

KAW NEWS

PERRY-LECOMPTON HIGH SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2011

Dear Parents,

The KU Honors program was held on the 21st of September at the University of Kansas' Woodruff Auditorium. 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 2011 Perry-Lecompton High School Kansas Honor Scholars are Derrick Eddy, Charis Fisher, Clara Foster, Sarah Haynes, Luke Kellum, and Brittany Zilliox.

Common Core Standards are Coming!

In case you haven't heard, all schools in the state of Kansas will be making a transition to the new "Common Core Standards." These standards will be used by 43 of the 50 states. These new standards will begin to show up in our curriculum by the 2012-13 school year. Students and parents need to be aware that these standards will focus on college and career readiness for all students. The curriculum for college bound students will become more rigorous or challenging. The career readiness standards will focus on problem solving skills, organization, and being on time. Here is a link to a short You Tube video that will give a quick overview. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IGD9oLofks>

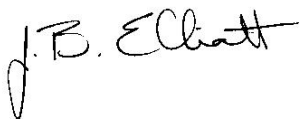
ACT Information

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. In order to gain access, students stop by the counselor's office and pick up their log in information. 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. We have 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.
- PLHS is also considering adding two sections of an ACT Preparatory course beginning next semester. The class will be available to Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors who are planning to take the ACT within the next year.

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 17 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.



AFTER SCHOOL STUDENT PICK-UP INFORMATION

Parents interested in picking up their students from school are requested to pick up their students from the East entrance. We are instructing car-riding students to exit the building from the East exit. Using this exit will expedite the pick-up of your children as well as alleviate any problems with parking in the bus zone. We appreciate your compliance in this request.

STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK

The Perry-Lecompton Student/Parent Handbook is located on the district website: www.usd343.org. You may also access this handbook in your student's planner! The student/parent handbook provides valuable information about school rules and policies and is a great source of general information for both student and parent.

BUILDING HOURS

To avoid potential problems, add to security, and provide adequate supervision, students are requested to report to the building no earlier than 7:30 a.m. and leave each afternoon by 3:30 p.m. unless they are under the direct supervision of a faculty member or coach of the school district.

Access to the building during school hours will be limited to the front (east) doors. All other doors will be locked to outside access after 8:16 a.m. Visitors are to report to the office upon entry to the building.

The high school office is open from 7:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. An answering machine is available for messages before and after office hours. We are very appreciative when parents call and inform us when their student(s) will be absent. The office window becomes available to students at 7:50 a.m.

STUDENT ABSENCES

A student is considered absent when he or she is not in regular school classes or involved in a school sponsored activity. If a student is absent, an attempt will be made by the staff to verify the absence by a call to the parents. This call will not be necessary if a parent or guardian calls early on the morning of a student's absence and reports it to the secretary.

Upon return from an absence, a student is required to obtain an admit slip from the office prior to attending class. An excuse, written or oral, from a parent or guardian must be provided within 24 hours of the absence. Upon receipt of the excuse, a determination will be made as to the excused or unexcused status of the absence. All absences due to doctor/dental appointments are required to bring the "receipt" from the office visit for verification that it was a medically excused absence. The principal will be the final determiner in all cases concerning absences.

For more information regarding ATTENDANCE information, please see page 17 of the Student Parent Handbook in your student's planner.

7TH-12 FALL CHOIR CONCERT: OCTOBER 12 AT 7:00 P.M.

The first choir concert of the year will take place in the PLHS theatre on October 12, beginning with the Middle School Choir at 7:00 p.m. The evening will also include selections from PLHS Women's Ensemble and PLHS Singers. Come support the PLHS Choirs as they start off a very busy fall performance schedule!

2011-12 YEARBOOKS

Yearbooks for the 2011-2012 school year are now on sale. Take advantage of our fall prices of \$43.00 for a plain book and \$48.00 for a personalized book from now until November 4. Prices will go up after November 4, so don't delay. You can purchase your book online or from Ms. Kaberline in Room 107.

You can also take advantage of our Club's Choice fundraiser. Sell 20 items between now and October 10 and earn a free personalized book. See Ms. Kaberline or a yearbook staff member for more information.

YEARBOOK NEWS

Once again students and their parents will have an opportunity to purchase yearbooks covering the 2011-2012 year at a reduced rate. During enrollment and until September 1, plain yearbooks are available for \$38.00. Personalization can be purchased for an additional \$6.00 and icons for \$3.00 each. After September 1, yearbooks will increase in price. Make all checks payable to PLHS.

WANT TO CLEAN OUT YOUR GARAGE OR YARD?

