

The
CONNECTION



Summer School

Summer School was held May 22 – June 16. The overall enrollment for the PreK -12 grade program was approximately 1100 students. New classes added this year were American Girl, Computer Science, Cursive Handwriting, Splash Into Math, Wacky Wondrous World, TSA, Storybook Art and Literacy, and Building on Up and Breaking Out. Pictured above: Each student is making ice cream in Creative Expressions.

Enrollment / Residency Event Scheduled

Students go back to school Tuesday, August 15. Again the district is utilizing the online enrollment process for the 2017-2018 school year. This will allow you to fill out annual registration forms online prior to District Residency/Enrollment rather than the paper forms that in the past were mailed to your home. The District Residency/ Enrollment Event will be held July 26 and July 27, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Pleasant Hill High School for all families of the Pleasant Hill R-III School District.

Beginning July 5, online registration opened for you to complete your family's forms. An email was sent to remind you to register online. A link to the registration was provided in the email along with additional instructions. To make Residency/ Enrollment more efficient and less time consuming for you, please complete the online registration

no later than midnight on July 25. If you do not have access to a computer to fill out the registration forms, there will be computers available at Pleasant Hill High School on the dates of Residency/ Enrollment. Prior to Residency/Enrollment, there will be a computer available for registration at Central Office, located at 318 Cedar Street, for families without computer/internet access at home. Another option for families is to utilize the computers available at the public library.

As in years past, all families are required to provide proof of residency. Residency can be verified with a current utility bill (gas, water or electric) that is no more than 30 days old. The bill must include your name and physical address. No shut off notices will be accepted as proof of residency.

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New staff to join Pleasant Hill R-III District in August

Staff vacancies and reassignments within the district have allowed thirty two new staff members to join the district this fall.

Primary School

Bringing 24 years of experience to the District, **Sherry Helus** will serve as Principal. Last year, she was an elementary principal in Topeka, KS and prior to that she served as a principal in Marysville, KS. She has 19 years of experience in the classroom teaching Kindergarten, 3 & 4th grade and Title 1 Reading. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and a Master of Science in Educational Administration / Leadership from the Kansas State University.

Kelly Bradbury will serve as the Childcare Director. She brings 15 years of experience with Early Childhood Education to the Pleasant Hill School District. Most recently, she was a member / manager of a new residential real estate investment company, Shining Light Properties. She has an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education from the Gateway Technical College.

A past graduate, **Victoria Caskey** will bring experience to the Pleasant Hill School District. She will serve as a Speech Language Pathologist. For the past year, she served as a Speech teacher for the Sherwood School District. She holds a Bachelor of Science and a Masters of Arts in Communication Disorder from Truman State University.

Bringing 10 years of experience to the Pleasant Hill School District, **Lesley Noland** will serve as a 2nd grade teacher. For the past two years she has been a substitute for the district. She holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Central Missouri and a Master of Arts in Teaching from Webster University.

A PHHS graduate, **Kala Randol** will serve as a 2nd grade teacher. She completed her student teaching at the Pleasant Hill Primary School. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education from the University of Central Missouri and a certification in Missouri Early Childhood Education.

After serving as a substitute for the Primary and Middle Schools for the past three years, **Cerine Proudfit** will serve as a Co-Teacher.

She was an 8th grade English Language Arts CWC / Self-contained teacher for the Lee's Summit School District for 5 years. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education / Learning disabilities from Northwest Missouri State University.

Elementary School

Bringing two years of experience to the Pleasant Hill School District, **Kelsey Black** will serve as a Speech Language Pathologist. She was a Speech teacher with the Hickman Mills School District. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Interpersonal Speech Communication from the Southern Illinois University and a Master of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders from Rockhurst University.

After serving as a long term 4th grade substitute, **Morgan Boley** will serve as 3rd grade teacher. For the past three years, she was a Bank Teller for Pinnacle Bank in Lake Lotawana. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Education and certification in Elementary Education from the University of Central Missouri.

Candice Burnett, will serve as a Secretary. For the past seven years, she has worked at Summit Pointe Elementary in the Lee's Summit School District, as an Attendance Secretary, Library Clerk and Resource Aide.

Jessica Cagle will serve as a 3rd grade teacher and will bring 5 years of experience to the Pleasant Hill School District. She was a Learning Mentor with the Belton School District, this past year. She holds a Bachelor of Science from Texas State University and a Master of Science in Curriculum & Instruction from Emporia State University.

Cortney Moreno will serve as a Paraprofessional. She was a Human Resource Manager for the MO Department of Agriculture in Jefferson City, MO.

