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# PERRY-LECOMPTON MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

April 2008

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## News from the Principal

### State Assessment & Student Performance

April 1-3 (Tuesday –Thursday) all PLMS students in grades 6 & 8 will be involved in taking the math state assessment. Students in grades 5 & 7 will complete their math assessments the next week, April 8-10 (Tuesday—Thursday).

Only students in grades 6 & 8 will take the state social studies assessment from April 22-24 and only 7th grade students will take the state science assessment on April 28-30.

To facilitate student performance it is very important that students get a good night's sleep and have a good breakfast in the morning. Please help by seeing that your child is prepared each day of testing. It is also important that students be at school from on these dates to take the assessments. No homework will be assigned during the week in any classes.

### Track and Field

Two home track events are scheduled this year. The first is a triangular scheduled on Tuesday, April 1. The Kaws host Lexington Trails and Tonganoxie.

The second home event is the Perry Relays scheduled at PLMS at 4:00 on Monday, April 7. The seven team meet is a highlight of our season. This night is also the PTO Taco Feed in the multi-purpose room so there is plenty of action to watch and good food to eat.

### Eighth Grade Graduation

This is an information item to help parents and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students prepare for graduation. The PLMS Student Handbook outlines the criteria for eligibility for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to participate in the graduation ceremony. Students are required to pass 14 semester classes out of the 16 semester classes offered in their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. Students must also meet the citizenship requirements and be a student-in-good-standing.

### Summer School

Summer school at the Middle School is for students in grades 5-8. Summer school begins on 2 and runs through June 26, Monday through Thursday weekly. Bus transportation will be provided by the district. Students who need extra help in Math and Reading will be recommended for summer school by the Student Assistance Teams. Students will work on the computer and with classroom teachers in a state assessment preparation program. On April 1 letters will be sent to notify parents of students who have been recommended for summer school. There is no cost or fee assessed to the parent for a student's attendance. You may call the middle school office if you would like more information.

### Homework Policy

When students miss school parents are encouraged to call the school office (597-5159) between 8:30 and 9:00 A.M. to make arrangements to get homework assignments. The homework policy can be found in the Perry-Lecompton Middle School Handbook.

# Music Program

April and May includes two music festivals. The PLMS Vocal Music Program is scheduled for April 29 at 7:00. The band performs at the 5-12 all district Spring Band Concert in the new gym at the High School at 7:00 on May 6. Everyone is invited to attend.

# Dress Code

Just a reminder to please check the handbook for the dress code policy at Perry-Lecompton Middle School or call the school office if you have questions. Please keep the dress code in mind as you make new clothing purchases for students this spring. The school dress code applies to all school activities from middle school athletic events to 8th grade graduation.

# PTO and Site Council

The Site Council and PTO will meet on Monday, April 28. The Site Council will meet at 6:00 and the PTO meeting begins at 7:00. Please call the school office at 597-5159 if you would like more information. All are welcome.

*Armin W. Landis*

# Probability Day in 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

April 11th will find all 5<sup>th</sup> graders immersed in math for the entire day. This day, known as Probability Day, introduces probability to the students and allows them to practice it in a fun and varied setting. Students watch video clips and then practice in centers using hands-on materials.

A number of parent volunteers will staff each station, helping understand the concept of probability. Lunch takes on a students dine on sub sandwiches, chips, and cookies from



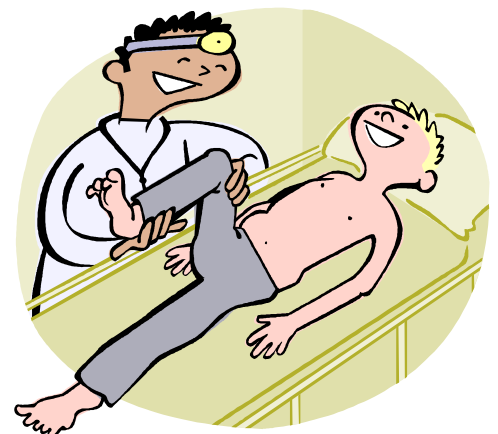
the students different feel as Mr. Goodcents.

*Pat Zimmerman*

# Athletic/Spirit Group Annual Physicals for 2008-2009

Athletic physicals for the 2008-2009 school year will be completed during the school day on Wednesday, May 14, 2008. The Jefferson County Health Department nursing staff will do lab screenings. Lab will include a urinalysis, which screens kidney function, hemoglobin, which screens for anemia, and a blood sugar, which screens for diabetes. Parents will be notified of abnormal findings.

Parents wishing their child to have a physical this day must complete the athletic physical form. Physical forms are available at the school office. The completed physical form and the \$25.00 fee must be returned to the school by Wednesday, May 7 (one week prior to the date of the physical). Checks should be made payable to PLHS. If you have any questions, please call the Jefferson County Health Department at (785) 863-2447.





