



Rooster Review

Pleasant Hill R-III District Newsletter March 2023

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Introduction:

Welcome back to Pleasant Hill R-III School District's new official newsletter! Each month we will showcase some of the great things happening in our schools and community.

As we continue to work on improving our community engagement, we would like to encourage staff, parents, and students to reach out and help provide photos or stories that we can share with the district!

We are also looking for constructive feedback regarding last month's newsletter and updates to the district website. To submit photos and memories, or provide comments, please email Jessica Miller (jmiller@phr3.org) or Cathy Jobe (cjobe@phr3.org) at Central Office.

As always, we continue to strive to uphold our district mission statement, "Every Student, Every Day!", and want YOU to be a part of it!

Thank you for your ongoing support of our new communications initiative.

It's a good day to be a Rooster!



Second graders at the PS enjoy an assembly



Hillsound Singers attended the Platte County Competition

Primary Pride



These PS students were selected in a drawing for the opportunity to make individual pizzas with Food Service!



March's Super Citizens!



PLEASANT HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL SPRING IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

Immunizations will be available during Kindergarten Round-Up. Private insurance, Medicaid, and uninsured patients accepted. Payment options include cash and card. *Cards will be charged a 4% fee. Fees are \$10 for 1 immunization or \$20 for 2 or more.

May 2nd, 2023 | 5 PM to 7 PM

Upcoming Events

- 1st Grade Field Trip: April 3
- CK PreK Visits the PS: April 4
- Kindergarten Field Trip: April 6
- No School: April 7
- 1st Grade Field Trip: April 10
- Kindergarten Preview Day: April 12
- Kindergarten Music Program: April 20
- RK PreK Visits the PS: April 21
- 2nd Grade Team A Field Trip: April 21
- Bus Driver Appreciation Day: April 25
- Administrative Professionals Day: April 26
- 2nd Grade Team B Field Trip: April 28



Mrs. Clodfelter put on a great first grade music program (pictured left) titled *E-I-E-I Ooops!*



Mrs. Powers's class celebrated National Down Syndrome Awareness Day!

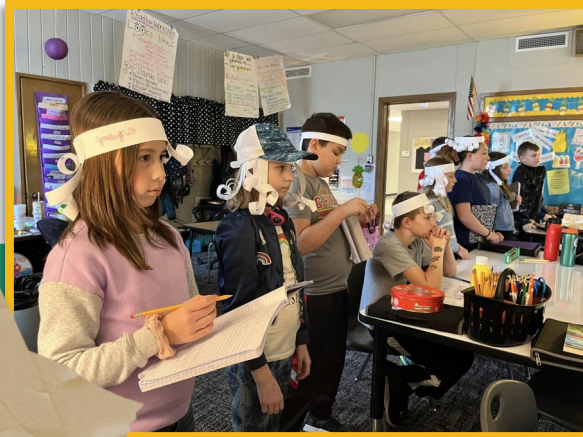


2nd grade students celebrated Grandparent's Day. Students were able to showcase their leprechaun traps and share with all of our special guests.

Elementary Enrichment



Check out March's Super Citizens at the ES!



4th graders in Mrs. Raines and Mrs. Boley's classes got into character during their American Revolution reading unit to debate the sides of patriots and loyalists.



Third graders in Mrs. Cook's class discovered relationships in fractional units.

Upcoming Events

- 3rd Grade Music Performance: April 4
- No School: April 7
- Family Game Night: April 13
- MAP Testing: April 18-20
- Earth Day Clean Up: April 21
- Bus Driver Appreciation Day: April 25
- Administrative Professionals Day: April 26
- MAP Testing: April 25-27

Ms. Meehan dressed the part for her students' book tastings



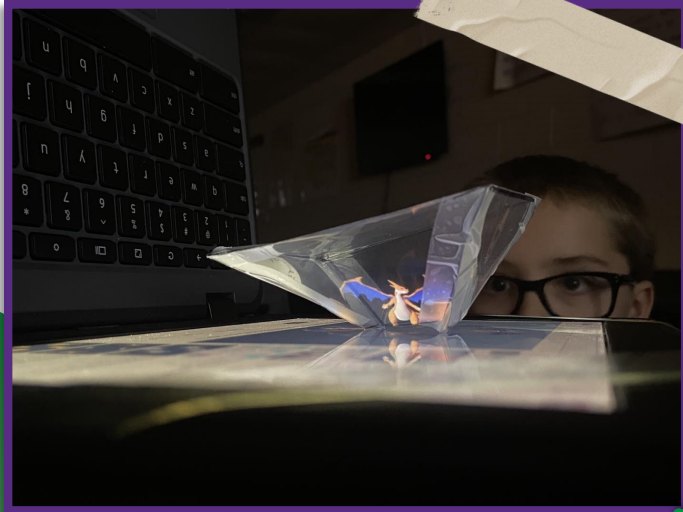
Students in Ms. Meehan's class participated in a "book tasting" in preparation of their upcoming reading unit.



