

INSIDE
What you'll find
in this edition...

the perry way

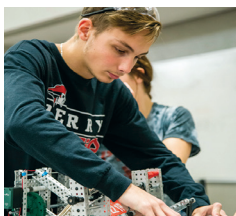
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FALL 2017

PNPP'S FUTURE UNCERTAIN

by Dr. Jack Thompson, Superintendent

VEX ROBOTICS



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Lake County Commissioner Jerry Cirino, Commissioner Mark Stahl of Ottawa County, U. S. Deputy Assistant Secretary Edward G. McGinnis, and Superintendent Dr. Jack Thompson met in Washington D.C., with a host of other stakeholders to discuss the preservation of nuclear energy.

Thank you for helping to ensure the 2017-2018 school year got off to a great start. We have already seen significant growth and achievement in our staff and students. We remain laser-focused on our mission and on the current emphasis to improve accuracy in measuring student learning and gaining clarity on the beliefs and behaviors we expect in our school culture.

That being said, we cannot ignore the recent events involving the Perry Nuclear Power Plant (PNPP). It is imperative for us to understand the situation and the future impact changes at the PNPP will have on our school system and community. Our CFO, Lew Galante, and myself continue to be involved in all activities related to the current condition and future operations of the PNPP. As a result, we have a plethora of information from both the proponents and opponents of nuclear energy and baseload power generation. We also have established strong

working relationships and lines of communication with people at the state, local, and federal level directly involved in determining the future of the PNPP.

While it is impossible to include all we have learned in this article, I can offer a few bullet points I believe are pertinent to all of us.

- The PNPP is currently fully operational and has the potential to continue to be operational as a viable producer of electricity for many years to come.

- Along with a number of nuclear power plants operating in competitive markets across the nation, the PNPP is in danger of closing.

- FirstEnergy has a \$500 million debt coming due this spring they likely will be unable to get financed if market conditions do not change because the plant is currently not operating at a profit.

- The recent devaluation of First Energy's utility tangible personal property will reduce the tax revenue the District receives by over \$2.3 million; however, some or all of this may be recouped by an adjustment in the

District's state aid computation under ORC 3317.028. This does not hold true for other entities across the region that also lost tax revenue as a result of this finding by the State auditor's office, nor will it apply to future devaluations likely to occur regardless of who owns the PNPP.

- If the PNPP were to close, it would have a devastating economic impact on the entire region, not just Perry, resulting in a significant increase in taxes. Regardless of who owns the plant, it is in the entire region's best interest the plant stays open and operational.

- Understanding the need to maintain market diversity, reliance, and resiliency, the U.S. Secretary of Energy has asked the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to step in and take action to provide market considerations for nuclear power plants. This would likely be subsidies similar to, but less than, what is provided for other zero emission operations. We should know the outcome of this by the end of the year.

- State level legislation was introduced last year to provide zero emission credits to nuclear plants that would cost residents a maximum of \$5.00 on their bill. Now, new legislation has been reintroduced that reduces the maximum cost to residents to \$2.50 and businesses to \$3,500. Similar legislation has already been passed in the states of New York and Illinois, both of which compete in the same baseload electric generation market as Ohio.

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STANDARDS-BASED LEARNING AT PERRY

by Dr. Betty Jo Malchesky, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

Our mission at Perry is to inspire all students to achieve personal excellence, pursue world-class standards, and become self-directed learners. Based on our commitment to the mission, Perry teaching staff has worked in past years to develop practices and tools to strengthen personal excellence and self-directed learning experiences for students. For over five years, we have studied and are now implementing instructional practices, so every student understands what is learned/what still needs to be learned in regard to each course standard. Inside the District, we refer to these practices as Formative Instructional Practices. We are now at a point in our work to plan for grading and communicating achievement in a manner that reflects these practices, often referred to as standards-based grading. This means that term grades are determined by the degree to which a student is proficient on the course standards assessed.

As studied by our teachers over the years and as demonstrated by other Ohio schools at last year's OSBA (Ohio School Board Association) Conference, instructional practices we aim to improve include:

- Students understand clear criteria for demonstrating standards at a proficient level (exemplar work).
- Students experience adequate practice and descriptive feedback on their work daily and move their learning forward well before assessment.
- Assessments (tests/summative experiences) are accurate and measure the intent of the course standards.
- Student progress is clearly

communicated to students, parents, and staff in relation to the standards. This means parents will know whether their K-12 student is Proficient (or not) in each course standard taught in the given term by reviewing Infinite Campus. In addition, in grades 4-12, letter grades are reported. GPAs still calculate.