## PTO News

Parents: The PLMS PTO will be having a Taco Salad Dinner at the Perry Track Relays on April 7<sup>th</sup>. This is a big fundraiser for us and we need the following help from you!

**5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade: Jars of salsa or fresh tomatoes** (I will cut these up to top the taco salads)

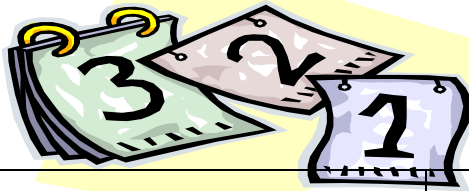
Please send these to school by Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>.

**7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade: Desserts** If these could please be bagged into baggies of two cookies or brownies that would be great!! These can be sent on Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup> or dropped off in the multi purpose room/ concession stand that afternoon.

We can also use parents to work in the concession stand or serve the taco salad. We will be running both from 4:00 to the end of the track meet. If you can help please give me a call. Thank you for your support of PTO.

Angie Andrew  
887-6904





Date	Event	Destination	Depart	Return
4/4	AR Late Night-5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup>	PLMS Gym	5:30	11:30
4/7	Perry Relays @ 4:00	Home		
4/10	Track Meet @ 4:00	Tonganoxie	2:30	8:00
4/11	PLMS Spring Picture Day			
	5 <sup>th</sup> grade Probability Day-8:30-1:00 (rescheduled)			
	AR Late Night-7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup>	PLMS Gym	6:00	12:00
4/12	Are you Smarter than a PLMS 5 <sup>th</sup> grader-6-8PM	PLHS		
4/14	School Board Meeting @ 7PM			
4/16	<b>MID QUARTER PROGRESS REPORTS HANDED OUT</b>			
	StuCo Meeting @ 7:30			
4/17	Track Meet @ 4:00	Piper	2:15	8:00
4/18	<b>INSERVICE DAY-NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</b>			
4/21	Exchange City-5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Penn Valley CC	8:20	3:00
4/24	Track Meet @ 4:00	Lexington Trails	2:30	8:00
4/28	Track Meet @ 3:30	Eudora	2:30	9:00
	Site Council @ 6:00			
	PTO @ 7:00			
4/29	5-8 Spring Vocal Music Program @ 7:00			
4/30	Track Meet @ 3:30	Monticello Trails	2:15	8:00

## Information worth repeating..again and again and again and again.....

### Activity Bus

The function of the evening activity bus is to transport students who are involved in curricular or extracurricular school activities after school. The fall activity buses will leave PLMS at 5:40p.m. every evening. Only students who are involved in these activities are allowed to ride the activity bus. Each coach has provided the activity bus driver a roster of all students who are allowed to ride the activity bus. Students who do not appear on one of these rosters but intend to ride the activity bus must give the bus driver an authorized activity bus PASS before they board the bus. It is the student's responsibility to obtain the activity bus pass from the office, fill it out completely, and have it signed by the appropriate teacher.

*Just a reminder, the activity bus does not deliver students to their homes; they only drop students off at LES, the old high school (in Lecompton), WES and Grantville*

# Request for change in transportation

If a change in transportation is needed, parents should following the guidelines listed below.

If the change occurs in the morning, please call the bus barn at 597-5303 so that the driver can be notified. Please make this call at least 15 minutes before your child's schedule pick up time.

After 8:00 AM, if a change needs to occur for the PM route, parents should call building secretaries at their child's attendance center.

All calls should be made by 2:30 PM unless it is an emergency, no change requests should be made after 2:30 PM.

## Homework Policy

When students miss school parents are encouraged to call the school office (597-5159) between 8:30 and 9:00 A.M. to make arrangements to get homework assignments. The homework policy can be found in the Perry-Lecompton Middle School Handbook.

In all classes, students have a minimum of two school days for each day of excused absence to submit make-up assignments for full credit. In all classes students will be expected to complete and submit all homework regardless of "credit"...Perry-Lecompton Middle School Student Handbook

## Office Depot cash back

Office Depot is taking care of education! Every time parents, students and school supporters give our school's 5% Back to Schools ID number when buying qualifying school supplies at Office Dept, OUR SCHOOL receives credits equal to 5% of the qualifying purchases to use for FREE SUPPLIES!

**Our schools ID Number is 70038934**

## Computer Technology News

The computer technology class will be posting web pages for building activities and sports, and also compiling the yearbook. Please send us copies of your photos, so we may include some of them in our projects. You may send them electronically, send a CD to school with your child, or send actual photos. We will scan or copy the photos, and return your originals to you. We appreciate all the help we receive in this area.

