DISTRICT
District Curriculum Facilitator Position Filled

At the March 20th Board of Education meeting the District Curriculum Facilitator position was filled by approving Pleasant Hill High School ELA teacher, Jakqualyn Boden. Mrs. Boden has 12 years of teaching experience at a variety of grade levels. She has worked as part of a curriculum team in Independence, as well as serving as a curriculum facilitator for Pleasant Hill High School. Jakqualyn has extensive experience working with data analysis and data-driven instruction, as well as working with a variety of assessment and data programs. Mrs. Boden also has experience in planning and facilitating professional development to large and small groups of teachers, which is a major component for teacher success. We look forward to Jakqualyn working with teachers in all buildings next year! The goal for the District Curriculum Facilitator position is to support teachers and principals, and most importantly, student learning!

The main goals for this position will have Mrs. Boden working closely with teachers and principals to support their use of Illuminate DnA. Jakqualyn will work with teachers to gather and analyze data, align activities and lessons based on strengths and areas for growth in the data. Mrs. Boden will lead professional development and curriculum writing sessions as needed to continue building our curriculum library. Jakqualyn will also be additional support for Unit of Instruction work next year.

We are looking forward to the additional support Mrs. Boden will offer teachers in working with curriculum. Please offer Jakqualyn congratulations the next time you see her. This position, and Mrs. Boden will be a tremendous asset for our district to continue growth in curriculum, instruction, and assessment.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Recent events at the PS have included Dollars and Donuts with Dads (which raised over $700 to donate to our local Lay Clergy), first grade Grandparents’ Day, second grade leprechaun trap displays, our first Math Night, and the 1st. grade spring performance and art show. In addition, our librarian, Tricia Beaman, arranged for a visit from E.B. Lewis, an award-winning illustrator of children’s books. Students are familiar with many of his illustrated stories, and were excited to meet him and hear about his childhood and career. Mrs. Sherry Helus visited our building on March 21 to meet staff, tour the building, and observe some daily routines. We are looking forward to the Mad Science “Fire and Ice” program on March 27, funded through donations from Guido’s, Pizza Hut, and Sonic. I am meeting with teachers to review third quarter achievement data and start the Professional Development Plan process in NEE.
March is full of Madness at PHES

Pi Day
The PHES Math and Science Committee planned another great Pi Day on March 14th. Students explored different math and science concepts at various stations. All activities were hands on and discovery centered. A great way to explore and learn.

Project Lead the Way
Third graders are learning all about FLIGHT in their PLTW module. Students explore the concepts of lift, drag, gravity and force when they design a glider. With different wing and tail shapes, they test their airplane for loft and distance. The kids had a great time testing their devices.

Student vs. Staff Basketball Game
Fourth graders played the staff in a friendly (yet competitive) seven quarter ball game on March 16th. The PH Rooster helped the kids cheer on their favorite players. The staff won by just 2 points, but a great time was had by all.
EB Lewis visits PHES
In a joint effort with the primary school, we were blessed to have an amazing speaker and illustrator talk with students. EB Lewis has painted the illustrations of more than 70 books. He shared his school experiences and how he found his passion. He had many wonderful messages for the students.

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Congratulations to the PHIS Students of the Week! They are: Westyn Jensen, Hayden Hornbostel, Keely Crownover, Sam Ewing, Brendan Ruckdeschel, and Makynna Woods. They were selected by teams of teachers for exhibiting character traits and doing good deeds.

Sixth grade students enrolled for middle school March 23rd. Students had the opportunity to select from various elective courses such as: Family and Consumer Science (Facs), Theater, Choir, Band, and PLTW. Middle School staff including Mr. Reeves, principal; Mrs. Pate, counselor; and Mrs. Myler, teacher, were present to facilitate the process. We appreciate all their work to make this a seamless task. We also thank Mrs. Bermel, our counselor, for assisting! Sixth graders will tour the MS later this school year. They are getting ready to make an exciting transition!

Earlier this spring, Cass County Dental partnered with our building in order to provide free dental screenings to our students. This is a great opportunity that assists families with heath care services; we are fortunate to have this to offer and thank everyone at Cass County Dental! This year, 149 students were screened and 79 students received a fluoride treatment. A second fluoride treatment will be provided in May. We thank our nurse, Mrs. Lora Watson, for organizing this event.

Fifth grade students are learning about options that are available to them as 6th graders. One of these options includes Band. Students have been exposed to 6th grade band in many capacities. Most recently, they are engaging in band demo days as seen in the picture. Students will engage in Instrument Tryout Days later this month.
Above: PHMS’s seventh-grade, eighth-grade, jazz bands performed at PHHS in March. The grade-level bands played in the performing arts center while the jazz band entertained patrons in the commons area during dessert intermission.