When applicable, learning is personalized to student needs, interests, or career goals.

The ultimate goal is to have students own their learning - students are able to answer for him/herself:

1. What am I to learn? (clear learning targets)
2. Where am I now? (uses rubric and feedback to move learning forward)
3. Where to next? How have I grown? (goal set/ownership/perseverance)

In early October, student focus groups met with secondary principals, our learning facilitator, and me to lunch and openly discuss their experience this year in classrooms, highly focused on the standards-based instructional practices listed above. The student feedback was informative, energized us, and led us to understand how their learning experience has improved and provided areas for our improvement. Student focus group feedback will be gathered and used again second semester.

At the October 10 Parent/Family Informational Night with Rick Wormeli, parents, students and staff worked alongside a national expert to discuss accurate assessments, the purpose of homework, redo/retake assessments,

and the impact of zeros in a grade book. Wormeli was able to work with parents and a student panel for an informative session which also offered a question and answer component.

Parents, we want your voice and discussion as we work together to become more accurate in our teaching, assessment, and reporting of learning at Perry. We want to provide you a clear and transparent understanding on the intended student learning experience, how to monitor progress, and how you can support a successful school experience from home. Stay connected - help shape the conversation:

- Check Infinite Campus Messages sent to your email.
- Set up the Perry Mobile App/ Academics.
- Attend upcoming opportunities to inquire and understand Standards-based Learning:

◊ Parent Coffees (7:30-8:30 AM)
- held November 10, January 26, and March 9

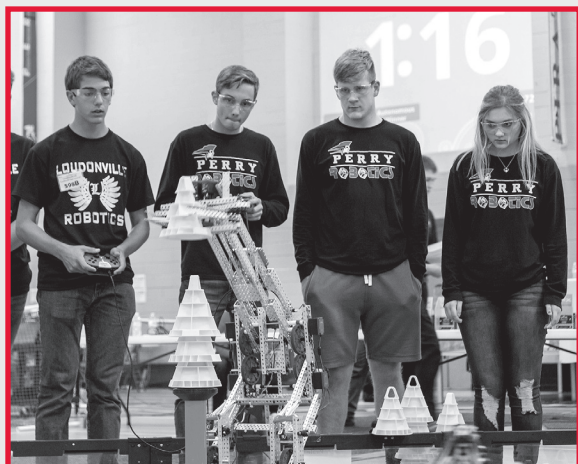
◊ Parent or Staff Coffee (2:00 and 5:30 PM) on Nov. 2, Conference Night (PMS Room 411/near cafe)

◊ Student Focus Group Luncheon - February 8

◊ PHS Academic Booster Meetings (6:15 PM at PHS 205) - November 20

◊ PMS Parent Advisory Meetings (6:00 PM at PMS Conference) - February 21, April 18

◊ District PTA Meetings (7:00 PM at Manchester West) - December 12, January 9



The Perry High School VEX Robotics Competition was Perry's third opportunity to host the regional event, and it was the best so far! Thirty-two teams competed from across the State of Ohio, and four state qualifying seats were up for grabs. One of Perry's teams was part of the winning alliance (Maykahla Gain, Kenny Bender, and Philip Bentley) and will compete at the State Competition in March 2018.

The three other winners included: Loudenville High School, Pickerington High School, and Firestone High School.

The Perry Robotics team is grateful for the support of the Perry Academic Boosters Club and the many volunteers that helped make the event successful!

WATER WARRIORS ACCEPT ECO CHALLENGE



Perry Middle School Water Warriors is a group of middle school students that is competing in a national STEM competition called the Lexus Eco Challenge. The competition, for grades 6-12, awards a total of \$500,000 in grants and scholarships to eligible teachers, students, and schools each year. Since 2006, students and teachers have been making a difference in the eco health of our planet through the Lexus Eco Challenge. Student teams tackle environmental issues related to land, water, air, and climate, and create practical solutions while competing for amazing prizes.

