

ROOSTER REVIEW



PLEASANT HILL
R3 DISTRICT
NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2026

IN THIS EDITION:

- Valentines Parties
- Learning & Engagement
- Winter Warming
- Bright Futures
- Portrait of a Learner
- BOE Meeting

We hope everyone enjoyed a restful and joyful holiday break and had time to recharge with family and friends. As we look ahead, we are energized and ready for all the great things still to come in 2026. Thank you for your continued support as we move forward together into the second half of the school year.

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

Welcome Back, Roosters and Chicks!

It's hard to believe that we have already reached the halfway point of the school year. December arrived with some good old-fashioned Missouri winter weather, but it eventually turned out to be fairly decent—much like the month itself, full of both challenges and bright moments. As we reflect on the progress made so far, we are excited to have officially begun one of our major bond projects: the Middle School addition. Watching these long-held plans turn into reality is truly exciting, and we can't wait for our other projects to begin taking shape as well.

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



PHIS 5th grade science teacher, Mrs. Castle, has been selected by our local Sonic to attend the Ron Clark Academy Educator Training. This dynamic program is designed for teachers all over the country to learn ways to increase student engagement, ensure academic rigor and create a culture of learning that leads to success. Big thanks to Mr. Joel Helland, our local Sonic owner for sponsoring this trip!

PRIMARY PRIDE



Valentine's Parties at the Primary...Lots of cute kids with cute Valentine's boxes!

Top Notch Primary students were chosen for Well-Being: Being able to switch between activities and keep calm!



The Optimists recognized our January and February Super Citizens at the Primary's all-school assembly.



At the Primary School we love celebrating great behavior. These students showed great behavior in the lunchroom and won the Golden Spoon Award!

These Primary students had PERFECT ATTENDANCE for the ENTIRE first semester and earned medals! Way to go!



Ms. Petersen's first graders were writing facts about the outdoors in February. What a great day to learn outdoors!



Our PHSD Daycare friends had a great Valentine's Day celebration!

Upcoming Events

- March 30th - April 3rd- Spring Break
- April 15th- Kindergarten Performance
- April 16th & 17th- Kindergarten Field Trip to Kemper Outdoor
- April 22nd- 1st Grade Field Trip to Deanna Rose
- April 24th- 2nd Grade Field Trip to Powell Gardens
- May 1st- Abbott's Class Field Trip to Zoo

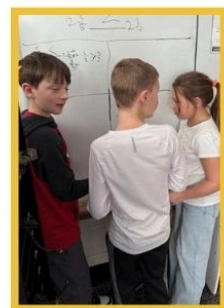
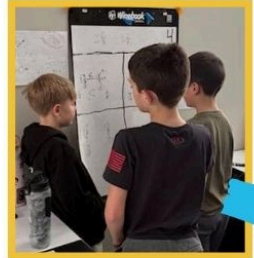
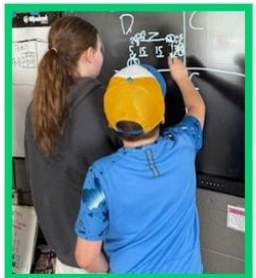


In February, library students listened to the 2025 ShowMe nominee, "Building a Dream: How the Boys of Koh Panyee Became Champions." To go along with the book, students are making predictions and then testing whether various items will sink or float. The students loved the investigations they were making!

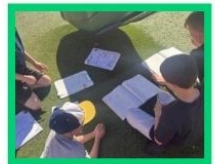
ELEMENTARY ENRICHMENT



Mrs. Culver's students are working with partners to research animals. Students will be completing informational reports together, with the information from their research.



Ms. Grainger's students were working on comparing fractions using the BTC structure!



Mrs. Cook's third graders went on a math safari! They solved area challenges to help save the African Safari—and crushed it with teamwork and determination!

Enjoying some Math RTI at PHES in the sunshine



Stumpff Squad celebrated earning 300 rooster bucks with lunch outside!



Health. Move. Minds. top contributors enjoyed a game of 9 square and a pizza party at PHES!

We had a fun day celebrating friendship and love on Valentine's Day!



