

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

the perry way

WWW.PERRY-LAKE.K12.OH.US APRIL 2012

BEGINNINGS



Page 2

HEALTH



Page 4

HONORS



Page 6

COMMUNITY



Page 8

LAKE COUNTY SCIENCE TEACHER AWARD

Congratulations to Perry Middle School science teacher, Mrs. Pat Betteley on being selected to receive the 2011-2012 Lake County Science Teacher Award.

Lubrizol Corporation and Partners in Science Excellence co-sponsor this annual program to honor teachers who make a difference in science education. Each year, two Lake County, Ohio science teachers at the elementary or secondary school levels, in public, private and parochial schools are recognized for their excellence in teaching science.

Local school administrators and faculty nominated 11 teachers for this school year's award, and a panel of judges from Partners in Science Excellence and Lubrizol selected the winner. Each honoree receives an award of either \$5,000 or \$2,500 for science-related teaching expenses of their choice and an engraved plaque. Nominated by fellow science teacher, Mrs. Nancy Moseley, Mrs. Betteley will receive an award of \$5,000.

Perry Schools Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Dr. Betty Jo



Perry Middle School science teacher Mrs. Pat Betteley (left) is congratulated by Dr. Betty Jo Malchesky on receiving the Lake County Science Teacher Award.

Malchesky added, "To know Pat Betteley is to adore her. Perry students are fortunate to study alongside a life-long learner, who exudes enthusiasm, inquiry, and a quest to problem-solve real-world issues."

In the award's 18-year history, Lubrizol has honored over 90 Lake County science teachers.

"PERRY CARES"

— by David Wright, Perry Middle School



Perry High School students and staff gathered in the Competition Gym for this group photo that was sent to Chardon High School to show our support. (...continued on page 8)

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Perry Primary wants YOU to register your incoming kindergarten student for school. It's not too late for parents with preschool age children who will be entering kindergarten in the fall of 2012 to register their children. Kindergarten registration is scheduled for the mornings of Monday, March 26, through Friday, March 30, which also is the same week as our elementary visitor's week. Hard copies of the registration forms have been sent home with children who attend local preschools, and are also available at Perry Elementary School, the Board of Education and online. Families that are not able to attend registration will have to go to the Board of Education to register their children after March 30.

We are looking forward to starting the process to get to know our incoming Kindergarten students. Please share this information with your friends and neighbors that have students who will be starting Kindergarten next year.

Preschool Screening & Ice Cream Social!

Help your child succeed!

Join us at the Tarbuck Center, located at 4325 Manchester Road, on Thursday, April 26, 6-8 pm.

We are inviting Perry children, ages 3-5, not currently enrolled in a preschool or Pre-K program, to join us for a free child development screening and a chance to find out what is available in our community to help prepare for kindergarten readiness.

by Jodi Poremba, PPES Principal

Perry Safety Forces will also be on hand to say hello!

This event is sponsored by: Lake County ESC Perry Preschool, YMCA Perry Childcare Center & Preschool, Perry Local Schools Curriculum & Instruction Student Services, Lake-Geauga Head Start.



SOCIAL MEDIA AND KIDS: WHAT AGE?

by Perry Guidance Counselors

Social media, texting, and other forms of technology can help keep students, families and friends connected. But how young is too young, and what are the dangers? Recently, parents have expressed concerns about how they can monitor their child's use of social media. In an effort to help parents, Perry counselors, leadership and staff have been discussing this topic and would like to share some interesting information we found in a recent article from The New York Times:

Facebook Users Who Are Under Age Raise Concerns

By Matt Richtel and Miguel Helft

SAN FRANCISCO — The fake ID has gone digital, and spread to elementary school.

Across the nation, millions of young people are lying about their ages, so they can create accounts on popular sites like Facebook and Myspace. These sites require users to be 13 or older, to avoid federal regulations that apply to sites with younger members. But to children, that rule is a minor obstacle that stands between them and what everybody else is doing.

Parents regularly go along with the age inflation, giving permission and helping children set up accounts. They often see it as a minor fib that is necessary to let their children participate in the digital world.

Plenty of people fudge the truth about their age, whether to buy beer or project a younger image to potential mates. But researchers and other critics say allowing children to break the rules sends the wrong message. And, they argue, it sets children loose in a digital world they may not be prepared for — exposing them to the real-life threats of inappropriate content, contact from strangers and

the growing incidents of bullying by computer.

