DISTRICT PLTW PROGRAM GROWS
While the 2016-2017 school year is coming to a close, there is much planning taking place for the 2017-2018 year! The Project Lead The Way (PLTW) teachers in grades 6 through the high school are currently beginning their training for the new courses they will be teaching during the 2017-2018 school year. The PLTW Gateway program in grades 6th - 8th will each add a module to the module they taught during this school year. The additional modules are as follows: Automation & Robotics (6th), Flight & Space (7th), Green Architecture (8th), App Creators and Computer Science for Innovators & Makers (MS Elective). The additional PLTW courses at the high school include: Human Body Systems (PLTW Biomedical), Computer Science Principles (PLTW Computer Science), Aerospace Engineering (PLTW Engineering), and Computer Integrated Manufacturing (PLTW Engineering). The teachers of these courses must complete an online training module prior to their one- or two-week professional development course to become certified to teach the new class. This type of rigorous training has provided our students with engaging and challenging PLTW coursework during this first year with PLTW. We look forward to that continuing. The PLTW teachers this school year have gone above and beyond for students. A heartfelt thank you goes out to each of them: Mrs. Johna Geist, Mr. Jeff Scott, Mr. Dustin Mounce, Mrs. Angie Davis, Mrs. Jane Pierce, Mr. Harrison Campbell, Miss Brook Ludlam, and Mr. Caleb Clawson. The way in which you have inspired students this school year has been remarkable!

PRIMARY SCHOOL
These last two weeks of school are filled with exciting events. Last week, students and staff enjoyed a 2nd grade field trip to the Coterie Theater at Crown Center, the kindergarten spring concert, the MO 1 Million Strong Challenge from PE teacher Janet Anderson for National PE and Sports Week, National Teacher Appreciation Week with PTO door prizes and a delicious lunch, gifts of umbrellas from district administration and school board members, and Hat Day. All funds collected on Hat Day were donated to Camp Quality of Greater KC, which supports summer camp opportunities for children with cancer. On Friday, we hosted our last all-school assembly, with performances by the “eco-troubador”, Stan Slaughter. Students love Mr. Slaughter’s songs, and learned corresponding movements with music teacher Mrs. Samantha Baldwin to make the performances really unique. This week, kindergarten teachers and PAT staff are hosting Kindergarten Round-Up for incoming 2017-18 kindergarten students. Students and families will meet their assigned teachers for next year and new principal Mrs. Sherry Helus. We also have the Scholastic Book Fair in our library, with Family Night on Tuesday. Two grades have Park Days later this week. We are finishing up Discovery Education testing for the last time, and getting ready for Field Day and other fun next week.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Field Day at PHES
After week of rain and cold - the sun came out and we had beautiful weather for this year’s SUPER Field Day! Students ran, bounced, twirled, stacked, jumped and wiggled the day away. Thanks to the help from HS students and great planning, the stations were well organized and lots of fun, no matter your ability level.
“DESIGN ON A DIME” PBL IS COMPLETE!
All PHES students had a chance to create a new space in the school for student use. They measured the space available, learned about design, searched for furniture to fit the space and always kept the budget in mind. A group of third graders had the winning design for a new reading space in the gym hallway. They are currently taking book donations to fill the shelves!

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
Congratulations to the PHIS Students of the Month for May. They are: Avery White, Owen Avery, Dean Graham, Maci Brinkoetter, Alex Bell, Aubrey Ruona-Magill, Madison Frazier, Cooper Fellers, Chloe More, Haley Ross, Justin Wasson and Rylee Huslig. These students were nominated by their classmates for exhibiting the character trait, perseverance. What a fabulous honor to be recognized by one’s peers in this manner!
Congratulations to the PHIS Students of the Week. They are: Ava Goodrich, Serenity Ford, Isabel Ross, Jozlyne Rivera, Amelia Mooneyham, and Jordan Lysinger. They were selected by teachers for exhibiting character traits and doing good deeds. We are proud of them!
May is full of exciting activities:
4th graders visit our building May 8th. They will tour the building, hear important information, asked questions and experienced the cafeteria first hand when they receive a free cookie and milk. Their parents are invited to Parent Night during the evening. We look forward to sharing with them what a typical day “looks like” for their child.

IS choir students will perform the evening of May 9th!

Students will engage in a STEAM Career Day on May 10th.

Field Day and MAP Reward Day will take place May 12. Students will celebrate with a MAP reward party half of the day and field day activities the other half. We thank Mr. Adamczyk for organizing this day of fun!

6th graders will tour the MS on May 15.

Our Awards Assembly begins around 8:45am on May 17; parents and guests are invited to attend. We are so proud of our students’ achievements!

