



# PLEASANT HILL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER

### A LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear PHSD Community:

Happy spring to everyone and what an interesting start to spring it has been. From late snowfall to sudden bursts of wind, hail, and atmospheric rivers of rain, I am sure ready for some consistent sunshine.

During the months of April and May, we took the opportunity to thank and celebrate our wonderful Classified and Certified staff members who serve the social, emotional, and educational needs of our students every day. Their service to our community is extremely appreciated and without them our ability to continue to maintain a strong foundation of education and support for our children and the future of our community would not be possible.

Our ball fields and facilities are as busy as ever with track and field, softball, and baseball happening at every corner. Our elementary school hosted a 'Family Night' event with volunteers serving chili and our students educating us with their living museum. The middle and high school music department has also been busy with hosting the annual Jazz Festival and just returned from an out-of-state music trip to Reno. All events have been extremely successful and well attended. In addition, our high school hosted a career fair with local business and municipalities filling our auxiliary gym and helping provide a glimpse of available career opportunities for our students. A big thank you to everyone who made these events possible.

Upcoming events include spring music concerts, student field trips and the graduation ceremony for the Pleasant Hill Class of 2023 to be held on June 9. For more information on our district events, please visit our website at <https://www.pleasanthill.k12.or.us/>. From here you can also find our [2023-2024 academic calendar](#).

As we start to wrap up and celebrate the 2022-2023 school year, we also begin to look forward to the start of the 2023-2024 year and all of the possibilities and opportunities that it brings for our school community. As always, it is a pleasure to be able to work with and serve such a great community and I look forward to all the opportunities that are yet to come.

My 'WHY' is to provide an educational environment where our students feel safe to explore their boundaries as they grow and mature while also being pushed to meet and exceed academic expectations so that they are prepared to be a productive, compassionate citizen no matter where their post-secondary experiences take them. In order to complete this mission, we have to work together on their behalf. We have to model and maintain cooperative partnerships in order to ensure that every Pleasant Hill student finishes the school year having maximized their achievement and individual growth.

Sincerely,

*Jim Crist*

Interim Superintendent

### THANK YOU FROM THE PLEASANT HILL BOOSTERS

Thank you for making the 53rd annual Booster Auction at Emerald Valley Golf Resort such a special event. The evening celebrated "Building Up Our Billies."

**GOLD SPONSORS:** Creswell Point S Tire & Auto Services, Lane Electric, Trice Underground Inc., Aggregate Resource Industries, Inc.

**BLUE SPONSORS:** Artistic Customs, Banner Bank, k.p.d. Risk Solutions, Just Move Fitness, Taylor Restaurant Equipment.

**WHITE SPONSORS:** State Farm (Peter Bahen), PHEF, Tines Up Taxidermy.

**SPECIAL THANK YOU TO:** Amie Pierzina (auction coordinator), Kyle McClain (PHHS athletic director), Laine Wortman (Emerald Valley Golf Course), Brendan Scott (auctioneer), Tim Fox (host and booster), Jared (DH and AAV/Technical support), Kristen Albright (registration and clerical support), and Donna Simpson (auction photographer and décor).

#### 2023 Booster Club Officers

Jennifer Jordan, President  
Celina Ziolkowski, Vice President  
Michelle Allen, Treasurer  
Darwin Terry, Social Media Coordinator

[www.pleasanthillboosters.com](http://www.pleasanthillboosters.com)

## UPDATES ON OUR MUSIC PROGRAMS

### PHES MUSIC (RYAN STRONG)

Our elementary spring concerts are right around the corner! All the students have been working their hardest to learn our songs, ukuleles, and other instruments to make it the best concert it can be.

We hope to see many people from our wonderful community there to support our elementary school students.

May 31, 3rd grade: 6:30 p.m. Pleasant Hill Elementary School main gym

June 8, 1st grade: 6:30 p.m. PHES main gym

June 14, Kindergarten during the school day in the elementary main gym

### MS/HS CHOIR (KYLE LUDWIG)

Our advanced choir, Ascensions, made history by being one of six selected choirs to compete in the OSAA State Choir Championships and **PLACED THIRD IN THE STATE!** This was our first appearance at the OSAA State competition in the history of Pleasant Hill.

On another note, the band and choir department traveled to the University of Nevada, Reno for the Reno Jazz Festival. At the jazz festival, we got the opportunity to work with vocal jazz artist Johnaye Kendrick from the Grammy nominated all-female group, Saje, and Cal State Fullerton vocal jazz professor and artist, Jaimie Shew. The students got exceptional guidance on vocal technique and stage presence.

These lessons will be taken with us as we finish out the year with our Spotlight Concert on June 7 at 6:00 p.m. If you want to keep in touch with us, follow our Facebook page at: Pleasant Hill Choir Department or on instagram @phillchoir.

