DISTRICT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE ENDS YEAR WITH PICNIC
On Thursday, May 7th, the District Professional Development Committee (DPDC) held their annual picnic to end the school year and celebrate the successes across the district. On that evening, outgoing members were honored, incoming members were introduced, and the Chairperson for the next school year received the gavel. The DPDC members exiting the committee were: Kerry Kay - Primary School, Jackie Pickett - Elementary School, Georgia Gilman - Middle School, and Ashley Lile - High School. All members appreciate their dedication to their colleagues and the profession by serving multiple years on this committee. The buildings who have members going off the committee will be represented by the following individuals beginning next school year: Kathy Boegl - Primary School, Erica Baedke - Elementary School, MaryLee Mylar - Middle School and Crystal Monath - High School. Committee members are excited about the interest and ideas the new members will bring to the committee next year. This year Angie Davis served as the DPDC Chairperson. Mrs. Davis passed the gavel to Mr. Brian McDavitt, who will lead the committee during the 2015-2016 school year. Mrs. Angie Davis will serve as vice-chair, and Mrs. Laura Case will serve as secretary. The evening ended with each committee member sharing their most successful strategy implemented from the committee’s book study of Teach Like a Champion by Doug Lemov.

The DPDC had a very successful school year with the major accomplishment of holding our own local mini-conference for all district staff in November. The committee plans to hold another mini-conference next year. Please be thinking of possible session topics, which support building and district initiatives, to submit for consideration for the event! As soon as we return in the fall requests for proposals will go out.

FACILITIES
Nursing Supervisor, Lora Watson and Dr. Griffith met with a representative from Blue Cross and Blue Shield to review various programs to supplement the district’s Wellness Challenge and promote healthy habits among staff. Four programs were chosen to be shared at the District Wellness Committee’s next meeting. If the committee agrees, one program each quarter will be implemented for the Wellness Challenge next year. More information will be provided when plans are finalized.

Removal of Eklund Field visiting bleachers has begun. The tear out of asphalt will begin as soon as the bleachers are removed and this will be followed with a new concrete slab and installation of new bleachers later this summer.

PRIMARY SCHOOL
Primary School staff has enjoyed a wonderful National Teacher Appreciation Week, with lunches and goodie bags and special drawings offered throughout the week from our PTO. We honored our very efficient, busy, and wonderful nurse, Jamie Coillot, on National School Nurse Day. We are celebrating the results of our final Discovery Education benchmark assessments in reading and math, and finishing our last writing events and running record level assessments. Every classroom is busy with upcoming plays and Park Days, and we’re looking forward to our big Field Day on May 19, with multiple events on the football field and track. PE teacher
Janet Anderson plans an organized schedule, with the help of several staff members, for 11 classes in the morning and 11 classes in the afternoon. Kindergarten class lists for 2015-16 have been posted online, and incoming kindergarteners will meet their teachers at Kindergarten Round-Up on May 11 at 6:00 p.m. This year’s kindergarteners and first graders will meet their teachers for next year on our last day of school. 2nd graders will visit the Elementary School on May 13. Librarian Tricia Beaman is hosting our last Scholastic Book Fair of the year, with a Family Fun Night on May 13, and distributing information about our Summer Reading Challenge. Even as we wind down this school year, teachers are signing up for curriculum development over the summer and making plans for August. Several are helping me with plans for professional development next year, from Teach Like a Champion to our school culture. I really appreciate all the extra time and work that our staff seems to smile through this time of year!

**Elementary School**

Last Friday, our PHES staff and students enjoyed a fantastic field day organized by Christy Reeves. The field day events, held at the PHHS stadium promoted teamwork, problem solving and speed. The events were reflective of our “Greece is the Word” theme and included an Olympic Rings Relay, Discus Throw, and the Olympic Torch Relay. Awards were given to classrooms receiving honors in any of the events. Each class had the opportunity to earn 8 medals and those medals will be displayed proudly outside of each classroom.

Last week we also honored all of our staff during Appreciation Week. We kicked off the week with Hollywood themed decorations so that everyone could feel like a star! On Monday, the staff received a gift from the Board of Education and BBQ lunch from PTO. On Tuesday, staff enjoyed a Taco Bar, on Wednesday, Sonic drinks during plan time PD, breakfast on Thursday and on Friday a small gift from the office. Each day teachers enjoyed a prize drawing at the end of the day! It was a well-deserved celebration.
On Monday, May 11th we will welcome parents and student back to the Elementary for our “Greece is the Word “Extravaganza!! Doors will open at 5:50pm and station rotations begin at 6:00. Families will enjoy Greek architecture, art work, green screen technology, Readers’ Theatre, Crayola Room, Olympic strong arm and prize drawings. This week, our 3rd graders will head to the Rock Quarry and to the Park while fourth graders will visit the Intermediate School and then the park later in the week. This week we will also honor our parent volunteers with an Appreciation Tea after school on Tuesday. We are packing as much as we can into our final days together and will close out the year with a school-wide talent show and final Celebration Assembly. It is sure to be a memorable ending to the 2014-15 school year.

**INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

“Students of the Week” are: Zach Smith, Ali Redwine, Lucas Hays, Kaleb Vermillion, Morgan Lassiter and Jackson White. We congratulate these students for their outstanding character and deeds. Congratulations to the PHIS Students of the Month for May: Victoria Nickols, Adriana Kalousek, Carmen Kidwell, Ashley Crooks, Logan Leiker, Cole Simmons, Lexi Woods, Emma Johnson, Alyssa Ziegelbein, Olivia Trask, Jackson Petersen, Aubrey Schirlls, Carson Dummer and Chloey Schorr! They were selected by their peers for exhibiting the character trait, perseverance!

We are super busy with many exciting activities:

- **4th** graders will visit the IS on May 14. They will tour the building, hear important information regarding the IS, and they can ask questions and experience the cafeteria first hand when they receive a free cookie and milk. Parent Night (for the parents of the incoming 5th graders) is scheduled for May 12 at 6:30 pm. Parents will learn what a typical day “looks like” for their child.
- **6th** graders tour the MS on May 12.
- **6th** graders are creating their own Shark Tank products for their technology invention unit. They will present to the Shark Panel on May 14.
- Field Day and MAP Reward Day is May 15. Students will celebrate with a MAP reward party half of the day and participate in fun field day activities the other half. Students are really excited about this day!
- Our Awards Assembly begins around 8:30 on May 19; we invite you to attend.
- We kick off our summer reading challenge with a variety of reading activities following our awards assembly on the 19th. We are challenging our students to read 750 pages this summer!
• On the last day of school, we will have our talent show at 8:30. We invite you to this event too. Yearbook signing will take place afterwards.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL**

We are pleased to announce that we have finished all of our MAP testing! This year’s 8th grade class spent several hours at a computer over the last few weeks testing in ELA, math, and science with performance tasks required of ELA and math both. They completed their testing sessions from April 30-May 8. Our 7th grade class had fewer and shorter sessions of testing this year in just ELA and Math and did not have any performance tasks to complete in their subjects. They completed their testing in 3 days.

Now it is time for helping students transition for next school year and start bringing this one to a close. As we finish out our school year, we have several end-of-the-year activities planned.

We will host a building tour and informational time for the current 6th grade class to visit us on Tuesday, May 12. They will visit our building and learn a lot about middle school life, as they are lead around the building by our student leaders and staff members while discussing and planning for next school year.

On Thursday, May 14 our current 8th grade students will travel over to the high school spending a few hours learning about high school life to learn more about their upcoming freshman year experience.

On Monday, May 18 we will recognize awards and honors in our end-of-year awards assembly planned for 8:00am that morning.

As long as the weather cooperates, we will be helping out our community in a joint venture with the City of Pleasant Hill for a school-wide community service day filled with 30 different projects around Pleasant Hill on Tuesday, May 19. We have several small groups of students and teachers scheduled to work at city park helping with repainting of picnic tables, raking mulch at playgrounds, and even digging and pulling parking lot posts! At the recreation complex, we have other small groups ready to repaint bleachers, shovel dirt off concrete paths, pull weeds and prune, and take care of trash collection. Around the MoPAC Trail, we have others planning on more trash collection and pulling of weeds. There is a lot to do for this “spring clean-up”, and we are hoping that the weather is conducive for all the jobs we have planned!

Finally, many of our students will showcase singing, dancing, acting, and a wide-variety of other talents on our last day of school. We will kick off the last day of school on May 20th with a middle school student talent show.
High School

Last week the History Department received initial results from the American History and American Government End-of-Course exams. In American History, 64.9% of freshman scored proficient or advanced. This improved on last year's record performance of 58%. In American Government, 79.1% of the juniors scored proficient or advanced on this year's test, the best total since we began taking the test.

On Thursday, May 7, the World History classes took a field trip to the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial in Kansas City, Missouri. One hundred and fifty-four sophomores were able to explore the only museum in the world dedicated solely to World War I. Many students shared their experience on social media by tweeting pictures to the Twitter account set up by the History Department. You can view some of the tweets @PHHS_History.

Special Services

The Office

The Office is working on end of the year requirements and collecting information for Summer School and for Extended School Year. Extended School Year is for selected students that may regress too much if they were not have specialized instruction and/or therapies. We are celebrating the careers of 3 of our Special Education teachers: Barb Homan, Vicki Denish and Sharon Dyer. They will be greatly missed.
Students have enjoyed exploring money the past few weeks. The students brought in real coins from home so they can experience what all real money looks like. Students have compared/contrasted sizes, texture, color, and amounts of all coins. Throughout the day students can also earn money for “acts of kindness” (which is an initiative at the Primary School), and the last week of school students are able to “shop” with the money they have earned.

In the pictured activity, students were given an amount of money and they were to find as many different ways to reach the amount as possible. The students liked competing against groups to see who was able to find the most ways to reach the amount. This unit has been so hands on for all students, which has helped them be more successful with the skill.

