



The PERRY Way

www.perry-lake.org

Fall 2024

Featured Events

NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 14

3rd Grade Music Program
7:00pm, Goodwin Theatre

NOVEMBER 27-29

Thanksgiving Break
No School

DECEMBER

DECEMBER 3

Buccaneers Senior Citizen
Luncheon/Show
11:30am, Goodwin Theatre

DECEMBER 6-13

PSL Holiday Food Drive

DECEMBER 10

HS Winter Concert
7:00pm, Goodwin Theatre

DECEMBER 11

7th & 8th Grade Winter Concert
7:00pm, Goodwin Theatre

DECEMBER 12

5th & 6th Grade Winter Concert
7:00pm, Goodwin Theatre

DECEMBER 23 – JANUARY 3

Winter Break, No School

JANUARY

JANUARY 9

District Spelling Bee
9:00am, Goodwin Theatre

JANUARY 16

College Credit Plus Info Night
6:00pm, Goodwin Theatre

JANUARY 20

MLK Day, No School

As we embark on another school year filled with promise and potential, it is essential to reflect on the values and behaviors we uphold as a community. At Perry, we take pride in fostering an environment where every student feels safe, respected, and inspired to grow academically and personally. Creating such an environment requires more than just words; it requires action and commitment from each of us.

One of the most powerful ways we can influence our students is by modeling the behaviors we wish to see in them. Our actions serve as a blueprint for theirs, shaping their attitudes and interactions both inside and



Dr. Jack Thompson, Supt.

outside the classroom. Whether we are educators, administrators, parents, support staff, or members of the community, our behavior contributes significantly to the culture we experience in Perry.

We are all human, and will all have moments where we don't behave up to the standards we aspire to. What's most important when this happens is how we respond. Remember to give yourself

and others some grace, move beyond it, and vow to do better the next time. Below are my top six behaviors we should each strive toward.

1. **Respect and Kindness**

Treat every individual with **respect** and **kindness** regardless of differences in background, beliefs, or opinions. Our students learn from observing how we interact with others.

2. **Positive Communication**

Communicate positively and **constructively**. Our words have the power to inspire and motivate, shaping a culture of encouragement and optimism.

3. **Continuous Learning and Growth**

Commit to **lifelong learning** and personal **growth**. Modeling curiosity and a growth mindset encourages students to embrace challenges and strive for excellence.

4. **Personal Responsibility**

Take **ownership** for our actions and decisions. When we hold ourselves **accountable**, we teach our students the importance of ownership and learning from mistakes.

5. **Collaboration and Cooperation**

Embrace **collaboration** and **cooperation** within our community. By working together, we demonstrate the value of teamwork and collective achievement.





inspire and give us an extra boost of energy. This school year is no different, and we've gotten off to a fantastic start.

Last year, we introduced our new motto: "World Class Opportunities, Hometown Pride." Since August, our students, staff, and community have experienced numerous achievements and opportunities, some of which are highlighted below.

- ▲ In early September, Perry High School earned a 5-Star Rating from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. This rating reflects our success in achievement scores, student growth, gap closing, and graduation rate. Congratulations to our students and staff for reaching the highest rating possible!
- ▲ In the first week of school, we opened our Welding Lab in partnership with Lake Erie College and began classes in our new Technology Hub. Shortly after, we received exciting news that the district will be awarded over \$929,000 in grant funds from the state of Ohio to expand technology and certification programs on our campus.



The New Eastern Lake County Welding Hub

- ▲ Our Perry Service Learning class has made a lasting impact over the years, benefiting both students and community members through the dedication of our instructors



Homecoming Queen and King, Jordan Rowan and Alexander Dame

who have carried forward the vision established in 2004. This year, we celebrate 20 years of this transformative program at Perry High School. A special thanks to Mark Soeder and Allison Trentanelli for their dedication, vision, and commitment to evolving the program throughout the years.

- ▲ In late September, we celebrated Homecoming Week with Spirit Week, a pep assembly for grades 5-12, and the Homecoming Dance. Just two weekends later, we held the induction ceremonies for our Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame and Athletic Hall of Fame. The stories shared about the impact the Perry community had on the lives of our inductees were both inspiring and uplifting.
- ▲ Our talented Perry High School Band delivered an outstanding performance at the Lake County Marching Band Festival at Mentor High School on September 18th. We deeply appreciate their participation in numerous community events and their ongoing efforts to strengthen the sense of hometown pride that resonates whenever they play.
- ▲ Congratulations to Audrey Austin on qualifying for the State Tennis Tournament in singles division II and to our volleyball team who clinched the CVC title! We look forward to many more great accomplishments in the coming weeks as the fall season wraps up.



The Veterans Pancake Breakfast hosted by SADD Students

- ▲ On Friday, September 6th, a heartfelt Veteran's Pancake Breakfast was hosted by Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD). Our students took the lead in cooking and serving breakfast, providing them with a meaningful opportunity to express gratitude to the veterans in attendance.

