

KAW NEWS

PERRY-LECOMPTON HIGH SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2009

Dear Parents,

PowerSchool
Parent/Student

Want to stay in touch with what is going on at the High School on a daily basis? Please remember that you can access the PLHS daily announcements through Power School. To access Power School, go to the district website, (www.usd343.net) and click on the Power School – Parent/Student icon on the right side of the page. Use your parent user name and password to gain access. The announcements can be found under the “School Bulletin” icon. They are updated every morning, so it is a great way to keep up with what is going on in Kaw Country! If you have lost your user name or password, please contact the PLHS office for that information.



If you have been in the PLHS commons lately, you have probably noticed the new 52 inch LCD monitor at the south end. This monitor, which was donated by First State Bank, is being used to project announcements and reminders to students during the school day. This has been a great way to pass along important information to our entire student body.

The KU Honors program was held on the 23rd of September at the University of Kansas' Lied Center. The program honors the top ten percent of the senior class for their academic achievements. At this ceremony the top students from area high schools are awarded a collegiate dictionary, a CD of Webster's Collegiate Dictionary and a certificate for their outstanding academic success. It is a very impressive ceremony and we are honored to have our students taking part in the occasion. We would like to congratulate the students who have earned this year's award. The 2009 Perry-Lecompton High School Kansas Honor Scholars are Morgan Brown, Emma Gantz, Katie Hirsch, Mikaela Kelley, Brendan McGarity, Gage McMullin, Brad Phillips, Morgan Shockley, Katie Volle, and Kyle William.

ACT Information

If your child plans to attend a 4-year college or university, they will need to take the ACT (American College Test). In an effort to increase performance on the ACT, PLHS has many opportunities student are highly encouraged to take advantage of:

- On-line preparation. PLHS has a subscription to the on-line ACT preparation program (www.actonlineprep.com). In order to gain access, students stop by the counselor's office and pick up their log in information. Please do **not** purchase access to this site, as the school has already paid for a group/school subscription. This site allows students to practice tests with real ACT test questions, practice essays for the new optional ACT Writing Test (not required for Kansas schools), a comprehensive content review for each of the ACT's four required tests—English, Math, Reading, and Science, a diagnostic test and personalized Study Path, and not to forget, access anywhere, anytime because it is Internet based.
- Timed paper and pencil practice test. Ms. Snyder has set up sessions during seminar for students to take ACT practice tests. This will be timed, just like the actual ACT. We hope this opportunity will give students a true “feel” for how timing will affect their performance on the test. Students will need to check

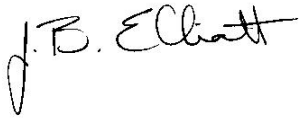


announcements to find the dates of these practice tests.

- Review sessions with classroom teachers. Students will have the opportunity to review the practice tests they have taken with PLHS teachers. This will allow students to ask questions regarding their mistakes on the practice tests. Hopefully students will have a better understanding of the tested material.

We certainly hope these measures allow students to perform at a high level on the ACT!

Educationally,



J.B. Elliott, Principal

From the OFFICE

THANKS FOR CALLING

A very large "thank you" is extended to all parents who call the office before 9:00 a.m. to let us know their son or daughter will be absent. Parents are reminded that an excuse for student absences, written or oral, from a parent or guardian must be provided within 48 hours of the absence if the absence is to be excused. Page 16 in the Student Parent Handbook provides more detailed information as to excused and unexcused absences. If you have specific questions regarding your student(s) absence, you may call the office any time between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and we will be happy to assist you.



REQUEST FOR HOMEWORK

HOMEWORK: On the second consecutive day of absence, a parent may call the high school office by 9:00 a.m. and request homework assignments for the absent days. Homework can be picked up at the office between 3:00 and 3:30 p.m.

Each teacher will establish homework and missing assignment rules and policies at the start of the school year. In all classes, students have a minimum of two school days for each day of excused absence to submit make-up assignments for full credit. In all classes students will be expected to complete and submit all homework regardless of "credit". Teachers will communicate with the office and parents as needed regarding students who habitually fail to complete and submit their homework. (Page 13, Student Handbook)

TELEPHONE POLICY

Office phones are not for student use except in an emergency or illness. Students may use office phones to call parents when sick or to notify parents that school activities have been canceled. When making a long distance call, students are expected to call collect, charge the call to their home phone number, or use a calling card. Some people are finding the pre-paid phone cards very convenient. Cell phone usage is also authorized at the office. However, if a student is ill, we request that the student use the phone located outside the office and put the parent on hold. The office will pick up that line inside the office to speak to the parent. In an effort to decrease the spread of germs and viruses, antibacterial wipes and hand sanitizer is available for those students who are not ill and need to use the phone.





