

Pleasant Hill School District FALL 2018 NEWSLETTER

Our Mission:
To graduate all students with high levels of academic and personal achievement, who are ready for post-secondary excellence, and who are prepared for productive, compassionate citizenship, through research-based instruction and a collaborative system of support.

A warm welcome from your District Superintendent

I hope that each of you had a restful, relaxing, educational and enjoyable summer. It is hard to believe that the 2018-19 school year has begun around the Great State of Oregon. Students across all of Oregon's 200-plus school districts and special school districts/charters are all starting their school year at various levels, with multiple dreams about their futures. And districts are contemplating what life will deliver to the students they serve. New beginnings are always exciting and full of hope, and the 2018-2019 school year here in Pleasant Hill is no exception. As Pleasant Hill educators, it is important to remember that walking among us are future doctors, political leaders, teachers, artisans, and students who may be the first in their family to graduate from high school and move on to college or another postsecondary option. Years from now, we may look back and say, "I remember that kid."

As Pleasant Hill educators, it is exciting to guide our students to gain the necessary skills and experiences to fulfill their dreams. However, we also know that reality hits hard and sometimes dreams are squelched. Operating as "Dealers of Hope" educators, we can help restore derailed dreams and guide students to reach their true potential. There is no greater cause than educating our young people and helping them prepare for the future. It's important that we encourage one another to keep the vision of hope for the future alive in each and every child.

In the spirit of this bright new beginning, here are three key areas we are committed to as educators in Pleasant Hill:

- **The value of building positive relationships.** As we move forward we all know that it is important to foster relationships and collaboration with not only each other, but the families and students we serve. Every staff member must challenge himself or herself to constantly reflect on their personal interactions and relationships with colleagues, students, parents and school partners to make each relationship as strong as possible.

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Inside This Newsletter:

Page 2: School board schedule and list of members; **Page 3:** New playground equipment and other PHES news; **Page 4-6:** Updates on PHHS and PHMS activities, including music, agriculture, athletics, counseling and career development, and more; **Page 7:** Pleasant Hill School District has joined SafeOregon; **Page 8:** ROMP needs mentors and staying in touch by signing up for the community email list

A note from the Board Chair

It's exciting to be beginning another school year and all the School Board members, Jeff Bernardo, Kimberly Jeremiah, Curt Offenbacher, John Oldham, and myself, are looking forward to representing the community on the Board. We are especially pleased to welcome our newest member, Kimberly Jeremiah, who has been sworn in to take Barbara Orre's position on the Board until the next school board election in May.

I had the opportunity in late August to participate in welcoming the District teachers and other staff to the new school year, and would like to share with you some of what I told them. This year, likely for the first time in District history, the certified staff (teachers), and classified staff (support staff) will be working with the administrative team, the School Board, and other community representatives to set District goals. Members of the Pleasant Hill Improvement Team, representing all these groups, had a preliminary meeting last June where we identified three areas around which we want to center improvement efforts: student engagement, literacy, and wellness/relationships. Further meetings will take place this fall to establish goals and objectives in each area.

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School Board Meetings

Board Meetings/Work Sessions

Sept. 24, 2018 (work session)
October 8, 2018
October 22, 2018 (work session)
November 5, 2018
November 19, 2018 (work session)
December 10, 2018
January 21, 2019
February 11, 2019
February 25, 2019 (work session)
March 11, 2019
April 8, 2019
April 22, 2019 (work session)

Board & Budget Committee Meetings

May 6, 2019 (orientation)
May 20, 2019
June 3, 2019
June 10, 2019 (if needed)

Budget Hearing & Board Meeting

June 24, 2019
Adopt 2019-2020 Budget,
Approve Resolutions

All meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Pleasant Hill Community Center unless otherwise noted.

From the Board Chair, Continued from Page 1

All meetings are open to the public, and community members are encouraged to attend. Minutes will be posted as well on the District web page. We are all proud of Pleasant Hill and at the same time want to make it better and better.

I've given some thought lately to the foundation on which school improvement stands. Back in the 1960's when I had my educational training, we were told that success rested on a three-legged stool, the legs being the school, the family, and the church. Of course, all three of these institutions have kept their relevance, but changing times bring different ways of expression. Describing that supportive stool today, I would include the broader community with the church, and I would add a fourth leg: students.