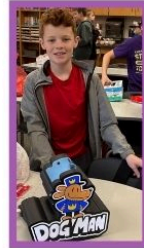
Upcoming Events

- March 30th - April 3rd - NO SCHOOL/Spring Break
- April 8th - Art Club
- April 9th - Student Leadership Meeting
- April 15th - Art Club
- April 16th - Optimist Awards Assembly
- April 22nd - Art Club
- April 23rd - Student Leadership Meeting
- April 29th - Art Club
- May 6th - Family Art Night

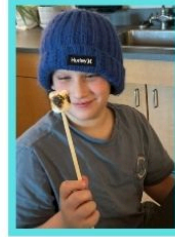
INTERMEDIATE INGENUITY



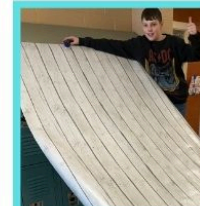
PHIS students and staff celebrated Valentine's Day!



The IS would like to say thank you PTO for the wonderful popcorn bar for our staff. We enjoyed your generosity!

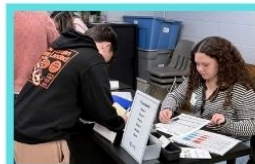
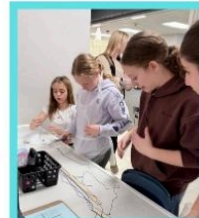


I scream, you scream, we all scream thanks to the Optimist Club for serving Ice Cream Sundaes to PHIS students and staff at lunch!



5th graders concluded their matter unit by discussing how making s'mores utilizes the three main states of matter: solids, liquids and gases. Talk about a tasty lab!

The Winter Sports Continued with the creation of a toboggan in STEAM Club. Students took the lead and chose a new winter game to create. We had table hockey and knockout.



6th grade students has a great time at the Blue Springs School of Economics!





Upcoming Events

- March 30th - April 3rd- NO SCHOOL/Spring Break
- April 8th- Spring Pictures
- April 20th - 24th - Spring Book Fair
- April 21st - 23rd- MAP Testing
- April 22nd- Spring Showcase & Family Night
- April 28th- 30th- MAP Testing
- April 30th- Spring Choir Concert @ HS PAC
- May 1st- PTO Fun Run

MIDDLE SCHOOL MAGIC



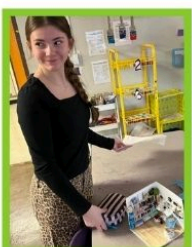
One of the February MSVP Awards went to Taylor Jackson. Taylor truly exemplifies our value of culture through his commitment to building relationships with students.



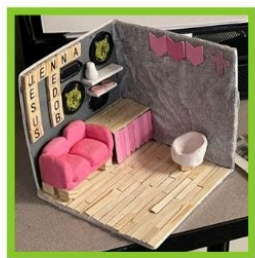
PHMS thanks the Optimist Club for providing ice cream sundaes at lunch.



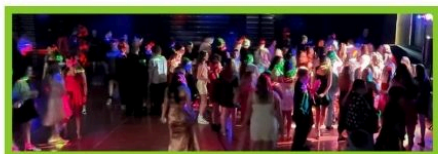
Mr. Austen Cummins was another February winner of the MSVP. He was awarded for creating an inclusive and supportive environment in both his PE and Strength and Conditioning classes.



Mrs. Baker's 8th-grade Project Art class are creating mini-3D rooms



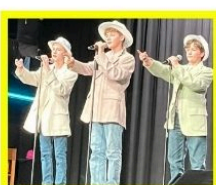
PHMS saluted their 8th-grade Patriot's Pen essay authors. The VFW honored them in February.



PHMS put on a great Variety Show at the HS!



StuCo sponsored the winter dance at PHMS in February!



Upcoming Events

- March 30th - April 3rd - NO SCHOOL/Spring Break
- April 7th - Spring Pictures
- April 20th - May 11th - MAP Testing

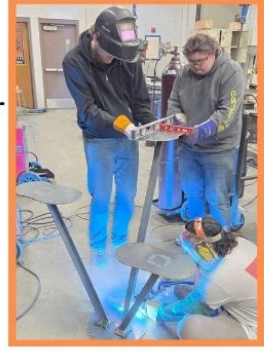


HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS



Mr. Thompson's Biology II students dissect crayfish as they work to understand complex anatomy of arthropods.