Intermediate School

Jessica Evans will serve as a 5th grade teacher. For the past 7 years, she was a 4th grade teacher for Salem Upper Elementary School in the Salem School District. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and a Masters of Art in Curriculum & Instruction-Elementary Education.

After completing her student teaching with the Raymore-Peculiar East Middle School, **Jennifer Moore** will serve as a 5th grade teacher. She brings 4 years of experience as a substitute to the Pleasant Hill School District. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Central Missouri.

In his first year of teaching, **Austin Welhoff** will serve as a Vocal Music teacher. He completed his student teaching at Moreland Ridge Middle School and Voy Spears Elementary School in Blue Springs. He was a Music Theory and Aural Training Tutor at University of Central Missouri. He holds a Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Central Missouri.

Middle School

After completing her student teaching with the Grain Valley School District, **Adrian Ortner**, will serve as Special Services teacher. She's been a substitute teacher in the Grain Valley, Hickman Mills, Lee's Summit and Center School Districts. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education, concentration in Special Education from Graceland University and certification in Missouri Early Childhood Education in Elementary Education and Mild / Moderate K-12 Cross Categorical Special Education.

Bringing 8 years of experience to the Pleasant Hill District, **Kate Zrust** will serve as a Vocal Music teacher. She was the Director of Choirs for the Wakulla County Schools for the past 3 years. She holds a Bachelor of Music Education and a Master of Music in Music Education.

High School

In her first year of teaching, **Cassandra Corson** will serve as a Science teacher. She completed her student teaching this past Spring with the Pleasant Hill School District. She holds

Free and Reduced Policy released

Children from families whose current income is at or below those shown are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Applications are available at the principals office in each school or on the district website. To apply, fill out a Free and Reduced Price School Meals Family Application and return it to the school. The information provided on the application is confidential and will be used only for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may be submitted any time during the school year. A complete application is required as a condition of eligibility. A complete application includes: (1) household income from all sources or Food Stamp / Temporary Assistance case number, (2) names of all household members, and (3) the signature and social security number of adult household member signing the application. School officials may verify current income at any time during the school year.

Foster children may be eligible regardless of the income of the household with whom they reside. A foster child is considered a family of one and only personal use income is counted to determine eligibility. If a family member becomes unemployed or if family size changes, the family should contact the school to file a new application. Such changes may make the children of the family eligible for these benefits.

Under the provisions of the policy, Data Specialist Kerrie Mann will review the applications and determine eligibility. If a parent is dissatisfied with the ruling of the official, they may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis or he may make a request either orally or in writing to the Asst. Superintendent, Dr. Becky Gallagher, whose address is 318 Cedar Street, Pleasant Hill, MO 64080 for a hearing to appeal the decision. Hearing procedures are outlined in the policy. A complete copy of the policy is on file in each school and in the central office where any interested party may review it.

Retirees Honored

The Pleasant Hill R-III School District honored eight retiring staff members last May.

Dr. John Griffith retired after 16 years with the Pleasant Hill School District. He was the Primary School Physical Education teacher during 1995-2001 and then in July 2007 he came back to the District and has served as the Assistant Superintendent of Facilities.

Sandra Haight retired after 10 years. She joined the district in July 2007 to become the Primary School Principal.

Denise Ingels retired after 19 years. She joined the district as a paraprofessional in August 1998 and then became the Child Care Director in May of 1999.

Joy Lucht retired after 17 years. She began teaching for the District in Aug. 2000 and was a fifth grade teacher at the Intermediate School.

Stephen Reese retired after 11 years. He joined the district in August 2006 and was a Social Studies teacher for the High School.

Linda Strong retired after 21 years. She has served as the Accounts Payable Bookkeeper since August 1996.

Cynthia Brownsberger retired after 25 years. She has served as a Special Services Paraprofessional for the District since Nov. 1992.

Cindy White retired after 10 years. She has served as a Speech teacher for the District since August 2007.

Automated Calls

Schools will be sending automated telephone messages to your designated phone number as reminders of activities, vacation days, early dismissals, school closings, money needed for your child's meal account, etc.

If you have any changes, throughout the school year to your phone numbers, please update them on the Parent Portal 'Student 360'.

Your children may qualify for reduced price meals if your household income falls within the limits on this chart

Federal Income Chart for School Year 2017-2018			
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$22,311	\$1,860	\$430
2	30,044	2,504	578
3	37,777	3,149	727
4	45,510	3,793	876
5	53,243	4,437	1,024
6	60,976	5,082	1,173
7	68,709	5,726	1,322
8	76,442	6,371	1,471
For each additional person add	+7,733	+645	+149

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New Staff join the district continued

a Bachelor of Science in Soil, Environmental and Atmospheric Sciences with emphasis in Atmospheric Science and is currently finishing her Masters Degree in Secondary Education from the University of Central Missouri.