In the past two weeks, students have begun benchmark testing in math and ELA. The diagnostic exams will help teachers adjust instruction before students begin MAP testing on April 26. The middle school will adjust a three-block day to allow students appropriate time to complete exams and to allow other classes to proceed with instruction. New textbooks for seventh-grade geography were delivered to the building this week. This will be followed by new American History texts for eighth-grade classes over the summer. Track and Field has practiced for three weeks and will begin meets soon including two home meets in April.

Left: Mrs. Fender’s advisory class celebrates with a pizza party for raising the most money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Student Council sponsored this fundraiser. Right: Student Council meets in the morning in Ms. Martin’s room to discuss their next project.
The Language Arts Department in conjunction with the Library Media Center coordinated and sponsored a school-wide day dedicated to reading, *Missouri Read-In Day*. *Missouri Read-In Day* is a recognized holiday in Missouri state statutes as a day set apart for reading activities to bring about increased awareness of the benefits and importance of reading. The day is to aid in the recognition that reading proficiency is the major factor in determining a child’s success at school, regardless of other factors. The day is also recognized by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, University of Missouri, Missouri State Teachers Association, *Education World*, a number of school districts across the state, and other state organizations. In addition, the Missouri Learning Standards also recognizes this day as an important one. To celebrate this day, there were ten minutes of silent reading in each period of the day, including Connections. Teachers also shared something from his/her own reading experience with each period as well. In addition to the reading and discussions about reading, prizes were given away to a student from each grade level and a staff member at the end of each period. Prizes were reading related and included items such as Amazon gift cards, bookmarks, reading journals, book lights, and books. A grand prize, a Kindle, was given to a student at each grade level and a staff member also. Prizes were purchased with fine money collected from the library.

SPECIAL SERVICES
Mrs. Lloyd’s Class-PHES

What if you could create a Pokémon that actually went into circulation?! In our classroom we designed and created our own Pokémon card using [www.mypokecard.com](http://www.mypokecard.com). Students had to persuade the makers of Pokémon to put THEIR card into the Pokémon collection. Check out our creations and see if they can persuade YOU!

*I CAN state an opinion about a topic or establish a position and provide reasons for the opinion/position, supported by details.*

In the pictures below- First students had to brainstorm what type, personality, weaknesses, etc. that their Pokemon would have. Students then were able to create their Pokemon card on the computer before writing their persuasive letters. Lastly, they got to bring their Pokemon to life using modeling clay!
PLEASANT HILL ACTIVITIES… “IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A ROOSTER/CHICK!”

Highlights:

1. Winter MRVC Academic All-Conference: Congratulations to the following students who earned academic all-conference honors this winter:

- Breann Bissonette - cheer
- Josey Pate - cheer
- Lauren Mann - cheer
- Cailee More - cheer
- Emma Moore - cheer
- Brayden Bonnesen - basketball
- Cody Faust - basketball
- Evan Yokley - basketball
- Michael Wright - basketball
- Callie Miller - basketball
- Sydney Bunch - basketball
- Paige Zieman - basketball
- Alex Moore - wrestling
- Chance Sullivan - wrestling
- Grace Keilholz - cheer
- Halee Werner - cheer
- Courtney Wesemann - cheer/basketball
- Ali Ray - cheer
- Robin Brundage - cheer
- Mathew Campbell - basketball
- Noah Kenyon - basketball
- Zach Gray - basketball
- Donna Borer - basketball
- Averee Brattin - basketball
- Kylee Reeves - basketball
- Cole Lightfoot - wrestling
- Lane Jellison - wrestling
2. **Winter MRVC All-Conference Honors:**

Girls Basketball:  
- **Tabitha Graham** - 2nd team  
- **Callie Miller** - 2nd team  
- **Chesnea Philipsheck** - Honorable Mention

Boys Basketball:  
- **Billy Ring** - 1st team  
- **Cole Ederer** - 2nd team  
- **Matt Campbell** - Honorable Mention

Wrestling:  
- **Gaige Brunell** - 132lbs  
- **Cole Lightfoot** - 170lbs  
- **Lane Jellison** - 195lbs

3. **Speech and Debate** The speech and debate team traveled to William Chrisman for the MSHSAA district tournament. **Mackenzie Beaman** finished 11th after competing in both rounds against the first and second places finishers. **Eric Humphrey** earned all-district honors in US Extemporaneous Speaking and finished in 8th place. Alex Whittington finished in 4th place and earned a state qualifying position in Humorous Interpretation. **Fernanda Sierra** also qualified to state finishing 2nd in Poetry reading. Eric Humphrey received an additional honor being named to the NSDA Academic All American roster. Requirements for this award include 750 competition points, ACT score of at least 27, GPA of at least 3.75 and exemplary character and leadership. Eric is the third PHHS student to achieve this benchmark over the last 2 years.