Donate any scrap metal to the Lady Kaws Basketball team. We will pick up or you can drop off at various locations. What can you donate? Old cars, old appliances, cast iron, engines, farm machinery, lawn mowers, sheet metal, aluminum cans, copper wiring, electric motors, heater cores, radiators, stainless steel, transmissions and more. For more information, call or text 785-640-0314 or email kpackard@usd343.org. We appreciate your support and thank you for any and all donations.

PLAN – This year all sophomores will be taking the PLAN test. This test is given to not only to prepare students for the ACT test, but to also give both parents and students some additional information such as:

1. If the student is on track for college
2. The student's academic strengths and areas that need improvement
3. Helping students find careers that match their interests
4. Connecting students with more colleges of interest

Students will be tested on the same subjects as the ACT (English, Mathematics, Reading and Science), and they will be given an estimated ACT score. Once the scores have been received, we will go over these with the students.

The test will be given during the afternoon of November 2nd at NO cost.

For information, you can visit <http://www.actstudent.org/plan/>.

PSAT – We are currently signing up students that are interested in taking the PSAT. This is not only another way for students to get practice for the ACT, but this is also the qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship. This is a junior test, but sophomores take the test for practice. The cost to take the exam is \$13.00, payable by October 10 to Mrs. Paramore, in cash, or by check (written to PLHS). The test is given during the school day.

ACT – All current Seniors planning to attend college after graduation need to take the ACT as soon as possible, if they have not already. College priority deadlines are quickly approaching, and the colleges require ACT scores for both scholarships and course placement.

I am also encouraging all college-bound Juniors to take the ACT this year as well.

We have online ACT prep available. In addition, we might also be adding ACT prep courses to the schedule next semester! If this happens, students will need to contact me if they are interested getting enrolled.

Some dates to keep in mind:

Oct. 10	Deadline to sign-up for the PSAT (The cost is \$13.00) Tests are limited so sign up soon as soon as possible if you are interested.		
Oct. 12	PSAT	JUNIORS/SOPHOMORES	8:15-11:30 Library
Oct. 22	October ACT		
Nov. 2	PLAN	ALL Sophomores	
Nov. 4	Deadline to register for the December 10 ACT		www.actstudent.org

Mark your calendars: Nov. 30 Financial Aid Night 6:30 p.m.

PLHS SCHOLARSHIPS

We are happy to remind everyone of the link on the district website, located in the Counselor's Corner. Scholarships are posted, with deadlines updated as we receive new information.

Recommended Web Site for scholarship search: www.fastweb.com

Upcoming College Visits (Seniors and Juniors are eligible to attend)

Neosho CCC	October 19	Seminar
K-State	November 1	Seminar

Paris and Barcelona 2012 **PLHS INTERNATIONAL CLUB**



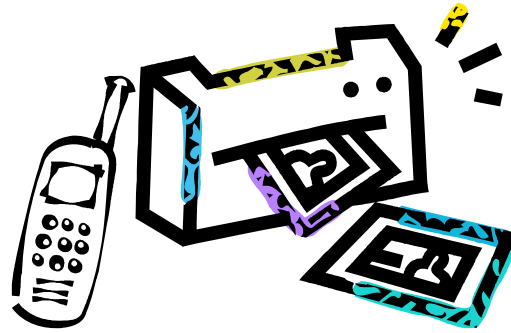
PLHS International Club invites you to join us on an 10 day Paris and Barcelona adventure! Join us as we experience Paris and Spain...

Bonjour, Paris! During your sightseeing in the City of Light, get a taste of Parisian style as you ride down the Champs-Élysées, an elegant boulevard packed with high-fashion boutiques. Then we will travel on the night train to...Barcelona!

See why Barcelona is an art lover's dream city and the place where masters like Miró, Picasso and Dalí flourished. We will explore plazas and be dazzled by the Fountain of Montjuic.

Travelers will depart in late May 2012. Please contact [Susie Whitaker](#) at PLHS (785-597-5124) if interested in joining us on the wonderful adventure.

WAIT - DON'T THROW THAT AWAY! RECYCLE IT!!



PLHS Library Media Center is collecting cell phones (old and those no longer wanted) and ink jet printer cartridges. Any and all types are accepted – working or not working! This is a fund-raiser for the PLHS Library! Proceeds will be used for the PLHS library and Perry Lecompton Library Media scholarship!

Deposit your old cell phones and cartridges (please place in a plastic bag first) in the tubs located at the PLHS library. If you have any questions please contact Susie Whitaker, PLHS School Library Media Specialist at swhitake@usd343.org or 785-597-5124. Thanks for your support!



