

# ROOSTER REVIEW



PLEASANT HILL  
R3 DISTRICT  
NEWSLETTER  
\*JANUARY 2026\*

## IN THIS EDITION:

- District Spelling Bee
- Learning & Engagement
- Winter Sports
- Bright Futures
- Portrait of a Learner
- BOE Meeting

We hope 2026 is off to a great start for everyone and that the months ahead are filled with optimism, momentum, and continued success as we crank out the rest of the school year together.

We encourage any and all staff, parents and students to send pictures and stories to Nicole Barbour ([nbarbour@phr3.org](mailto:nbarbour@phr3.org)) or Cathy Jobe ([cjobe@phr3.org](mailto:cjobe@phr3.org)) to be featured in the newsletter, on Facebook, or our district website!

Welcome to 2026 Roosters and Chicks!

As we begin the second semester, it's hard to believe how quickly the 2025-2026 school year is moving along. We all know the end of the year will be here before we know it, but the spring semester brings so many activities, events, and opportunities that make this time of year especially exciting. January offers a chance for a fresh start, renewed energy, and a focus on finishing strong.

As always, thank you for your support! It's a great day to be a Rooster and Chick!



Congrats to all who participated in this year's bee. It takes an incredible amount of courage to stand before a crowd and spell words on command.

This year's winning word: dreidel

Winner: Will Henley

Runners up: Olivia Saltzman & Jack Murray



# PRIMARY PRIDE



Our Portrait of a Learner trait for the month of January is Empathy. These students were chosen during January to sit at the Top Notch table for showing empathy for others and asking others if they're okay.



At the Primary School we've been recognizing those tables of students that are meeting our lunchroom expectations. These tables earn the Golden Spoon Award and got to have lunch with Mrs. Helus. Congratulations to all our Golden Spoon winners!



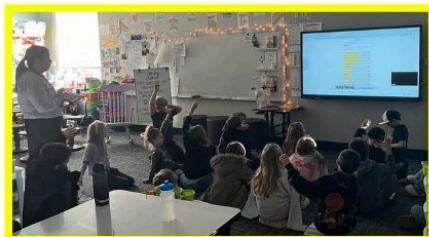
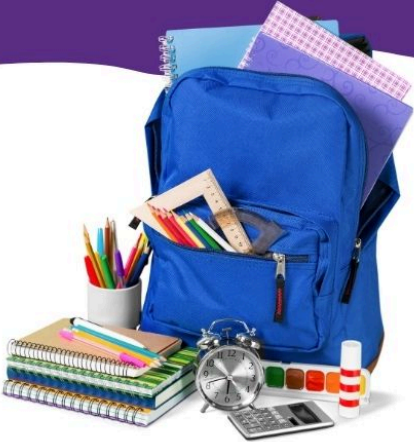
First graders in Ms. Vaught's and Ms. Petersen's classes had math "snowball" fights! Who says learning isn't fun!



**Upcoming Events**

- Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> - NO SCHOOL
- March 12<sup>th</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Music Performance
- March 13<sup>th</sup> - Spring Pictures/End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter
- March 30<sup>th</sup> - April 3<sup>rd</sup> - NO SCHOOL/ Spring Break
- April 15<sup>th</sup> - Kindergarten Performance

# ELEMENTARY ENRICHMENT



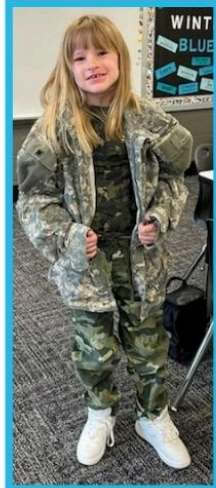
The ES set up PBIS Expectations Stations to review expectations and building procedures after Winter Break!



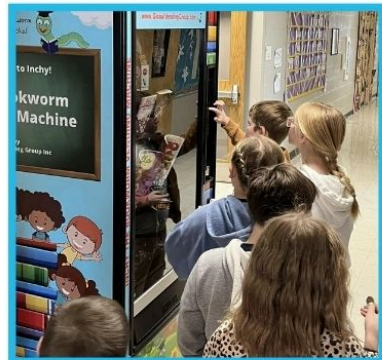
Congratulations to our January Optimist Club Award winners! Keep up the hard work!



Elementary students had the opportunity to eat lunch and visit with veterans in January!



Golden Ticket Winners enjoyed coloring, story time, and winter charades! And even picking a new book from the book vending machine!