"Not only are kids lying about their age, but more often than not, parents teach them to lie about their age," said Danah Boyd, a social media researcher at Microsoft. The full article can be found at: <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/12/technology/internet/12underage.html>

In addition, the Ohio Legislature just passed an anti-bullying bill (Substitute House Bill 116). This bill is also known as The Jessica Logan Act, named after a girl who was cyber-bullied and committed suicide in July of 2008.

As teachers and guidance staff members, we want to support parents and provide information in an effort to keep students safe from themselves and others. In addition, we would like to suggest an excellent resource to help parents and educators keep kids safe regarding social media and other safety issues at: www.netismartz.org.

As always, if you have concerns regarding your child's use of technology, feel free to call your child's counselor.



APPROACHING YEAR'S END

As we round third and head for home in the 2011-2012 school year, it is time to begin putting the final touches on the recognition ceremonies many of us will be attending this spring, where we will celebrate and acknowledge the many outstanding accomplishments of the year. For those families with a graduating senior, the next few months will be particularly special, as they help guide their son or daughter toward the next phase of their lives. With all the excitement this time of year brings, we still cannot forget about the horrific tragedies suffered this year resulting in the premature death of area students who had so much yet to discover in this world. Our sympathies go out to those families suffering these losses. While so very sad, these tragedies must serve to remind us how precious our loved ones are and to appreciate the limited time we have with our families.

The recent tragedy at Chardon has caused school districts around the world to take a closer look at their safety protocols and emergency procedures. The safety and security of our students continues to be our number one priority. A number of measures have been taken to better ensure the safety and security of students. For example, the entrance door locking schedule has been adjusted at all buildings, surveillance cameras are being installed throughout the campus, and the operating hours

of the Community Fitness Center are going to be adjusted. Our efforts to keep our campus safe for students will be ongoing.

Spring also marks the testing season. District students have recently taken or will be taking state tests. These assessments are designed to measure student achievement and academic growth as compared to their grade level peers throughout Ohio. I am very proud of the hard work our staff and students have put in to stretch their learning and maximize their academic performance. Although state testing is but one of the many ways we measure success, our students are poised and ready to show what they know on Ohio Achievement Assessments and Ohio Graduation Tests.

The Ohio Department of Education has proposed a new look to the school

by Jack Thompson, Ed.D., Superintendent

and district report cards released annually in August. Gone will be the ratings of excellent, effective, continuous improvement, etc. In its place will be a much more familiar rating system of A, B, C, D, and F. Preliminary simulations based on 2011 data have the Perry Local School District earning a B as an overall grade. This simulation, in its current form, has only 22 of the 600 plus public districts in the state earning an A. Look for more information in the future, when the changes to the state's report card system are finalized.

In closing, I wish you and your family a great spring. Rest assured your student is our first priority as we strive for academic excellence and make every effort to secure the safety of the entire student body.



PERRY WOMEN'S LEAGUE CLOTHING ROOM

The Perry Women's League (PWL) Clothing Room is a community service project that discreetly provides free clothing to those who are experiencing financial hardship and are:

- Residents of Perry
- Alumni of Perry Schools
- Attend any Perry school or daycare
- Members of a church in Perry
- Employed by a Perry business

If you or someone you know is experiencing hardship and could benefit from our services, please

stop by and select from our spring & summer apparel.

Visit our page on the Perry District website (under the Community section) for more information about PWL Clothing Room hours, and donation and shopping guidelines.

You can also email us at perrywomensleague@hotmail.com, for special circumstances. Donations of clean, gently worn or new clothing items or shoes are welcome during the PWL

Clothing Room open hours, as listed on the website.

In addition, the Perry Public Library graciously accepts donations on behalf of the Perry Women's League.

Thank you!



TRANSITION TO NEW ACADEMIC STANDARDS

by Betty Jo Malchesky, Ed.D., Director of Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment

All Students Reaching Higher Levels of Achievement to Thrive in the World They Will Inherit

As we transition to new curriculum standards across the nation, Perry teacher teams seek to develop units that are appropriately rigorous, relevant to the real world, and challenge students to read closely, stake evidence for discussion, and write frequently for higher level thinking – not just a checklist of skills. The content taught for deep understanding, assessed, and reported to parents is consistent for all students within a grade level or course, no matter the teacher.

Perry students can look forward to new curriculum implemented in 2012-13 in mathematics, English/language arts, and social studies. Grading continues to be based on deep understanding of the power objectives within each subject or course and reported on report cards. A standards-based report card gives students and parents more information and evidence of student learning beyond a one-letter grade. The Common Core State Standards for Mathematics and English/language arts are adopted in 45 states in the United States and are benchmarked to international standards with the intent to prepare students for college degrees and career credentials in the ever-changing and global world they will inherit. The rigor and depth of the new Common Core State Standards makes the curricula distinct from the Ohio Content Standards that have been taught since 2001 to present.

