

DID YOU KNOW?

TAILGATING INFO

Starting this year, before all PHS home football games, students will be able to tailgate south of the stadium. Tailgating starts at 5:30 and goes until game time.

HOSA NEWS

Club dues for HOSA are due today. The cost for dues is \$17. See Jim Foresman for any other questions.

FCCLA PIE SALES

FCCLA students have been selling apple pies to help pay for their membership fees. If students sell 10 pies they will pay for their membership. Each pie cost \$8 and will be delivered between Sept. 25 - Oct. 11. The last day to order pies will be Sept. 25.

PEP BUS RETURNS

Today, there will be a pep bus traveling to the football game in Fort Scott. Along with riding the bus, students pay \$5 and will receive a bottle of water and admission to the game. The bus will leave at 5:30 in front of the school.

PSYCHOLOGY CLUB

The last day to order Psychology Club T-shirts will be Sept. 30. The cost per shirt is \$11. See Patrick Moss in room 323 for any additional information.

JUNIOR CLASS CLEAN UP

Students are asked to pick up trash at games at Hutchinson Field after football games in order to raise money for prom. Many teachers are also using this as an extra credit opportunity in order to ensure participation.

AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships and the Sept. newsletter for seniors are now posted on the school website under Current Highlights on the district home page. See Gina Ulbrich for more information regarding scholarships.

WESLEY HOUSE: HORN OF PLENTY

Sunday Sept. 29 Wesley House will be having their annual horn of plenty food drive. Volunteers will be picking up non-perishable food items around 1 and will continue until about 5. Items needed include: peanut butter, macaroni and cheese, powdered milk, baby food, jelly, cereal, crackers, and tuna.

Different school, different culture, new beginning

New students transfer to USD 250 for new opportunities

BY KYLYNN COLLINS

The Booster Redux

USD 250 has received 66 transfer students this year. Not all schools are the same, some of the smaller schools do not have as many classes or sports as other high schools do. Former St. Mary's Colgan Sophomore Stuart Comeau attributes his transfer to the high school's greater selection in classes.

"I transferred because Pittsburg had more electives than Colgan," Comeau said. Between the classes and clubs offered at PHS, Comeau chose computer tech I and foundations of technology.

College classes are available to students who are interested in getting ahead. Southeast High School does not offer advanced placement (AP) classes but instead classes are available dual credit classes.

According to the USD 247 Superintendent Dr. Glenn Fortmayer, the district reimburses 100 percent of tuition if students get an A or B in the class.

At Pittsburg High School there are seven college classes and six AP classes.

"I transferred from Southeast so I could graduate early but also keep my job and become a full time employee," former Southeast senior Cord Mays said.



Shifting plastic beads, sophomore Stuart Comeau works on the plastic mold machine in the Applied Learning Center. Comeau transferred from St. Mary's Colgan due to the high amount of electives offered at PHS, specifically the technology program. "I came here to learn new things and take new classes and I am getting the opportunity to do just that," Comeau said. PHOTO BY MIRANDA MOORE

There are many other common reasons why students transfer to different schools. One reason could be because of bullying. "Pittsburg is a lot better on its bullying. Students here don't bully as much, they are a lot better with treating people

equally," freshman Padraig Holland said. "Also, I transferred from Fort Scott because my mom is a teacher here.

Holland has joined football, which is one of his favorite sports. He also plans to play

basketball and baseball.

Bullying is one of the reasons why freshman Padraig Holland transferred from Fort Scott.

Another reason why students transfer to the high school is because of the bigger

population. With the many different personalities we have at the high school sometimes it is easier for someone to fit in.

"Everyone is really welcoming here," junior Cora Still said.



Finishing one of the last sidewalk segments, workers smooth out concrete on the softball complex. The team will be play its first home game this spring. PHOTO BY MIRANDA MOORE

Money Ball: Pritchett Grant approved

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1D

teams have had to travel to the Lincoln Park fields to practice and play all of their home games. This meant loading and unloading all of their gear every day for the trip from the school to the fields for every practice and every game.

"I'm going to be very excited to be able to play on our own field," said senior softball player Abby Herring. "It will be so much more convenient when it comes to practice and games because we won't have to haul our gear from place to place."

Former softball head coach Mary Packard recalls the inconvenience of not having a home field of their own.

"We lost an hour of practice every day due to travel time," Packard

said. "A home field adds more to what you can get done. [Lack of a home field] was very inconvenient."

Coach Bureson can see no downside to having their own field at the start of her coaching experience for the Dragons.

"We'll get to practice sooner," Bureson said. "We won't have to load our equipment. It'll give a great sense of dragon pride; the girls have to be excited."

Vogel agrees with Bureson's observation.

"I'm very excited about a having a field to call our own," said Vogel. "It gives the team and I something to take pride in for our softball program, which is something that's been lacking in our team."

As of now, the field could host games but

they would have to be held earlier in the day to maintain adequate lighting to play. Although Packard is no longer the head softball coach, she still advocates the individual fund raising that the softball players still conduct. The team started selling bricks last year to add to the mural of stone that is outside of the softball field. The purchaser of a brick could engrave whatever they please on the purchased brick. The engraved bricks will enclose a purple 'P' made out of brick. The team also did a Hit-A-Thon last year to raise money.

"The field is a good way to bring back some motivation and spunk in the team," Vogel said. "We have all worked really hard in raising money to help build it."

Never late is better

Students more susceptible to unexcused absences due to change in tardy policy

BY KATIE PHALEN

The Booster Redux

At the beginning of the school year, the administration introduced several new handbook and policy changes, one of which revamped the tardy policy and the consequences involved in showing up late to class.

In the past, after a student was counted tardy three times for the same class, it resulted in a three-hour Friday night school. This year, three-hour Friday night schools have been done away with. Instead, for every third tardy that a student acquires, it results in a recorded absence for that class. In addition to that, if a student is five or more minutes late to class, they will be counted absent. If a student racks up multiple absences in a class, they can lose credit for that course, which they can make up through extended school days, or eventually qualify as truant.

"We'd been having to spend a lot of time on tardies when we should be addressing curricular items or other things for students," Principal Jon Bishop said. "What we have seen so far is a lot less kids in the hallways when the bell rings. We still have a few, but it's a lot cleaner getting to and from classes."

Some students do not agree with the administration's decision to tighten up the attendance rules. Senior Victoria Scholes finds that after transferring from another district, it

is difficult to adjust to the earlier schedule at USD 250, which makes it harder for her to get to school on time.

"I think the tardy policy is silly," Scholes said. "At Frontenac, school started at 8:10, it's hard to get used to such an early school day."

Bishop said that no matter when the start time of the school day is, he feels like the amount of tardies would still be the same, if not greater. With the first tardy bell at the high school ringing at 7:40, most students are driving to school around 7:20 or 7:30. Bishop said that this chosen time frame avoids students getting caught in the rush hour traffic that hits Pittsburg around 8:00 on most weekday mornings.

Senior Logan Fields has found a reason to be glad about the new tardy policy.

"I love the new tardy policy because last year I was late at least three times a week and got a lot of [Friday Night Schools]," Fields said. "But now I don't have to worry about that as much, it's great."

However, Bishop said that the intentions of this new policy are to address the students who show up to class late habitually.

"If I see it wasn't a pattern then you're OK, you're not going to get in trouble," Bishop said. "But if it's an everyday occurrence, then sorry. It's not just the train, or the fact that your electricity went off, or you've had a bad morning. It's an everyday occurrence."

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