4. **FFA:** Congratulations to the follow people who competed at the Area 7 FFA Competition last night in Clinton: **Grace Keilholz**, 2 place in the FFA Secretary's Book; **Jenna Kerbs** 3rd place in the FFA Scrapbook competition and Alex **Moore**, 5th place in Completed SAE Record Book and 1st Place in his FFA Proficiency Award. The Following FFA students qualified for District FFA Competition next week in Warrensburg: The FFA Knowledge Team (8th place) consisting of **Makayla Taylor, Taylor Markham and Nicole South**; The 3rd Place Parliamentary Procedure Team consisting of **Alex Moore, Ashley McClanahan, Kylie Keith, MacKenzie Robinson, Ryan Hopkins, Jenna Kerbs, Will Moore, Grace Keilholz and Colten Haak**; and Congratulations to **Ashlynn Keilholz** for taking 1st place out of 15 in the FFA Creed Speaking Division AND 1st place in her SAE Record Book which will go to the State FFA Convention in Columbia in April.

5. **Choir:** The solos and ensembles representing the PHHS choir department had a strong day last week. The qualified 28 events for state music contests earning "I" ratings. Another 14 events earned "II" ratings. This past weekend all the PHHS choirs received “I” ratings at the state music contest held at Paseo High School for the Performing Arts.

6. **Band:** The Pride of the Hill will be representing PHHS this coming Sunday at the Mavericks game! Mr. Twenter has discounted tickets available this week for anyone who may wish to attend. This is always a fun event for the kids and the community. Contact Mr. Twenter ASAP to secure tickets!

7. **The Scholar Bowl:** Scholar Bowl wrapped up conference play last week, earning 2nd place in both JV and Varsity tournaments. Two students earned all-conference honors (*Joe Heinrich* for JV, **Ben Yoder** for Varsity, both 3rd overall individual players). There are two competitions left: we defend the 2016 District 13 title on April 8th, and 8 students, 3 parents (Chloe Yoder, Michelle Humphrey, and Jeremy Morris), and Coach Moore leave for the Small School National Championship Tournament (SSNCT) on April 28th in Chicago, Il. This is the school's first appearance at NAQT Nationals. Overall, this has been the programs most active and competitive year with over 145 individual matches played between JV and Varsity. Three years ago, that number was only 21!
8. **Rooster Golf:** The Rooster Golf team earned two big MRVC victories this past week vs. Odessa and Excelsior Springs. The previous Friday they earned the team Championship at the Oak Grove Invitational! O.G. Tourney Individual results: Jordan Hamlin - Tournament Champion, Trey Stone - t2nd, Nathan Allen - t2nd, Jackson Stone - 4th, and Gavin Wheeler - 6th.

9. **Rooster Baseball:** The Roosters took home a championship trophy last weekend from the Ozark Invitational tournament in Harrison, Arkansas. They had three wins over Belton, Harrison and West Plains. Coming up they have games Home to Harrisonville Tuesday, at Odessa on Thursday, JV at Clinton on Friday and home to Clinton and St. Lafayette on Saturday (10am & 2:30pm).

10. **Chicks Soccer:** The Chicks had their home opener this past Tuesday vs. Clinton. Both the JV and Varsity teams escaped with wins! The ladies played again on Friday night vs. the Ray-Pec Lady Panthers. The varsity team earned a big win 5-2 in that contest. The team is off to a 2-0 start. They will participate in the Summit Christian Academy Tournament this week with games on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. PHHS may host a game or two depending on the weather. Keep your ears open!
11. **Pleasant Hill Track:** The track team performed well in their first meet of the season this past week in Belton. This week they are competing in Grain Valley (Tuesday), Smithville (JV, Wednesday) and finally the Odessa Invitational on Friday.

12. A huge shout-out goes to our booster organizations. It is very good to see parents, community members and businesses working to support our extra-curricular programs. Many are putting in long hours to benefit these groups and they deserve a standing ovation for those efforts. It is very much appreciated! Thank you!

13. Twitter Following!! Check out our group’s twitter pages at they progress through the Spring sports/activities season… @PHillgolfteam @PHillbaseball @PHillgirlssocc @roosterdebate @PHillffa @philldeca

**Facilities**

The maintenance process of Eklund Field took place on March 22, 2017. This process de-compacts the rubber, cleans the field of any debris, and finally grooms the field for play. This is a necessary procedure to ensure the safety of our students, staff and patrons that utilize the facility. The work was performed by Sports Surface Management, LLC.