Students' energy, curiosity, and courage to immerse themselves in new experiences are a vital part of the excellence we all want for our District. We need to help students perceive that education is not something that is done TO them, or FOR them, but WITH them. We can ask them, at the end of each school day, what questions they've asked and rejoice with them in what they've learned. When each supportive leg stands with the others, there is no end to what we can accomplish.

School Board members pledge to do our best to support excellence in our District, and welcome our community to work with us to make our District the best it can be for the 2018-19 school year and well into the future.

Superintendent's Welcome Continued from Page 1

- **Open communication is a key ingredient in school district success.** In order for us to build strong bonds between home and school, we must continually communicate our vision as a district/building, and keep our school community informed about what is happening. Take the time to make phone calls to parents to share individual students' strengths and areas for improvement. Dealers of hope must be accessible to all students, parents and the entire school community. As educators, we must model this practice and set the example of good communication at all levels and instill hope with our positive communications.
- **Professional accountability.** Stay grounded in best practices; engage in relevant feedback and professional development that directly correlates to the standards and expectations of the district and the community we serve. Set the example in all areas as we perform our job, and make sure we are prompt, productive, and professional each and every day.

With a hopeful attitude, as educators of Pleasant Hill we can guide the type of year that our district will have, and by doing so we can make it the best year yet! Educators who are positive and hopeful will build a strong collaborative culture, creating successful students with strong futures and helping dreams become realities.

Respectfully,

Scott Linenberger
Superintendent

2018-2019 Board Members

Wylda Cafferata, Chair
wyldac@gmail.com | 541.937.3114
Jeff Bernardo, Vice Chair
jbernardo@obec.com | 541.726.4664
Curt Offenbacher
curtoffen@aol.com | 541.741.3001
John Oldham
Oldhamcranes@aol.com | 541.741.6247
Kimberly Jeremiah
kklose2000@yahoo.com | 610.505.4343

Pleasant Hill Elementary School

PHES Received a New Playground

Back to school is an exciting time, but this year there is an additional bit of excitement and buzz around Pleasant Hill Elementary. If you haven't heard, we have a brand new playground structure. This would not have been possible if many years ago the PTO leadership had not had a dream to add a new structure to the playground, setting up a fund for each PTO group to add funds to yearly. After years of Jog-a-thons and many community donations of supplies and goods, we have a brand new playground structure.

A big thank you to Dez Anderson, Marissa Smith, and Megan Flanders for all the hours of work ranging from soliciting donations, arranging community work parties and the hours they personally put in during construction. Thank you to Curt Offenbacher for graciously giving of his time and expertise as the foreman of project playground. In addition, thank you to our many community members, as well as all of our PTO team who came together throughout the months of June and July excavating the build site, digging holes, constructing the various playground components and spreading bark chips and gravel. Thank you again to the leadership of all of the various PTO groups and community members for making this dream a reality for the students and community of Pleasant Hill.

A Note from the PTO

We built a playground!! We are so excited to start this new school year. The playground is a true labor of love, being built with over 600 volunteer hours, and many donations from the community. A huge thank you to Curt Offenbacher for organizing and overseeing the construction. Thank you to all the families who spent their summer building and shoveling and working to get this done for the new school year. Thank you everyone who stopped by and said hello at the Meet and Greet and helped us celebrate the Playground Opening on August 30. .

Our one big fundraiser of the year is coming up September 28. We are looking forward to having a SUPER Jog-a-thon. The success of this event allows us to cover expenses for field trips and other enrichment activities during the school year.

As always, we can use lots of parent support. There are many opportunities to get involved and make a difference. This year our PTO meetings will be held the second Thursday of the month from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Community Center. We are hoping the change of time will allow more people to come. There are still openings on our board if you are interested. We look forward to working with you this year!

From the PHES Principal

It seems like only yesterday we were saying our goodbyes to our former 5th grade class and wishing the rest of our students a safe and wonderful summer. Now it's time to dust off the books and get ready for an exciting new year at Pleasant Hill Elementary.

Not only do we have a beautiful new playground, our custodial staff spruced up the building adding some much-needed paint to the halls, in addition to thoroughly cleaning the building top to bottom.

This year I am pleased to announce all of our classroom teachers are returning. We will have three classes per grade level. Our only staff change this year is Mr. Bova moving over to the high school to teach computer science.

The staff and I are eager to work with our anticipated student body of 435 students. We look forward to a great school year.

Go Billies!

