Pickerington Teachers and Administrators

**Professional Development Conference**

Professional Development was the agenda of the day for teachers at the end of the first semester.

Pickerington Local School District’s Teaching & Learning Department hosted the first ever large-scale professional development conference for 650 teachers and administrators.

The conference included a keynote presentation by Dave Burgess, author of *Teach Like a Pirate*, and 55 concurrent sessions.

The message to teachers was to turn lessons into an experience that students will always remember. His outrageously energetic presentations encouraged teachers to become more creative and passionate about instruction.

Burgess modeled his engagement strategies leaving teachers with many ideas of how to create that unique classroom experience. The conclusion of his keynote presentation was met with a standing ovation from the entire PLSD staff.

In addition to the keynote presentation, teachers and administrators were given the choice of 55 different relevant concurrent sessions.

The sessions were led by individuals from The Ohio State University, Ashland University, the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio, EdWorks, Ohio Department of Education, Apple, Lightning Grader, Columbus Museum.

**Pirate continued on page 8**

---

**Tussing Elementary Read Across America**

Can you say, “Happy birthday, Dr. Seuss”? Yes, you can! And yes, they did! Maybe not in a boat nor with a goat, but Tussing Elementary students and staff celebrated NEA’s Read Across America on March 6, 2014.

Read Across America Day is a nationwide reading celebration that takes place annually the week of March 2 - Dr. Seuss’s birthday.

Tussing Elementary students were selected as one of only two schools in the Central Ohio area to be visited by NEA’s Read Across America Cat-a-Van Tour.

**Read continued on page 12**

---

**Pickerington High School Central Mock Trial Team advances**

The Pickerington High School Central Mock Trial Team once again advanced to the state competition for the third year in a row.

Ohio High School Mock Trial offers an innovative approach to learning about law and how our legal system functions.

Guided by teachers and volunteer legal advisors, students participate in an original, unscripted simulated trial written by attorneys.

High school students argue both sides of the case in real courtrooms across the state.

The state finals are held in the Ohio Statehouse, and the winner advances to the national competition.

This year’s case scenario was named Phillips School District v. Jesse Springfield, et al. and involved the following:

Phillips High School agrees to license naming rights of its field to a large corporation. In response, students organize protests both in school and on the field.

The school district responds by installing security cameras, searching lockers of the students involved and filing a lawsuit seeking an order authorizing the school to remove the students from the field. The students claim that

**Team continued on page 12**

---

**Inside This Issue . . .**

- Message from the Superintendent page 2
- District Financial Information page 3
- Celebrating the Middle Schools and Junior Highs pages 4-7
- Pickerington Community Schools New Facility page 9
- Athletic Signings page 10
- 2014-2015 School Calendar page 11
Superintendent Leaving District

Time to retire

By the time you’re reading this edition of The School Bell, the announcement of my retirement, effective August 1, 2014, will be known to most, if not everyone in our community.

My plans are to spend more time enjoying my family, focusing on staying healthy, and volunteering . . .

In retiring, I’m concluding a fulfilling 37-year career in public education throughout five districts across the state of Ohio.

My plans are to spend more time enjoying my family, focusing on staying healthy, and volunteering throughout the area.

During the past two years, the district has been hard at work implementing the Common Core and aligning our instructional practices to achieve our new motto of Every Student, Every Day, Whatever

It Takes while continuing our tradition of excellence both inside and outside the classroom.

I would like to thank our students, teachers, and administrative team for a truly great experience during my tenure as superintendent.

We have a great group of students and parents that want the very best for their children, a very talented and dedicated staff, along with a team of administrators who are focused upon student achievement for every student.

I wish everyone in the District great success in the future.

Pickerington High School Central and North

National Merit Finalists

Pickerington Local School District has two National Merit Finalists in the 58th Annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

Pickerington High School North senior Alex Sherry and Pickerington High School Central senior Seetha Kolli have met the requirements to advance to Finalist standing in this prestigious scholarship competition.

In addition, Pickerington High School Central senior Aisha Sharif advanced to Finalist standing in the National Achievement Scholarship program.

Originally in a pool of approximately 16,000 National Merit finalists vying for 8,300 scholarships in 2014, Kolli and Sherry advanced to the finalist standing.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation will begin mailing scholarship offers to winners by mid-June.