Four students at PHES earned a basketball game with Mrs. Taylor through our Health.Moves.Minds program.



Intermediate Ingenuity



Students in Ms Greve's computer club made hologram devices that can make a video look 3D.

IS students participated in a fun book swap for Missouri Read-In Day.



Furby is the Intermediate School's comfort pet. Students and staff can stop by the office to say hi to him whenever they would like.

Upcoming Events

- Spring Picture Day: April 6
- No School: April 7
- 5th Grade DARE Graduation: April 13
- 5th Grade MAP Testing: April 18-21, 25-28
- 6th Grade MAP Testing: April 18-20, 25-27
- PTO Meeting: April 20
- Bus Driver Appreciation Day: April 25
- Administrative Professionals Day: April 26
- MAP Make Up Testing: May 1-5

The IS had some awesome Super Citizens in March!



6th graders in Ms. Greve's Broadcast class filmed themselves reading children's books that can be shared with younger students to encourage them to pick up a book on March 2nd's Read Across America Day.



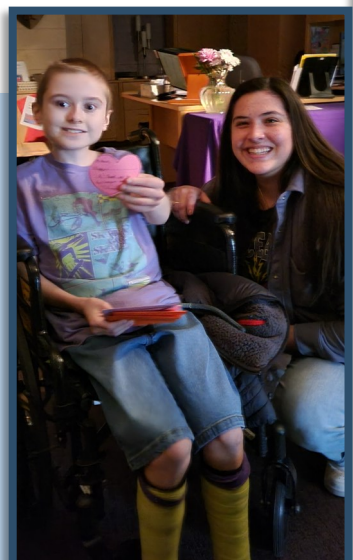
6th graders took a field trip to the Blue Springs School of Economics, where they learned all about understanding and applying basic marketplace concepts and skills, and expose them to business-related careers.



Middle School Magic



7th and 8th grade bands impressed the audience with their sound and skill at their fundraising concert.



We're all smiles at the MS!

Below: MS Students who display "GREATNESS" get to pick a prize from the office.



The seventh grade Science Scholar Bowl team traveled to St. Louis for a competition on March 4th.

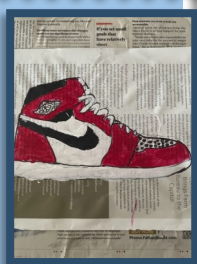


District spelling bee winner Sophie Manning went on to compete in the Cass County Spelling Bee against four other area schools.

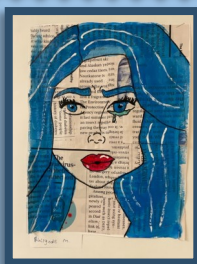
Upcoming Events

- Spring Pictures: April 4
- No School: April 7
- MS Track @ Home: April 10
- MAP Testing Starts: April 14
- MS Track @ Home: April 19
- Bus Driver Appreciation Day: April 25
- Administrative Professionals Day: April 26

MS Art students recently finished their unit on Pop Art using recycled newspaper and paint, and are working on the intricate shading of dragon eyes!



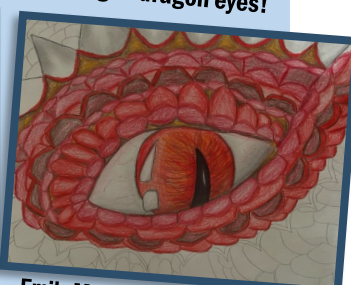
Titus Jobe



Rhilynde Myler



Jay Allison



Emily Morrison

High School Highlights



Pride of the Hill

The Pleasant Hill Pride of the Hill Band traveled to Orlando, Florida over spring break to compete in the Music USA Festival hosted at Universal Studios Orlando. The band, directed by Adam Twenter and Shannon Jenkins, received first place in High School Class 2A and was awarded the Grand Champion for the overall best concert band score of the festival! The trip included 76 students and many parent chaperones that helped make the trip an exciting experience for the students, with many memories they will have forever. The band also spent a day at Sea World, an evening at WonderWorks and two days at Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure theme parks.

