

# ***Piqua Junior High School***

## ***Quarterly Parent Newsletter***

***Mr. Jeff Clark, Principal and Mr. Chad Albers, Asst. Principal***

### ***7th Grade Classroom Updates***

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade science students have been busy this last quarter of the school year with ecology. Classes explored the carbon cycle, working hard on photosynthesis and cellular respiration, as well as journeying through the nitrogen cycle. We took a closer look at how the angle of the sun, global winds, ocean currents, air pressure systems, elevation and precipitation characterize a climate region. Students were able to demonstrate how salinity and temperature affect water movement and utilize technology in their learning process. Then we looked at various biomes in North America and identified them by their abiotic and biotic factors.

The last two weeks of school were about populations and succession. Science students learned about the 4 methods of determining a population as well as the differences between primary and secondary ecological succession. In addition, students created board games to review each unit this year, and we played them to prepare for the final exam.

We appreciate the students' hard work and hope everyone enjoys the summer break!

The Miami Social Studies classes journeyed through the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Mongols, and the Age of Exploration in the last four weeks. We talked about the impact of these different time periods, as well as their important figures. After completing our studies, the classes took their ProCore Form C assessment. All of the classes either showed average growth or above average growth from the beginning of the school year to now. Great job, everyone! Have a great summer!

The seventh grade ELA students started the fourth quarter with the novel [A Long Walk to Water](#). This was an eye-opening novel where students learned about people who suffer daily from not having access to clean water. Videos and other texts were added for students to learn how to help all people have access to clean water and what it might be like to live in a war-torn country. Then, students completed the novel [The Outsiders](#) by S.E.Hinton and a body biography project that they presented to the class in the final days of school. The students learned and grew a tremendous amount this year, and we look forward to hearing about all their success in the upcoming years! We wish them all the best in whatever adventure awaits.

# *8th Grade Classroom Updates*

Math 8 students were hard at work throughout the fourth quarter as they studied various mathematical concepts to wrap up their Math 8 curriculum. Students started out the fourth quarter exploring the patterns within numbers, which allowed them to discover further connections for the rules and ideas they will be using for the number system concepts. Students learned how to identify types of numbers, operate with given numbers involving square roots and exponents, and express large and small numbers using scientific notation. Students were given the opportunity to explore the real-world connections in our scientific notation unit, where they investigated the net worth of celebrities of their choice. Students wrapped up the quarter by further exploring their square and square root knowledge with the Pythagorean Theorem through hands-on investigations, real-world tasks, and further application problems. Students enjoyed being creators in their own learning! The rest of the fourth quarter was spent reviewing for the math 8 state test, where students worked hard reviewing the concepts they have been learning all year. We are so proud of all the work our students did and the growth they have shown in their learning! It was truly a great year in Math 8!

Algebra students ended the fourth quarter studying various concepts to wrap-up their year. Students analyzed the structure of quadratics via their graphing calculator, interpreting where and how the solutions are found. Students used real-world situations to help understand what a quadratic is and how that graph is formed. In addition, students also learned how to use the quadratic formula, showing them the fluency they have with strategies when solving quadratics. The rest of the fourth quarter was spent reviewing for the algebra state test, where students worked hard revisiting concepts they studied all year. To finish out the year, students were given the opportunity to use VR Goggles provided by the district through the Prisms VR app to learn some mathematical concepts in an engaging way. For example, students were airplane pilots and had to strategically map the airplanes path so they did not cross, where they later saw a graph and were able to analyze the airplane's path. In addition, some students also engaged with quadratics and helped a city design a green space garden in the city to maximize their given area available. Students were truly engaged in the new opportunities technology has presented us with to learn and connect with mathematics in the real-world. We are so proud of our Algebra students and all their hard work in a high school course! They persevered through the challenges and came out achieving some great growth and skills that will help them succeed in the future.

