 PRIMARY SCHOOL

Primary School staff and students had fun incorporating World Series facts in lessons and activities all week, such as this Venn diagram comparing Royals and Giants. Student teacher Jackie Erisman attended game 7 with a poster designed by her 2nd grade students. All teachers enjoyed high levels of participation at parent/teacher conferences. Our PTO Hospitality Committee treated us very well with dinners provided on two nights. We appreciate the PTO parents who arranged Fall parties for all classrooms on Oct. 30 with games, snacks, and crafts. Staff is working hard this second quarter on writing events, rigorous math assessments by standard, and aligning our Readers’ and Writers’ Workshop procedures among classrooms at each grade level. The Mid-America Regional Council is bringing the 9-1-1 safety program, Cell Phone Sally, to our building the first week of November. The presentations will be given by our PH Police Department, as our introduction to November’s character education term, responsibility.

 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Parent teacher conferences have concluded and I would like to commend teachers for being prepared, professional, compassionate and poised throughout their conferences last week. They did a great job of explaining the rigor of our common assessments and district initiatives to parents. Our PTO was wonderful to provide dinner during conferences and spent many hours organizing our fall parties; both teachers and students were appreciative of their efforts.
Last week we honored students at our First Quarter Celebration Assembly. Over 130 students were recognized for sportsmanship, musicianship, respect, kindness, art work, perseverance and academic achievement. We appreciate Mr. Edenburn and Mrs. Redwine for attending and presenting the Trackmaker Awards to our fourth graders.

This week our Student Leadership Club is gearing up for our Veterans Day breakfast by preparing invitations and decorations. Third graders are starting research on Veterans Day and the Solar System while fourth graders are launching research projects on voting, cartography and settlements. The Big 6 process is being used throughout the building to guide this research and the Library Media Center is the informational hub of the building. In math, all students are continuing their study of multiplication, division and problem solving. It’s sure to be another busy week at the Elementary School.

**INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

“Students of the Week” are: Claire Kenyon, Allee Brattin, Keagan Roeder, Darren Byrd, Alivia Redwine and Logan Leiker. We congratulate these students for their outstanding character and deeds.

PHIS students and families were invited to decorate pumpkins representing their favorite book characters. The decorating was completed at home and final projects were displayed at school. This was a fun way for students and adults to use their creative talents to tie literature and art together. The student body voted on their favorites when visiting the book fair. We congratulate our 3 winners: Jenna Marconett, Jessica Ross and Madison Woods!

5th graders in Mrs. Lucht’s math class participated in pumpkin math. Students were surveying and creating graphs, estimating, weighing and calculating data in inches, identify patterns, creating patterns, plotting points and finding averages. Students were using the language of math and explained their thinking in writing. These activities were carried over to students’ ELA classes where students
discussed additional pertinent vocabulary and wrote a pumpkin plot. This writing piece will be scored using the 6-Trait writing scoring guide. We would like to thank the many parent volunteers that helped throughout the day! What a great learning experience.

Friends of Rachel (FOR) Club sponsored a successful positive school climate activity last week. Over 100 students and staff showed a lot of creativity and fun as they dressed in costume! Students and staff were encouraged to wear their costumes to school for the price
This was a positive school climate fundraiser. Proceeds from these fundraisers go to support positive school climate expenditures, such as picnic tables for outside the cafeteria for students to enjoy eating outside on nice weather days. Plans are underway this year to purchase industrial umbrellas or a permanent canopy to be placed over the outdoor patio area.

We are celebrating fall this week at Pleasant Hill Middle School, and the work towards a positive school climate continues. This week we kick off our Fall Harvest Completion. Each building in our school district will be competing to gather the most non-perishable food items for our local food pantry. Our goal for this competition is to help our local food pantry stock their shelves to help families in need and also give to local charities that do amazing work in our community. We will be collecting items from November 3-7.

On November 5, we will be traveling over to the high school for part of the day to participate in this year’s “Rachel’s Legacy” work. We began the Rachel's Challenge a few years ago in our district, and our middle school has continued to keep the work alive with 7th and 8th grade students with our Friends of Rachel (FOR) Club. Our FOR Club is an active club at our middle school; however, we look forward to the Rachel’s Legacy presentation as it will “ignite our fire” once again and begin the message with a new group of students.

FOR Club Kindness Pledge:
*I pledge this day
  to find a way
  to look for the best in others.*

*I promise myself
  to be a part
  of the chain reaction we wish to start.*

**High School**

This Week at Pleasant Hill High School

Throughout the semester, teachers at PHHS have been involved in a book study, discussing the book *Focus*, written by Mike Schmoker. As a result of the conversations from the book, teachers have recently used professional development time to begin the work of rewriting curriculum. Teachers are in the process of developing common pacing guides for every content area, and prioritizing content learning standards.