Bringing 6 years of experience to the Pleasant Hill School District, **Michelle Cronin** will serve as a Paraprofessional. She taught Special Education – Behavior Disorders for Sioux City Community School District. She holds a Bachelor of Science from Boise State University.

Celia Davidson will serve as an Assistant Principal and will bring 11 years of experience to the Pleasant Hill School District. She was a Science and Agriculture teacher and she also assisted the administration with the supervision of extracurricular activities at Holden High School. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education and a Master of Science in School Administration from the University of Central Missouri.

After serving as a substitute for Pleasant Hill High School, **Brad Ditty** will join the staff and serve as a Paraprofessional. For the past two years, he's assisted student athletes with injury prevention, emergency care and rehabilitation of athletic injuries, after school, as the districts primary athletic trainer. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training from University of Central Missouri and a Master of Science in Health Physical Education and Recreation from Emporia State University.

Bringing 9 years of experience to the School District, **Kevin Greer** will serve as a Special Services teacher. He was an In School Suspension Teacher and Summer School Health Teacher for the Lee's Summit School District. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education from University of Central Missouri, Master of Arts in Education and Master of Science in School Leadership from Baker University.

After completing her student teaching with Raytown High School, **Danielle Martin** will serve as an English Language Arts

teacher. This past Spring, she was an ELA teacher with Raytown South Middle School. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Education from the Missouri State University.

Judy Meyer will serve as a Business Marketing teacher and will bring 17 years of experience to the Pleasant Hill School District. She was a Business Education teacher and Business Department Chair with the Warrensburg School District. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and a Master of Science in Education, from the University of Central Missouri.

John Unrein will serve as a Social Studies teacher and will bring 9 years of experience to the Pleasant Hill School District. Last year he was a Middle School Social Studies teacher with the Grain Valley School District. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Education from Central Missouri State University as well as a Master of Arts in Teaching and a Master in Education Administration.

District

Bringing 17 years of experience, **Dr. Steven Meyers** will serve as the Deputy Superintendent for the Pleasant Hill School District. His experience includes High School Principal, Director of Facilities, Executive Director of Operations in addition to four years of teaching experience as a business teacher. He has an undergraduate degree in Business Administration from Baker University and an Educational Specialist and Educational Doctorate from Saint Louis University.

Bringing 25 years of experience to the Pleasant Hill School District, **David Taylor** will serve as the Director of Facilities. For the past 7 years, he was the Carpenter Shop Supervisor with the Lee's Summit R-7 School District. Prior to that, he served as a carpenter and head custodian.

A past graduate, **Benjamin Anderson** will serve as a Desktop Technician and will bring 3 years of experience to the District. He was a General Clerk with FCI Federal. He received an Associates Degree in Network Administration from State Fair Community College.

Dani Borchert will serve as a Custodian. She previously worked at Hampton Inn in Blue Springs, MO.

Carole Markey will serve as Desktop Technician and bring more than 30 years of experience working in a computer lab network environment. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science from University of Missouri – Columbia.

Jessica Taber will serve as a Bookkeeper for the District. She was a Department of Special Education Secretary with the Harrisonville School District. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Technical Writing & Communications from the Missouri State University.

Jeanne Thomas will serve as a Special Services Process Coordinator. She will bring two years of experience as a process coordinator and ten years of experience as a special education teacher to the Pleasant Hill School District. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Central Missouri.

Cara Townsend will serve as the Accounts Payable Bookkeeper. For the past two years, she worked at Travelers Insurance as an Inside Auto Claim Adjuster and prior to that, she was a shift manager for Panera Bread. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and a Master of Business Administration from University of Central Missouri.

Meal Prices

Primary School / Elementary School
 Student Breakfast: \$1.45
 Adult Breakfast: \$1.75
 Student Lunch: \$2.30
 Adult Lunch: \$2.90

Intermediate School / Middle School
 Student Breakfast: \$1.45
 Adult Breakfast: \$1.75
 Student Lunch: \$2.40
 Adult Lunch: \$2.90

High School
 Student Breakfast: \$1.45
 Adult Breakfast: \$1.75
 Student Lunch: \$2.50
 Adult Lunch: \$2.90

Enrollment / Residency continued

Any family not able to attend on July 26 or July 27 will need to go to Central Office, located at 318 Cedar Street, beginning July 31 to begin the residency/enrollment process, followed with a visit to each building your children attend to complete the process.

Building principals, counselors, secretaries, nurses, food service and bus company staff will be on hand to offer assistance and answer any questions.

School offices will open July 24, 8am to assist parents with any needs they may have for the upcoming year. All school offices will be closed on July 26 and July 27 for enrollment.

