

THE PERRYITE

Volume XXII, Number I

Periodical of the Perry Local School District

September 2012

4201 13th Street S.W. Massillon, Ohio 44646 (330) 477-8121 <http://perrylocal.org>

WELCOME BACK!



It is our pleasure to welcome you to the 2012-2013 school year. August is always an exciting month, as we anticipate opening our buildings to the students, and we begin hearing the sounds of our marching band practicing, hear the crunch of football pads hitting, and see activity all across our campus. While there is a lot of physical noise and excitement here, there is also a great deal of “noise” surrounding education across our state and nation. There are several changes occurring over the next couple years,



such as implementing new academic standards, a new state report card for schools, new teacher evaluations, new administrator evaluations, not to mention we are waiting to hear of a new funding system for education in Ohio. While we will adjust to all of these changes and several more, our core work of providing opportunities for learning will remain unchanged. Our vision is to graduate 100% of our students, and strive for them to be college, career, or military ready upon graduation. We strive to accomplish this through establishing positive relationships with our students and families, maintaining high academic expectations, and by providing lessons and activities that meaningfully engage students. We continue to focus on these areas *for our students*, while operating in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner with public funds.

Our community continues to work together, making Perry Local Schools one of the finest districts in the state of Ohio. Our students continue to score high academically, experience success after they graduate, and are actively involved in our community. Perry’s employees work hard to ensure that effective learning takes place that ultimately prepares students for successful lives. Our board members and administrative team wish to offer thanks to our entire community in continually making Perry Local Schools an organization of excellence. Have a great year!

Perry Local Schools Mission

To emphasize excellence in learning and provide opportunities for every child to realize his/her potential in a safe environment.

To encourage students to become responsible, productive citizens and life-long learners.

Sincerely, John V. Richard, Superintendent

Jim Casey, School Board President

REMEMBERING A HERO

On Monday, August 6, 2012, exactly one year after his ultimate sacrifice, the Perry community came together on the front lawn of the high school to remember Perry grad and fallen soldier, Sgt. Dan Patron. 1,500 friends, co-workers, and strangers gathered with the Patron family to hear stories, share memories, hugs and tears and to unveil a new bench in memory of Sgt. Patron at the Veterans Memorial. Frank and Kathy Patron received the Bronze Star with Combat Valor Device at the ceremony. Danny Patron, there is no better soldier.



SENIOR MOMENTS from Bette Mizer

August, a month of celebrations, joining hearts and generations.

Happy birthday greetings to all Perry Township Senior Citizens that enjoy an August birthdate. Peridot is your birthstone and flower is the Gladiolus.

The first Sunday in August is known as "Friendship Day." August 7th represents "Purple Heart" Day, when we honor the soldiers who were wounded in the war.



Perry Local Schools will open their doors for the school year on Tuesday August 21st, 2012. Therefore it is time to wish all students "Good Luck" with the new school year, it is also a time to share memories with friends from your summer vacation.

PERRY TOWNSHIP SENIOR CITIZENS FREE PICNIC:

Thursday, August 9th, Perry Township Senior Citizens are invited to attend a FREE picnic and health fair located at Richville Community Park, 6655 Navarre Road, S.W. from Noon to 3:00 p.m. Entertainment will be provided.

PERRY HISTORY CLUB:

The goals of the Perry History Club are many and include the restoring of the 1893 Genoa schoolhouse and to preserve and display Perry Township history. This schoolhouse is the only publicly owned landmark in the township. 4,000 young children went through this one-room schoolhouse. The history club would like to coordinate with events during the Perry Township Bicentennial in 2014. For further information, please contact President Donna Vargo at 330-837-3942.

DID YOU KNOW?

The United States has had eight left-handed Presidents? James Garfield, Herbert Hoover, Harry Gerald Ford, Ronald Reagan, George H.M. Bush, William Clinton, and our current President Barack Obama.