In the 4th Quarter, the Mohican Social Studies students researched and presented their findings on a reformer from the mid-1800s. The topics included abolitionism, women's rights, and temperance. They then examined the causes leading up to the U.S. Civil War. They learned the roles that States' Rights, the expansion of slavery, and the existence of slavery itself played in the separation of our great nation. We finished the year with a look at the Civil War. Many of the students headed to Washington, D.C., to learn first hand about the sacrifices that have been made throughout the decades to make this the greatest nation in the world. Those who were not able to travel to DC, learned about many of the sites that those in D.C. visited.

During the 4th quarter of the school year, Mr. Smith's American History classes have studied the following topics: Reform Movements, Slavery, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. Students completed several smaller projects including a reformers project, an Abraham Lincoln drawing, and a presidential project.

The following essential questions were instructed during the 4th quarter:

- How did reformers change American Society? · What was the Abolitionist movement?
- In what ways was the Civil War both a beginning and an end?
- How did Geographical, Economic, and Political differences between the North and South lead to conflict?
- How did the Union win the Civil War?
- How did the end of Reconstruction affect the lives of future Americans?

The end of the year finds our 8<sup>th</sup> grade ELA classes finishing our last novel, *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*. To supplement the novel, students have completed a character flip book, book review, projects, and a mock trial. Students will have taken final exams. The final exam consisted of character matching, multiple choice, and extended response questions pertaining to *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*.

Students have learned an immense amount of information this year. We are confident that students are ready for ninth grade. We want to thank all of our students for a great year, and we wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer break!

8th grade science and students wrapped up the year with a return to the unit on Physical Science. Students competed in 4 projects during our Physics Olympics competition. Students created and competed in a variety of events that tested their knowledge of physics, experimental design, and STEM concepts. Students built and tested catapults, parachutes, sailboats, and motion cars throughout the 4th quarter. Mrs. Fox and Mr. Askins appreciate all the hard work put in by our students this year and wish you all the best of luck as you continue your journey at the high school.

## **4<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Perfect Attendance**

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Liam Alspaugh, Carl Baker, Nolan Butler, Athena Duff, Cora Fledderman, Kaden Hampshire, Landry Hinkle, Lylah Howard, Kylar Jones, Alysa Lin, Tiffany Liu, Cohen Manson, Victoria Martin, Amiyah Moorman, Abigail Palmer, Alora Perry, Miranda Price, Demi Roberts, Drayden Steiner, Johnny Sutton, Cooper Swink, Camden Thomas, Lilian Wellman, Payton Wilson, Katie Wolf, Brayden Wright, Lilly Yeaple

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Cameron Albright, Julianna Alexander, Aiden Allen, Lucas Elliott, Emmett Farrier, Liam Fast, Tristan Fox, Hunter Grissom, Soraya Hudson, Ruby Jess, Cloe Jones, Colton Jones, Ryleigh Kouts, Jason Lin, Anderson Lyman, Karsen Lyman, Serenity McClure, Layla McDowell, Adaleigh Mitchell, Jaden Nichols, Maya Oduro, Jayden Ostendorf, Lillian Pierron, Samil Ramirez, Luke Selhorst, Ethan Shaw, Calvin Shawver, Gemontay Smith, Marquez Taylor, Samantha Toopes, Laurie Vanmatre, Jack Vore, Piper Ward, Olivia Workman, Andrew Wright