Speech & Debate



Three Speech & Debate students will be traveling to Nationals in Phoenix, Arizona in June!

Seniors Katherine Hamilton (far left) and Caroline Ocheskey (second left) will be competing in Humorous Interpretation and Prose, while junior Lauren Weiss (second right) will compete in the Poetry event. All girls placed at the NSDA District Championships this month to qualify for Nationals. Senior Gwynyevere Doran (far right) also advanced as the 2nd alternate to Nationals in Dramatic Interpretation!

Upcoming Events

- Sophomore Class Ring Meeting: April 4
- Large Band Ensemble @ Grain Valley: April 6
- MSHSAA Choir State: April 6
- No School: April 7
- HS Spring Play, "You Can't Take it With You": April 13-14, 16
- Scholar Bowl Districts: April 15
- Prom, "Old Hollywood": April 15
- 18th & Vine Jazz Festival: April 21
- Women's Self Defense Class: April 22
- Bus Driver Appreciation Day: April 25
- KC Community College Jazz Summit : April 25
- Administrative Professionals Day: April 26
- Band @ MU Solo & Ensemble State: April 27
- Choir @ MU State: April 27
- Hillside Show: April 29

Class of 2023

Graduation is Approaching!

May 11, 2023 | 7:00 PM
 Connection Point Church
 10500 Rt-350 E Raytown, MO
 64138

Class of 2023

Seniors are allotted 14 tickets each for family and friends to attend graduation. These tickets can be picked up by your student from the counseling center on May 1st.

Seniors must arrive to graduation before 6 PM.

More High School Highlights



PHHS Cadet Teachers attended the Teach it Forward Conference at UCM.

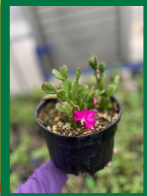
Biology II students in Mr. Thompson's class dissected sharks, gaining a better understanding of vertebrate and fish anatomy.

Achievements in Ag

Sophomore Tyne Wilson (left) placed in the top 6 in The State Pork Producers Speaking Contest at Tan-Tar-A. She has also been selected as a one of 30 sophomores within FFA to attend the Missouri Agribusiness Academy this June in St. Louis!



Greenhouse Sale



Pleasant Hill FFA's annual plant sale will be held at the HS greenhouses on April 29th!



PHHS Foods 2 students competed in class to create the most delicious dishes.

Bio-Med Blood Drive



HOSA students teamed up with the Red Cross to organize a community blood drive on March 21st. Students Sam Ewing and Madison Frazier (above left) helped run the event, volunteering their time before school and during their lunch break to help set up and run the event. Pictured above right: district staff member Angela Filorio donating blood.



Advisory Night was held on March 22. High school students met with their Connections teacher to pick classes and design their schedules for the upcoming school year.



More High School Highlights



Hillside Singers earned 1st place in their division at the Platte County Competition!



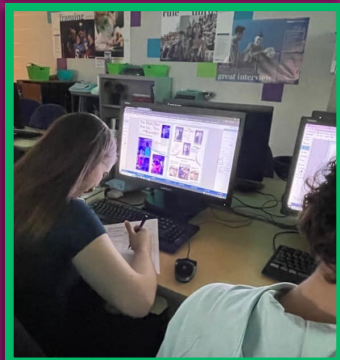
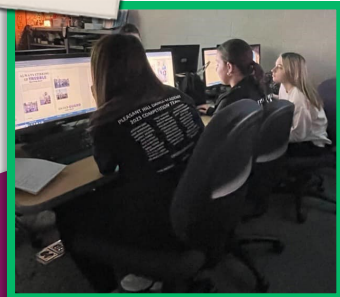
Powerhouse Choir earned 3rd place in B Division at the Platte County Competition!



Hilltop Singers earned 2nd place in B Division at the Platte County Competition!



Thirteen HS students qualified for the UCM Art Contest!



The yearbook staff (above, right) has submitted their first 72 pages to the publisher for printing, and is hard at work creating more content.



Students in the HS Media class work on final edits for the next episode of ClawTV (left).