Our welding classes have been working with city administration and architects designs to furnish the "cat trees" for our new animal shelter.



Thank you to all the students and families who attended our Advisory Night! It was great to see everyone planning ahead, exploring course options, and preparing for next year's schedules.



Congratulations to our Vet Science team who placed 9th at the state competition in February.



It was a great turn out for our annual trades fair! Thank you to all the vendors who gave our students insights into possible careers after high school!



Upcoming Events

- March 30th - April 3rd - NO SCHOOL/ Spring Break
- April 10th - Senior Scholarships Due
- April 11th - Prom
- May 6th - Last Day for Seniors/Baccalaureate/ Senior Awards Night
- May 6th - Seniors Last Day
- May 7th - Graduation
- May 20th - Last Day of School/Early Release

HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

FFA



Congratulations Gabi! Gabi was selected to serve as the area 7 reporter at officer interviews! Gabi was also selected as a MO FFA Foundations SAE Grant Recipient.



This weather has our brains turning to spring! Our greenhouse has decided it's go time! Our kids have been putting together some things you're going to be excited to have in your landscape and garden! Keep us in mind in April for plant sales!



Some very brave FFA Members joined HOSA members in supporting the Special Olympics by participating in the Polar Plunge. Way to go!

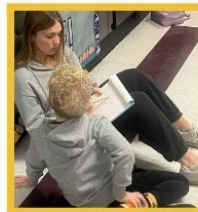


FFA Members capped off a busy week with a trip to the Western Farm Show as rewards for being top sellers in our big fundraiser.



3 of our senior welders represented our program at the Iron Eagle Welding Academy welding competition and earned \$250 scholarships to the program! The boys read blueprints, completed vertical 4 pass weaves, horizontal stringers, and a pipe weld in 90 mins

FUTURE TEACHERS OF AMERICA

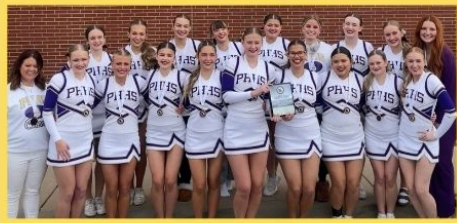


Students in Mr. Schoenherr's Cadet Teaching class are gaining real-world experience every single day by working alongside our younger students in our district. Through mentoring, tutoring, and classroom support, these FTA students are making a meaningful impact while exploring the teaching profession firsthand.

Roosters & Chicks Athletics



PHNS CHEER



Congratulations to our Rooster Cheerleaders on a 3rd place finish at the MCCA State Sideline competition!

ROOSTER BASKETBALL



Thank you senior Rooster Basketball players. We appreciate all you have done for the program!

CHICKS Basketball



Shout out to Chicks Basketball...TRIPLE overtime and they came out with the win in a battle against a big rival! Congrats Chicks!! Way to fight!!



Pictures courtesy of Griff's Pix



Pictures courtesy of Griff's Pix



Pictures courtesy of Griff's Pix

Pictures courtesy of Griff's Pix

Roosters & Chicks Athletics



Roosters & Chicks WRESTLING



Thank you to our wrestling seniors for your years of commitment and dedication!

Signing Day



Congratulations to our PHHS athletes on signing their letters of intent to compete at the collegiate level.

Avery Vanderveen- Cross Country - Northwest Missouri State

Lillian Brock - Cross Country/Track and Field - Evangel University

Rowan Hays - Track & Field - Northwest Missouri State

Izzy Haberstroh - Cheerleading - Missouri Valley College

Fritz Manda - Football - Missouri S&T

Lucas Vanmeter - Football - Missouri Southern
Cole Ketchum - Trap Shooting - State Fair Community College

Dallas Hollingsworth - Baseball - Illinois Valley Community College

Laura Irwin- Central Methodist University Track and Field

Kyler Wallace - Football - Benedictine

Kiernan Cummings - Cheerleading - Avila University

Winter 2026 Warming

Pictures courtesy of Griff's Pix



Pictures courtesy of Griff's Pix

NATIONAL ATHLETIC TRAINING MONTH

Care You Can
Count On

MARCH 2026



ERIN VLASAK

MSAT, LAT, ATC

Having the opportunity to be a part of the Pleasant Hill team has been wonderful! The athletes, coaches, and staff all keep safety and excellence at the forefront of their goals. Being a key resource to help keep this community happy and healthy motivates me to continue learning new skills. I'm proud to provide **Care You Can Count On.**





FLOCK Award WINNERS!