The contest is broken into three main parts:

- The Land & Water Challenge: 8/14/17–10/16/17
- The Air & Climate Challenge: 10/18/17–12/11/17
- The Final Challenge (invitation only, open to winners of the previous two challenges): 1/22/18–3/5/18

The Lexus Eco Challenge gets students involved in project-based learning, teamwork, and skill building as they identify an environmental issue that affects their community, use their critical-thinking and research skills to come up with a solution, and report on the results by way of an Action Plan. Teams of five to ten students look to the Challenge Planner for time-management guidance, and are led by one or two Teacher Advisors—who are full-time teachers employed at the school (not volunteers or parents)—to help their community while getting a chance to compete for scholarships and grants.

The members of the Perry Middle School group are Payge Silvis, Ethan Hicks, Maeve Tannish, Angel Nagy, Cassidy Miner, Matthew Krepshaw, Dorian McMurray, and Max Polley. The team's adviser is Mrs. Angela Germano.

For the first part of the competition, the Land & Water Challenge, the team's main goal was to teach people to conserve water and to be more aware of how our actions impact our local water. For example, when we litter or don't pick up trash, a lot of that will eventually get blown into the lake or carried there by water, which is the very lake we like to swim in!

In a presentation to more than 150 people at Perry Middle School, the Environmental Club hoped to educate their audience with an enviroscape—a model that shows what we put into our water system. The enviroscape is a replica of our town that illustrates what happens to pollution in a city when it rains. Some examples of pollution are: oil from leaking cars, road salt, soap from washing cars, fertilizers, human waste, livestock and pet waste, and litter. The group demonstrated what happens to all of these things when it rains by spraying water on the model. All of the pollution goes down the streams and storm drains and into Lake Erie. In the model, Lake Erie ends up being polluted by all of the little things that everyone in the town contributed. They also talked about how we all have a responsibility to protect our lake by using less water, so the water treatment plants don't become overwhelmed and have to dump untreated water into the



lake. They also talked about cleaning up litter or dog poop, so that it doesn't end up going into the lake when it rains. Many people made pledges to protect our water.

On Sunday, October 8, Perry Middle School Environmental Club went to Lake Erie Bluffs and cleaned up trash that they found along the beach. A group of 18 students and adults came out to help. Some of the objects they found included many rusted car parts, over 500 tiny pieces of styrofoam, 73 plastic water bottles, 36 bottle caps, 297 tiny pieces of plastic, and even two mismatched flip flops! A total of 1,350 items were collected and 112.9 pounds of trash. Included were 24.6 pounds recyclable material. The club wants to spread the word about picking up trash or litter if you find any, because they learned the hard way, that trash often finds its way to Lake Erie. They want to keep Lake Erie beautiful!

Student's recently received a donation of five rain barrels, so they can collect rainwater to use in their garden.

The group's future plans include the purchase of automatic sinks for the middle school to help conserve water, so far receiving donations of over \$500 toward their cause.

If anyone would like to help them reach their goals, donations are being accepted through the school's website: <https://perry-middle-oh.ed.co/perry-middle-school-environmental-club>.

LIVESTREAMING PHS PRODUCTIONS

by Coleen Moskowitz, PHS Media Production Teacher



The Perry Local School District is now broadcasting live events! Students from the Media Production program, under the direction of Coleen Moskowitz and Allen Kellogg, have been trained to produce and shoot live events, while broadcasting to viewers via the PHS Facebook Page, Channel 1020 (formerly Channel 22) and through a new LIVESTREAM APP that can be used on mobile devices. The app can be downloaded from your mobile device app store.

Select home sporting events and all Goodwin Theatre events will now be broadcast live to the viewing public. So far, the students have broadcast all home football games, two volleyball games, and two of both girls and boys soccer. Once a live broadcast has ended, archives of the events can be found at LiveStream.

com, or on the mobile app by searching Perry Local Schools.

"LiveStreaming events provide our students an opportunity to work alongside professionals and develop many skills required to work in a media production setting," said Todd Porcello, Perry High School Principal. "In addition, our students are utilizing cutting edge software and equipment to prepare them for their future."

Students work alongside professional sports broadcasters while doing the play-by-play commentary for the Perry Pirates home football games. The District was fortunate to secure Fox Sports Time Ohio producer, Gene Winters, and Craig Deas, former Lake County Captains announcer as volunteer commentators during the games. They have acted as mentors for the students, while providing entertainment for our viewers.

According to Moskowitz, the Media Production Teacher at PHS, the number of viewers in the initial broadcasts has exceeded expectations.