You can subscribe to ClawTV at <https://youtube.com/@pshsclawtv5143>



HS Art students displayed their impressive ceramics at Central Office for staff and the Board to enjoy.

PH Theater Department Presents:

You Can't Take it With You

This show is a charming look at a kooky family, in 1930, who is looking at the possibility of their daughter marrying into a big time Wall Street family. What will happen when their two worlds collide? Come find out!

Cast members include: Maysze Bears, William Buckingham, Ivan Caberello, Douglas Crawford, Emma Crawford, Gwynyvere Doran, Katie Dummer, Delaney Duncan, Leland Edenburn, Liam Elkins, Katherine Hamilton, Jorga Madonna, Keaten O'Neal, Rylee Perkins, Jacob Petrowsky, Zac Rinker, James Robbins, Nathan Teitelbuam, and Shannon Williamson, and the show is stage managed by Jolyn Blake, Emma Crawford and Kaitlyn Grace.

Silent Auction

Come see the show and participate in our silent auction! The Theater Booster Club has acquired some fabulous prizes, including gift cards to Texas Roadhouse, Hawaiian Bros, Wonderscope passes, KC Zoo passes, and much more.

All proceeds will benefit the theater department!



PLEASANT HILL HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

APRIL 13, 14 7 PM
APRIL 16 2 PM

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU

PRODUCED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS

MOSS HART
GEORGE S. KAUFMAN

\$3 STUDENTS/SENIORS
\$5 ADULTS

*TICKETS ARE \$2 MORE AT THE DOOR



Prom is Approaching!

Tickets for prom will be for sale at the high school April 11th-13th. Tickets are \$25 per student.

Your prom tickets can be purchased through Tina Kemerling; cash or check will be accepted.

Is your student taking a guest from another school to prom? All Out-of-School dance forms must be filled out and returned before a ticket may be purchased. The forms are available outside the front office. Email Mrs. Kemerling at tkemerling@phr3.org with any questions.



OLD HOLLYWOOD

Pleasant Hill Prom
Stoney Creek Hotel
18011 Bass Pro Dr. Independence MO

April 15, 2023
8:00 - 11:00

Tickets: \$25

PTO, Boosters, & Bright Futures

Highlighting the wonderful volunteer, donation, and charitable opportunities provided for our schools

Athletic Booster Club

The Booster Club helped kick off spring sports by providing the following items to help support the athletic programs at the HS:

- Split the cost of the hitting turtle for the baseball team with the district
- Purchased State Championship rings for the wrestling team
- Purchased State Championship rings for the cheerleading team
- Purchased new popcorn machines that have higher capacity for the concession stands

Cold weather capes for football, parkas for the soccer team, jackets for the varsity baseball team, rain gear and gloves for the cheerleading squad, and a wrestling sled were purchased with a donation from the Goppert Foundation.

The Booster Club meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm at the High School. The next meeting date is April 12, 2023.

FFA Booster Club

The FFA Booster Club sends congratulations to all the participants of the recent FFA District Competition! Pleasant Hill's FFA Chapter has five teams competing at state in Columbia on April 20-21, and the FFA Booster wishes them the best of luck!

Rooster BBQ will also compete at State May 15th in Osceola!

A State Dinner celebrating these students and their immediate families will be held April 12th.

The FFA Boosters will have 2 reserved parking spots during the Cass County Fair July 11-16. More details about this fundraiser will be available in the coming months!

Our next meeting is April 4th at 6:30. Come join us!

Parent Teacher Organization



The PTO provided some delicious treats for the teachers at the Intermediate School.

The PTO services the PS, ES, and IS, and provides them with monthly snacks or meals to show their appreciation for the staff's hard work!



Retirement Celebrations

Pleasant Hill's Child Care Assistant Director, Rhonda Viney, celebrated her retirement this month! Rhonda worked for Pleasant Hill for 23 years. Congratulations!



New Administration!

Pleasant Hill would like to congratulate and welcome the following new administration to the district!



Dr. Michael Weishaar | Director of Business & Finance

Dr. Weishaar comes to Pleasant Hill from Center School District, where he was Assistant Superintendent of Finance for the last nine years. Before that, he was a principal within the Independence School District for six years.

Dr. Weishaar earned his Ph. D. in Educational Administration from the University of Kansas in 2007. He is well respected around the state for his work in leadership and school finance.



