

# KAW NEWS

## PERRY-LECOMPTON HIGH SCHOOL

JANUARY 2012

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe that the first semester has ended! We hope that your student 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.

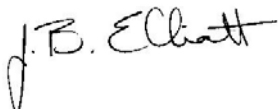
Please mark your calendars for the following dates! February 1<sup>st</sup> we will be having Parent Teacher conferences from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. We will also be having conferences on February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm. **We will have a change in format for this semester's parent teacher conferences. The first day of conferences will be by scheduled appointment only and in the teacher's classroom. Parents will be able to schedule times on the website or call the high school office to schedule time for the various teachers. Each teacher's conference schedule will be updated daily on the website until the time of conferences.** The second day of conferences will be the arena style, as it has been in the past. The attendance rates of these two styles will be used to determine how future conferences will be held. If you have an opinion on this matter, we would appreciate hearing from you! 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. More information about how to sign up will be sent to parents through our phone and email notification system on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

Kansas Assessments will begin in late February. 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.

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. If you missed the Financial Aid night in December, you can view the presentation at the following links;  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r0wnbQgsWT4>  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lnp3JAFp\\_t8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lnp3JAFp_t8)  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fF9cb8g7gB4>

As always, we look forward to hearing from you should you have any comments or concerns. Have a great 2012!

Educationally,



J.B. Elliott  
Principal  
Perry-Lecompton High School



## 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 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 9:00 am 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.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Class Fees

Just a reminder to parents: 2<sup>nd</sup> semester fees are now due!

Circumstances warranting a schedule changes may result in fees that are different than what your student's original schedule showed. All payments for fees should be brought to the office. If you seek to work out a payment plan for these charges/fees or if you have any questions or if you or your student is unsure if these fees are unpaid, please check with the office! We are happy to help!

## 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Holds

A letter was sent from the administrative office notifying you that your student's grade card was held due to student obligations not being met (i.e., unreturned or damaged textbooks, delinquent class/project fees, etc.) on January 9. Until these obligations are taken care of, students remain on the list. Athletic obligations may result in a referral to the office for disciplinary action. Students are given ample time to return classroom textbooks and pay class/project fees. Once the obligation(s) has been met, the student will be removed from the list and the grade card will be mailed out. If you have any questions about your student's unresolved obligation(s), please consult the office!

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## ATTENTION CLASS of 2012 - 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. All photos submitted must be of professional quality—no photos taken by smart phones or other phones will be accepted.

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 16. 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 CORNER**

**January 2012**

I would first like to thank Washburn University for allowing their staff to present at our Senior Financial Aid Night. The speaker, Jamie McEwen, did a great job presenting this often-overwhelming information. If you weren't able to attend and want information please contact me. I have printed material that will answer many questions. The presentation was also videotaped, so we will have that online for you to view. Additional information can also be obtained from the financial aid office at your student's future school. That would be most helpful if you have specific FAFSA questions. Financial aid can be provided for vocational, business, community college and four year colleges!

You can begin filling out the **FAFSA** today. Go to: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) The first step is to get a pin for both parents and the student. You can fill out the form with last year's tax information then update it after filing this year.

Do NOT use the [www.fafsa.com](http://www.fafsa.com) website! This will give you financial information, but requires you to pay for the service. Remember, the FAFSA is a FREE service that allows students to receive federal aid for higher education.

**College Goal Sunday** is another option for FAFSA help. This **free** come-and-go event will be held on **February 12** from **2 to 4 p.m.** at KU and Washburn University. Attendees will get hands-on help with the FAFSA and have an opportunity to win a \$500 scholarship. For more information about the event or to fill out the optional pre-registration form, visit <http://www.collegegoal.org/>.

**Schedules** for the current semester are now visible in PowerSchool. There are a few schedule changes that still need to be made; however, the majority of schedule changes that are done at this time are either teacher initiated changes or changes due to failing grades. No student initiated changes will be made after January 6! We want to get classes normalized and up to speed!

**The ACT Prep classes** are going strong! Due to the high interest we were able to open three sections! It is very exciting to be able to offer this type of opportunity to our students. We hope to continue offering this class, so if students were not able to get into the class this semester, it should be available in the future.

**Scholarship** opportunities will continually be added in the **Counselor's Corner** on the PLHS website. These will include local scholarships that are only offered to our students. So check there often for updates. Also, check out the free sites listed below for more scholarships.

**FastWeb Scholarship Search** is a recommended search site that provides up-to-date information on available scholarships and free college searches. Visit [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com) to get started.

Other web resources are: [www.fastaid.org](http://www.fastaid.org)  
[www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)  
[www.collegeanswer.com](http://www.collegeanswer.com)  
[www.studentawards.com](http://www.studentawards.com)  
[www.scholarships101.com](http://www.scholarships101.com)  
[www.scholarshiphunter.com](http://www.scholarshiphunter.com)  
[www.findtuition.com/scholarships](http://www.findtuition.com/scholarships)  
<http://studentaid2.ed.gov/getmoney/scholarship>



**REMEMBER:** You should never pay someone to do searching for you! Either seek help from me or from the financial aid office of the institution you are attending. They will be more than happy to help and it is **free!**

**College Visits** – We continue to encourage seniors to visit their schools of interest if they are still undecided. Students are required to pick up a college visit form from me before leaving. Students should be narrowing down their list of possible institutions and begin completing the enrollment process.

**Highland Community College** classes will begin January 17. Students taking these classes need to contact HCC to enroll and make financial arrangements. Until HCC classes begin students are also required to either report to the library or leave the high school building during the time they would normally report to their college class.

**Enrollment** for 2011-2012 will begin in February. We will begin by meeting with the juniors to look at their graduation progress and possible classes for their senior year. Then we will continue enrolling the rest of the classes.

**PLAN results are in!** All sophomores were given their results before the end of winter break. However, we are also going to mail them out with the grade cards. Please let me know if you have any questions about the scores or the information given on the score sheet.

**Highland Community College** classes will begin January 17. Students taking these classes need to contact HCC to enroll and make financial arrangements. Until HCC classes begin students are also required to either report to the library or leave the high school building during the time they would normally report to their college class.

**Shortened Schedules** – As in the past, current seniors have the option of getting a shortened schedule the second semester, if they are on track to graduate. Students should be bringing home application sheets to be signed, if they haven't already. Remember – students must be passing FIVE classes to be eligible to participate in any KSHSAA activity.

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## Some dates to keep in mind:

- Jan. 13          Registration deadline for the February 11 ACT test date
- Jan. 25          Kansas State University visit during seminar (juniors and seniors are eligible to attend)
- Feb. 12          ACT Testing Date
- Feb. 12          College Goal Sunday from 2:00 – 4:00 at either KU or Washburn
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Please call or e-mail me if I can answer any questions or assist you in any way!

## Tracey Paramore

### Athletic Awards

Three athletes received Honorable Mention in the Journal World 2011 All-Area Team selection:

Football – Jonathan Denton, Jeremy Immenschuh and Luke Kellum

Congratulations!

### 2011 Holiday Door Decorating Contest is great success!

Students participated in a school-wide Holiday Door Decoration contest this year and really got into the spirit! Students were put to their holiday inner designer test to see who could come up with the winning door. With over 75% participation throughout the school it was no doubt a fun and festive time for those participating! The 2011 winners were: Room #116, Mr. Swafford's door taking first place; Room #118, Mrs. Moland's door took 2nd place and Room #126, Mrs. Myer's door took 3rd place. The winning "students" were treated to platters of holiday cookies and candies to reward their efforts.



**Mr. Swafford's  
Class and Door**