# Honor Roll

**Seventh Grade Honor Roll: (3.75—4.0 GPA)** Liam Alspaugh, Jacob Anderson, Espen Atha, Hannah Bailey, Kenzie Bertholomey, Rainey Bornhorst, Nolan Butler, Makenzie Carroll, Adrianna Chambers, Ryleigh Coppock, Akeylah Cox-Haralson, Uriah Burgh, Lucas Crawford, Olivia DeBrosse, Abigail Detter, Athena Duff, Cora Fledderman, Savannah Gress, Kaden Hampshire, Aydan Hare, Gylia James, Luke Jensvold, Autumn Jones, Bronson Kaye, Lauren Keener, Coral Kindell, Madison Kiser, Addison Leonard, Madeline Lewis, Alysa Lin, Adisen Litsch, Tiffany Liu, Cohen Manson, Chloe Marcum, Avery Marrs, Victoria Martin, Bailey Meadows, Ellexis Mertz, Abigail Palmer, Sophia Palmer, Kailey Perreira, Alora Perry, Miranda Price, Bently Ritter, Demi Roberts, Kortney Schultz, Annaleigh Scott, Connor Sloan, Malachi Smith, Evangeline Staley, Bryanna Stambaugh, Raygin Sterling, Landon Sullenberger, Cooper Swink, Jocelyn Thoma, Drake Thornhill, Shariah Tlaskal, Chloe Watkins, Lillian Wellman, Elizabeth Wessel, Payton Wilson, and Katie Wolf

**Seventh Grade Honorable Mention: (3.5—3.749 GPA)** Landyn Best, Bryleigh Brubaker, Easton Bryant, Landon Bryant, Cheyanne Conner, Jilian Davis, Jonathan Davis-Shinall, Chance Hamilton, Dakiya Hester, Lylah Howard, Layla King, Jersey Lee, Mayson Page, Gabryela Schroeder, Brooklynn Weaver, Troy Wildenhaus, and Lilly Yeaple

**Seventh Grade Commended List: (3.25—3.49 GPA)** Dominic Allen, Brooklyn Arnett, Deryk Berkerle, Koltin Bryant, Chloe Bulmer, Leyah Fair, Christopher Graham, Kamaya Graham, Michelle Gray, Landry Hinkle, Ashton Jones, Randy Kessler, Teeghann Kiser, Anna Koenig, Aaliyah Leonardo-Cotterman, Gabrielle Miller, Amiyah Moorman, Johnny Osornio, Sophia Perkins, Joslyn Quinter, Mackenzie Shaneyfelt, Lillian Shipman, Brysen Sprauge, Ryder Stover, Johnny Sutton, Vance Thoreen, Euriah Ward, and Brayden Wright

**Eighth Grade Honor Roll: (3.75—4.00 GPA)** Cameron Albright, Julianna Alexander, Brennen Angle, Laila Beireis, Addison Black, Ava Bolin, Zariah Bowers, Jillian Boyd, Parker Butler, Selena Callejas, Madison Cantrell, Abigail Carnahan, Ashlyn Deal, Blake Deal, Mischa Dillion, Sophia Duley, Lucas Elliott, Kayaunna Epley, Liam Fast, Ashlyn Faulkner, Christian Ferguson, Keaton Fisher, Tristyn Frazier, Isabell French, Dane Funderburg, Kahles Gannon, Dalan Goff, Hunter Grissom, Parker Hickerson, Leila Hobart, Carson Holtvogt, Drew Hostetter, Kaylee Huber, Soraya Hudson, Jonathan Huelskamp, Ruby Jess, LeahAnn Jones, Kaleb Karnehm, Lucas Koenig, Ava Krommanecker, Bryer Langston, Chloe Laqui, Joseph Lavey, Connor Lawson, Trinity LeMaster, Jason Lin, Anderson Lyman, Karsen Lyman, Libby

Magoteaux, Chase Mangen, Kalia McClellan, Layla McDowell, Kamri Mendenhall, Jacob Meyer, Adaleigh Mitchell, Meyah Murphy, Brayden Myers, Jasmine Nickels, Maya Oduro, Jace Palmer, Kameron Pfenning, Lillian Pierron, Lawrence Pitman, Aldin Poeppelman, Annalyse Pummill, Bailey Quinter, Samil Ramirez, Sai Reed, Skylar Riedel, Leila Roberts, Braxton Roller, Michael Rowley, Audryna Rudy, Emilee Schulz, Ethan Shaw, Adalynne Shawler, Payton Shoffner, Tara Smith, Dominic Snapp, Evin Spark, Zayne Strong, Raygan Swabb, Allison Szachta, Taylor Tevis, Samantha Toopes, Laurie VanMatre, Khloe Venrick, Jack Vore, Aubrey Wagner, Finnegan Wagoner, Piper Ward, Audrey Williams, Max Willoughby, Olivia Workman, Ella Worley-Josefovsky, and David Yohey