"It has been truly amazing. During our home football games, our viewing numbers reach into the thousands. At our last home football game, we had viewers from Hawaii, South Carolina, and a sport's bar in North Dakota. They comment on our Facebook feed to let us know where they are watching."

Moskowitz said she also gets a weekly



analytic report letting her know how many viewers each event has and where they are located.

The Media Production Department is also seeking sponsors for their live events. The students are hoping to upgrade camera equipment for the live broadcasts. Each sponsor will have their logo and name appear at least two times during each live broadcast. The cost is \$250 for the entire year. The ad will appear in all the remaining live broadcasts which will include, but not be limited to, all the school holiday concerts, winter and spring athletic events, spring recognition award programs, and graduation.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Coleen Moskowitz at 440-339-9452.

THE MOVING WALL...A COMMUNITY EFFORT

by Scott Niedzwiecki, PHS Assistant Principal



The Moving Wall is a half-size replica of the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington DC, that is sponsored by Vietnam Combat Veterans, Ltd. The wall has been traveling throughout the year, to different communities around the country for over thirty years. The wall was hosted by Perry High School from September 21st through the 24th.

A group of community members met in 2015 to begin planning for two projects. The first was the development of the Military Wall of Honor that was unveiled at Perry High School in November, 2016. The second project was to bring the Vietnam Moving Wall to Perry High School. A committee was led by chairman, Arnie Stanko, to plan The Moving Wall visit and discuss fund raising. Arnie is a Perry Township resident, a United States Marine and Vietnam war veteran. His passion for military service and war veterans was on display throughout the planning process. The committee met monthly, at the Amvets Post 1971.

The Moving Wall's visit to Perry was a true collaboration of our community. Perry Village, Perry Township and North Perry leadership provided support. The Perry Fire Department and local police departments also played an important

part in hosting the wall. Donations of money, food and service were received from Perry businesses, churches and community organizations. The students, families and staff of Perry Local Schools volunteered their time to assist where needed. Dr. Thompson and the school board accommodated every request made, allowing use of school facilities and personnel to provide our community with an unforgettable experience.

Feedback from all who visited was extremely positive. Many said that they had visited traveling walls in the past, and that this one ranks among the best that they had seen. It was a humbling experience to witness the selflessness of an entire community to honor the 58,318 men and women who gave their lives serving their country during the Vietnam War.

PERRY SCHOOLS SAFETY WEEK

—by Todd Porcello, PHS Principal

Student safety remains a major priority for Perry Schools. In order to prepare for potential unfortunate and tragic situations, Perry Schools conducted a safety week during the last week of August to ensure safety procedures were communicated and practiced with our students.

In the spring of 2017, Perry staff members participated in ALICE training, which prepared staff members for the proper response during a threat situation.

Safety week allowed us to practice these responses based on specific situations that were provided to the teacher. The teachers were asked to assess the situation and respond accordingly.

Lockdown, fire, tornado, and evacuation drills were held throughout the week. In addition, Perry Schools



practiced a K-12 Perry Nuclear Power Plant (PNPP) Evacuation. During this drill, the majority of students on campus that day loaded buses and drove around the campus to simulate the process of evacuating our campus. Feedback was received from the Department of Homeland Security that our

execution of the safety plan was one of the best to date that he has witnessed. We continue to try to improve our practices and procedures, because the safety of our students is a major priority.

SAFETY WEEK SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL RESOURCES

—by Lisa Shields, Director of Special Education



While safety week drills helped us build skill in managing our physical environment, it also provided an

opportunity for our staff to survey the social and emotional resources that are in place to support our school community. On the final day of the drills, the staff reviewed the multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) that are utilized within a responsive classroom environment. Responsive classrooms foster relationships, teach and model social and emotional skills, create opportunities for students to practice skills, promote student ownership, and offer a way for students to apply skills in authentic situations.

PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Systems), PEEPs (Positive Environment for Everyone at Perry), Perry Culture Playbook, R-Factor,

Career Advising, Student Centered Tiered Intervention Planning, and Comprehensive Guidance planning provide essential frameworks to improve our behavioral, social and emotional competencies. For direct individual needs, Perry Schools employs a full time, District-wide Social Worker, as well as a Family Liaison for grades 5-12. We also contract with Crossroads Treatment Center to provide additional school based counseling, ELL supports and home based therapies. For more information about our social and emotional supports and services, contact shieldsl@perry-lake.org.