Marty Strait [mstrait@usd343.org](mailto:mstrait@usd343.org)

## Food Service *EZSchoolPay* Information

Has your child ever announced at breakfast, "I'm out of lunch money and can't eat today if you don't send more?" You have no cash and you're out of checks! Now what do you do?

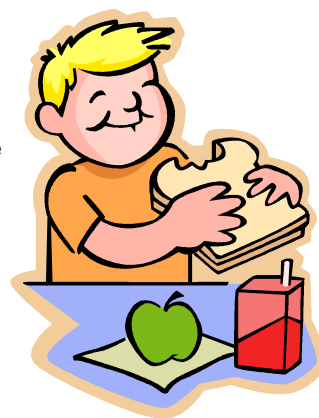
We have a solution for your problem. Beginning in February, USD 343 will implement *EZSchoolPay*. This online meal payment service is easy to use and once you are registered, the money can be in your student's lunch account in ten to fifteen minutes! You will be charged a small fee of six percent. In the initial stage, this service will be available to students at Perry Lecompton High School and Perry Lecompton Middle School. We hope to offer it to elementary students by March. To participate in this program, simply follow the directions below.

### STEP 1:

- Obtain your students Personal Identification number.
- This is either a 5-digit or 8-digit number.
- It is not the same number you use to access PowerSchool.
- You may obtain the number by calling Food Services at 785-597-5872 or you can email Donna Buchanan at [dbuchana@usd343.org](mailto:dbuchana@usd343.org)

### STEP 2:

- Once you obtain this number, go to the [EZSchoolPay.com](http://EZSchoolPay.com) website and register.
- You will need a valid email address and either a Visa or MasterCard.
- Complete the requested information and your ready to go.



The best part about *EZPay* is that you don't have to deposit money to use the service. If you want to continue making cash/check payments through the office, you can still have access to the *EZPay* website to monitor your child's balance at no cost.

### FAQ: How do I know the *EZPAY* website is secure?

The *EZPAY* site has security measures in place to protect the loss, misuse and alteration of the information under our control. We use YourPay, a FirstData company and a leader in secure web commerce, to process payments. We also use a Comodo security certificate that guarantees the transactions for up to \$10,000. You can click on the TrustLogo to verify that you are actually using the *EZSchoolPay* web site.

## Phone Broadcast Information SCHOOLREACH



### What is a phone broadcast system?

The power of a phone broadcast system is its ability to share information quickly with students' families, including school closings for inclement weather, power outages, emergency safety measures, transportation changes, reminders and announcements. Perry-Lecompton schools use SchoolReach to provide this service, allowing district and building administrators to contact all affected families within moments. You need not sign up for this service – you inclusion is automatic. We simply are asking for your help in identifying the numbers you want us to call. Rest assured that your personal information and contact numbers will be strictly secure and you will not receive any non-school messages as a result of this service.

### Primary Contact Number

A home number for each student is kept in a "primary" list. The primary list is used for communications in the late night or early morning (such as a snow day), or on the weekend. It also is the number used for reminders and non-urgent announcements. This number is obtained from each student's enrollment form (For families with no home land line, an alternate cell phone should be designated.)

### Emergency Contact Numbers

Emergency numbers in SchoolReach, such as a parent/guardian cell or work phone number, are used when there is urgent information to be shared with parents or guardians during the regular school/work day. Every student has the option of up to three additional emergency contact numbers, in addition to the home number on the primary list. Emergency numbers will be called all at the same time (there is no option to prioritize the numbers). Please note the following criteria when selecting the best numbers to be included for your student's emergency contacts:

- ❖ You must include an extension to be dialed if you list a number that is answered by a switchboard operator or automated attendant.
- ❖ If you list a number for someone other than a parent or guardian (such as a grandparent or neighbor), please inform that person that they may receive recorded messages from the schools and how you would like them to handle the information provided in a message.
- ❖ Please do not list numbers that are answered in multiple locations (such as a dispatch center).
- ❖ Numbers must include an area code – **800/866/877/888 numbers will not work in this system.**

### Keep Your Student's School Informed of Changes

Keeping your student's school informed of primary and emergency phone number changes is an integral part of helping to make this system work. We do ask that if you have a home phone number change or cell phone change (in either the primary number or emergency numbers), please notify the school office immediately. We will keep our database current with your changes.

If you wish to update or change your primary home phone number, cell phone number or emergency contact number, please call the middle school office (785) 597-5159 or you can e-mail the office at [clangton@usd343.org](mailto:clangton@usd343.org). We appreciate you helping to keep us informed so we can in turn keep you informed!!!

