



THE BUZZ

AT PJHS

PERRYSBURG JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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



ISSUE 30
DECEMBER 2021



ADMINISTRATION

Don Christie,
Principal

Scott Buker,
Assistant Principal

Chad Warnimont,
Assistant Principal

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear PJHS Families,

We are very fortunate to live in a community that is supported by many local businesses. The PJHS newsletter is made possible by the businesses that you see throughout the newsletter. Even though many of these businesses have experienced difficult times, they have still continued to support our students and school. Thank you very much to these businesses and know that your support is very much appreciated.

Our students had an outstanding 1st quarter academically and it has also been great to see the number of students involved in clubs, athletics, the school musical and music performances. The 1st quarter Honor Roll may be viewed on the Perrysburg Schools website under the Perrysburg Junior High Honors & Awards Section. It is a credit to our students and families to continue to perform at such a high level academically. The 2nd quarter/1st semester will be ending Thursday, December 16 and students will be on winter break until returning to school on Tuesday, January 4. The positive attitudes and cooperation from students have been outstanding.

A main component for the success of students in school is consistent, regular attendance to school. Ohio Law (HB 410) changed in 2018 how all schools across Ohio must track missed class time. No longer are absences tracked by the number of days your child has missed. Lost time is now counted by how many hours your child is out of class, both excused and unexcused. One of the requirements of this law requires school districts to send families an official written notice that your child has "excessive absences." A letter is required to be sent when a student has been absent 38 hours or more in one school month or absent 65 hours or more in one school year with or without legitimate excuse.

All of your child's core classes (English/Language Arts, Math, Social Studies and Science) teachers have a "team period" every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, where they are available to meet in person or virtually with parents/guardians. Please contact the teachers in advance to set up a time to answer questions, discuss concerns or

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LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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to share your insights. It is also important to continue to encourage your child to advocate on their own by reaching out to teachers to ask questions in class, approaching the teacher before or after class or corresponding by email. This is a very important skill for students to learn as they move into their high school years.

Thank you for your continued support of your child at PJHS.

Respectfully,

Don Christie, *Principal*
 419-874-9193 ext. 4006
 dchristie@perrysburgschools.net

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

The Ohio Department of Education sends out parent/guardian tips on their website. Currently, the focus is on attendance and a program called "Stay in the Game." Student success starts with school attendance. Students who are absent from school miss important learning opportunities, which can be difficult, or even impossible, to make up. The mission of "Stay in the Game!" (<https://www.clevelandbrowns.com/community/stayinthegame/>) is to prioritize attendance by connecting its users to resources aimed at tackling chronic absenteeism.

To view an informative video on the importance of attendance, please visit this webpage below and watch the Stay in the Game video.

<https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Research-Evaluation-and-Advanced-Analytics/Proving-Ground/Stay-in-the-Game>

HOUSE BILL 410

What is the difference between habitual truancy and excessive absences?

	Consecutive hours	Hours per school month	Hours per school year
Habitual Truancy	30 without legitimate excuse	42 without legitimate excuse	72 without legitimate excuse
Excessive Absences	--	38 with a nonmedical excuse or	65 with a nonmedical excuse

FROM THE CAFETERIA

- The PJHS Cafeteria has sponsored "Donuts with Dayton" on Friday mornings for students and staff. Students are able to come to the cafeteria, enjoy a free breakfast, including donuts, and chat with Perrysburg Junior High School Resource Officer, Brad Dayton.
- The cafeteria is very thankful for the work from Miss Derr's 8th Grade STEM Students in creating new cafeteria signs to better the kitchen environment!



Students participating in Donuts with Dayton.



Miss Derr's 8th Grade STEM Classes designed and created new signage for the cafeteria and kitchen.

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PJHS LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

It's been great to have classes in the library and to start up Makerspace lunches again. With the holidays coming up, students are encouraged to use the eBooks and digital audio books available through our library catalog (gofollett.com), INFOhio resources (www.infohio.org) or any of Way Public Library's digital resources with their eCard (digital.waylibrary.info/index.php). Students have directions for accessing these resources in my Junior High Library Resources Group in Schoology, but they can also contact Miss Franck through school email (lfranck@perrysburgschools.net). Have a safe and happy holiday season!