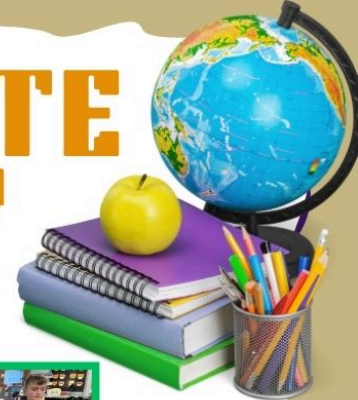


Lots of hard work was recognized at the January Assembly!

**Upcoming Events**

- Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> - NO SCHOOL / President's Day
- Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> - Student Leadership Meeting
- March 5<sup>th</sup> - Super Citizen Awards 8:20am
- March 10<sup>th</sup> - McTeacher Night
- March 24<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Muisic Performance
- March 30<sup>th</sup> - April 3<sup>rd</sup> - NO SCHOOL/Spring Break

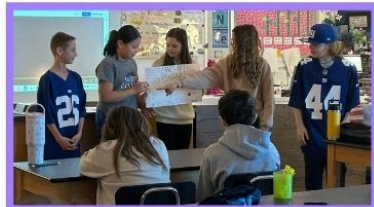
# INTERMEDIATE INGENUITY



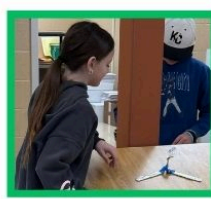
Students have been busy working on a Candy Cane shadow and texture project. Check it out!



Nothing like ending your monthly assembly with some riveting and friendly competition!



Mrs. Castle's 5th grade scientists researched matter and learning that everything is made of tiny particles called atoms and molecules, which are too small to be seen with the naked eye. They read books, watched videos, and used models to explore how these particles move and combine to form solids, liquids, and gases. They were then able to take what they learned and teach their peers.



The Winter Games have started in STEAM club. They made skiers out of 2 popsicle sticks, 1 pipe cleaner and 1 piece of foil. They had so much fun racing our skiers and revising our designs to make them faster.

## Upcoming Events

- Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> - NO SCHOOL
- Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> - Yearbook Sales End
- March 10<sup>th</sup> - Band Concert @ PHHS PAC
- March 30<sup>th</sup> - April 3<sup>rd</sup> - NO SCHOOL/ Spring Break
- April 8<sup>th</sup> - Spring Pictures
- April 30<sup>th</sup> - Spring Choir Concert @ HS PAC

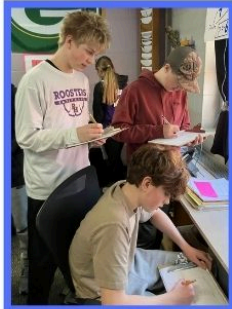
# MIDDLE SCHOOL MAGIC



PHMS boys basketball took on Warrensburg in January!



Mrs. Baker's PHMS art students got to display their cups at Press Monkey Studios before Winter Break!



Mr. Ruhman's 8th-grade class was doing a scavenger hunt to practice solving multi-step equations.



MS celebrated their students who maintained grades, discipline, and attendance for second quarter with lunch out. Thank you to local restaurants for accommodating us.



Mr. Nathan Briggs brought the Optimist Club to PHMS. He spoke about smiling, empathy, and a positive outlook with 8th graders.



## Upcoming Events

- Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> - NO SCHOOL/President's Day
- Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> - Winter Dance.
- March 13<sup>th</sup> - End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter
- March 30<sup>th</sup> - April 3<sup>rd</sup> - NO SCHOOL/Spring Break



# HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS



PHHS students had the opportunity to tour the LEAD Center. They learned about all their hands-on programs available to our students.



BJ Campbell from UCM visited PHHS to talk about the dual credit opportunities our current students have through their school. Our students complete hundreds of dual credit courses each year, getting them a head start on their post-secondary plans.



Students in Mr. Schoenherr's psychology engage in an introductory partner interview to become introduced to psychological concepts for the new semester class.



Taylor Heflin entered a writing contest sponsored by Creative Communication, and her poem "Game Day Roar" has been accepted to be published in the Fall 2025 book, "A Celebration of Poets." This is the final book that they will be publishing. Only about half of the entries submitted each year get selected to be published. Way to go, Taylor!

**Upcoming Events**

- Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> - NO SCHOOL Presidents Day/ Boys & Girls Basketball @ Lone Jack 4:30 PM
- Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> - Girls Basketball C Team vs. Louisburg @ 4:30 PM/ Girls Basketball vs. Lee's Summit @ 5:30 PM
- Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> - MRVC Conf. Band Auditions @ Oak Grove/ Boys Basketball vs. Butler 5:30 PM/ Speech & Debate @ Higginsville 3:00 PM
- Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> - FFA Trade Show @ PHHS 12:00 PM-6:00 PM
- Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> - FFA Western Farm Show Leadership Day/ Speech & Debate @ Wburg/ Boys & Girls Basketball vs. Oak Grove 4:30 PM/ District Wrestling @ Excelsior Springs
- Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> - Speech & Debate @ PHHS/ District Wrestling @ Excelsior Springs

# HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

## FFA



A great group of Ag 1 students traveled to the Missouri State Fairgrounds for the Area 7 Greenhand Motivational Conference led by the State officers. They learned about the many ways to get involved in FFA and its benefits.