As we look ahead to the rest of the school year, let's carry forward the momentum we've built. Each achievement, event, and initiative remind us of the vibrant community we've fostered at Perry High School. As we celebrate our successes, let's also embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Together, we will continue to inspire one another, support our peers, and strive for excellence in all that we do. Here's to another year filled with growth, learning, and unforgettable memories.



At Perry Middle School, our mission is to create an environment where every student feels supported and engaged both academically and within our school community. This year, we are focusing on fostering student engagement through personalized, authentic teaching strategies that help students connect with their learning in meaningful ways. Whether it's tailoring lessons to individual needs or encouraging more interactive, hands-on experiences, we are striving to make learning both relevant and engaging for each student.

In addition to academic engagement, building a strong sense of school spirit has been a top priority. Our student spirit sections have been attending various sporting events to cheer on their peers, creating a strong sense of community and camaraderie. A recent highlight was seeing members of our football team cheer on and even run



Male Athlete of the Week
for 9/16/24: Wesley Peters

alongside a struggling cross-country runner during a meet, embodying the values of teamwork and encouragement. We've also been emphasizing positive sportsmanship, recognizing students who exemplify these qualities through our weekly "Athletes of the Week" recognition. This initiative celebrates students who demonstrate respect, kindness, and leadership both on and off the field.

To support student growth in reading and math, we've revamped our intervention system. Students now receive targeted interventions during flex time each week, allowing us to address individual needs and help every student make progress. We're also thrilled to share that Perry Middle

School has received a grant from the state of Ohio, enabling us to partner with Huntington Learning Centers. This partnership brings tutors into our school throughout the day to work directly with students, providing extra support to ensure success in reading and math.

As we move forward, we are excited to see how these initiatives continue to shape a school year full of growth, achievement, and school spirit. With the commitment of our students, staff, and community, we are



Female Athlete of the Week
for 9/16/24: Abby Preto

confident that Perry Middle School will continue to be a place where every student thrives.

Superintendent *continued from page 1*

6 Resilience and Perseverance

Show **resilience** and **perseverance** in the face of adversity. Our response to challenges teaches students the importance of resilience and determination.

By consciously embodying positive principles in our daily interactions, we not only enrich our own lives but also contribute to the holistic development of our students. Together, we have the power to create a nurturing environment where every individual feels valued, seen, and empowered to reach their full potential.

I call on all of us to lead by example and inspire the next generation of leaders, thinkers, and compassionate individuals. Greet each other with a smile and a sincere hello, supporting the ideal we are all in this together. Let's model the behaviors we wish to see in our students and

cultivate a community of world class opportunities. Work as one to maintain a positive caring culture where all our students are proud to call Perry their hometown.



DISTRICT BOARD OFFICE

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CURRENT RESIDENT
PERRY, OH 44081

MISSION STATEMENT: "INSPIRE ALL STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE PERSONAL EXCELLENCE,
PURSUE WORLD-CLASS STANDARDS AND BE SELF-DIRECTED, LIFELONG LEARNERS."

Elementary School



Amy Stavar
ES Principal

As Perry Elementary School students began a new school year in August, some disembarked from buses and were greeted by teachers, administrators, our SSO, and Captain. Others were dropped off by their parents in the middle school bus loop, where Mrs. Gall and our SROs greeted them. These greetings, like much of what the students returned to at school, are PES traditions.

The students' day starts with the Pledge of Allegiance and our PEEPs chant led by fourth-grade students. They learn language arts, math, social studies, and science, of course, but also art skills, vocal music, instruments, the love of reading, resilience, kindness, and how to move to be healthy. They've already begun practicing for their musical programs, attended the book fair, and spent many days playing on the wooden playground. These activities are part of a typical day and year at Perry Elementary School. At the end of the day, they head off campus on buses or with their parents, and many participate in a variety of programs offered through our community partners and organizations.

Alongside the traditions they are used to, students may notice a few additions to Perry Elementary School in the 2024/2025 school year. This year, we are piloting a new reading program,

Benchmark Advance, which not only aligns with our Literacy Vision for Perry Elementary School, but also with the Science of Reading learning that we have done over the past two years. Students are reading texts that challenge them at their grade level and developing content knowledge and vocabulary that will build as they move from kindergarten through fourth grade. As always, the best thing students can do to increase their reading ability is to read with their families daily.

Not only do we have a new reading program, but we also have expanded our PEEPS program to promote positive behavior throughout the school day. Students learn about our expectations in their PSL special and their main classrooms. They know that

we expect them to be responsible, respectful, ready to learn, and safe in all parts of their day. They continue to earn PEEPS tickets for behavior that represents these expectations. Positive behavior is recognized in the classroom, lunchroom, during specials, on the playground, and the buses through the distribution of PEEPS tickets. In addition to the individual PEEPS winners that we select every week and the trophies that are awarded to the classrooms

with the most PEEPS tickets, this year we have introduced the Golden Spatula Award. The Golden Spatula is awarded daily to the lunch table with the most PEEP-like behavior. Students have several opportunities during their school day to celebrate success for on-path behavior!

We have a tradition at Perry of challenging students to be the best that they can be academically and to be good PEEPS personally. We hope to continue that work and to enhance our school with new practices that will become traditions in years to come.