Mrs. Lori Burbee | Elementary Principal

Mrs. Burbee comes to Pleasant Hill from Park Hill School District, where she was Assistant Principal at Line Creek Elementary for the last four years. Before that, she taught kindergarten, first, second, and fourth grades in Pleasant Hill, Lee's Summit, and Harrisonville.

Mrs. Burbee earned her Specialist Degree in Superintendency at William Woods University in 2021. Two of her children have graduated from Pleasant Hill, and her third is still in attendance.



Mr. Sam Horrell | High School Assistant Principal/ Activities Director

Mr. Horrell comes to Pleasant Hill from Kirkwood School District, where he taught Physical Education and coached football for the last two years. Before that, he taught Physical Education and coached football in Belton School district for eight years.

Mr. Horrell earned his Master's Degree in Educational Administration at Lindenwood University in 2012. He looks forward to working at Pleasant Hill and embracing the community support of athletics and activities.



Dr. Celia Davidson | Intermediate School Principal

Dr. Davidson returns to Pleasant Hill from Odessa School District, where she was principal for the last year. Before that, she was the high school assistant principal here at Pleasant Hill for four years.

Dr. Davidson earned her Ph. D. in Educational Leadership from Saint Louis University in May of 2021. Her leadership experience makes her an outstanding fit for the Intermediate School.

Community Engagement

Board of Education Update

At February's meeting:

Mr. Ditty presented to the Board some students from his Middle School Robotics class and what they have been working on this year. This is the first year the MS has offered the Robotics class (pictured left).



Hollis and Miller presented an update on some of the bond projects happening throughout the district. An update was provided on the furniture selection and budget for each of the buildings.

Dr. Brennaman provided the board with information about the Giving the Basics program the district is involved in. The program provides hygiene products for all students in the district that may need help obtaining them.

The District Assessment Facilitators from each building presented an overview of the Benchmark and State Assessments. The Team provided examples of what they are doing in each building to assess the needs for growth and improvement in both students and teachers.

Dr. Burke discussed plans for turf replacement at Eklund Field. The plan is to have the field ready for the 2024 spring sport season.

The next Board of Education meeting will be held on April 18th, 2023 at 7 pm. Look for a review of March's meeting next month!

The Board of Education will be holding its election on April 4, 2023.
The district will have three three-year seats on the ballot. The candidates are as follows:
David Adamczyk
Athena Brattin
Ryan Charles
Lori Lancaster Redwine
Lisa Vescovi

Technology Spotlight



Desktop technician Carole Markey shows off the 720 new Chromebooks, valued at over \$278,000, that the district was awarded through the Emergency Connectivity Fund Grant. This grant comes from the Federal Communications Commission, which is dedicated to helping schools and libraries provide the tools and services their communities need for ongoing technological updates.

Transportation Updates

On March 8th, Durham conducted bus evacuation drills across the district. These demonstrations are done twice a year, and teach students how to safely exit their buses through the back door, designated windows, and ceiling hatch in case of an emergency.



Continued Community Engagement

We're Hiring!

There are currently some exciting employment opportunities at PHR3! Go to phr3.org for up-to-date and complete listings, and apply today!

Speech Language Pathologist
PS Library Media Specialist
Teachers
Building Substitutes
Paraprofessionals
Custodians
Middle School Boys Basketball Coach
Middle School Football Coach
Childcare Assistant
High School Cross Country Assistant Coach
High School Assistant Wrestling Coach
Summer School K-6 Teachers & Staff
Summer School 7-12 Teachers & Staff

Special Services Spotlight



The Speech-Language Pathology Department was so excited to receive a \$500 award this month from Charlie's Carwash in Lee's Summit! Charlie's asks for submissions of school district/department nominations from all around the metro. These funds were used to help students in the area of early language. A variety of manuals and DVDs that help address autism, developmental delays and speech impairments—such as phonological impairments and apraxia—and how language acquisition and development can be stimulated through play were purchased from the company "Teach Me to Talk." Thanks, Charlie's!

Parents as Teachers / Kindergarten Screenings



During PAT visits this month, families worked on some fine motor skills where they took an empty box and some simple different textured materials such as tissue, paper, foil, and stuffing to explore the different textures and noises they make. The kids had so much fun tossing them in the box!



New little Roosters and Chicks were screened by our Parents as Teachers staff to assess their readiness for Kindergarten!