We kick off our summer reading challenge with a variety of reading activities following our awards assembly on the 17th. We thank Mrs. Arenson for organizing this reading initiative for our students!

On the last day of school, we will have our talent show at 8:30. We invite parents and guests to this event too. Yearbook signing will take place afterwards.

It has been a wonderful year full of learning and fun. We wish all our families a safe and enjoyable summer!

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Left and center: Ms. Pierce and Mrs. Humphrey took seven students to the TSA Convention at Missouri S&T in Rolla. Right: The final home track meet proved to be chilly for the athletes and fans bundled up in the stands.

Pleasant Hill Middle School

Technology Student Association traveled to Rolla to visit the convention and competition. Ms. Pierce and Mrs. Humphrey took seven students in our first visit to UMR. Two of the MS forensic science teams advanced to the second round of competition. Students completed MAP testing last week and returned to the normal tone schedule last Friday. This Friday, PHMS students will travel to the City Lake to clean and clear brush for Community Service Day. Monday, May 15, will include two transitions. Sixth-grade students will visit the middle school in the morning while eighth graders will travel to the high school in the afternoon. On the final day of school, PHMS will have its annual awards assembly, followed by a talent show, and yearbook signing.
Left and center: At the spring concert, the seventh- and eighth-grade bands wowed the audience with how much they have improved during the school year. Right: The final middle school dance found students trying to stay in time with the Cha Cha Slide.

High School
KC Scholars Awards

Seven Pleasant Hill High School juniors have been awarded a scholarship through the KC Scholars Program. This scholarship awards 11th graders up to $10,000 per year up to five years, and is awarded directly to the college or university of enrollment. Students must maintain a cumulative 2.5 GPA and enroll full-time the semester immediately following high school graduation. Congratulations to; RJ Hughes, Alex Moore, Madison Hunt, Johanna Rosas, Grace Montag, Kylee Reeves, Bre-Ann Bissonnette.

Pleasant Hill High School ninth graders, Madison Roeder and Aidan Parker, were awarded a college savings match scholarship through the KC Scholars Program. This program is available to 9th graders and is a one-time award. Each year, up to 1,000 students will receive $50 in a 529 College Savings Plan. Of these 1,000 9th graders, 50 will be selected for the four-to-one match and incentives program where a student can earn up to $7,000 toward college. Students must enroll in college full-time beginning the fall immediately following high school graduation. The college savings match and incentives funds will be sent directly to the college or university.

News from the Counseling Center

The PHHS Counseling Center provided a two day Suicide Awareness and Prevention Program to Juniors in Health class. Students were provided with information on warning signs, risk factors, key phrases often used when contemplating suicide, self harm & self harm reduction techniques, mental health conditions, and support resources. They also learned how their school counselors respond to suicide and specific steps to take when students themselves feel suicidal or believe someone else does. Students were also provided with a three step strategy to learn how to best respond when someone reveals they are contemplating suicide.

Day One ended with a role play activity that allowed students to take turns telling others they were contemplating suicide and practicing the 3 step intervention strategy. Day Two included bystander intervention training and a class activity to practice. Students were divided into teams, presented hypothetical scenarios that students may observe, and had a relay race to generate intervention ideas for each
scenario. Following this activity students took a post-test which revealed that 100% of students either agreed or strongly agreed that they could confidently identify suicide warning signs in a another student, friend, or themselves and now had the knowledge to get the appropriate help required.

**SPECIAL SERVICES**

**Pleasant Hill High School- Mrs. Juliette’s Class**

Community Based Instruction

This year in our classroom, we have been able to incorporate community based instruction with a small group of students. Community Based Instruction is educational instruction which occurs in different community environments which then provide students with “real life experiences”. Recently, a group of students were able to go shopping in the grocery store and have lunch at Subway. At the grocery store, students were split into 3 small groups. A grocery list was given to each group. Students had to compare prices and brands to figure out what would be the best purchase. Students will use the food purchased to prepare a lunch here at school. In the kitchen, students will be cooking and preparing the food using several skills that they have learned throughout the year. We were also privileged to have lunch at Subway together. Students had to put their skills to the test and order their meal for lunch. Community Based Instruction has really been beneficial for these students and allows them to apply their abilities in the real world setting.

**Senior High Job Olympics**

A group of students from Mrs. Juliette’s Class competed at Job Olympics in Belton on Friday, April 7th. Job Olympics is a competition between 5 different school districts (Pleasant Hill, Belton, Midway, Harrisonville, and RayPec). Job Olympics is a competition where students perform specific tasks which exist in a real job setting. There are currently 13 different competitions that are available for students. A task analysis is used to describe each job used in the competition. Students are then evaluated following the task analysis and rated according to a rubric. Community members who specialize in each job act as the judge for the competition. The top 3 competitors from each event are recognized and given a medal.