PERRY SIPPO LIBRARY BRANCH:

A discussion group will meet every Thursday from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Perry Sippo Branch. Adults only. New members are welcome and books are available at the Circulation Desk. On September 6th the book for discussion will be HOME FRONT by Kristen Hannah.

PRO FOOTBALL OF FAME:

The Pro-Football Hall of Fame has unveiled a new section to the Hall. A two-story atrium and entrance in the center of the Museum. It creates a dramatic effect for the many guests who visit the museum. Just recently the Hall of Fame welcomed their nine millionth visitor.

HAPPINESS: The 3 grand essentials to happiness are: something to do, something to love, and something to hope for.

STARK COUNTY FAIR: The opening day of the 163rd Stark County Fair will be Tuesday, Aug. 28th at 8:00 a.m. The high school band shows will be performed at 5:15 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on the 28th. SENIOR CITIZENS recognition day will be held in the pavilion at 2:00 p.m. on Aug. 30th. If you choose to purchase a season pass, cost is \$22.00, stop in at the Stark County Fair Board Office.

Closing Thought:

Life is wonderful, yet life can be rough, who's there for you when the going gets tough? For it's the person who sticks with us right through to the end. That we have the privilege of calling our friend. With all we must face in the world where we live, a true friend is the friend who is willing to give.

with Perry Pride,



WHIPPLE ELEMENTARY (perrylocal.org/whipple)

4800 12th Street N.W. Canton, Ohio 44708 (330) 478-6177
At Whipple Heights, we are excited to begin another school year. When the students enter the front doors for the first time this year, they will notice how clean and bright the front hall looks. The walls were painted a bright white over the summer to go with our bright white floor that was installed last year. The big Perry "P" in the middle of the floor and the motivational banners on the walls help to instill "Perry Pride" in all those that enter. Parts of the cafeteria and gym also received a fresh coat of paint this summer. Whipple's fantastic playground area was covered in over 40 yards of playground mulch the end of July in order to make it an even safer place to play. Whipple looks great, and the entire faculty and staff can't wait for another year to begin. Many great activities, with the help of the WHPTO, are planned for this year. We hope you will stop by to enjoy the fun and observe the great things happening at Whipple. Welcome back!!

SEW, A NEEDLE PULLING THREAD

Whipple Student, Brooke Waggoner (daughter of Stephan and Tina Waggoner) age 10, used her talents to help Perry Helping Perry by picking fabric and sewing the curtains for the windows in the new clothes closet. Brooke's caring heart and contagious smile brightens our hearts and our clothes closet! What a great job! Thanks Brooke!



GAME SHUTTLES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Beginning August 24, Perry Local Schools will be offering a complimentary van shuttle for home football games from Edison to the stadium and then returning after the game. There will be a second shuttle picking up and dropping off at the Cosmetology Lab on Genoa Ave. This service is for all senior citizens 60 and older. The vans will be running approximately every 15 minutes from 6 -7:15. The vans will be outside the main gate after the game to shuttle seniors back to their cars. Please note: vans are not handicapped accessible.

LOHR ELEMENTARY (perrylocal.org/lohr)

5300 Richville Dr. S.W. Navarre, Ohio 44662 (330) 484-3924

2012 has proven to be an exciting time for Lohr Elementary. There have been dramatic changes outdoors



as well as inside in order to make the school more safe and child-friendly. Due to weathered, chipped, and cracked asphalt, our playground had fallen into disrepair. A new look of fresh black-top has made this space a

luxury for students to skip, jump rope and play ball. The design of the asphalted area has been reconfigured

in order to improve student monitoring and play during the day. New mulch was added to the jungle-gym area as well. The addition of a small section of mulched area has also been made to accom-



modate a climbing piece that the Lohr PTO donated for the use of all students. Along with the changes outside the building, a minor transformation was made to the inside. A division in the office area has been made to maximize space for children and provide a classroom for speech and guidance. Our clinic has moved to ensure the safety of the students as well as the convenience of having bathroom amenities accessible. A big thank you goes to our custodians, Ken Halter and Barton Smith, for their amazing construction work on this project. Please stop in and see our fresh new look inside and out. While you are there, make sure to take note that Lohr students and staff are continuing their efforts in making our school energy efficient. By turning out lights, conserving water and recycling paper and cardboard, we are doing our part to help conserve energy and save money for our school, community and Earth.