As one of 1,300 National Achievement Scholarship finalists, Sharif hopes to be one of the 800 scholarships granted to outstanding African-American students nationwide.

After graduation, all of these exceptional students plan to pursue fields that complement their academic strengths.

As of the printing of this publication, all three finalists were undecided on their choice of universities.

Alex Sherry, PHSN
Mathematics or Economics

Seetha Kolli, PHSC
Mechanical Engineering

Aisha Sharif, PHSC
Political Science or International Relations
District Financial Statements and Audit Available for Public View

“Accountability breeds responsibility.”
-Stephen R. Covey

All school districts in the state of Ohio compile basic financial statements. These financial statements, which are materially similar to the basic financial statements of a company or corporation (e.g., statement of cash flows/income, balance sheet, statement of net assets, etc.), show the financial position of a district as of the close of a given fiscal year.

Additionally, all school districts are audited each school year by the Ohio Auditor of State. This involves a thorough examination of the district’s basic financial statements, as well as an audit of the past fiscal year’s financial activities — that is, the way the district receipts and expends funds is checked against all pertinent district-level policy and control procedures, as well as being checked against all pertinent local, state and federal laws.

The audit also examines board and administrative actions and other decisions, as measured against board policy and all pertinent local, state and federal laws over the past school year.

In short, the annual audit provides the residents of the state of Ohio with assurances that their local government entities are accountable with the valuable resources that they are given through tax levies and other governmental fees, and that they are operating within the parameters of policy and law.

The Pickerington Local School District completed the compilation of its FY13 (2012-2013 school year) basic financial statements in November. Additionally, FY13 Audit (covering the 2012-2013 school year) was conducted and completed by the firm Clark Schaefer and Hackett, and Independent Public Auditor (I.P.A.) contracted by the Ohio Auditor of State’s office.

A copy of the audit can be found by using the following link:

Additionally, a link to audit reports can be found on the Treasurer’s web page for the District at http://www.pickerington.k12.oh.us/dept/16/. This link is found on the right-hand side under Links, under the heading “Pickerington LSD Audit Reports."

If you have questions about the audit report or need help locating it, please contact Treasurer Ryan Jenkins at (614) 834-2140, or by email at ryan_jenkins@plsd.us.

From the Ohio Department of Education Website

New Expenditure Standards Released for Pickerington LSD

http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Finance-and-Funding/Finance-Related-Data/Expenditure-and-Revenue/Expenditure-Per-Pupil-Rankings

Among the many provisions of the 2012-2013 Budget Bill, House Bill 153 of the 129th General Assembly, was a new requirement for ODE to rank traditional school districts, join vocational districts, and community schools based on the percent of their operating expenditures for classroom instructional vs. non-classroom purposes, as well as their overall operating expenditures per pupil.

The classification of expenditures used in the rankings is based on standards approved by the full State Board of Education’s Capacity on December 11, 2012. The expenditure standards address exclusions from operating expenditures and classroom instructional vs. non-classroom expenditures, and were used as the basis for all the FY13 expenditure calculations.

Many of the details needed to implement the standards have been developed through a working group chaired by ODE, including representation from the following: traditional school treasurer, community school treasurer, JVS district treasurer, OASBO, Auditor of State, and the Governor’s Office. Prior to the working group, stakeholders contributed ideas and feedback to ODE for the creation of the expenditure standards.

For data specific to Pickerington Local Schools, please visit the Treasurer’s web page at http://www.pickerington.k12.oh.us/contentPage.aspx?cid=40668.

If you have questions, please contact Treasurer Ryan Jenkins at (614) 834-2140, or by email at ryan_jenkins@plsd.us.
Diley Middle School

Welcome to the TSM Fraction Museum

Diley Middle School fifth grade teachers Mrs. Melissa Turner, Mrs. Jody Schwartz and Mrs. Kelly Matthews (Ohio University student teacher) planned and co-taught a Common Core math unit on fractions.

Gone are the days of student teachers entering the classroom and teaching in isolation. Today’s student teaching model trains new educators to collaborate and co-teach in order to more effectively meet students’ needs.

Students learned about fractions through the use of hands-on activities including Popcorn Fractions, Taboo Fractions, Guess Who Fractions, and Fun Fraction Friday.

This approach is a part of 21st Century teaching where teachers engage students more deeply in the content. This method allows students to apply what they’ve learned and by the end of the unit, many students willingly became part of a club they affectionately called “Fraction Freaks!”