This year, as we continue to strive towards our District Mission Statement of "Every Student, Every Day" we would like to feature our FLOCK Award Winners for each month. These recipients have shown one or more of the following ideals and have been chosen by their peers to receive this outstanding recognition. Congratulations on a job well done!



PS- Sydney Vaught
(1st Grade Teacher)



IS-Veronica Love-Hagelin (Process Coordinator) & Brooke Leimkuehler (Paraprofessional)



MS- Dana Demoure-
Unscheid (Social Studies)



PS- Karri Shanks
(Daycare Director)



ES- Josie Grainger
(4th Grade Teacher)

FOCUS ON STUDENTS
LISTEN, TRUST, LEAD
ONGOING IMPROVEMENT
COMMUNICATE³
KIND AND CARING



HS-Grant Reeves
(Paraprofessional)



MS- Adrian Howell
(Custodian)



HS- Sam Horrell (Assistant Principal/Athletic Director)



ES- Lacey Jones
(Building Support)



District-Randy Greufe
(Maintenance)

Congratulations!



Mrs. Danielle O'Donnell
PHES Counselor

**VFW 2026
TEACHER OF
THE YEAR**

PHR3 & VFW District Winner

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 for up-to-date and complete listings, and apply today!

- Elementary Teaching (Multiple Openings)
- MS ELA, Reading, & Theatre Teachers
- Special Education (Multiple Openings)
- HS Math Teachers
- MS Assistant Football Coach
- MS Girls Volleyball Coach
- MS Boys Basketball
- HS Track and Field Assistant Coach
- HS Assistant Softball Coach
- HS Assistant Football Coaches
- HS Assistant Boys Wrestling Coach



JOIN
US

PTO MEETINGS

SEPT

3

NOV

5

JAN

7

MARCH

4

MAY

6

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

PTO BOARD:

PRESIDENT: KRISTI OLSON

VP: SHANNON GRAY

TREASURER: CLAIRE CANANN

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

Parents as Teachers is working on enrolling for the 26-27 school year. If you or someone you know has a child who will be 5 by July 31st and lives in the Pleasant Hill School District, contact the Primary School to schedule a Kindergarten Screening! This will let your child know who their teacher for the 26-27 school year will be! Pre-K enrollment coming soon!

Pleasant Hill Primary School: 816-540-2119

For more information or enrollment check out their page at phr3.org!





PLEASANT HILL
BRIGHT futures®
CONNECTIONS FOR SUCCESS

Fueling Futures This March
Spring into Success!

This month, Bright Futures will be hosting a Fruit Snack Drive to help support our students during MAP testing.

If you would like to donate, please bring items to the Elementary or Intermediate school offices by **March 27th**.

Bright Futures is launching a Fruit Snack Drive to help support our students during upcoming MAP testing!


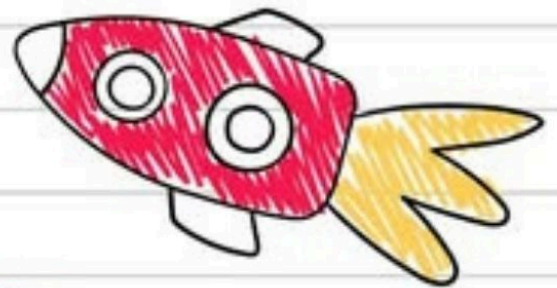

A small snack during testing can help fuel success by giving students the extra boost of energy and focus they need to do their very best.

We are collecting individually packaged fruit snacks to share with students during testing week.


Donations can be dropped off at the Elementary and Intermediate school offices. Please drop off all donations by March 27th.

Thank you for helping us support and encourage our students!





We're still enrolling
for the incoming
KINDERGARTEN class!



Contact (816) 540-2119
to schedule your enrollment
appointment so that your child
knows their teacher in time for
Meet the Teacher night!