New Phone App

As the new school year begins, Perry local Schools will have a smart phone application available to students and parents. Look for further information on our website and in student packets in late August or early September!

GENOA ELEMENTARY (perrylocal.org/genoa)
 519 Genoa Road S.W. Massillon, Ohio 44646
 (330) 478-6171



Genoa Elementary building and grounds will certainly surprise our students, parents, and community members when visiting this fall! Upon entering the building, you will quickly notice the fresh coat of paint on the walls giving it a much brighter look! You will too notice the new carpet installed throughout the

hallways and main floors. The outside grounds also have been upgraded with new blacktop for part of the playground and parking and new mulch was added around the equipment. We would like to thank our custodial and maintenance teams for their diligent work throughout the summer to make our building look spectacular!



Our staff has been in and out of the building readying for our open house on Monday, August 20 at 5:30-6:30 p.m. for our first through fourth graders. We have a couple of new team players on our staff this year that we can't wait for you to meet! Boys and girls, don't forget to bring your supplies to your new classroom when you meet your new teacher (s) on this night. We are excited to open up with a new year of learning adventures and look forward to working with our Genoa families!

KNAPP ELEMENTARY (perrylocal.org/knapp)
 5151 Oakcliff Str. S.W. Canton, Ohio 44706 (330) 478-6174

Welcome back to school! T.C. Knapp's staff has been busy over the summer preparing for another great school year. Many of the teachers took classes to improve instruction. They are also working in their classrooms and preparing for the year. Our custodians also spent countless hours cleaning and improving our facilities.



Some of the improvements that have been paid with Perry's tax dollars are:

Replacing old sidewalks in the front and around the building. A handicap ramp was installed.

Spreading mulch around the equipment on the playground to ensure the safety of our students while playing at recess.

Replacing the fence in the back of the school yard. Replacing the electrical heat system with gas in order to reduce the amount of money paid out for energy.

The Learning Center, which was paid for by a Lowe's grant, is almost complete and the students will be able to use the facility this coming school year.



As all Knapp students and families know, T. C. Knapp is a place where great things happen. We are looking forward to continuing this tradition during the 2012-2013 school year.

PERRY PRIDE!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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Dr. Mark A. Jacobs, Pastor 

WATSON ELEMENTARY (perrylocal.org/watson)
515 Marion Ave. N.W. Massillon, Ohio 44646
(330) 832-8100

The 2011-12 school year concluded with a special Watson first... 4th grade student Nick Forchione (pictured) was the first



Watson student to achieve 400 miles walked on the school walking track during recess! The picture shows Nick signing the school Walking Club 400 miles walked poster which will be displayed in the lobby entrance hall. A portion of the walking track received a special boost as the playground black top was completely resurfaced at a cost of over \$15,000.

The custodians have been busy adding to our school gallery of framed student work. They have hung the art work of students: Grace Zamola-Lori, Samantha Michaels, Grace Messman, Lauren Lieser, Ella Warner, Brayden Ostervich, Mal-
lori Gatts, Megan Fry, Luke Wagner, and (pictured) is Hunter Goehring with his framed work of art. These student masterpieces were selected from artwork displayed during the spring art show. They will be proudly displayed until the artist returns as a high school graduate, to claim it for their own.



Our graduating class of 2025 will be excited to sit upon brand new carpet in their kindergarten classrooms this fall. The old carpet was date back to 1967! Carpet was also added to another classroom that solely serves kindergarten students. "We will love our new 'comfy' carpet," shared one teacher while getting her room ready for the first day.