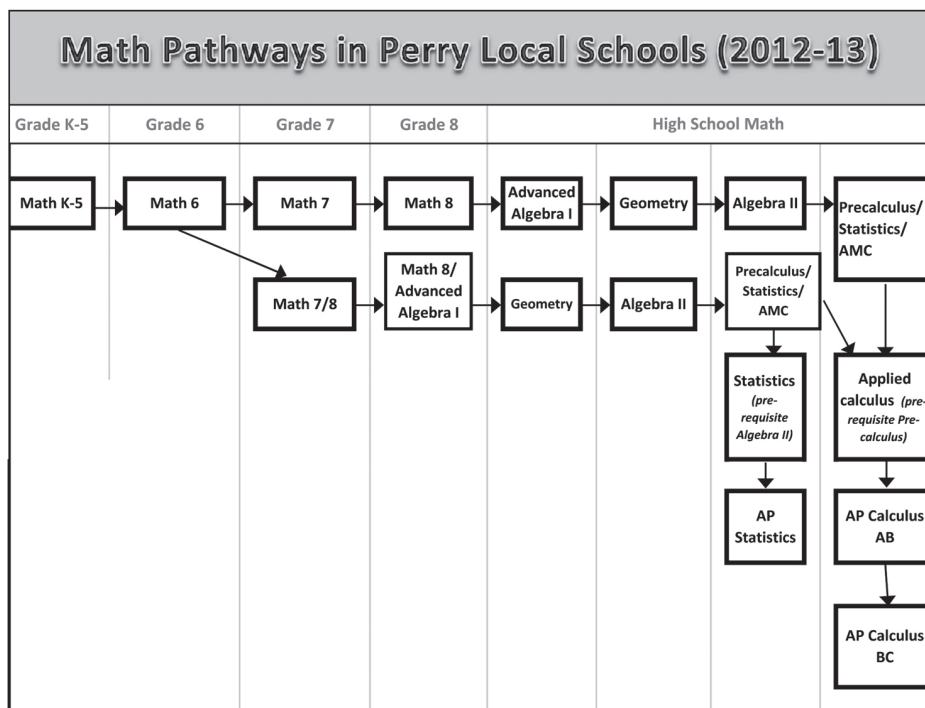
For example, significant changes have been made to the depth of algebra expectations within the Common Core State Standards for Math. What once was Algebra I, is now referred to as Advanced Algebra and includes many concepts previously taught in Algebra II. For further information regarding mathematics, see Mathematics Pathways in Perry 2012-13.

Teachers and leaders are committed to supporting students in the transition to new state or national curriculum. Pre-testing and informal checks are used throughout each grading term to support students with intervention and enrichment as needed, well before a summative assessment of the unit

content.

Achievement data will be used to appropriately design all students into classrooms for optimal learning in 2012-13.

It is a pleasure to work, learn, and continue to improve at Perry Schools. Our highly qualified staff is committed to challenging students to his or her optimal level of achievement and accessing the support they need to do so. If you have any questions, or you would like to get involved in any of the district's initiatives, please contact your child's teacher, principal, or the Office of Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment.



JUST RUN!

by Coleen Moskowitz, Perry High School

The alarming rise in childhood obesity, and the lack of physical activity in our youth, prompted the organizers of the Big Sur International Marathon to create JUST RUN youth running program. This program assists schools and is offering a solution, an ongoing, vital youth fitness program to create lifestyle changes.

This highly acclaimed program was honored and given a Gold Medal by Governor Schwarzenegger's

Council on Physical Fitness and Sports for "positively impacting the health and well-being of California's children and youth."

JUST RUN Lake County begins training children ages 6-18 for this spring's goal race – Lake Health 5K in Concord, on June 10.

Open to all Lake County children at the Perry CFC, beginning April 22, from 6-7:30 pm, JUST RUN is sponsored by the Lake County

General Health District, Lake Health and the Perry CFC.

Registration forms are available at www.perry-lake.k12.oh.us.

For more information, contact Coleen Moskowitz at csmosk@yahoo.com, or call 440-339-9452.



COUNSELING THROUGH A TRAGEDY

by Perry Guidance Counselors

The Perry counselors were very fortunate to hear Dr. Lori Stevic-Rust speak at the Lake County Counselors Association meeting recently. She is working with the community and the media since the tragic events occurred in Chardon several weeks ago. Her presentation was titled, "Counseling Through a Tragedy".