**Eighth Grade Honorable Mention:** (3.5—3.749 GPA) Wyatt Allen, Rogan Baumann, Matthew Bishop, Ra’Niya Brooks, Braylen Cooper, Mia Ellis, Cylie Evans-Apple, Jaiden Galvan-Wells, Jeffrey Grote, Pacience Haynes, Breyden Hicks, RaKayla Jones, Miranda Miles, Maison Miller, Jayden Ostendorf, Landon Pierce, Tristen Pisano, Kaden Rice, Rabekah Shaner, Calvin Shawver, Lyla Silvers, Gabriel Sloan, Dustyn Stambaugh, Tanner Stevens, and Jordan Swisher

**Eighth Grade Commended List:** (3.25—3.49 GPA) Sawyer Barga, Tristan Fox, Kaydance Graham, Keelan Greene, Cayden Hammons, Kariyah King, Connor Knick, Ryleigh Kouts, Mazzimo Martinez, Kaylianna Rudy, Charlie Shawver, Ariel Staudt, Marquez Taylor, Sevahna Thompson, Samantha Westfall, and Andrew Wright

# Building News

## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

For March seventh graders selected as Students of the Month include Addison Leonard, Chloe Marcum, Demi Roberts, Bryanna Stambaugh, Liam Alspaugh, Jilian Davis, Kylar Jones, Tory Martin, and Payton Wilson. Anderson Lyman, Karsen Lyman, Pacience Haynes, Lucas Koenig, Soraya Hudson, Meyah Murphy, Aldin Poeppelman, Kaden Rice, Cloe Jones, and Christian Ferguson were the eighth graders selected for this honor.



March 7<sup>th</sup> Grade



March 8<sup>th</sup> Grade



April 7<sup>th</sup> Grade



April 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

April seventh grade students of the month were Landon Bryant, Avery Marrs, Lilly Shipman, Cohen Manson, Easton Bryant, Cora Fledderman, Cooper Swink, Adisen Litsch, Annaleigh Scott, and JoJo Taylor. Kamri Mendenhall, Ra’Niya Brooks, Joey Lavey, Jason Lin, Tara Smith, Christian Ferguson, Kalia McClellan, Jayden Ostendorf, and Taylor Tevis were the eighth graders chosen.

Congratulations to all of our Students of the Month!

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP**

Student Leadership wrapped up the year with two big projects. Students worked diligently and creatively to create personalized staff appreciation gifts for all of our staff members. They also wrote a thoughtful letter expressing their gratitude and appreciation for each staff member. The gifts were a big hit! We also provided a staff appreciation breakfast that included Dobo's donuts and a variety of bagels with cream cheese. Also in May, our Student Leadership members welcomed 6th graders to our building for a quick tour. They walked students around the building and provided important information about our school, all in hopes that it will help students feel more comfortable about coming to the junior high next year. Our Student Leaders have been incredible this year, and we have done so much for our school! It has been fun! To our eighth grade members, best of luck as you move to the high school next year! You are all bound for success, and I can't wait to see how you continue to learn and achieve your goals. To our seventh grade members, I look forward to working with all of you again next year! Have a fun, safe summer!

## **JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY**

There will be one final service activity for any Junior Honor Society members on Wednesday, June 12th from 8am-noon. If interested, contact Miss DeBella via Remind. We want to wish our 8th graders well as they go to the high school. Thank you for all that you've done this year. I hope everyone has a safe, relaxing summer break!