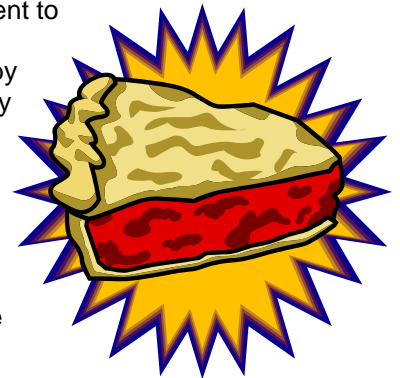
DINNER THEATRE RESERVATIONS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN.....

Family and Community Leaders is sponsoring this year's dinner theatre on Thursday, November 12. Paid reservations must be made for the dinner theater through the PLHS office. Tickets for the dinner and the show are \$18. The dinner will be served at 5:30 prompt.

PIE IN THE FACE AND PIE TO EAT!

Pie played a significant role on Friday, October 2 at the Perry LeCompton High School homecoming activities. The Future Business Leaders of America sponsored their second annual Pie-a-Teacher contest. Students and staff were encouraged to buy tickets to win a chance to "pie" a teacher. Throughout the week, different teachers vied for the lead in this exciting contest. The last minute first place winner was first year teacher Mr. Coopridier; he had 2 votes on Thursday, but managed a landslide win on Friday with 202 votes. Master strategist of the year honors went to Caitlyn Winchester. Catie quietly purchased tickets for her father, teacher Pat Winchester, during the week. Mr. Winchester was surprised by winning the second place pie and also by learning that he had paid for most of it. Mr. Dave Bruns finished third with 123 votes; Lacey Spreer was selected to pie Mr. Bruns.

The Student Council and the International Club hosted a pie feed at the Friday night homecoming game. Group members served 30 pies, 8 pans of brownies and more than 200 cups of coffee and hot chocolate. The cold weather helped the students have a very successful first venture into the dessert and beverage industry. The Perry Thriftway generously supported the students with donated supplies. A good time was had by all. We are looking forward to seeing all of you at next year's events!



FROM THE COUNSELOR'S CORNER

October, 2009

Occasionally, we receive information about seminar or workshop opportunities for students. Organizations ask for nominations. Some of these experiences, while worthwhile, are quite expensive. It is our belief that workshops or academies that we will recommend to students need to be competitive in nature, have eligibility guidelines, offer scholarships or have minimal costs. We certainly feel that it is a family's prerogative to investigate these programs and see if the experience and cost is right for your student. The following are two programs which are approved by NASSP (National Assoc. Secondary School Principals)

People to People (cost unavailable) www.peopletopeople.com
National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine \$2465 www.nylf.org

PLHS SCHOLARSHIPS

We are happy to remind everyone of the link on the district website. Every scholarship opportunity that is mailed to us will be available as the year progresses, with deadlines updated as we receive new information.

SENIOR NEWSLETTERS will be available most months of the year. This is where I will print out the latest news from this office and information about what your student needs to be doing to be involved in the post-secondary vocational and academic world. **The first one is available now.**

<u>Colleges visiting PLHS</u>	(Seniors and juniors)	(Scheduled thus far) (*already visited)
K-State*	August 27	Seminar
K.U.*	Sept. 8	Seminar
Washburn*	Sept. 29	Seminar
Emporia State	Oct. 21	Seminar
McPherson College	Oct. 22	During lunch, in commons
Pittsburg State	Nov. 11	During lunch, in commons
Ft. Hays	Nov. 19	During lunch, in commons

HOMECOMING THANK YOU!

The PLHS Blue Krew would like to thank EVERYONE who played a part in making Homecoming 2009 a huge success! There were several "new" changes this year that we hope made the week fun and spirited for the entire community! Once again, "thanks"! See you next fall!

A special thank you goes out to:

Mikaela Kelley & Colton Miller – for ALL pre-week and daily preparations!
 Pat Winchester, SkillsUSA Sponsor – Float/parade & Bonfire coordinator!!! It was great!
 SkillsUSA Members – Float/parade & bonfire coordination!
 The PLHS Community – for their support and participation in the week's activities!
 Katie Volle, Student Council – For a fantastic Hot Dog Eating contest!
 Carrie & Rich Volle – Hot Dog Eating Contest help!!!
 Kentucky Township Fire Department – Bonfire support!
 Perry Police Department – Parade escort!
 Topeka Corvette Club – Candidate escort!
 PLHS Band & Drumline– for always being there to provide the music and the beat!
 Sherry Dugan, FBLA Sponsor & members – for a great Pie-the-Teacher activity!
 JB Elliott & Mike Copple – for everything.....
 PLHS Students & Faculty – for support!
 USD #343 Faculty, Staff & students – for all your participation!