Some relevant points she made for parents include the following:

- Tell your kids that you are doing all you can to keep them safe and reassure them of their safety and of your support.

- Let your child know you are ready to listen to them when they are ready to talk. Be patient. Children handle emotions differently; encourage them to open up, and ask what they are thinking about.

- Kids who already suffer from anxiety may have more difficulty handling traumatic situations. Parents may want to seek professional help.

- Discuss these points with your children:

- What can we do to take care of each other?

- How can we make others feel good about themselves?

- Address bullying (especially on social media)

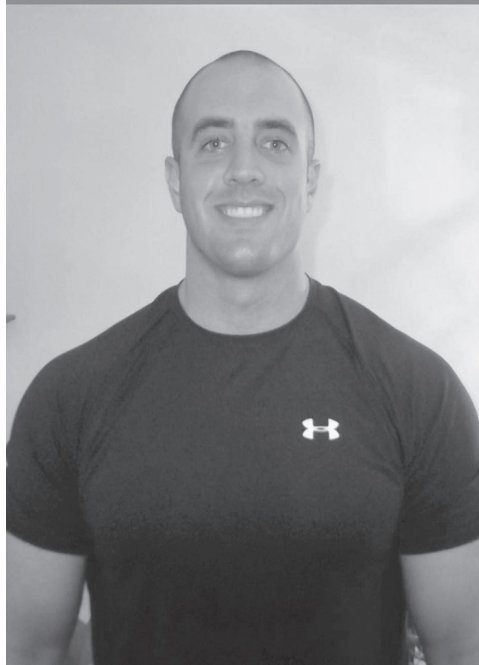
- Kids need to be empowered to report what they see and hear to adults.

- Say to kids, "Before you hit the send button, would you be ok with the words you are typing on the computer, if they were viewed on TV for everyone to see?"

Words are permanent. Kids need to be accountable for statements they make on social media.

Jeremy Goldizen

CFC Personal Trainer



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SUBSCRIBE TO PERRY eNEWS

Perry eNews is one of Perry Schools' newest communications tools – an electronic way of disseminating important school-related information to our community. For those who need to know what's happening in the Perry Local School District, it is a way to provide information instantly via e-mail. This method of delivering news will also help us to reduce the cost of producing and mailing our quarterly print newsletters.

To receive regular updates through our new e-newsletter, please send your e-mail address to pohlj@perry-lake.k12.oh.us.

You may be removed from this mailing list by unsubscribing at any time.

STUDENTS CHOSEN FOR HONOR BAND

by Brad Hruska, PHS Band Director



Perry High School band members, Colin Bliss (left) and, Chris Wills were selected to perform with the 2012 Honor Band at Bowling Green State University.

Perry High School is pleased to announce the selection of senior, Chris Wills (percussionist) and junior, Colin Bliss (trumpet), to perform at Bowling Green State University's 54th Annual New Band

Music Reading Clinic. Members of this year's band were chosen from among the most talented musicians at area high schools.

The pair traveled to BGSU to participate in one of two High School Honor Bands that performed during the event that was held this year, from January 19-21.

The Honor Band is one of the longest running in Ohio, and features outstanding guest conductors each year. This year, the bands were led by Mr. Don Wilcox, Professor Emeritus, West Virginia University, and Dr. John Locke, Director of Bands, University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

The musicians spent all day at BGSU on Friday, January 21, rehearsing with their respective bands, and then returned to the BGSU campus on Saturday, January 22, for afternoon performances.

During their time on campus,

students were treated to a joint performance of the BGSU Wind Symphony and the Toledo Symphony Orchestra.

The Honor Bands are part of Bowling Green State University's College of Musical Arts, New Band Music Reading Clinic and Directors Workshop. The College of Musical Arts prepares music professionals for state and national leadership roles in teaching, research, and creativity in all of the musical arts. Since 1947, the College of Musical Arts has been an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music and has achieved national recognition as a premier music learning community, for its outstanding faculty and student performers and for its academic programs in preparing students to be music scholars, educators and performers.

OMEA MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR BAND

by Jeff Miller, PMS Band Director

Four members of the Perry Middle School 8th Grade Band were selected to participate in the Ohio Music Educators Association's (OMEA) District Seven Middle School and Junior High Honor Band held in the Mentor High School Fine Arts Center on February 23 and 24. The four students selected for the honors Band were Abby Hollowell on French horn, Erica Lohan on flute, Benjamin Sawyers on trumpet and Abby Roberts on flute. The Perry Middle School 8th grade band is under the direction of Mr. Jeff Miller.