The unit culminated with an exciting, real-world activity. The students had an opportunity to demonstrate what they had learned about fractions by creating a Fraction Museum (The Turner/Schwartz/Mathews Fraction Museum).

Teams of students worked cooperatively to create real-life exhibits connected to the use of fractions in daily life.

The parameters of the students’ exhibits included participation and collaboration with a partner, use of technology, mathematical concepts, visual aids, written components, and use of math terminology during their presentation.

Students were permitted to choose any real-world topic to create an exhibit for the fraction museum. Exhibits included bakeries, party kits, hair salons, clothing stores, pizza shops, a dog park, fraction games and more!

The application to a real-world experience was an essential and fun method of teaching students how important math is in our world!

Lakeview Junior High

Integrated Science and Art news

Student artwork is consistently placed in the halls of Lakeview.

Both two and three-dimensional artwork is always on display for everyone to enjoy throughout the year.

At the end of each school year, the principal’s art honorarium selects 3-5 pieces for the building’s permanent collection.

*     *     *

Integrated Science students have been working hand-in-hand with motion and energy.

Students “tweak” their ramp to gain points based on the height of their hills after the loop.

A marble had to pass through the entire length without leaving the track. The track required a loop and two hills.

Students first achieved the minimum standard and then were engaged in the adjustment process.

Important 7th Grade Immunization Information

The Ohio Department of Health requires all students entering 7th grade to show documentation of receiving an immunization called Tdap before being allowed to enter school next year. Sixth grade students recently received a letter explaining this requirement with their grade card. It also contained a Physician Documentation of Vaccine form for your convenience.
Seventh grade students at Ridgeview Junior High are experiencing math differently.

In the past, students have encountered challenging, difficult and complex math problems to attempt at home. This often ends in frustration of the student and the parent, but students at Ridgeview are taking a creative approach to learning math by having a productive struggle in the classroom.

Students in Ms. Furlong’s Core 7 and Advanced Core 7 Math classes have flipped their classroom. In Ms. Furlong’s flipped math class, students are assigned videos to watch two to three times a week that cover what is typically taught in the classroom.

By watching the videos at home, students have the ability to work collaboratively and have unlimited access to reach out to Ms. Furlong for help. The videos are created by Ms. Furlong and students can work at their own pace. This allows the students to pause, rewind, and re-watch the videos as many times as they want.

The videos come in handy especially for students that have been absent. Students can access the stored videos on a Learning Management System called Schoology.

Students have access to the site 24/7 and are able to communicate with their peers in a format similar to Facebook. In addition, they can communicate via personal message with Ms. Furlong after school hours within the Learning Management System.

This new system allows students to access not only the videos, but the notes documents, problem sets and performance tasks. Students even have access to “misconception videos” after every four lessons, which explains common mistakes that have been made on the assigned in-class problem sets.

Students are getting ready to take the flipped classroom to the next level. Instead of teacher made videos, students will engage in the video making process.

In order for this to happen, Ms. Furlong applied for and received a grant from the Technology Grant Committee at PLSD and was recently awarded a class set of iPad Minis to use on a daily basis in her flipped classroom.

In addition to the Technology Grant, Ms. Furlong applied for a grant through the Pickerington Education Foundation (PEF) to fund the purchase of headphones for classroom use. The recipients of the PEF grants have not yet been notified.

By flipping the mathematics classroom, students are taught to work through their struggles collaboratively. This process will help students in the future to be college and career ready.

Harmon Middle School

PTO sponsoring ACES program

Harmon Middle School’s PTO is again sponsoring the ACES recognition program for students.

ACES is an acronym for Attendance, Character, Excellence, and Scholar. These are the four qualities students must possess and demonstrate on a daily basis to qualify for the program.

**Attendance**
Students cannot have frequent absenteeism or be tardy during the second nine weeks grading period.

**Character**
Students must demonstrate, on a daily basis, the school’s Pillars of Character which are: Responsibility, Caring, Good Citizenship, Trustworthiness, Fairness, and Respect.

**Excellence**
Students must achieve a grade point average of 3.75 or higher during the nine weeks.

**Scholar**
A student must exemplify that they have a true love of learning which equates to being a true scholar.

To date, the PTO has hosted two special breakfasts for all fifth and sixth grade students who have qualified for the program.