Six students from the high school attended this year as well as a group of A+ students who assisted the students and helped with different events. Each student that participated from Pleasant Hill High School medaled in at least one event, and some came home with several medals. Students started practicing for their events after Christmas break and got to put their skills to the test on the day of the competition. This event is so much fun and the students look forward to it each year!

The students in Mr. Reeves and Mr. Hutzell have been working on some introduction to trigonometry work. The students used a clinometer to measure angles much like a surveyor would before starting a build site. The students were able to find distances using sine cosine and tangent. They worked hard finding the heights of buildings, flagpoles, trees, and other tall objects using only a tape measure a protractor and a straw. The students seemed to enjoy the hands on activity and getting to go outside!!
Better Speech, and Hearing Month
Mr. Nathan Wood - Primary School

The month of May is Better Speech and Hearing Month. Our bulletin board was posted with 31 speech and hearing facts for the whole month. For instance, did you know the smallest bone in the body is in your ear and is called the Stirrup? Or, did you know that of the 6.1 million children with disabilities who received special education services under IDEA this year, more than 1.1 million were served under the category of speech and/or language impairment?

In addition to posting fun facts, our students took the time to reflect on what they have learned in Speech and Language this year, and what their favorite part of the year has been.

Students made “May Flowers” as a reflection activity. Targets including learning new words, learning sounds, and talking to others. Students enjoyed things like speech games and activities, Vocabulary 4-Square, reading big books, and making silly faces.

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

Highlights:

1. **The Scholar Bowl:** The Scholar Bowl program grew tremendously this year in terms of both its success and its activity. Four years ago, the team only played in 4 quads and the conference tournament (about 21 matches). In the 2016-2017 season, we played in 9 non-conference tournaments for a total of almost 150 individual matches. We traveled twice to Columbia, once to St. Louis, and once to Chicago: all firsts for our program. This increase was made possible by students and parents working, fundraising, and dedicating their time to helping us grow and challenge our team. For the first time ever, we competed in the MRVC Championship, defended the JV conference title, and qualified for the Small Schools National Championship Tournament (SSNCT) in Chicago. To wrap this incredible year, we placed 2nd in the MRVC, 3rd in District 13, and 29th in the nation for schools our size. Ben Yoder was ranked as the top sophomore from Missouri at SSNCT, and was 49th out of 525
students overall at the tournament. He and Aidan Link both received multiple top 10 individual scoring awards throughout the season.

2. **Rooster Golf:** The Rooster Golf team placed 3rd at districts this year, however all five golfers qualified for the sectional meet being held Monday May 8th in Warrensburg!

3. **Rooster Baseball:** The Roosters have secured the #3 seed in their district tournament which will begin Saturday May 13th in Odessa. They defeated Odessa last week and host Senior Night Monday vs the Grain Valley Eagles. The Roosters wrap up their regular season at Oak Grove on Tuesday evening.

4. **Chicks Soccer:** The Chicks earned the #1 seed in the class 2 district 11 tournament to begin on May 16th in Pleasant Hill. The semi-final game will be against Clinton. Others in the district are Boonville (ranked 7th in the state in 2A) and Oak Grove. The Chicks have most recently been ranked 5th in the state coaches poll!

5. **Pleasant Hill Track:** The track team participated in two meets last week. The first being the MRVC JV Finale, which the Rooster and Chicks hosted ... The second being the big MRVC Conference meet. There were many highlights of the evening. One such highlight was Luke Woodall's Conference championship and record breaking pole vault jump of 15'6"! Olivia Ferdig won her fourth straight 100m and third straight 200m Conference championship. Donna Borer earned another Conference championship in the discus and she took second in the shot put. The girls also took the 4x200 championship; Curtis, Campbell, O'Hanlon, Ferdig.

6. **Summer activities and camps** have been posted on the activities website at [www.pleasanthillactivities.org](http://www.pleasanthillactivities.org). All activities appear on a single google doc from which specific links to specific sport's camps and schedules can be accessed.

7. **Senior Letterwinner Luncheon:** Mr. Oliver will be hosting his annual senior letterwinner luncheon on Tuesday May 9th. All senior letterwinners are invited to have lunch in the media center as a celebration of their accomplishments at PHHS. The kids will receive a letter plaque with all the sports they've participated in along with a tasty lunch! Mr. Oliver also recognizes the Vanek and Diane award nominees for the year.