Watson also welcomes new leadership to our PTO, known as UNITE. President for the coming school year is Mrs. Angie Hill. She will be assisted by Vice-President Mrs. Jodi Gerber. Mr. Joe Babics will serve as Treasurer, and Mrs. Amy Badertscher will be UNITE's secretary. President Mrs. Hill, a nurse at Akron Children's Hospital, encourages everyone to watch for UNITE's newest event, "The Watson Wellness Walk" to be held on Saturday September 22. The walk will promote family health and feature a fun walk around the school track and adjacent neighborhoods, nutritious food promotions, and wellness vendors from around the community.

PFEIFFER INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
(perrylocal.org/pfeiffer) 4315 - 13th Street S.W.
Massillon, Ohio 44646 (330) 478-6163

Welcome back to another school year! The faculty and staff have been working diligently to prepare for the upcoming school year. Teachers have worked together within their departments and teams to improve lessons and to prepare for a smooth start to the school year. The office staff has managed and prepared all of the necessary forms, records and lists for a great start. Custodians have painted, scrubbed, and cleaned the school in order to ensure student safety and a positive experience. Noteworthy improvements would include a new roof over the gym and music areas, mulch has been laid in the playground area and around the building. Concrete work was done to repair and patch unsafe areas, new topsoil and grass was installed. Painting was also completed in various rooms and hallways to give a brighter and more welcoming appearance. Pfeiffer Intermediate will also have a new sign placed at the entrance and on the front of the building to replace the old middle school signs. It has been a very busy and productive summer at Pfeiffer and the faculty and staff have worked hard to make this year the best year ever at Pfeiffer.

Home of the Panthers!

IMPORTANT DATES

- Aug 21: First day for students
- Aug 31: No school--teacher in-service
- Sep 3: No school--Labor Day
- Sep 11: Senior Citizen Bingo
(Edison Gym--5:00)
- Sep 18: Retiree Luncheon
(Perry Grange--noon)
- Oct 10: Senior Citizen Luncheon
(Edison Gym--noon)
- Nov 7: Parent-Teacher conferences
(5PM-8PM)
- Nov 8: No school, Parent-Teacher
Conferences (8AM-8PM)
- Nov 9: No school
- Nov 22-26: No school, Thanksgiving break
- Dec 24-Jan 1: No school, Christmas break

EDISON MIDDLE SCHOOL (perrylocal.org/edison)

4201 - 13th Street S.W. Massillon, Ohio 44646

(330) 478-6167

Happy New Year from all of us at Edison Middle School! The Edison team is diligently preparing to make this year a successful one for all of our students!

The custodians have worked

hard all summer and our building looks great!

Here is a long list of improvements made over the summer:

Installed additional security cameras.

Installed handicap ramp at front entrance.

Built new wall in waiting area for improved

Security.

Added electrical outlets in science rooms.

Installed new carpet in staff/student meeting room.

Purchased new desks for classroom.

Updated painting in various classrooms, restrooms, halls.

Updated school sign on 13th street and added lettering to the front of the building to reflect "middle school" rather than "junior high".

Edison will host an Open House for all students on Thursday, August 16th from 6:00-7:00.

Students should bring their schedules that were mailed in June to find their classes and meet their teachers. Schedules will also be available from homeroom teachers. It is our hope that this special evening will help put our students at ease as they approach the first day of school. We look forward to seeing our 8th graders and meeting our new 7th graders! Also, be sure to visit Edison's website at <http://perrylocal.org/edison/> for a list of general supplies to get students started.

MEET THE PHS FOOTBALL TEAM!

Set your calendar for August 25th! From 2-6pm there will be a spaghetti dinner in the high school cafeteria and then from 7-9pm will be "meet the team" for the football team. Come on out and support the fighting panthers!