PIRATE POWER PACK PROGRAM (*Full Tummies, Full Hearts!*)



The Pirate Power Pack program provides a weekend supply of nutritious food for Perry Elementary School children, commonly from low-income families, to replace the school meals that children miss during their weekend or extended breaks from school. Each weekend food bag contains enough food for two breakfasts, two lunches, three dinners, and one snack.

Though the program is intended to help those children whose families find it difficult to have enough food for the entire month, all children are eligible for this program. Families will be able to opt-in and opt-out of the program.

The program is run by volunteers from The Perry Center and Perry Service Learning program who gather donations, pack food bags weekly, and complete the day-to-day tasks that keep the program running.

Bags were donated by X Press Printing. Additional financial support was provided by a grant from GenerationOn. For more information, please contact the program administrators, Mark Soeder and Allison Trentanelli, at 440-259-9200 x9708, or visit the PSL website: www.perryservicelearning.weebly.com.

PNPP'S FUTURE UNCERTAIN ...continued from page one

I hope the above provides some clarity to the current state of affairs relative to the PNPP. Local legislators including Commissioner Cirino, Representative Young, Senator Eklund, and Congressman Joyce continue to actively support any and all initiatives that would serve to prevent the premature closing of the PNPP.

A special thanks to Commissioner Cirino for allowing me the opportunity to attend a meeting he was able to arrange

with the U.S. Department of Energy Nuclear Division where we gained additional momentum toward a solution that will benefit our community. Mr. Galante and I will continue working to ensure our community's voice is heard, which includes testifying at the state level, providing written comment at the federal level, and holding meetings with any and all stakeholders.

Please give me a call at (440) 259-9200 ext. 9299, if you would like to

discuss the PNPP situation further. Regardless of the final outcome of this journey, the greatness that has always existed in this community comes from the people living here.

I have the utmost confidence that our community will do whatever it takes to preserve all that makes Perry so special.

— by Dr. Jack Thompson, Superintendent

2017 STRENGTH OF AMERICA AWARD



Perry High School is proud to announce that it has been awarded the Strength of America Award by the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) and the President's Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition for the three year period of 2017-2020. This award recognizes Perry to have

represented the gold standard in strength and conditioning programs.

The program, led by Coach Mike Crissinger to improve the school's curriculum, Perry was measured in four major categories: Supervision, Education, Program, and Facilities. Selected from hundreds of eligible

schools, Perry High School was honored during the NSCA's National Conference Awards Banquet, held recently in Las Vegas, Nevada.

"We are honored to receive this award and are grateful to have an expert like Mike Crissinger lead the way," said Perry High School principal, Todd Porcello. "His vision, relationships with students, and pursuit of greatness are key in making our strength and conditioning program one of the best in the country. Our students greatly benefit from such an outstanding program."

The NSCA and the President's Council on Fitness, Sports, and Nutrition work together to provide all high schools with concise guidelines to improve the education and programs for all our youth.

The National Strength and Conditioning Association is an international nonprofit association founded in 1978, and is dedicated to advancing the strength and conditioning profession around the world.

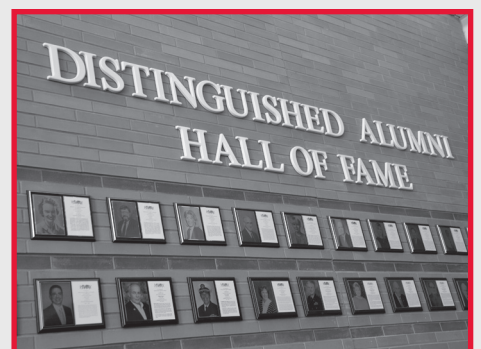
Learn more about the NSCA Strength of America Award at www.nsc.com.

The Distinguished Alumni (DAHOF) and Athletic Hall of Fame selection committees are seeking community input in providing the names of individuals to be considered for induction into the Perry High School Distinguished Alumni and Athletic Hall of Fame.

Nomination forms can be downloaded from the Hall of Fame tab on the Alumni Association page of the District website.