These 5 gave up a Saturday to improve their public speaking skills and networking with FFA members from across the state at a public speaking institute!

## FUTURE TEACHERS OF AMERICA



Congratulations to Mrs. Corson for being voted on by the student body as FTA December Teacher of the Month! Thank you for everything you do for our students and school, Mrs. Corson!

# 2026 MOUSE RACES

PROJECT GRAD

PH MEMORIAL BUILDING

FEBRUARY 28 @ 6:30PM

MUST BE 21 TO ENTER

**\$500**  
TABLE OF 10 TICKETS, IN A PRIME LOCATION, & ENJOY PICKING THE NAME OF A MOUSE

**TABLE SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES**

**\$750**  
TABLE OF 10 TICKETS IN A PRIME LOCATION, RACE NAMED AFTER YOU OR YOUR COMPANY, & ENJOY PICKING THE NAME OF A MOUSE

PLEASANT HILL  
ROOSTERS AND CHICKS

LIMITED NUMBER OF TABLES AVAILABLE TEXT OR CALL (816) 804-0558

# Roosters & Chicks Athletics



## CHICKS

### Basketball



Pictures courtesy of Griff's Pix

Pictures courtesy of Griff's Pix



Pictures courtesy of Griff's Pix

Pictures courtesy of Griff's Pix

Thanks to senior Haley Dimarco...We will miss you!



## ROOSTER BASKETBALL



Pictures courtesy of Griff's Pix

Pictures courtesy of Griff's Pix

Pictures courtesy of Griff's Pix

# BOYS VOLLEYBALL OPEN GYM

For PHHS Boys Grades 9-12. Come see  
what this sport is all about.  
No Fee. Come play and have fun!

**4-5:30 pm**  
**PHHS**

**SUNDAYS**  
**FEB 1 - MAR 1**



**NO OPEN GYM**  
**FEB. 15**

**LIMITED TABLES AVAILABLE**

**SMARTY PANTS TRIVIA  
PLEASANT HILL BRIGHT FUTURES**

**SPONSORED BY IMPACT CLUB**

**TABLE  
\$50**

**Join us for a fun-filled night of trivia for a good cause.**

- Up to six people per table
- Various topics covered
- Mulligans sold for \$10 each
- Will take donations of pants/short/joggers for additional mulligans
- Fun competition welcome!

**13 MARCH**

**6:00 PM  
PHHS**

**Reserve your table with  
Mandie Owen  
816-540-3111 ext 5508  
mowen@phr3.org**

**LIMITED TABLES AVAILABLE**

*Congratulations!*

**ALEC RENTSCHLER**



**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR**





**In January, students focused on the competency of Empathy. Students learned to develop the ability to think, feel, and experience for themselves and others. They also discussed how to embrace the perspectives of others even when they differ from their own.**

# PTO, Boosters, & Parents As Teachers

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

## WE'RE HIRING!

There are currently some exciting employment opportunities at PHR3! Go to [phr3.org](http://phr3.org) for up-to-date and complete listings, and apply today!

- SPED Cross Cat Teacher-HS & PS
- Director of Facilities
- Self Contained Special Education
- MS ELA Teacher
- MS Theatre Teacher
- 3<sup>rd</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor
- Technology Integration Specialist



**PTO MEETINGS**

SEPT 3      NOV 5      JAN 7

MARCH 4      MAY 6

PTO BOARD:  
PRESIDENT: KRISTI OLSON  
VP: SHANNON GRAY  
TREASURER: CLAIRE CANANN

Come learn how you can get involved and help support our students and staff Pre-K-8<sup>th</sup>

## Booster Club

Booster Club memberships are available for the 25-26 school year! Gold Memberships are \$50.00 per family, and Purple Memberships are \$25.00. The PH Booster Club is a non-profit organization with volunteers serving to help provide benefits to our student athletes and athletic programs. Meetings are the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM in the PHHS Library. See you there!

## Parents as Teachers

The time of year has come again to prepare for our incoming Kindergarten class for August 2026! Kindergarten Round up is underway! We are so excited to meet you!!! Children MUST reside within district boundaries AND be 5 years of age on or before July 31st, 2026. Please sign your child up for a session using the website below!