Harmon Middle School

Target Grant

Harmon Middle School was recently chosen to receive a $500 grant through Target’s “Books for Schools” program.

The program was designed to help schools provide needed resources to bring learning to life and put kids on the path to graduation.

Money from the grant was used to purchase 146 new books for the Media Center.
The Harmon Middle School Renaissance Team has been busy working on various projects this year. A few of the activities and events on tap this year are:

- Designing and creating a birthday bulletin board for students located in the cafeteria;
- Creating posters for events throughout the school year;
- Organizing and keeping track of recess supplies and games;
- Students serve as hosts for luncheons and special programs sponsored throughout the year;
- Coordinating a staff appreciation, no bullying activities, and food drives;
- Assist staff members with projects throughout the year;
- Preparing for the Academic Pep Assembly slated for the end of the year; and
- Separating and distributing thank you notes from “Thank You Thursdays.”

Thank You Thursdays are a big hit with the staff and students. After the morning announcements, blank note cards are passed out to everyone asking them to write a note to a student or staff member thanking them for any act of kindness they may have shown someone.

Renaissance students stay after school to separate and distribute the notes. The following morning, students and staff members are pleasantly surprised to receive their note cards.

Lakeview Junior High

**History comes alive**

Recently, the social studies classes of Mr. DeVoe and Miss Billirakis’ asked their students to debate the following:

*Did the military expansion of the Roman Republic mostly help or hurt the people of Rome?*

Students were divided into groups, and each group was assigned a historical character who lived during the Roman Republic. Students were then given background information on their character.

Each character represented a particular viewpoint on the debate topic. Four students advocated that it helped, and four advocated that it hurt the people of Rome.

Each group took on the role of their character with one person playing the character. That person dressed in character and answered questions from the character’s point of view.

After the prep work was done, students presented their opening statements.

During the critical question period, students had to demonstrate a high level of thinking skills since they were unaware of the other side’s questions.

The debates were a way for the character by helping them answer questions during the debate.

Another student from the group served as a supportive audience member who had the task of writing and asking questions for their group’s actor by helping them prepare their position on the topic.

The final member of the group served as the critical audience member whose position was to ask difficult questions of the actors on the other side of the argument.

Discussions would require each student to understand both sides of the argument and be able to present persuasive discussion on their behalf.

*History continued on page 7*
Toll Gate Middle School was recently selected as a finalist for an Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrator (OAESA) Hall of Fame Award school visit.

The Hall of Fame School Awards were created by OAESA to “celebrate schools that go above and beyond the call of duty to get students, teachers, and community members excited about education.” (2014 OAESA application)

Ready to step up to that challenge, Toll Gate MS officials completed a 12-page application and received scores high enough based off of their current educational activities to be selected for an official school visit complete with interviews of community members, superintendent, and staff members.

Student ambassadors Marial Wilkerson, Tyler Lape, and Janelle Eblin lead the OAESA representatives on the tour of the school.

Hallways were lined with student-made signs to welcome the officials and tout the TGMS commitment to excellence in education.

No matter the result of the award application, we are proud of Toll Gate Middle School and the strides they make every day to live up to their mission and vision for students. “We nurture intellectual curiosity, collaborative and critical thinking, and effective communication,” states their application.

At Toll Gate Middle School, the staff and students “strive to create and maintain a happy, caring, and stimulating school community where children can recognize and achieve their fullest potential.” (2014 TGMS awards application)

As of press time for this publication, Toll Gate Middle School is still awaiting the final results of the contest. Award recipients will be announced in May. If selected, TGMS will receive a $1,000 grant along with recognition at the OAESA Annual Assembly in June.

HISTORY
continued from page 6

students to integrate many skills.

In addition to the Roman history standards, students had to speak in front of an audience.

Students were given the task of critically reading a non-fiction selection and choosing the most important information they could gather to support their argument and to look for weaknesses in the other characters’ arguments.

In doing so, students had to take on the perspective of the character they were representing.

The debates were a huge success. Students were kept engaged and talking about the activity even after the closing arguments.
PIRATE
continued from page 1

of Art, the Headmaster of Marburn Academy and principals from other Central Ohio school districts.

In addition to the outside groups, over half of the sessions were led by PLSD’s own staff, leveraging the strengths of our team. Collaborative sessions were also held to share best teaching practices between schools.