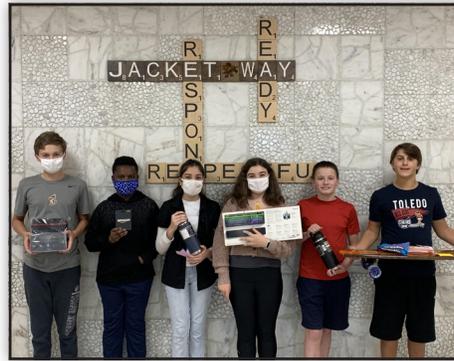
Cleaning out your craft or game closet? We welcome a wide variety of items for our library MakerSpace. So far this year, students have learned to crochet/knit, bead, use small toys and props for stop motion animation, make cards and do origami, build with Legos and Knex or use a wide variety of recycled items to create unique projects. If you have any items you are cleaning out, please consider donating them to our library Makerspace. Items may be dropped off at the Junior High office.



THE JACKET WAY

The PJHS Jacket Way Program continues to recognize students for their positive behaviors at PJHS! At the October Spirit Assembly, the winning raffle tickets for the Jacket Way Raffle were drawn. Congratulations to the following students for winning these rewards!

- Raymond Agyin - \$100 Amazon Gift Card
- Jacob Bassler - Portable Speaker
- Sophie Gudgeon - Gaming Keyboard
- Carter Hulbert - Custom Engraved Yeti
- Aiden Kincaid - Custom Made Longboard
- Rhea Wright - Custom Engraved Yeti



We would also like to congratulate our October Subway Lunch Winners:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Ansley Cazel | Nick Heil | Mrs. Morgan |
| Aspen Doyle | Sebastian Morales | Mr. Murray |
| Camille Francis | Annie Sawaya | Miss Schnerer |

Congratulations to our October Students of the Month:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| David Lenz for Extra-Curriculars | Sofia Shine for Academics |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|

Every Friday during lunch, students have the opportunity to redeem their Jacket Way Tickets for rewards. During the month of October, a total of 542 Jacket Way Tickets were redeemed by students. This brings the year-to-date total to 929 tickets. As of the end of October, 54% of our student body has redeemed at least one Jacket Way Ticket and on average our teachers have given out 13 Jacket Way Tickets.

Our next Jacket Way Raffle will take place during the February Spirit Assembly.

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CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

YEARBOOK

Our staff has been working hard covering the fall sports and extracurricular activities happening at PJHS! From the football season to the musical, the staff has been using their interviewing and photography skills to capture images and stories about the school year. The staff is close to finalizing our Deadline 1 spreads. We will start working on Deadline 2 spreads after winter break, which will cover the remaining events of the school year! As a reminder, yearbooks are available for purchase at jostensyearbooks.com for \$35. After the New Year, the price goes up to \$40, so order your book soon!

ROX

Ruling Our Experiences (ROX) is up and running at PJHS! Our ROX students are having a wonderful time getting to know each other and learning what ROX is all about. So far, we have been able to engage in many get-to-know-you style activities, discuss communication strategies and practice our assertive communication skills. The students have had amazing conversations about the topics we've already discussed, and we can't wait to hear more of the incredible things they have to say!

POWER OF THE PEN

Our Power of the Pen practices have continued on! Our writers have done a wonderful job working on skills such as theme incorporation, figurative language and strong word choice. They have been challenged to think outside of their box through various activities, such as introducing themselves in a creative way, and using a fortune cookie as a prompt for their story. We are excited to continue to see their skills grow stronger as we get closer to our first competition in February!

MOCK TRIAL

Mock trial at PJHS is underway. Students have been hard at work analyzing witness statements and learning basic trial-practice skills. This year's case, provided by the Ohio Center for Law Related Education, is based on the adventure book, *Greystone Secrets: The Strangers*, by Margaret Peterson Haddix. The accused, Judge Susanna Morales, faces a kidnapping charge. Students play the roles of attorneys, witnesses and bailiffs/timekeepers. The attorneys ask direct examination questions of their own witnesses, cross-examine the other side's witnesses and raise objections to the opponent's case. Each attorney presents either an opening statement or a closing argument. Witnesses memorize their roles and work with the attorneys to develop their testimony. Mock trial students learn the invaluable skills of organizing materials into coherent and persuasive arguments, questioning witnesses to elicit favorable testimony and "thinking on their feet."