**Perry-Lecompton Schools Endowment Association**

**Membership & Brick Order Form**

A gift of \$50 will include membership in the Endowment Association and an engraved brick in the Endowment Patio.

**A 4" x 8" personalized engraved brick may be purchased for \$50 per brick.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City & State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method: Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_ Gift Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

What would you like to have engraved on your brick? Please limit your engraving to up to 19 letters/characters per line. There is a 4-line limit. Example:

#1) IN MEMORY OF  
THOMAS REED  
PERRY RURAL HIGH  
CLASS OF 1955

#2) MICHELLE LEE-SMITH  
PERRY -LECOMPTON  
CLASS OF 1983

Please print clearly your inscription, using one character/letter per space provided. If you wish to purchase more than one brick, please use a separate form for each brick. (Please print clearly.)

Line #1

\_\_\_\_\_

Line #2

\_\_\_\_\_

Line #3

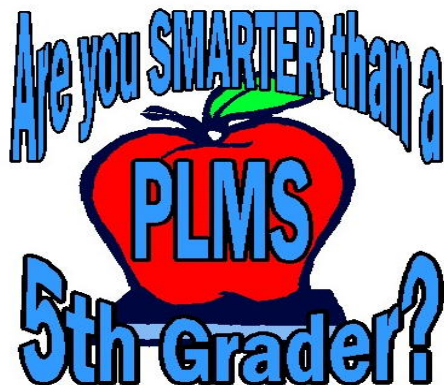
\_\_\_\_\_

Line #4

\_\_\_\_\_

Please forward this form to: Perry-Lecompton Schools Endowment Association  
% District Office  
PO Box 729, 205 West Bridge St.  
Perry, Kansas 66073

Attention Parents and Staff of PLMS students-



Coming...

**Saturday, April 12, 2008**

**6:00-8:00 p.m.**

**PLHS**

**Be a Contestant!!!**

PLMS PTO is searching for **contestants** for the fun-filled family night called "Are you smarter than a PLMS 5<sup>th</sup> grader?" The concept is similar to the TV show....

- Adults will attempt to answer questions about stuff 10 year olds know.
- They will earn prizes for questions they answer correctly.
- When they have trouble, they can 'cheat' off our very own PLMS 5<sup>th</sup> grade students!

How do I become a contestant?

- To qualify, you must be at least 18 years old, submit an application (and \$5 fee) by the deadline.
- Contestants must be able to attend the event on April 12, 2008.
- Actual contestants will be selected at random, from all applications, the night of the event.

You won't win a million dollars. But **there are lots of great prizes!!**

- Examples of "MILLION DOLLAR" level prizes include: \$200 savings bond and a DVD player.
- Examples of regular level prizes include gift certificates to: Culvers, Salty Iguana, Applebees and 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Brewery.
- Plus...ALL applicants will be entered in a drawing for any "un-won" regular level prizes. This means you may even will a prize without having to go on stage and answer questions!!

Questions??? Please contact: Caryn Anderson at 887-6313 or anderson564@att.net  
or Deanne Schurer at 865-5983 or deannes@FirstStateKS.com

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(Turn this form and **\$5 application fee** into the PLMS office by **March 31, 2008**)  
Make checks payable to PLMS PTO.

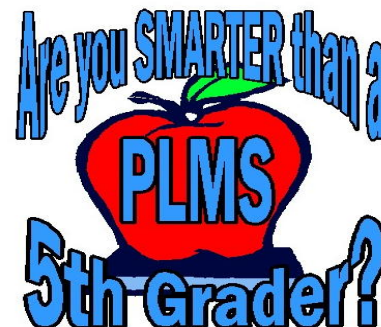
Print clearly:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Elementary School Attended: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to say, "I am NOT smarter than a PLMS 5<sup>th</sup> grader" if I fail to answer 6 questions correctly.

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature



## Opportunity to Give

Join PLMS student council in giving to those who are less fortunate. April is Child Abuse Prevention month and PLMS will be joining the FCL (Family and Community Leaders) of PLHS in sponsoring a collection drive for school supplies to be donated to the children being served by Spofford House in Kansas City. The Spofford House currently has 49 children living on-site, and they provide services to another 1,200 children. The children receiving services from Spofford range in age from 4 – 12 years, are frequently from impoverished families, and have often been abused, neglected, and/or suffer from mental health disorders. The mission of Spofford House is to “provide premier preventative and therapeutic services by connecting child, family, and community to achieve their potential”. By focusing on the family and working with the community, Spofford House is working to help prevent child abuse.



PLMS students have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of these children by donating school supplies such as new pencils, pens, erasers, markers, crayons, paper, etc. Between April 1<sup>st</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, the PLMS student council will have collection boxes outside the library for supplies brought in. Please join us in this opportunity to give.