8TH GRADE BAND RECEIVES HONOR

The Edison Middle School 8th Grade Band has been selected to perform at the Ohio Music Education Association State Conference to be held February 7-9, 2013 in Columbus, Ohio. This is a HUGE honor for Mrs. Karen Martin and all Perry Band students. A special thank you to the current freshman class whose performance this past year made it possible! Ensembles are chosen through a "blind" audition process by submitting a performance CD. Over 130 CDs were submitted from Ohio and only 3-4 bands are selected to perform for this prestigious event. The conference is attended by music educators from all over Ohio and will showcase the talents of our band students. All parents and friends are encouraged to attend! Congratulations students! You make Perry proud!

PERRY HIGH SCHOOL (perrylocal.org/phs)

3737 - 13th Street S.W. Massillon, Ohio 44646

(330) 477-3486

Perry High School is excited to begin the second year of having all four high school classes in the building, and we especially look forward to each Senior class. The class of 2013 will not see many changes to our building compared to a year ago with the addition of our new cafeteria and freshmen wing, but we continue to update our technology, which is not always so visible. One very visible upgrade was remodeling to accommodate our growing JROTC program. The improved space will effectively house this valuable lead by Major Dennis Marshall and Sergeant Eric Rouse. The JROTC program centers on providing students life long leadership training. Currently, there are 178 students enrolled in a Perry High School Dual Enrollment course. These students will be completing 1,462 college credit hours this year. From a state testing standpoint, we improved in every OGT subject. Our results were: Reading - 96%, Math - 93%, Writing - 95%, Science - 88%, and Social Studies - 92%. These numbers reflect the hard work and dedication of all staff and our students.

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE MAKING NOISE

The Perry High School percussion ensemble has been chosen to perform at the 2013 OMEA music educators convention in Columbus, Ohio Feb. 7-9. To get selected the ensemble had to audition with three songs of different styles. Over 130 groups auditioned for this occasion. This is the second time the percussion ensemble has been chosen for this honor. The last time was in 2007.

NEWS AND NOTES

Nineteen Perry choir students joined 180 singers across the state to perform in the Ohio Children's Honor Choir, June 18-20, at Otterbein University. They had the privilege to rehearse and perform under internationally-renowned composer and conductor, Rollo Dilworth. Their days, and two summer Saturdays previously, were spent in intense rehearsal where our students gave their best and took their music study to a new level. The results were evident in the final concert given for the Ohio Choral Directors Association members, families and friends. Participating in the honor

choir were Preston Blakeslee, Christian Burkhart, Dominic Confalone, Tylar Dazey, Audra Deitz, Lauren Deitz, Gabrielle



DePasquale, Taylor Define, Sierra Duncan, Jada Foxx, Emma George, Gracie Kelley, Payton Lutz, Kelsey McKay, Nadia Pryor, Ethan Scheck, Kenzie Spehar, Logan Talkington, and Madison Violand.

PERRY HALL OF FAME

For those wishing to submit an application for any Perry graduate (must be 2002 and before) to be considered for the Perry Athletic Hall of Fame, you can download a form by going to www.perrylocal.org/athletics. These applications need to be submitted by September 31st, 2012. If you have any questions call 330-478-6159.

SIPPO BRANCH LIBRARY NEWS

Do you like to read mystery novels? If you do, come to hear Paul L. Gaus speak about the Amish way of life and his Amish-Country Mysteries on Monday, September 10 from 6:00-7:30 at the Exploration Gateway at 5712 12th St. NW. His presentation will culminate with a book signing. Please call [330-477-8482](tel:330-477-8482) for your reservation or stop in the Perry Sippo Branch Library and sign up for this free event sponsored by the Perry Sippo Friends of the Library.

