ssorg@perrysburgschools.net.

PJHS offers the following fall sports: 7th and 8th grade boys and girls cross country, 7th and 8th grade cheerleading, 7th and 8th grade football, and 7th and 8th grade girls volleyball.

Tryouts for cheerleading and volleyball begin July 31. Practices for cross country and football also begin July 31.