Devery Stoneberg
Principal



Pleasant Hill High School & Middle School

From the PHHS and PHMS Principal

The start of a new school year brings excitement and new beginnings. Though we do not have any new teachers this year, we do have many new course offerings. Mr. Bova, our technology teacher, will be full time at the high school offering a wide range of classes from Robotics and Drones to Computer Science and Web Design. These optional class offerings are crucial to prepare students for the future and the tech world that we live in today. Once again we will be offering Frosh Seminar to help 9th graders successfully transition into high school and Independent Studies to help students recover credits, complete Essential Skills Graduation Requirements and work toward successful completion of current classes. We will also be expanding our Agricultural Science offerings to include Horticulture, Animal Science and Agribusiness. These courses, along with a wide range of current offerings, give our students many opportunities to explore and discover their interests.

As we begin school year 2018-2019, I would like to congratulate our recent graduated class of 2018 for all of their accomplishments.

- The class of 2018 earned a total of \$2.6 million in scholarship monies
- They earned three Military Academy Appointments. The Naval Academy, the Coast Guard Academy, and the Air Force Academy
- A National Merit Scholar
- 60-plus students heading to universities, colleges, and training programs
- Two consecutive appearances at the World Robotics Championships
- Top four finish at the World Robotics Championships
- Multiple 3A State Chess Championships
- Future Farmers of America Chapter beginning
- Boys OSAA State Track Champions
- 2016 OSAA Band Champions
- Boys and Girls District Track Champions
- Girls Soccer League Champions
- Boys Soccer League Champions
- Boys Cross Country League Champions
- District Baseball Tournament League Champions
- District Wrestling League Champions

Congratulations 2018 graduates for all of your accomplishments and welcome returning students to school year 2018-2019. Let's make it a great one.

Go Billies,
Randy Fisher
Principal

PHMS/PHHS Music Program

Pleasant Hill Middle/High School Music is excited to start another year! We still offer four high school classes, Ascensions and Solar Jazz covers our jazz band and choir while Chansonaires and Wind Ensemble covers our concert performances. Middle School is offering both a band and choir for 7th and 8th graders while 6th graders are introduced to the music department this year. It will be an exciting year of learning and performing. Watch for the following performances coming up:

- Friday, November 9: Veteran's Day Assembly at the High school
- Tuesday, December 4: Roaring Rapids Fundraiser
- Wednesday, December 19: Winter Band Program
- Thursday, December 20: Winter Choral Program

Don't forget to cheer on your PEP Band at the sporting events this fall!

Notes From the Front Office

Noell D'Agosta

The high school office is open from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. All visitors must check in via the front office. The main number is 541.747.4541. If you need to contact us during non-business hours, please leave a message. We'll return your call within 24 hours. This is also the "attendance line," so please call if your student will miss school for any reason.

You may purchase yearbooks and ASB stickers from the high school website via PaySchools or in the office. High school yearbooks are \$60. Middle school yearbooks are \$20. ASB stickers are \$30. This will get your student into home games free! Outstanding fees can be paid in the high school office.

Picture day for 6th-12th grades is Friday, September 21. Picture packets will be available in the office shortly. Students will receive their student body cards the following week.

44th Jazz Festival

As always, the third Saturday in April marks our annual Jazz Festival, our 44th! This day involves six preliminary performance sites of some of the top jazz bands and choirs from high schools around the Pacific Northwest, concerts, clinics with various other performances and vendors throughout the day and concluding the evening with the top groups in each division battling it out in our final showdown. This is an event you won't want to miss.

Volunteers are ALWAYS needed in various forms the day of, including NOW in the preparation of the amazing event. Contact Zac Tendick at 541.736.0480 or ztendick@pleasanthill.k12.or.us if you'd like to join the team.

Pleasant Hill High School & Middle School

Notes from Counseling

Cheryl Ruiz

The school year is almost underway, and we are busy in the counseling office! We are thrilled to welcome the Class of 2022 and look forward to helping them through their high school journey. We're equally excited to see our seniors through their post-secondary planning process this year.

Please check out the College & Scholarship Bulletin, an online, monthly newsletter filled with information for all grade levels. A few of the items you will find are: College admission representatives' scheduled visits at PHHS, scholarship opportunities, and SAT/ACT testing information.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the following important dates: Senior Parent Financial Aid Night – September 25 at 7:00 p.m. and PSAT for juniors and sophomores – October 10. Students are welcome and encouraged to visit the counseling office between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Best wishes for a successful school year!