## **TOP 10 AWARDS**

The evening of May 21, 2024 was a special evening for the 137 Piqua Junior High School students who were recognized for their academic excellence and individual achievements. Held in the Piqua High School gymnasium, each teacher was asked to compile a list of their top 10 students in each subject area. The top student in that subject received a plaque and the remaining top 10 students received a beautiful personalized certificate.

Students receiving plaques include eighth graders Adalynne Shawler, Lillian Pierron, Laurie VanMatre, Calvin Shawver, Jonathan Huelskamp, Ruby Jess, Ethan Shaw (2), Chase Mangen (2), Christian Ferguson, Payton Shoffner (2), Cloe Jones, Bryer Langston, Ella Worley-Josefovsky, Jacob Meyer, Emilee Schulz, Chloe Laqui, Maya Oduro, Libby Magoteaux (2), Sai Reed, and Ava Krommanecker.

Seventh graders receiving plaques were Landon Bryant, Terry Johnson, Evangeline Staley, Annaleigh Scott, Makenzie Carroll, Jersey Lee, Vance Thoreen, Olivia DeBrosse, Payton Wilson, Elizabeth Wessel (2), Michelle Gray, Brayden Wright, Kailey Perreira (3), Tiffany Liu (2), Gylan James, Madison Kiser, Kaden Hampshire, and Addison Leonard (2).

Congratulations to all students who received plaques and certificates.

## **STEVE HILL MEMORIAL AWARD**

Again this year, Piqua Junior High School is proud to present the Steve Hill Memorial Award to one eighth grade student who has shown academic excellence, responsible school citizenship, and participation in extracurricular athletics. Mr. Hill was a 1980 graduate of Piqua Central High School who embodied all of those qualities. Unfortunately, he passed away in 1990 from a rare form of cancer.

This year, the recipient of the Steve Hill Memorial Award was Carson Holtvogt. While a student at PJHS, Carson was a member of the football and track teams, a PJHS Student of the Month, and a member of the Media team, Junior Honor Society, Choir and Band.

Awesome job, Carson!



## **ARCHIE GRIFFIN AWARD**

Piqua Junior High students Chloe Laqui and Hunter Grissom have been selected to receive the Ohio High School Athletic Association's prestigious Archie Griffin Sportsmanship Award. The award, named for the two-time Heisman Trophy winner Archie Griffin, is presented each year to a male and female student who have been outstanding in their efforts to promote sportsmanship in their school and community.

Hunter was a member of the football, wrestling, and baseball teams, a PJHS Student of the Month, a member of the Media Team, Junior Honor Society, and the 4.0 Club. Chloe was a member of the basketball and track teams. She also was a PJHS Student of the Month and a member of the Junior Honor Society, 4.0 Club, and Media team.

Way to go, Chloe and Hunter!





## 4.0 CLUB

What a tremendous achievement it is to be able to maintain a perfect 4.0 grade point average for all four quarters during both seventh and eighth grade. That is exactly what twenty-eight 8<sup>th</sup> grade students achieved this year. Those recognized for carrying a perfect 4.0 grade point average this year were Brennen Angle, Laila Beireis, Ashlyn Deal, Hunter Grissom, Parker Hickerson, Carson Holtvogt, Soraya Hudson, Jonathan Huelskamp, Ava Krommanecker, Bryer Langston, Chloe Laqui, Libby Magoteaux, Adaleigh Mitchell, Brayden Myers, Maya Oduro, Lillian Pierron, Bailey Quinter, Sai Reed, Leila Roberts, Michael Rowley, Ethan Shaw, Adalynne Shawler, Raygan Swabb, Allison Szachta, Samantha Toopes, Jack Vore, Piper Ward, and Max Willoughby.

Their hard work and dedication to their studies were recognized with a special certificate and their names will be engraved on a plaque along with all previous 4.0 award winners to be placed in the PJHS commons for all students to see.

