

# KAW NEWS

## PERRY-LECOMPTON HIGH SCHOOL

**JANUARY 2010**

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe that the first semester has ended! We hope that your students put forth their best efforts last semester and that their grades reflected the positive effort. If first semester grades are not what students expected they should see their teachers, get a study buddy, use their planners, and get organized. The best key to success is enthusiasm and hard work.

Coming up this spring semester we have enrollment for next fall, Kansas Assessments, the end of winter activities, and the start of spring activities and events. The great news is that Perry-Lecompton High School met the standard of excellence in math and reading on the State Assessments again this past school year. Congratulations to our students, faculty, and parents for a job well done!

Kansas Assessments will begin in late February. Sophomores will be taking the math and reading assessments. Juniors will be taking the science assessment. The state of Kansas and USD 343 are very dedicated to doing well on these assessments. We need everyone to take these assessments seriously. Information we gain from these tests is useful in curriculum decisions, school improvement and for accreditation with the State of Kansas. It will also give individual students the opportunity to know where they stand compared to other students in the state of Kansas.

Please mark your calendars for the following dates! February 3<sup>rd</sup> we will be having Parent Teacher conferences from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. We will also be having conferences on February 4<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Parents, please support your student by attending conferences. We also encourage all students to attend conferences with their parents. Attending together helps create a very positive conference environment.

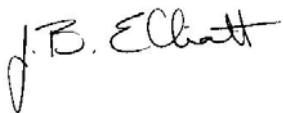
Seniors, spring semester is a very busy time. Financial aid applications, scholarship applications, and applications for post secondary education all have deadlines; you cannot afford to be late turning in your paperwork. It is a very competitive world out there so please make sure that you do not miss out because you did not apply. Also, please make sure that you meet all deadlines at school. Many of you still need recommendation letters and impressive transcripts, and others need all credits for graduation. Please stay focused and don't let "senioritis" make you lazy! If you are unsure on what you need to do, please refer to the "Senior Year – At a Glance" information on page 10 of your student planner.

PLHS and PLMS administration have already met to develop a plan that will maximize our teacher resources between our buildings. We anticipate our 2010-2011 schedule will be finalized shortly.

Due to the recently inclement weather days, the PLHS Winter Royalty crowning has been moved to February 2<sup>nd</sup>, (the evening of the PLHS vs. Lansing Basketball game.) The Winter Royalty dance has been to Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. The basketball game vs. Piper, which was originally scheduled on January 8<sup>th</sup> has been rescheduled on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Let's hope for better weather conditions for the rest of this semester!

As always, we look forward to hearing from you should you have any comments or concerns. Have a great 2010!

Educationally,



J.B. Elliott  
Principal  
Perry-Lecompton High School



## FROM THE OFFICE . . . . .

### WINTER ROYALTY – DATE CHANGE

Due to the snow day on January 8, Winter Royalty festivities will take place the week of February 1. Spirit Week will commence on Monday, February 1. Watch the daily bulletin thru Powerschool to find out what to wear each day! It will be a fun and spirited week!

Winter Royalty Pep Assembly and Crowning will take place on Tuesday, February 2. The pep assembly will take place at 2:45 and the crowning during halftime of the Boys Varsity basketball game (approx. 8:15 p.m.)

The Winter Royalty dance will take place the following Saturday, February 6 beginning at 7:30 p.m. and lasting until 10:30 p.m. Student's wishing to bring an outside date should sign them up at the office as well as have an outside date request form submitted to the office by Wednesday, January 27 for administrative approval. If the outside date has been previously approved, no form submission is necessary. Admission price for the dance is free with your student activity pass. If no pass is presented, the cost is \$3.00 for PLHS students and \$4.00 for guests.

Many other activities will take place.....rescheduling is still taking place! Stay tuned!

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### 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 that their son or daughter is ill. 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, and students must get an admit slip at the office upon return to school. Your cooperation is appreciated.



### TELEPHONE POLICY

Students may use the office phone to call parents in the event they become ill, a change in school activity and in an emergency. Students are allowed to use their cell phones to call home but only under supervision of the office on the office mezzanine. Parents are asked to discourage their student/students to use cell phones to request dismissal from school. An office secretary/administrator must speak to the parent/guardian for the student to receive permission to leave school for any reason.



### REQUEST FOR HOMEWORK

On the second consecutive day of absence, a parent may call the high school by 9:00am and request assignments for the day(s) of absence. Assignments will be available for pickup in the office between 3:00 and 3:30pm.