Career Development

Kathy Duval

The Construction & Utilities Career Day is September 27. Students will participate in hands-on activities such as running heavy equipment, surveying, climbing utility poles, etc.

Experience Oregon Manufacturing Tour is October 5. High school students will tour various manufacturing companies and learn about the jobs available in manufacturing.

Career Exploration Expo is October 25. Middle school students will have the opportunity to visit several businesses to learn about careers.

Seniors and juniors who opt out of the PSAT will take the ASVAB on October 10. The ASVAB measures your knowledge and ability in ten different areas. ASVAB assesses which jobs you are best suited to perform.

We will have a career fair on December 12 for 6th - 12th grade. This is an opportunity for students to listen to presentations in a career field of their interest and ask questions.

High school students that want to participate in a job shadow or visit with a military branch, come see me to set it up.

Agriculture/FFA Updates

Angela White

The Agriculture program received final CTE (Career and Technical Education) designation from the Oregon Department of Education this June. With this designation, PHHS offers a full 4-year AG/Natural Resource curriculum that allows students to earn college credit, offers technical certifications, provides valuable career preparation skills, coordinates Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE), and provides hands-on learning in the new greenhouse. Focus areas include Greenhouse Operations and Management, Farm Business Management, Ag Sales and Marketing, Animal Science, Horticulture, Natural Resource Management, and Ag Mechanics.

Priority on fundraising to complete the building site for the 40x50 greenhouse continues into the fall. The greenhouse has been purchased and the building permit has been issued. The state of the art greenhouse will allow for grades K-12 to gain Ag/life science experience in an interactive and productive environment. High schools with Ag/Greenhouse programs have proven success rates in providing students career path opportunities, better preparing students for secondary education, increasing graduation rates, and promoting business and management skills required by most industries in Oregon today. We are fortunate to be able to offer our students this unique and positive program at Pleasant Hill. www.ode.state.or.us/teachlearn/pte/perkins-iv-cte-performance-measurement---secondary-only.pdf

The FFA Chapter had an amazing first year. With 18 members, several competitions, and numerous awards it proved to be a very productive and rewarding year. Many students were able to compete in CDE(Career Development Events) , show and market animals at the Lane County Fair, and begin to build a diverse and strong base for community service and public speaking opportunities. Our chapter received several grants and sponsorships to attend leadership and educational events and complete ag projects at our high school. The Pleasant Hill Chapter also received two college scholarships and is starting an Alumni Chapter to help assist with the fundraising and promotions of FFA for our school. If you want to follow the progress and events of the AG Program or FFA we have added a page on our school website. Sincere appreciation goes out to the Pleasant Hill Community, Business Owners, and Parents that have made this amazing opportunity possible. This video highlights our first year: www.wevideo.com/view/1157822504

Please feel free to contact Angela White at awhite@pleasanthill.k12.or.us for matters regarding the greenhouse, donations, sponsorships, FFA, or other Ag program-related questions.

Pleasant Hill High School & Middle School

Athletics

Erik Hoberg

On behalf of the Pleasant Hill Athletic Department, I welcome all students and families to Billie Nation!

The athletic department believes that participation in athletics is an integral part of the educational process. The many lessons that athletics can teach: sportsmanship, self-discipline, teamwork, commitment, developing self-confidence, as well as dealing with success and overcoming adversity, are lessons that will last a lifetime. The true value of high school athletics rests in the learning of the lessons.

Please visit the athletic website, www.billiesathletics.com, for updated schedules, scores, photos, honors, articles, and all things athletic related. If you are looking for Billie gear, a new Billie Store will be available in the next week. Billie gear can also be purchased through the Booster Club at High School football games.

Save by Purchasing Seasonal Passes

Athletic passes for home games are available this year for Individuals and Families.

Immediate Family Yearly Pass is \$200 per school year; Immediate Family Season Pass is \$120 per sport season; "Immediate Family" passes include admission for parents, children, and grandparents within the same family.

Individual Yearly Pass is \$100 per school year. Individual Season Pass is \$50 per sport season.

Senior Citizen Pass for home games is \$30 per school year.



Expect Respect and Positive Behavior Support (PBS)

Erik Hoberg

Pleasant Hill Middle School has been implementing a program, Positive Behavior Support (PBS), for many years. This program focuses on social climate and teaches students the core values of respect, safety, and responsibility.