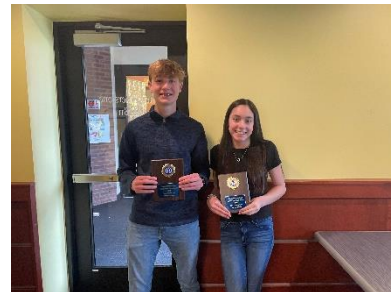
Congratulations to all of you on a job well done!



## OPTIMIST STUDENTS OF THE YEAR

Each year, all Piqua City Schools are asked by the Piqua Optimist Club to select two students to be recognized as the Optimist Students of the Year. Selected for that honor this year from PJHS were eighth graders Raygan Swabb and Brennen Angle. Both Raygan and Brennan were selected for the positive contributions they make here at school and in the Piqua community.

Great job, Raygan and Brennan!





## **WASHINGTON D.C. WREATH LAYERS**

During the 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Washington D.C., one of the most impressive things the students see is the Changing of the Guard and Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. We were fortunate to actually participate in the ceremony this year by having four students act as wreath layers. Social Studies teachers Mr. Smith and Mr. Riley asked all students going on the Washington D.C. trip who were interested in being a wreath layer to write a short essay about why being a wreath layer is important to them. Those selected for this honor were Drew Hostetter, Chloe Laqui, Lillian Pierron, and Gabe Sloan. Congratulations!



## **6<sup>th</sup> GRADE VISIT**

On Wednesday, May 1, all 6<sup>th</sup> graders from Piqua Central Intermediate School were brought out to PJHS for a chance to tour the building and gain some helpful tips from members of the PJHS Student Leadership. Broken into small groups, teams of Student Leadership members walked PCIS students around the building including the academic hallways, cafeteria, gymnasium, and office areas. They were introduced to several teachers and other staff members, and given the opportunity to ask questions along the way. It is our hope that by doing this, it will help to ease any concerns they might have about coming to a new school in the fall.

# **SCHOOL COUNSELOR'S CORNER**

## **Counselor's Corner**

Just because the school year has come to a close, it doesn't mean that students should stop learning. Some of the most important lessons to learn are Life Skills!

Your student has matured since the first day of the school year. Let your student select a few of these life-skills and come up with a project or activity to do together.

Create screen-free time and enjoy each other's company. You may find that you will have great conversations and a few laughs! Many people will tell you that these years fly by! Enjoy every minute!

### **35 Essential Life Skills For Teens To Master**

<https://rusticpathways.com/inside-rustic/online-magazine/11-life-skills-every-teen-should-have-by-age-18>

## **How to...:**

1. Personal Grooming and Cleanliness
2. How to Perform First Aid
3. To Have Good Social Skills and Manners
4. How to Stay Organized
5. How to Swim
6. How to Send Mail
7. How to Use Tools
8. How to Budget and Manage Money
9. How to Buy and Make Food
10. How to Dress and Care For Their Clothing
11. To Communicate and Cope With Emotions
12. How to Problem Solve
13. How to Master the Basic Educational Skills
14. How to Set Goals and Manage Time
15. How to Make Decisions
16. How to Be Employable
17. How to Drive
18. To Be a Self-Starter and Cope With Failure
19. How to Stand up for Yourself
20. To Volunteer Your Time and Help Others
23. How to Use Your Voice Bravely
24. Understand Diverse Viewpoints & Listen
25. How to Help Others Through Empathy
26. How to Tackle Challenges with Grit
27. To Be a Leader w/ Independent Thinking
28. How to Foster Growth Through Curiosity
29. To Handle the Day to Day w/ “Adulting” Skills
30. How to Achieve Goals Through Planning
31. How to Find Your Path Through Initiative
32. Treasure Life: Relaxation and Reflection
33. To Physically Navigate The World and Use Ride-Sharing Services
34. To Talk on the Phone (Politely)
35. To Regulate Social Media Time and Use