### Kindergarten Screening Sign-Up!

For additional questions please reach out to our friends with Parents as Teachers at 816-987-9200 or their page at [phr3.org](http://phr3.org)!





PLEASANT HILL  
**BRIGHT**futures.<sup>®</sup>  
 CONNECTIONS FOR SUCCESS

*Love the Game, Share  
 the Spirit Wear*

Do you have gently used spirit wear that no longer fits or isn't being worn?

**Donate** it to our Spirit Wear Drive and help other students show their **pride!**

**We're Collecting:**

- Gently used spirit wear
- Clean in and good condition
- PH Rooster and any Kansas City sports team

**Collection Sites:**

- Any PHR3 School Building
- Central Office (318 Cedar St)
- Goppert Financial Bank (2100 MO-7)
- EMPAC (205 Cedar St)

*Your donation helps every student feel included and proud to represent their team*



**LOVE BRIGHT  
 FUTURES NIGHT**

**Tuesday, Feb. 24**

**Pleasant Hill vs. Harrisonville**

at Harrisonville High School

Girls' Varsity & Boys' JV - 5:30 pm

Boys' Varsity & Girls' JV - 7 pm

\*Harrisonville Spinners Performance between games

**Support your community's Bright Futures Affiliate....**

**Free Admission with donation of  
 Classroom Snacks**

\*Ex: cheese & crackers, granola bars, Cheez-its, graham crackers, Goldfish, Teddy Grahams

**Chuck the Duck at Varsity Halftimes**

**\$5/duck or 5/\$20**

**Winner gets half the proceeds**

\*P. Hill & Harrisonville will split the money raised

\*NEW\* Additional Prize Winning Opportunities compliments of Culver's

**Bowls for Bright Futures Dinner**

**4-7 p.m., Cafeteria**

**Suggested \$5 donation/bowl**

**Soup/chili from local restaurants**

\*Supporting Harrisonville's Weekend Food Program



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Board of Education Update

### JANUARY 2026

#### Consent Agenda

Approval of minutes and financial statements

Program Evaluations- Curriculum, Food Service, Counseling

#### Board Recognition-

The Board recognized Eva Moore for her longstanding support and dedication to the Pleasant Hill Bright Futures and the Pleasant Hill community. Over the past 12 years, Eva Moore's Performing Arts Center has generously donated more than \$57,000 to support students and families in our district.

Sherry Helus presented to the board 14 Primary School students who had perfect attendance for the first semester. What a great accomplishment.

Newkirk and Novak and DLR presented Bond updates to the Board. Included in these updates were Middle School addition, Fieldhouse progress, bleacher update and greenhouse update.

Dr. Burke presented to the Board an update on MOCAAT investment funds.

Dr. Brenneman and Dr. Boden provided an update on NWEA Winter Data. Each of the building principals presented their data and provided action steps that are being implemented for their building and teachers.

The Board approved the 2026-27 Academic Calendar.



Primary School students with 1<sup>st</sup> semester perfect attendance were recognized by the board



The board recognized Eva Moore for her donations over the years to the district to help support students and families



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Board of Education Update

### JANUARY 2026 CONTINUED

Dr. Burke presented the MSBA Board policy updates. These policies can be found on the district website.

Board Policy Updates - IIA, IIAC, IIAC-R1

Board Policy Forms and Procedures : IGD-AP3, IIA-AP1, IIAC-AP1, KB-AP1

The Board voted to move meeting time to 6:00pm beginning in February.

Dr. Burke presented the Board Policy Updates from MSBA-these policies can be found on our website.

BBBB-1, BDC, DFI-1, DCLA, GCBA,GCPD, IGBCA, IGBH, IGBI, IGCD, IGCDA, JEA, JED, JHDF, EBBA-AP(1), EF-AP(1), GBEBB-4-AP(2), JED-AP1, JED-AP(2).

Next Board Meeting February 17, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

Welcome to the District-

Please help us welcome the following to our Rooster Family for the 2025-26 School Year-

Christy Perisho - ES Part-Time Secretary

Hudson Portz - Desktop Technician

Alyssa Rollison - PS Long-Term Substitute for Self-Contained Classroom

Kelly Calvin - PS Para Level III

The meeting adjourned at 10:21pm

Parents as Teachers  
PLEASANT HILL R3  
2026



# KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP

MARCH 9-13, 2026



304 EKLUND ST



SEE YOU THERE!



Registration open NOW!

Children must be 5 years of age as of July 31, 2026 and reside within PHR3 District Boundaries. Contact 816-540-3161 for boundary verification.

Scan QR code for sign up information!



CONTACT US:

816-987-9200

To learn more, visit us at  
<https://sites.google.com/phr3.org/pleasanthill-pat/home>