One of the more challenging obstacles for schools relates to socially aggressive behavior, also known as bullying and harassment. Bullying and harassment includes taunting, rumor spreading, humiliation, name-calling, exclusion, and physical aggression. These behaviors can be particularly challenging for school staff members to address because they are often covert.

In January, our High School leadership students introduced a PBS program to address bullying and harassment, EXPECT RESPECT. The program is designed to empower students to positively impact the social environment in their school. Students accomplish this by teaching them specific skills and including them in discussions about how these issues can best be addressed.

At their core, the lessons and recommendations all revolve around four key messages:

1. Everyone in the school should know what it means to be respectful.
2. Bullying is disrespectful and is maintained by attention from recipients, bystanders, and peers.
3. Everyone in the school should have a strategy that stops attending to and acknowledging bullying. When someone is not respectful, ask them to stop. Don't allow bullying to be rewarded.
4. Everyone asked to stop should have a common strategy for moving on without escalation

Here's how you can help: Let your kids know that if they're being bullied or harassed — or see it happening to someone else — it's important to talk to someone about it, whether it's you or another adult (a teacher, school counselor, or family friend). Since a high percentage of incidents are covert, the school adults may not be aware of a bullying situation. By contacting us, you will be helping us to take actions that will help to create a supportive and inclusive school climate. Your involvement in helping us create a safe school environment for all students means so much to our staff, teachers, and community.

School District News

Pleasant Hill Enrolled in SafeOregon

Pleasant Hill School District is now enrolled with SafeOregon. SafeOregon is a way for students, staff, or members of the public to anonymously report and share confidential information of a threat or a potential threat to student safety. Trained staff are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year via phone call, text message, mobile phone app, or website. The main goal of SafeOregon is to intervene at the earliest possible point in the life of a young person who is struggling, helping them when they need it, before the situation turns into a tragedy.

SafeOregon is designed to encourage Oregon students to share and respond to anything that threatens their safety or the safety of others, makes a student feel unsafe, or if a student knows someone who feels unsafe. Here are a few examples of reasons to contact SafeOregon: safety threats, violence, threats of violence, fights, drugs, alcohol, weapons, bullying, friends talking about hurting themselves, harassment, intimidation, cyber bullying, or self-harm.

SafeOregon became law through HB 4075 following recommendations from the Oregon task force on school safety, which was charged with improving safety and security at schools across the state. The task force was established to bring together representatives from police, fire, school administration, teachers, school boards, school districts, and mental health professionals, along with the governor's education and public safety policy advisors, and legislators.

Please note that it's a violation of ORS 165.5702 to inappropriately use the SafeOregon system.



SAFEOREGON

How Should I Share a Tip with SafeOregon?

Tips can be submitted 24/7/365 through the SafeOregon.com web portal, by sending an email to tips@SafeOregon.com, through the SafeOregon mobile app (available for android or iOS devices), or by calling or texting 844.472.3367. Tips are promptly analyzed and routed for the most appropriate follow-up agency or department, and those with a lot of urgency will likely be routed to school officials and law enforcement.

In other words, if you have a tip to report, choose the best option for you:

- Visiting the SafeOregon web portal at www.SafeOregon.com
- Sending an email to tips@SafeOregon.com
- Using the SafeOregon android/iOS app
- Calling or texting 844.472.3367



WEB PORTAL

[REPORT A TIP ONLINE](#)



EMAIL

tip@safeoregon.com



CALL OR TEXT

844-472-3367



MOBILE APP



School District News

ROMP Seeks New Mentors

The Reaching Out Mentoring Program is committed to serving students, in the Pleasant Hill School District grades K-12, who need extra support and encouragement to reach graduation and plan for a positive future. All of our mentors are screened, trained volunteers who commit to at least one hour per week to meet with their mentee.

Find out how you can impact the life of a student, become a mentor: Contact Lorena Hammond at 541.736.0495 or lhammondmendez@pleasanthill.k12.or.us

Join the Community Email List

Join the PHSD #1 community email list. You will receive periodic updates about important school and community events and endeavors, as well as immediate emails regarding emergency school closures, weather-related bus route alterations, and special concerns.

You can be added to our community email list by sending an email to Jacquie Strickland at jstrickland@pleasanthill.k12.or.us.

This list will not be shared with anyone else, so no other parties will be sending you ads or using it for anything other than the school community information.

Pleasant Hill School District

36386 Highway 58
Pleasant Hill, OR 97455
541.746.9646

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