Mrs. Boegl’s Language Class had a good time expanding vocabulary by learning about “Homonyms”. The students listened to sentences and picked out two words that sounded the same, but had different meanings. They played a matching game where they found homonym pairs written on balloons. Once the students found the matching pair, they created their own sentences. A homonym volleyball game was played at the end of class as a way to celebrate our knowledge.
Middle
The Middle School students pictured below participated in the Cass County Job Olympics in Belton on Friday May 8th. All 3 students representing Pleasant Hill came home with medals. Cody Allen received the following medals: Gold in wiping tables, Bronze in Pet Care, Bronze in Interviewing and Silver in Application Completion. Marianne Riley received a Bronze in Stuffing Envelopes. Joe Sosko received the following: Silver in wiping tables, Gold in shredding, Bronze in Interviewing and a Silver in Application Completion. They all did a great job and showed tremendous effort. We ended the day with an ice cream treat to celebrate our success.

High
CWC Environmental Earth Science   Dana Scott/Jeff Wyatt

Spring is the perfect time to discuss weather patterns in Environmental Earth Science. In class we are learning to read weather maps to study weather patterns in the United States, specially in the Mid West, where weather conditions change so quickly. Earlier this month classroom discussion centered on the tornado that hit Pleasant Hill on May 4, 1977. By discussing the tornado that impacted Pleasant Hill the students were more actively engaged in the conversation
and activities. Focused on weather map reading and collecting weather data over a period of time.

**Technology**

The technology department is excited to announce a new member of the family! Andromeda Katreya Guyer was born on 5/5/15 weighing 6 pounds 9 ounces and was 18.75 inches long. She and her parents are now settling in at their home. Congratulations and warm wishes to them on their growing family!

In other news, the technology department is preparing for the busy summer ahead. Equipment will be moved to buildings to accommodate summer school class activities. Also over the summer months, computers are re-imaged after being placed back in classrooms once each building has been cleaned. Teachers are asked to plan room rearrangements prior to the summer break so their rooms are ready to go upon their return to school in the fall. New accounts are also being created for new staff. Much work goes into setting up accounts for Google, our network, the phone system and online databases to be used by staff members. July and August can be hectic with many teachers returning to school at once so we appreciate everyone’s planning and patience as we work to ensure that everyone’s equipment is ready to go prior to first day with our students.

**Pleasant Hill Activities… “It’s a GREAT Day to be a Rooster/Chick!”**

Wrapping up a strong year for Pleasant Hill Activities!

Highlights:

1. Baseball: The Roosters wrapped up a successful 6-4 MRVC West conference season with an 8-2 victory over Oak Grove last Thursday night. This past weekend the team earned the #2 seed in the coming district tournament to be played in Clinton, Mo. beginning on Saturday May 16th. The Roosters will play at 10am vs. Cristo Rey HS. The Roosters have enjoyed a very successful season thus far playing with exceptional chemistry as a team and smart baseball. Senior night will be Tuesday evening vs the Benton Cardinals; 4:30pm game time.

2. Boy’s Golf: The Rooster golf team completed the district golf tournament this past week. The team qualified four young men for the sectional tournament being played Monday May 11th at Hoot’s Hollow. Best of luck to our Roosters.

3. Girl’s Soccer: The Chicks soccer team has had an exceptional season earning the best record in team history! They’ve recently the #1 seed in their coming district tournament to begin Tuesday May 19th (5:30pm). The Chicks get to host the district tournament this year. Be aware when you attend the tournament…the visitor’s bleachers are under construction. The
main gate will not be accessible through the end of the school year. Please gain entrance through the north gate for all activities.

4. Track & Field: The Roosters and Chicks just completed the annual MRVC West Conference Track meet. The Roosters took 2nd and the Chicks took 4th. The Roosters finished the meet with a thrilling 4X400 relay win solidifying their 2nd place finish. They had strong finishes in most of their events including the 3200m and the shot put. The Chicks were led with championships in the discus and the 100m dash. The district meet is scheduled for this coming Saturday at Raymore-Peculiar HS. Come out and check out the Roosters and Chicks in action!

5. PHHS will be hosted the spring National Letter Signing Ceremony last week. Signees were Ian Hodge; Greenville College (soccer), Kai Wesemann; Johnson County CC (volleyball), Alexis Lynn; McPherson College (soccer), Lane Adams; William Penn University (baseball), Sarah Hoke; St. Louis CC (basketball), & Morrigan Severs; Northeastern Oklahoma A&M (dance). Congratulations to these seniors!

6. The annual senior letterman breakfast was held last Tuesday honoring our senior letter winners. There were 63 student-athletes honored for their commitment to their own success and the success of Pleasant Hill High School’s athletic teams. Cole Miller & Tanner Pettet were honored for the Iron Man Award...participating in an athletic activity in each season of their four years at PHHS. Also, the nominees were announced for the James Vanek Award, the Diane Award & the Rick Barbarick Award. The winners of these award will be presented at the senior awards ceremony this Wednesday.

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