### TELEPHONE NUMBERS/ADDRESS CHANGES

Please inform the office if your work or home phone number OR your address changes. In the event of an emergency, we want to reach parents as quickly as possible. Your cooperation is appreciated.

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## ***ATTENTION CLASS of 2010 - STUDENTS & PARENTS***

This year's seniors may have their photos taken outside of school for inclusion in the senior section of the yearbook if the following requirements are met:

1. **A BUST SHOT IS NEEDED.** Background may be a studio shot or an outdoors shot—as long as the student is the focus and it is a simple background.
2. Color (the senior portrait pages are in color); however, if you choose a black and white photo, that is acceptable.
3. A billfold/wallet size photo is needed. (This is approximately 2 3/8 inches wide by 3 3/8 inches tall.)
4. The photo must be a vertical portrait.
5. Be sure that your photographer knows that this photo will be used in the yearbook. All photos submitted to the yearbook must be accompanied by a written release from the photographer.
6. Photo must be submitted by the end of the day **Friday, March 26. There will be no exceptions to this date.**

If the photo submitted for yearbook use does not meet all of the requirements listed above, the photo taken by the school photographer will be used in the yearbook. If you elect to have senior photos taken by outside photographers for yearbook use, please make sure the photographer AND student are aware of these requirements. Photos used on the composite will be those taken by the school photographer.

Please direct all questions to Ms. Carolyn Kaberline at 597-5124 or at [ckaberli@usd343.org](mailto:ckaberli@usd343.org).



### **FROM THE COUNSELOR'S OFFICE**

**JANUARY, 2010**

Our thanks to Washburn University for our Financial Aid Night presentation in December. Our speaker, Jamie McEwen, did a good job presenting this often-overwhelming information! If you weren't able to attend and want information please send your student to my office. I have lots of excellent printed material that will answer many questions. You can also call the financial aid office at your student's future school if you have specific FAFSA questions. Financial aid can be provided for vocational, business, community college and four year colleges! Please apply! [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) Don't forget to get your pin! [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)

Another option for FAFSA help! College Goal Sunday, on February 21! [www.collegegoal.org](http://www.collegegoal.org)

Schedule changes for the second semester should have been completed before winter break. Schedule changes after break are mostly teacher initiated changes or changes due to failing grades. I have discussed changes with students on a limited basis and no student initiated changes will be made after January 11. We want to get classes normalized and up to speed!

**ACT practice** has gone very well this year! More and more students have recognized how helpful it is to get familiar with the ACT before the real test! Prior to each ACT exam we offer students the chance to take full-length practice tests, under timed conditions, so that they have an understanding of the effort required to do well on the exam! Just taking the test and being familiar with the directions and how to judge the pressure of timing on performance is very helpful! If your student misses a session or chooses to not participate at PLHS, I strongly suggest getting a practice test and timing at home! Also, don't forget ACT Online prep [www.actonlineprep.org](http://www.actonlineprep.org).

Please call or e-mail me if I can answer any questions or assist you in anyway!  
J. Snyder

### The ACT.

**Juniors** may wish to take the ACT during the second semester of this year. The most common test dates for juniors are during the months of February, April and/or June. If a junior takes the test this spring he or she may decide to re-test next year. Taking the test more than once is sometimes advisable, sometimes not. I'd be happy to discuss taking the ACT with students or parents.

Taking the test during junior year is often best for senior scholarship competition or early admission to some schools. Also, senior volleyball players or cross country runners often run into conflicts with the sub-state tournaments in October. Again, feel free to call if you have questions. Students can sign up online at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

### PIN number (Personal Identification Number)

With your PINs you and your parent(s) can electronically sign the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Go here to get your electronic signature! [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)

Complete the FAFSA on-line at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

**All websites that pertain to legitimate and free financial aid services from the government end in gov NOT com !**



Spring semester will be very busy with scholarships and financial aid for seniors and enrollment for students 9-11! It is an exciting time as we all look to the future. Your student appreciates your encouragement and assistance! We do, too!

**Don't forget scholarship websites such as [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) or [www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)**

“Experience is not what happens to you. It is what you do with what happens to you.” Aldous Huxley

### JUNIOR CLASS FUNDRAISING!!!!

Attention all Junior students and parents! Basketball season is here - yeah! That means lots more opportunities for you help with Junior Class activities as we count down until Prom and After Prom. We need your help. There are several concession stands that require parent and student workers, chili and chicken noodle dinner fund-raisers, and of course After Prom -- an all night "safe" party/celebration for our Juniors and Seniors. This is an important and very busy year -- please find the time to volunteer to help!!! Thanks so much for your support!!!