Students from all around the Greater Cleveland area participated in the Honor Band under the direction of Mr. Jack Blazey, former instrumental music teacher in the Painesville City School District. The



Perry Middle School 8th graders (from left) Abby Holowell, Abby Roberts, Erica Lohan and Ben Sawyers

honor band rehearsed together on February 23, with Mr. Blazey and several Lake County band directors and performed a concert for the parents and community on February 24, in the Fine Arts Center.

The OMEA is the third largest

of the 52 federated state affiliates of The National Association for Music Education. OMEA members are involved at all levels of music education, serving more than 1.8 million public school districts and 51 colleges and universities.

2012 PERRY COMMUNITY GREEN DAY

by Bob Glavan, Perry High School

The Perry Women's League and the Perry High School Recycling Club will be hosting the annual Community Green Day, Saturday, April 28. Students and staff members from all Perry Schools, as well as community members, are welcomed to volunteer to help in the myriad of activities that will be formalized soon. These activities are likely to include: (1) cleaning senior citizens' yards, community beaches, the Perry Schools campus,

and surrounding areas; (2) painting the shed and assembling benches for the new sustainable community garden at PHS; (3) collecting tool donations for the sustainable garden; and (4) collection or drop-off of recyclable paper products. Volunteers may sign up at the high school for designated activities, and will gather in the high school cafeteria at 8:00 am, prior to being assigned work. A special award will be presented to the PHS Recycling

Club that day too!

Senior citizens who would like to have their yards cleaned, community members who have tools to donate, and potential volunteers who want to work, may contact Mr. Glavan (glavanr@perry-lake.k12.oh.us or 259-9324), Mrs. Klinar (klinarc@perry-lake.k12.oh.us or 259-5070), or Mr. Soeder (soederm@perry-lake.k12.oh.us or 259-9381).

PMS SCIENCE FAIR 2012

by Nancy Moseley, Perry Middle School

Three young scientists were selected to represent Perry Middle School at the 63rd Annual Western Reserve District 5 Regional Science Day competition held in Akron, on Saturday, March 17.

This year's winner of the 2012 Perry Middle School Science Fair was 5th grade student, Elena Ciolli. In the Chemistry category, Elena performed a water quality analysis of tap, salt and distilled water, to determine their pH levels.

Several other students also scored high enough in the local competition to qualify for the trip to Akron. Those who elected to continue were sixth grader, Katrina Krein and seventh grader, Evan Jean.

Katrina, also in the Chemistry category, focused her attention on finding out which substance could grow the largest crystals: salt, sugar or borax.

Evan, in the category of Microbiology, compared popular household cleaning products and was able to determine which was the most effective at killing germs.

Students in grades 5-12 are encouraged to prepare projects in one of the following areas:

- Behavioral and Social Sciences
- Biochemistry
- Botany
- Chemistry
- Computers
- Earth and Space Sciences
- Engineering
- Environmental Sciences
- Mathematics
- Medicine
- Microbiology
- Physics
- Zoology



Perry Middle School science students Evan Jean (left), Elena Cioli and Katrina Krein participated in Science Day at the University of Akron.

Based on the results of the regional competition, students may be given the opportunity to proceed to the State Science Day on May 5.

Hosted by the University of Akron's Department of Polymer Sciences, the Western Reserve District 5 Science Day is one of 15 District Science Fairs held in Ohio each spring, under the Ohio Junior Academy of Science.

“PERRY CARES”

...continued from page 1

by David Wright, Perry Middle School

All of us have been affected by the tragic events at Chardon High School on February 27, 2012. Following the shootings at Chardon, the students of Mr. Wright's Perry Middle School Technology class quickly put together a project that would show support to the Chardon Schools, and at the same time, allow our students to express their own sense of loss and sorrow.

The students along with Mr. Wright initiated a campus wide endeavor to have as many teachers and staff members pull together and have their respective classes and groups create what were called, “Perry Cares” banners. The banners were created in Microsoft Publisher, and students were allowed to sign and express their emotions through the class banner.

More than twenty banners were completed, laminated, and finally delivered to Chardon High School. Banners came in from all three Perry school buildings, the Central Office, secretary staff, and Perry preschoolers. The largest banner, produced by Perry

High School, is now predominantly displayed above the main entrance/exit doors at Chardon High School. Perry's thoughts and prayers go out to the Chardon community in this healing process.



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