PLEASANT HILL
SCHOOL DISTRICT

SUMMER DAYCARE PROGRAM



26-27 GRADES K-6TH
MONDAY - FRIDAY

6:00 AM UNTIL 6:00 PM

Enrollment Options:

5 Day (M-F)

3 Day (M, W, F)

2 Day (Tu,Th)

*Full day summer care
starts AFTER Summer
School!

AT PLEASANT HILL
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Please note that Before and After
care only offered during summer
school. ALL students enrolled in the
summer daycare program are
required to attend summer school.

SUMMER
PROGRAM

DISCOUNTS
OFFERED FOR
SIBLINGS!

- Breakfast offered!
- Weekly trips to city pool & park
- Weekly Snow Cone Truck visits
- Weekly cooking classes
- Visits from the Cass County Public Library Bookmobile
- Other fun field trips!



REGISTER TODAY!

QUESTIONS?: CONTACT KARRI SHANKS @
816-540-2292 OR KSHANKS@PHR3.ORG

VISIT PHSD DAYCARE WEBSITE

Join us for

The dance team prep clinic! FREE

Come dance, learn a combo, practice technical skills and meet friends! This does not commit you to join the dance team, just a FREE way to see what dance team is about. Invite friends, they don't have to be Pleasant Hill students! Fill out form: <https://forms.gle/J9c4PV1MEBcZomnm6>

**APRIL 7TH, 13TH, AND
22ND @5:00-6:00 PM**

**PHHS AUX GYM
6TH GRADE- SENIOR**

QUESTIONS? CONTACT COACH RICE
ARICE@PHR3.ORG

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Board of Education Update

FEBRUARY 2026

Board of Education Summary

February 17, 2026

Consent Agenda

Approval of minutes and financial statements

Program Evaluations-Differentiated Instruction

Contracts, Memos and Agreements- Student Transfer Agreements with local K-8 districts, MOU with UCM, Everdriven Agreement, FAFSA Data Access Agreement.

2026-27 Non Resident tuition Rates

Daycare Summer Tuition

2027 Band Trip

Band Uniforms Purchase- 2026-27 Purchase

Curriculum Resource Approval- SAVVAS Experience Science K-5

Board Recognition-

Justin Hamilton presented to the board All State Athletes from Football this year.

Lucas VanMeter- 1st Team all State Punter

Fritz Manda- 2nd Team All State DL

Kyler Wallace Riley- 3rd Team All State WR.

Patrick Dent presented to the Board All State Athlete for Cross Country.

Avery Vander Veen was Cross Country All State. Avery holds the school record for cross-country at 18.57. She is the 3rd fastest female runner in the MRVC conference.

DLR & Newkirk Novak presented to the Board Bond updates. Ian, Joe and Ben presented updates on Middle school and fieldhouse construction.

The group presented to the board the bid recommendations for PS Secured Entry, HS Secured Entry. MS Shutters and HS Culinary Costs.



Avery Vander Veen was recognized for her Cross Country All State accomplishments.



All State Football recipients were recognized from the Board for their accomplishments in football this year.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Board of Education Update

FEBRUARY 2026 CONTINUED

IMA presentation- Update on self funded and fully funded.

Representatives from IMA presented to the board an overview of our district and claims for the year.

Mike Clevenger provided a facilities update to the board. Mike reviewed the project list for the summer projects and bond projects taking place in the district.

Board Comments-

Dave Admaczyk asked about daycare tuition and pool fees. Dr. Brennaman shared that because daycare will be at the ES a bus will be needed to transport students to the pool this year.

The Board asked about career education welding certificates and why does the district not offer this any longer.

They are asking for more career ready classes that are industry recognized for students that are pursuing a career in trades.

Board will tour buildings on Friday, February 20th starting at 7:30 am.

Next Board Meeting will be March 17th at 6:00 pm.

Welcome to the District-

Please help us welcome the following to our Rooster and Chicks Family-

Kylie Wiseman-PS 1st Grade Teacher

-Kendall Ruehling-PS 1st Grade Teacher

-Taylor Gravitt- PS 1st Grade Teacher

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 pm



Middle School Roost students made a special delivery to Central Office. Students created an order form and put together food items that could be purchased. They counted change and provided great service! We love supporting our students with this adventure!