If you are interested in joining the PJHS mock trial team, it's not too late. The team practices on Tuesdays, from 2:50 - 4:30 p.m., in room 209. Contact Mrs. Shultz at jackiemk99@yahoo.com if you have any questions.



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MATHCOUNTS

MathCounts is well underway and nearly 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 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 be in February. The following students will be the ten moving on to the next level of competition: Alex Ban, Simon Deng, Bismah Gill, Annie Hiss, Aurora Marble, Myles Provenza, Ritodeep Roy, Ocean Shi, Sofia Shine and Finn Wilhelms. Congrats and best of luck to these students as they continue competing.

PJHS STUDENT COUNCIL

PJHS Student Council has been busy the past few weeks!

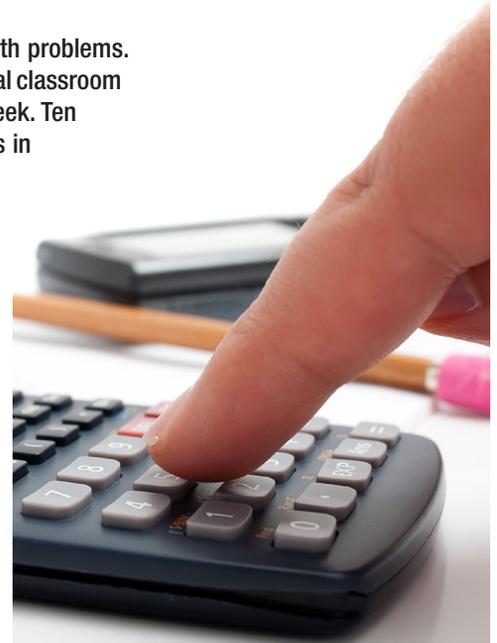
At our most recent meeting we honored Veterans Day by writing thank you letters to our local veterans. We also helped at the Veterans' reception after the assembly, serving cookies and punch to veterans and having conversations with them about their service to our country. Student Council members thoroughly enjoyed talking with the veterans about their experiences. *(See pictures below).*

Before the semester's up, members will be collecting canned food items for Operation Bread Basket from November 29 through December 10 to support local families. There will be a competition between the AO's to see who can collect the most canned goods, with the winning AO earning a pizza party!

We are excited to continue finding ways to support our school and community and are looking forward to what the next semester brings!



Members of student council hosted a reception for veterans and family members after the PJHS Veterans Day Assembly on Thursday, November 11.





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ATHLETIC AVENUE

The fall athletic seasons have come to a close at Perrysburg Junior High. Winter sports have begun to practice, with the first games starting the week of November 22. Good luck to our boys and girls basketball teams and our wrestling team as they work to continue the success our teams had in the fall.

Our boys and girls cross country teams finished their seasons by competing in the OHSAA Cross Country Invitational on October 24. The girls' team finished the meet as the now four time State Champions. The boys' team finished the meet as the now back-to-back State Champions, led by individual State Champion Brody Bauman. Congratulations to our Junior High Cross Country teams on your continued excellence.

Both the 7th and 8th grade football teams finished their seasons strong. The 7th grade team finished with a record of 7-1 and were NLL Runner-up. We are proud of their hard work.

The volleyball teams closed out fantastic seasons with successful tournament runs. The 7th grade team finished the season with a first round win in the NLL Tournament and a winning season. The 8th grade team finished 16-3 and were NLL Runner-up. Congratulations student athletes!

As we head to the winter season, we would like to encourage all of our students to come out and support our teams at basketball games and wrestling matches. Come for the game and cheer on your Jacket classmates and support one of the few junior high pep bands in northwest Ohio!



Both the PJHS Boys Cross Country Team and the Girls Cross Country Team won the State Championship at the OHSAA Junior High Cross Country State Championship Invitational on Saturday, October 24.



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PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT



Orchestra

The 7th and 8th Grade Orchestra students performed their first concert of the school year on Wednesday, November 3. Orchestra students are now preparing music for their next orchestra concert on February 15 at 7:00 p.m. at the PJHS Auditorium.