SUMMER SCHOOL

While the majority of Perry students were fast asleep, a group of about 100 students were taking advantage of the summer school that Perry offers to its students each summer. Students are able to review the skills from the previous year and also receive a jump start on preparing themselves for the upcoming school year, all while being a part of a small group and working on activities that are fun. Jade McCleary (pictured), upcoming 4th grade student from Lohr, surprised everyone when she arrived at summer school dressed as one of the characters from the book that the students were reading, Be a Perfect Person in Just Three Days. We think that by becoming so involved in the book and participating in summer school, Jade is well on her way to becoming a perfect person. All Perry students have the opportunity to participate in the annual program, which took place this year for three hours daily during the weeks of July 16th-July 27th. For more information on Perry's summer school opportunities, talk with your child's teacher or summer school coordinator, Lisa McNutt.



FREE COMMUNITY DINNER

Reedurban Presbyterian Church, Corner of 12th St. & Perry Dr. August 28 and September 25
For more info: 330-477-2838 Everyone is welcome!



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Perry Local Board of Education

Jim Casey, Marlene Capuano
Jon Deitz, Betsy Elum & Bob Schnabel

Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at Edison, and are open to the public.

The Perryite is published four times a year by the Perry Local Board of Education, and distributed to the community residents, businesses, and staff members.

Perry Local Schools is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or handicap with respect to employment and educational programs and opportunities for students.

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PERRY HELPING PERRY

What an amazing summer! PHP has been very busy this summer working on our many projects! With the help of our community members, churches, and businesses we have been able to do the following:

Backpacks- PHP, Perry Christian Church, Whipple Heights C&MA, Richville United Church, and Annie's Latte da worked together to collect and pack over 100 back packs with basic school supplies for our students in need in grades K-6.

Clothes Closet- Our clothes closet held its grand reopening in June at Richville United Church of Christ on Richville Dr. We are thankful to church members for allowing us to utilize their space to help Perry residents. The new clothes closet is opened every Monday from 10am-2pm and the fourth Friday of the month from 4pm-6pm.

Gardens- While we may not have the rain we need, the dedication we have is overwhelming. Brett Hunstman and Trinity United Methodist Church and several member of Richville United Church of Christ have given their time and talents to starting and maintaining garden's for PHP. Their combined efforts will allow us to offer fresh produce over the next few months at our food pantry.

Summer Lunch- One of the new programs we started this year was our summer lunch program. Working with R.U.C.C., Whipple Hts C&MA, and Life hope church (on Wales Ave.) we provided a few Perry low income developments with an opportunity to receive a sack lunch 3 days a week. These lunches provided each child with a sandwich, chips, fruit, drink, and a small treat. We averaged around 40 lunches per day!

Christmas Voucher Program- Yes we said Christmas! While the weather may be too hot to think of Christmas time our PHP elves have been hard at work preparing for this year's Christmas voucher program. We have scheduled several events to raise money to purchase gift cards for our children this holiday season. If you would like to donate to this program, please visit our website for a complete list of items needed and drop off locations.

We have been working with several local businesses to raise money and we hope you can join us! Each restaurant night provides a chance to win a gift card!

Stop by for more details at the following locations:

Handels Ice Cream August 16th 3pm-9pm. Flier must be presented. Flier can be found on our website.

Romeo's Pizza September 11th 5pm-9pm. Wear your red/white/blue and support our loved ones lost in 9/11

Pizza Oven October 8th 4pm-8pm

NEW toy, book, or board game donations can be dropped off to Perry Christian Church or Annie's Latte Da Food Pantry- Just a reminder our food pantry is opened the third Saturday of the month from 9am-12pm at Trinity United Methodist Church on Linconlway across from Waikem KIA.

Please contact us at perryhelpingperry@yahoo.com, www.perrylocal.org/perryhelpingperry/, or by calling Patty Knotts 330.418.4148 or Kelly Hajba 330.949.1628

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Looking for current information on activities and events? Log on to: <http://perrylocal.org/calendar/>

VIEW THE PERRYITE IN FULL COLOR!

Go to <http://perrylocal.org/community/perryite> for a full color version of the Perryite, as well as, past editions.