Fall Musical Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" and Dinner Theater Reservations....

This year, the PLHS Music Department will be presenting Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" on November 10-12. The performances begin with a dinner theatre show on November 10th, with dinner being served promptly at 5:30 p.m. and the performance at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$18 and will go on sale October 3. Please purchase your tickets through the high school office; they will go quickly! November 11th and 12th performances begin at 7:00 p.m. and are \$5 at the door. Premium reserved seating for \$8 will be sold in advance starting on October 13. "Beauty and the Beast" is a very popular musical with many well-known characters and songs. This is a great show for the whole family to enjoy together! We hope to see you there!

PowerSchool Single Sign on

Effective August 16th

by Sheila Volle

HAVE YOU EVER wanted to log in to PowerSchool and have access to all of your children in the same place?

HAVE YOU EVER wished that you could change that weird PowerSchool username and password to something you can actually remember?


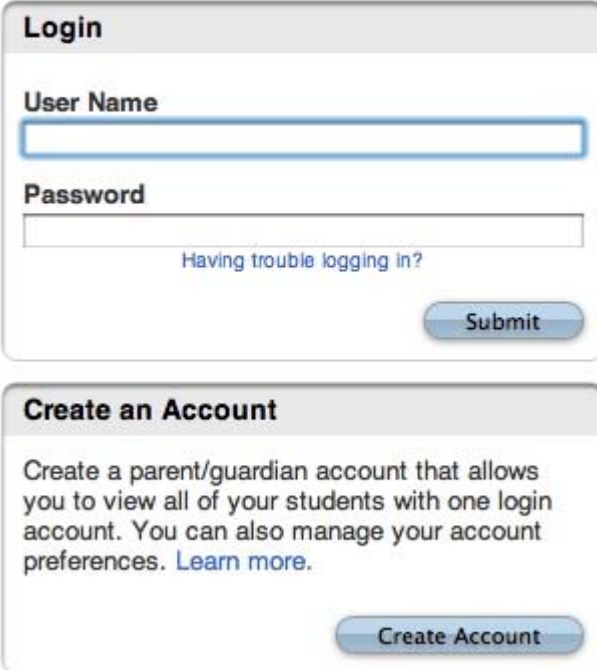
NOW YOU CAN!!

Beginning August 16th we will enable a new feature for PowerSchool called parent single sign-on. PowerSchool has developed a process to allow you to view information about multiple students using a single username and password that you create. In order to use this feature, you must first create an account.

Watch this informative YouTube video explaining the new feature and how to set up your new account. [PowerSchool - Parent Access Setup](#)

To create an account:

1. Navigate to the PowerSchool Parent Portal by selecting the "PowerSchool" button on the Perry-Lecompton Schools Website.
2. Toward the bottom of the page, select the button "Create Account".

Login

User Name

Password

[Having trouble logging in?](#)

Create an Account

Create a parent/guardian account that allows you to view all of your students with one login account. You can also manage your account preferences. [Learn more.](#)

3. Enter your name, email address, and create a unique username and password.

4. On the bottom of the page, enter each student's "access id" and "access

Create Parent/Guardian Account

First Name	<input type="text"/>
Last Name	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>
Desired User Name	<input type="text"/>
Password	<input type="password"/> <input type="password"/>
Re-enter Password	<input type="password"/>

Link Students to Account

Enter the Access ID, Access Password, and Relationship for each student you wish to add to your Parent/Guardian Account

Student Name	Access ID	Access Password	Relationship
1. <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="password"/>	-- Choose <input type="button" value="v"/>
2. <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="password"/>	-- Choose <input type="button" value="v"/>
3. <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="password"/>	-- Choose <input type="button" value="v"/>
4. <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="password"/>	-- Choose <input type="button" value="v"/>
5. <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="password"/>	-- Choose <input type="button" value="v"/>
6. <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="password"/>	-- Choose <input type="button" value="v"/>
7. <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="password"/>	-- Choose <input type="button" value="v"/>

password".

The Access ID and Access Password are the **Parent Web ID** and **Parent Password*** that you have used in the past. This information will again be sent out during the first part of the school year.

Students will continue to login to PowerSchool as they have in the past, using their assigned username and password.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office at your earliest convenience.

***Type the Password using all Capital Letters**

*Trunk-or-Treat Halloween Night
Perry United Methodist Church*

Trick-Or-Treat With Us Halloween Night



**PUMC Parking Lot
220 Oak St.
6:00-8:00 p.m.**

**Free Hot Dogs
Chips & Hot Cocoa
While Supplies Last!**

In case of rain, this event will be held in our Activity Building on the East end of the parking lot