Musicians from a well-known musical group, Time for Three, visited the Perrysburg Junior High String Ensemble class on Friday, October 22. This was one day before they performed with the Toledo Symphony. Nick Kendall (violin) and Ranaan Meyer (bass) performed for students in the Perrysburg Junior High String Ensemble and Perrysburg High School Select Strings and led them through an activity to enhance their improvisation skills. Thanks to the Toledo Symphony Orchestra for bringing Time for Three to Toledo and to the Perrysburg Orchestra Boosters for their support of this memorable experience for the Perrysburg Orchestra students!

Choir

Winter Concert: The PJHS choirs will perform their winter concert December 13. The choirs will perform a variety of show-stopping numbers. Highlights from the concert will include a combined song entitled "One Candle," 8th grade girls singing "Holy Night, Silent Night," 7th grade girls performing "Ose Shalom" and both 7th and 8th grade boys singing "Have a Holly Jolly Christmas."

Concert Schedule:

- Winter Concert Monday, December 13 @ 7:00 p.m.
- Evening of Love Concert Fundraiser Wednesday, February 9 @ 7:00 p.m.
- Festival Concert Thursday, March 10 @ 7:00 p.m.
- Showcase Concert Wednesday, May 18 @ 7:00 p.m.

Band

The Perrysburg Junior High School Bands are eager to march into the holiday season with three exciting performances featuring three different PJHS Bands ensembles!

The PJHS Marching Yellow Jackets marched through Levis Commons on Saturday, November 20 to escort Mr. and Mrs. Claus to their home for the holidays during the Levis Commons Tree Lighting event. The PJHS Marching Yellow Jackets performed peppy tunes at Talbot's and marched through Levis Commons with Mr. and Mrs. Claus.

The PJHS Bands Holiday Concert on Wednesday, December 8 at 7:00 p.m. at Perrysburg Junior High School will feature the three concert bands of the PJHS Bands - the Jacket Band, Gold Band and Commodore Band. These groups have prepared a wonderful evening of excellent musicianship, memorable music and holiday excitement. There will be a small reception afterwards to celebrate the hard work of our young musicians.

The PJHS Pep Band will make its PJHS Basketball season debut at the PJHS Girls vs. Timberstone home game on Tuesday, December 14 beginning at 4:45 p.m. Come experience the thrills as the athletes, cheerleaders and PJHS Pep Band combine to create the most exciting junior high basketball atmosphere in our region!



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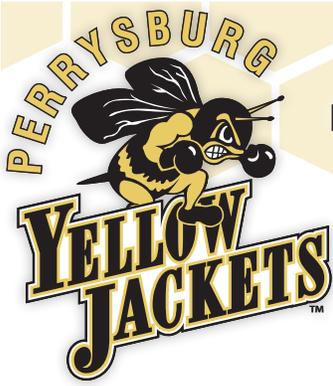
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WEB

The WEB Program is a peer mentoring and transition program that helps 7th graders transition to PJHS. The 8th Grade WEB Leaders are responsible for planning the first day of school and directing monthly class meetings with their 7th grade WEB Groups. The WEB Program also sponsors school activities as the year progresses.

The 8th Grade WEB Leaders were treated to a Fall Fest on Friday, November 12 as a "thank-you" for all of their hard work through the first semester. WEB Leaders participated in Relay Games, Pumpkin Bowling, Minute to Win it Games, arts, crafts, corn hole and make your own trail mix stations. Prizes were given to relay event winners along with a raffle for gift cards.



8th Grade WEB Leaders participate in the Pumpkin Broom Relay as part of the Fall Fest that took place on November 12.

JUNIOR HIGH PARENTS ORGANIZATION

JHPO has gone viral! With so many great activities and things going on, we want everyone to be informed and to see what we're up to. JHPO is now on Twitter at @JHPOPerrysburg. You can also find us on Instagram using the same screen name, @JHPOPerrysburg. If you're not already following us on Facebook you may find us there as well at @PerrysburgJHPO. Be sure to follow us and see pictures from all of our events. You may also get the latest updates on upcoming events and we're posting our Sign-Up Genius links there as well for anyone who wants to come out and volunteer. JHPO would like to thank everyone for their continued support and for making this a great year so far. Go Jackets!