### MS/HS BAND (ZAC TENDICK)

The 46th Pleasant Hill Jazz Festival was a hit! This year the festival featured over 70 musical performances across 4 stages by almost a thousand students and professionals from all over Oregon and Washington (and New York!).

Many of the best high school musicians were in attendance, as well as our own Solar Jazz who placed first in their division for the first time in decades. It was a great day and thank you to everyone who volunteered and helped it be a success.

Right after our own festival, we turned around and took our big four-day trip to the Reno Jazz Festival at the University of Nevada, Reno. This was a wonderful opportunity for exposure, performance, and continued music education for our 32 jazz band and jazz choir students. They have come away having heard some of the best musicians in the world and are motivated to continue making music and developing their skills.

At the time of this writing, we are about to go to yet another festival this weekend at Mt. Hood Community College. This festival is a great way to end the festival season and prepare us for the OMEA State Jazz Championships coming up later in May. It's nonstop until the end of the school year for our band students. I'm so thankful and pleased with them and the progress that they've made this year. Thank you for your part in supporting music in our community and here's to a strong finish to the school year!

## PLEASANT HILL EDUCATION FOUNDATION UPDATES

The 2022-2023 school year has been amazing, and we would like to thank all the donors, volunteers and teachers/staff that have helped support the Pleasant Hill Education Foundation. We have enjoyed being able to support the district through our Innovative Educator Grants, Scholarships and Donor-Directed funds. We are even more excited to announce our LEAF (Luehring Enrichment and Advancement Fund) Grant is available! This grant is focused on individual student education enrichment activities, and we encourage all to apply! This grant can be used for educational-based summer camps, LCC classes for high school students, tutoring and more! Visit our website [www.phillfoundation.org](http://www.phillfoundation.org) for more information on how to apply!

We are excited to announce **Cindy Fitzpatrick** as our PHEF Board President this school year! Cindy is a PHSD parent, who is passionate about our school district and giving back to the community. She has been a part of PHEF for many years and we are lucky to have her leading us!

We are thrilled to announce **Amber McKee** as our new Director of Programs! Amber is a Pleasant Hill Alumni and all her children graduated from PHSD! She's excited to work with the PHEF board and PHSD!

### 40-YEAR REUNION!

PHHS class of 1983 is having their 40-year school reunion. We will be meeting on Saturday, June 10, at 2:00 pm at Roaring Rapids Pizza Parlor in Springfield, Oregon. More activities may be planned. Please contact **Troy Kirk on Facebook** if you're coming so we can get a headcount. We'd love to see you there!

PHEF is looking for new board members!! Are you interested in getting involved and raising funds for our students and teachers and having fun doing it?! We have a variety of ways to help support our mission. Contact us at [foundation@phillfoundation.org](mailto:foundation@phillfoundation.org).

## A LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I hope you are all enjoying this Spring season with your family, planting flowers and gardens, and taking advantage of our new-found sunshine! We have a lot of wonderful events happening as we conclude this school year and we look forward to celebrating our graduating class of 2023!

June 6 - Senior Awards Night 7:00 p.m. in the Student Center

June 7 - Seniors' Last Day

June 8 - Baccalaureate 7:00 p.m. in the Student Center

June 9 - Graduation 7:00 p.m. at the Stadium

June 15 - Last Day of School!

This has been a tremendous school year and we have been grateful to work with you, your family, and your student to ensure their success!

Sincerely,

*Garth Garot* Principal

## A LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is time to prepare for the 2023-2024 school year. The process begins with families re-enrolling their students, allowing us to determine the level of staffing we are going to need in the fall. Those families in grades K-4 who completed the online registration process will receive a postcard in the mail mid-August stating who your student's classroom teacher will be and an invitation to our Fall Meet and Greet the Teacher/Open House event September 5.

Starting fall of 2023, we will implement Kinder staggered start. Staggered start provides an opportunity for teachers to introduce the rituals and routines of the classroom plus time to get to know your student so they can create balanced environments to better meet the needs of each child. Kinder families will be assigned to start either Wednesday, September 6 or Thursday, September 7, to attend school. Students will not attend on Friday, September 8. On Friday, once the classes have been finalized, you will receive a call from the teacher your student will be working with for the 2023-2024 school year. All students will report to their assigned classroom on Monday, September 11. The assigned staggered dates will be mailed home about two weeks prior to the start of school, so families have time to plan for childcare. If a student registers after post cards are mailed, we will call you with their date.