Parent/Teacher conferences were held at the high school on October 27, 2014 and on October 30, 2014. The conferences were well attended, and over twenty percent of high school students were represented. Many positive comments regarding the professionalism and caring demeanor of high school teachers were received. On average, teachers conducted nineteen parent/teacher conferences throughout the week.

On Wednesday, November 5, 2014, students at Pleasant Hill High School will attend a program titled Rachel’s Legacy. This program is named after Rachel Joy Scott, who was the first victim of the Columbine school shootings in 1999. Rachel’s Legacy builds on Rachel’s Challenge by exploring the legacy that Rachel left in the lives of people around her. Through a series of stories told from the perspective of those who Rachel touched, Rachel’s Legacy encourages participants to take specific steps toward making their positive legacy a reality. Rachel’s Legacy does this by challenging the listener to consider the following 5 challenges.
1. Leave a Legacy of Kindness
2. Show Compassion
3. Practice Pre-Acceptance
4. Learn from Your Mistakes
5. Forgive Yourself & Others

**SPECIAL SERVICES**

The Office

Tuesday November 4th, Pleasant Hill Special Services are teaming up with Project ACCESS and the Missouri Department of Education to bring a program called: Building Effective Autism Teams (BEAT) to our district. This is a comprehensive team that supports our students and teachers Pre K-12 that are diagnosed with Autism. By the end of the year we should have 4 In District Autism Consultants (IDACs).

We are continuing to add to the list of students being referred and re evaluated. We are currently working on 20.

Middle School

We have had a lot of fun in our classroom so far this year! In ELA, we have been analyzing our characters by finding inside and outside character traits. We started with an anchor chart describing both inside and outside character traits. We described ourselves using the inside and outside traits and made a poster to hang around the room! We read the book "Alexander, Who's Trying His Best to Be the Best Boy Ever" and created a chart that presented his inside and outside traits. To conclude character traits, the students chose a character from their own book and created a character foldable to share with the class. We have had a lot of fun!

Intermediate School Co Teaching

Students researched 2 trees and compared and contrasted them in a paragraph.
Students were making inferences about an excerpt from Shiloh.
**TECHNOLOGY**

The technology department was fortunate to be a part of a project that installed two high definition, flat screen televisions at the Intermediate School. One of the televisions was installed in the Library Media Center and the other was installed in the cafeteria. The purpose of installing the televisions was to display student work. With the use of iPads in the classroom, our students are producing multi-media works that the teachers and students want to put on display at the building for others to enjoy. An additional bonus is that the television in the Library Media Center will also be used for instructional purposes and reading promotions as it can be synced to an iPad used by the library media specialist and teachers.

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**PLEASANT HILL ACTIVITIES… “IT’S A GREAT DAY TO BE A ROOSTER/CHICK!”**

What a time for Pleasant Hill Activities!

**Highlights:**

1. Fall sports awards are as follows: November 4th; 6pm - Softball & Girls Golf. November 11th; 6:30pm - Football & Fall Cheer. November 12th; 6pm - Volleyball, Boys Soccer & Cross Country. A special thanks to the Booster Club for sponsoring our awards ceremonies.

2. Coach Fleeman and the softball program had a very strong year. They made it to the state quarterfinal at Platte County. They dropped a heart-breaker to the Pirates but stood strong in representing Pleasant Hill with pride. The team graduates eight seniors this year and will bring a strong underclass presence to the program next season looking for great things moving forward!

3. The Chicks Volleyball team and coach Creason had a good run this fall as they travelled to Clinton and became district champions! Their bid for a state title fell short as they were defeated by a very good Logan-Rogers team late in October in the sectional tournament. The team is graduating only two seniors and looks forward to great things in the coming season.
4. Cross Country had a good run this past Saturday as the team qualified four competitors for the state meet! Lauren Larkens took 4th for the girls; Joseph Madison took 4th, Garrett Bakken 6th & Jared Watson 7th for the boys. The boys team just missed the state bid by taking 3rd as a team. The state meet will be held this Saturday, November 8th!

5. The Band students are preparing for concert season! They have district auditions coming up at UCM on November 8th.

6. The winter sports season is underway as practices began Monday! We are all excited to see what the new winter season will bring with all the competitive spirit that has pressed it's way into our programs! Basketball Purple & Gold will be Tuesday November 18th; 6pm and Wrestling Purple & Gold will be Thursday November 20th; 6pm.

The winter season is upon us! Let’s keep that Pleasant Hill spirit strong with good representation at our sporting events and activities. We do this for the kids! Professionalism and class at all times will ensure our presentation is first class!