Deadlines for receiving nominations are:

- Athletic Hall of Fame - January 31, 2018
- DAHOF - March 31, 2018



HELPING OUR FAMILY IN PUERTO RICO

by Jodi Rzeszotarski, PHS Media Specialist



Perry takes care of its family. There are no truer words spoken! When hurricanes Irma and Maria devastated Puerto Rico this fall, it was not just a location on a map, it was the home of high school Spanish teacher, Sonia Rodriguez. Her mother, brother and extended family were hard hit during the storms. Her hometown of Bayamon is still without electricity and water service is intermittent. Many homes were destroyed and the rest severely damaged.

Her mother passed away as a result of the stress and harsh conditions.

This is where the story changes to one of hope. The staff and students of Perry Local Schools pulled together and collected much needed supplies including: flashlights, batteries, canned goods, personal hygiene items, etc., along with cash donations and donations to pay to ship the boxes. Twenty one boxes were shipped to Puerto Rico and they arrived, intact, last week. They are being distributed by the church in her neighborhood to those on need. Seven large boxes were shipped to a neighborhood nursing home with the shipping being paid for by an anonymous donor. Additional moneys were sent to the church to purchase additional supplies.

As Margaret Mead said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Thanks to the people of Perry Local Schools. You have changed a small piece of the world with your selflessness and caring.



PERRY AREA JOINT RECREATION

As many of you know, our program relies on the volunteer efforts of parents and community members. This fall we have over 150 boys and girls in our Perry Youth Soccer Program in addition to over 60 girls in our Perry Youth Volleyball Program!!!!

Perry Youth Volleyball Coaches: *Theresa Joslin, Vikki Kifus, Shane Jeschenig, Tara Lynch, Travis Lefelhoc, Jessica Schultz, David Sarosy, Meghan Blaha, Shelly Thompson*

Perry Youth Soccer Coaches: *John Andrikanich, Teresa Smith Heavilin, Candy Tannish, Todd Porcello, Joseph Kilma, Scott Peters, Darin Avery, Rosie Zimba, Joe Hoza, Anthony Grosser, Ryan Yeager, Lunden Albrecht, Tim Flenner, Anthony Kukwa, Joe Matson, Meredith Homerick*

Bump-Set-Spike Volleyball: Thank you to the Perry High School/Middle School students volunteering to help with our instructional volleyball program: *Maggie Lynch, Madelyn Tharp, Cara Vitale, Alexis Vitale, Nadia Berg, Claire Scales*

We would also like to thank the Perry Middle School Boys Soccer Team and coach Jonathon Redwood for their involvement in our 2017 Perry Youth Soccer Program!

PERRY YOUTH BASKETBALL OFFERINGS

REGISTRATIONS CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.PERRYREC.COM

Registration Deadline November 20, 2017

Perry Youth Boys Basketball: Programs offered for boys grades 1-6

Perry Youth Girls Basketball: Programs offered for girls grades 2-6

Interested in Coaching? Contact Perry Rec by email: recreation@perry-lake.org

Lady Pirates Little Dribblers Program: Instructional program intended for girls in kindergarten and 1st grade...program to be offered in February/March 2018. Registration to open 11/1/2017

Little Dribblers Program: Instructional program intended for boys in Pre-K/kindergarten...Program to be offered in January/February 2018. Registration to open 11/1/2017

Questions? Contact David Sarosy at Perry Rec by email: recreation@perry-lake.org.



Give us a call for all your fundraising events!

- Raffle Tickets
- Promotional Products
- Side Boards
- SPECIAL DISCOUNTS for Perry Community & Scholastic Events

CHECK OUT PERRY SCHOOLS MOBILE APP

The latest news and information from Perry Local School District is now available on smartphones and mobile devices with our mobile communications app. Perry has expanded its communications outreach with a mobile app that is available in the online App Store and Google Play for free.

The mobile app offers a constantly updated feed of District news and events with photos and links to the District's website. The app can also be customized by the user by selecting the schools they are most interested in for news and updates. To date, more than 1,100 app users have chosen to receive



periodic push notifications to get breaking news and updates about school closures, calendar changes, or even sports updates.

"We know that students are more successful in school when parents are engaged in their learning and school activities," said Dr. Jack Thompson, Perry Schools' superintendent. "With our new mobile app, parents and community members can stay connected with our schools like never before, and with the activities our students are engaged in everyday."

Parents and the public are encouraged to download this free mobile app to their smartphones from the App Store or Google Play, by searching "Perry Local School District".

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