Additional Back to School Information:

Primary School:

Aug. 8: Parents of kindergarteners will meet their respective teachers at individually scheduled conferences.

Aug. 10: Open House for students in grades 1-2, 5:00-7:00pm.

Aug. 15: The first day of school

On the first day of school: Students may be dropped off at 8:10am (if eating breakfast) or by 8:25am and picked up at 3:37pm. All students should report to the gym.

Aug. 17: Early Childhood Open House, 6:00pm

Aug. 21: Early Childhood classes begin

Aug. 22: School photos

Elementary School:

Student planners will be available to purchase at the district wide Enrollment / Proof of Residency Event for \$5.

Aug. 9: Open House / Meet the Teacher Night, 4:00-6:00pm

Aug. 15: The first day of school

On the first day of school: Students may be dropped off on Olive facing east or Armstrong facing North starting at 8:10am. We will not use Myrtle for car riders; it is being used for special services busing. Students will meet their teachers in the gym and be escorted to their classrooms. At dismissal, students may be picked up on Armstrong facing north at 3:37pm.

Aug. 18: School photos

Intermediate School:

Aug. 9: Open House / Meet the Teacher Night from 5:00 to 7:00pm. All students should bring class schedules with locker number and combinations listed. Parent and

students are invited to locate classes, meet teachers and put supplies in lockers.

Aug. 21: School photos

At the Intermediate School: Parents should enter on the East side of the Intermediate School. Students may be dropped off at 7:55am and picked up at 3:27pm. Students who plan to eat breakfast will need to report to the cafeteria and all others should report to the gym.

Middle School:

Aug. 14: Middle School Open House / Meet the Teachers, 6:00-7:30pm. All students should bring their class schedules and locker numbers with combinations to locate classes, practice opening lockers, and put school supplies in them for the next day. There will be an orientation meeting beginning at 6 pm in the middle school gym for any new enrollees who may have missed the building overview and tour that we held for incoming students last May.

Aug. 15: The first day of school. Middle School students may be dropped off at 7 am and picked up by 3 pm. Students who plan to eat breakfast will need to report to the cafeteria, and all others should report to the gym.

Aug. 23: School photos by Pearce Photo

High School:

All student schedule changes may take place on the following days:

July 26 and 27, 1:00 – 7:00pm

July 28 and 31, 9:00am – 12:00 and 1:00 – 3:00pm

August 1 – 4, 9:00am – 12:00 and 1:00 – 3:00pm

Schedule changes for personal preference or teacher requests will not be accepted.

Students will not be allowed to make any changes to their schedule after August 21.

Aug. 10: Meet the Teacher Night, 6-8pm.

Aug. 15: First day of school

High School students should be dropped off on the West side of the school (music or band hallway). Please do NOT drop off students at the front entrance or the staff parking lot. Students will report to the Commons area.

They will be dismissed from the Commons at 7:20am.

Aug. 17: School photos. Retakes are scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 3.

Sept. 22: Homecoming

2017-2018 Calendar

Aug. 7, 8	.....	New teacher orientation
Aug. 9, 10, 14	.....	Teacher workdays, Professional Development
Aug. 15	.....	School begins
Sept. 1 & 4	.....	No School, Labor Day
Sept. 15	.....	3 hour early dismissal, Professional Development
Sept. 22	.....	3 hour early dismissal, Homecoming
Oct. 13	.....	End of First Quarter
Oct. 20	.....	No School, Teacher Workday, Professional Development
Oct. 23-26	.....	Parent / Teacher Conferences
Oct. 27	.....	No School
Nov. 22-24	.....	No School, Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 1	.....	3 hour early dismissal, Professional Development
Dec. 20	.....	End of Second Quarter/ First Semester
Dec. 21-Jan. 1	.....	No School, Christmas / Winter break
Jan. 2	.....	No School, Teacher Workday/Professional Dev.
Jan. 3	.....	School resumes
Jan. 15	.....	No School, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Jan. 26	.....	3 hour early dismissal, Professional Development
Feb. 16	.....	3 hour early dismissal, Professional Development
Feb. 19	.....	No School, Presidents Day
Mar. 8	.....	End of Third Quarter
Mar. 16	.....	3 hour early dismissal, Professional Development
Mar. 29	.....	3 hour early dismissal, Professional Development
Mar. 30	.....	No School, Spring Break
Apr. 2 & 3	.....	No School, Spring Break
April 19:	.....	3 hour early dismissal, Professional Development
April 20	.....	No School
May 10	.....	Graduation
May 16	.....	3 hour early dismissal / Last day of school

The Pleasant Hill R-III School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Assistant Superintendent, 318 Cedar Street, Pleasant Hill, MO 64080, 816-540-3161.