Online Registration is open to any Pleasant Hill School District family who has a child who will be 5 on or before September 1, 2023. You may enroll online at <https://pleasanthill.registar.lblesd.k12.or.us/en-us/home.aspx>. Simply click the new student box. Once you have completed the online registration, you will still need to visit our office as we need a copy of your child's immunization record and birth certificate. In addition, we have a Kindergarten Questionnaire for families to complete, which our teachers use to assist with making class lists.

Before you know it, we will be saying welcome back and hello to both our returning and new families. Be watching for that postcard in the mail mid-August letting you know who your child's teacher will be (for 1st - 5th grade student) or which day they will start (K). There will also be an invitation to our **K-5 Meet and Greet the Teacher/Open House** back-to-school opportunity Tuesday, September 5, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Until then, have a wonderful and safe summer!

Respectfully,

*Devery Stoneberg*, Principal

## PLEASANT HILL ATHLETICS

### HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING

qualified seven wrestlers for the OSAA State Championships at the end of February. Gavin Hoellrich and Vedder Anderson both placed 3rd. Brazen Ellis placed 5th. The team placed 3rd at the district tournament and 12th at state.

### HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

qualified for the OSAA State Championships in early March after earning the MVC League Championship. They placed 6th at the state tournament with an overtime win over Nyssa. Claire Crawford and Shyanne Fenley both earned Player of the Game awards. Claire Crawford earned First Team All-State and Kiley Campos earned Honorable Mention All-State.

### HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

qualified for the OSAA State Championships at the beginning of March. They earned the OSAA Sportsmanship Award. Gavin Inglish earned multiple Player of the Game awards as well as First Team All-State.

### HIGH SCHOOL TRACK & FIELD

has competed tough throughout the season with multiple student-athletes earning personal records and season bests. Most notably, several competed at the Oregon Relays held at Hayward Field. The girls 4x100 team earned a record of 52.65.

### HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOFTBALL

Softball is currently ranked #9 in the state. They have ranked wins over Henley (4A) and Harrisburg. They look to compete for a league title and a state championship run.

### HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASEBALL

is currently ranked #11. They have ranked wins over Santiam Christian, Warrenton, Sisters, and La Pine. They also look to compete for a league title and a state championship run.

## Pleasant Hill School District

36386 Highway 58  
Pleasant Hill, OR 97455

541.746.9646

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION

US POSTAGE PAID

EUGENE, OR  
PERMIT# 114



# ***AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES CTE UPDATES AND NEWS***

## **ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**

The Annual AG CTE plant sale was May 6th from 10-4pm at the PHHS High School Greenhouse. Students from all CTE courses worked together to plan, grow, construct planters, and market this collaborative project. We exceeded our goal of \$5,000!

FFA students invite our community to the Lane County Fair Youth Auction on Saturday, July 22 at 2:00 p.m. 40 students will be showing and selling market and breeding animal projects to the public. Our members show cattle, swine, horses, sheep, goats, poultry, rabbits, and static exhibits all week long. Hope to see you there!

## **DISTRICT PROJECTS**

This spring high school ag students shared with our elementary classrooms an Ag in the Classroom literacy project. High school students will deliver mini lessons to our elementary students on basic animal science production and bi-products. Our high school

students connected with over 300 elementary students and shared agricultural experiences and opportunities.

## **CONTINUING PROJECTS**

CTE faculty and students presented learning outcomes of the new Plasma CNC table at a Lane ESD event showcasing student projects and new metal fabrication curriculum. Mr. Bowden's advanced metals class completed a custom designed picnic table while Mr. Smith's class donated a custom cedar garden planter/bench for the PHHS Booster Club auction. These projects raised over \$1,300 for our Student Athletics and Activities programs.

Our advanced forest science and firefighting course will be completing the Fire School Field day on May 12 at Lane Community College to receive FF2 certifications. Students earning this certification will be eligible to train and work as a wildland firefighter at age 18 or after high school graduation. This will be the first year that students have worked in the arboretum and trained for this certification.

## **AWARDS & HONORS**

This spring the FFA Chapter attended the Oregon State FFA Convention in March and placed 1st in Agriscience projects and advanced on to the National FFA Convention in November 2023. We also placed 5th in Farm Business Management, 4th in Public Speaking, and four students received the State FFA Degree award. In April a Future Natural Resources Leaders (FNRL) Team from Pleasant Hill High School competed at the State Competition at OSU. Tressa Geyer earned first place in Public Speaking and our team placed in several other Natural Resource and Forestry events.

PHHS FFA along with Middle school FFA students will attend a wide variety of Career Development Events this year. Congrats to all our FFA winners!

Contact Angela White, Teacher and FFA Advisor at [awhite@pleasanthill.k12.or.us](mailto:awhite@pleasanthill.k12.or.us) or 541-207-2184 for more information.