Topics ranged from differentiation, using rubrics, inclusion models, STEM, reading strategies, using social media, using technology to analyze data, performance assessments, working with students with autism and dyslexia, creating digital content with iPads, detailed information about the upcoming PARCC and ODE assessments, college and career readiness, building a professional network, student ownership of learning, and much more.

Teachers and administrators commented that this type of professional development was extremely effective in helping to increase student achievement.

A few comments from staff members included, “The in-service was well designed, informational and motivational,” “I thoroughly enjoyed every session I attended and plan on using many things I learned with my classes,” and “The conference was the best professional development PLSD has created and hosted in the 28 years that I’ve been a teacher in the district.”

The Teaching & Learning Department is already making plans to host the event again for the 2014-2015 school year.

“The in-service was well designed, informational and motivational.”

“The conference was the best professional development PLSD has created and hosted in the 28 years that I’ve been a teacher in the district.”

“I thoroughly enjoyed every session I attended and plan on using many things I learned with my classes.”
Pickerington Community School moves into new facility

The Pickerington Community School (PCS) is a conversion community school sponsored by the Pickerington Local School District.

The community school is a Dropout Prevention/Credit Recovery School designed to primarily serve students who are between the ages of 16-21 and are at-risk of not graduating.

The school serves students in grades 9-12 and is currently located on the campus of Pickerington High School North.

The mission of the Pickerington Community School is to provide its students a customized and personalized educational experience leading to high school graduation and meaningful post-high school employment, or a successful transition to post-high school education.

The School provides learning opportunities that include independently completed assignments, an online digital curriculum used as the instructional program to differentiate, personalize, and engage the learner; tutoring; miscellaneous student-teacher interaction; credit flexibility options; and, community based employment and volunteer work experiences.

In January, PCS moved into their new 5,350 square-foot addition located on the west side of Pickerington High School North.

The new facility contains five classrooms, a large conference room, a teacher workroom and two offices. Four of the classrooms have dividers that allow staff to open up the space creating two large classrooms.

The additional space allows for collaboration between students and space to work on projects. The new facility has room for future growth and a technology infrastructure to support the digital curriculum and devices used in the school.

Staff members and students are excited to be in their new high tech facility.
### Athletic Signings

**Fall Signing**
- Morgan Bassett-Smith: Basketball, University of New Hampshire, Division I
- Brittany Johnson: Basketball, Quinnipiac University, Division I
- Andrew Martin: Swimming, Ashland University, Division II
- Hannah Murphy: Softball, Morehead State University, Division I
- Kristin Oliphant: Golf, Bellarmine University, Division II
- Jordan Toohey: Basketball, Radford University, Division I
- Jessica Wachtman: Volleyball, Morehead State University, Division I

**Winter Signing**
- Annette Echikunwoke: Track, University of Cincinnati, Division I
- Hannah Lucas: Softball, Youngstown State, Division I
- Scot Sapp: Golf, University of Cincinnati, Division I
- Isaac Magnuson: Soccer, Grace College, NAIA
- Morgan Greer: Soccer, Bellarmine University, Division II
- Zephaniah Miller: Football, United States Air Force Academy, Division I
- Anthony Welch: Football, East Tennessee State University, Division I
- Dylan Weigel: Football, East Tennessee State University, Division I
- Christopher McDowell: Football, Ohio Dominican University, Division II
- Karch Holland: Football, Gannon University, Division II
- Geno Rollo: Football, West Virginia State University, Division II

**Fall Signing**
- Kyle Casserly: Baseball, West Virginia University, Division I
- Sadie Cunningham: Softball, Ashland University, Division II
- Aajah Hawkins: Basketball, Florida International University, Division I
- Amari Hawkins: Basketball, Florida International University, Division I
- Connor Kern: Basketball, Arkansas State University, Division I
- Allison Luther: Softball, Kent State University, Division I
- Jae’sean Tate: Basketball, The Ohio State University, Division I

**Winter Signing**
- Andrew Meyer: Football, Ohio University, Division I
- Tawain Gordon: Football, Ohio Dominican University, Division II
- Brennan Dudziak: Football, Ohio University, Division I
- Vincent Lewis: Football, Ashland University, Division II
- Emma Safranek: Soccer, University of South Carolina-Upstate, Division I
- Darby Burch: Soccer, Malone University, Division II
- Casidy Simonis: Soccer, Carson-Newman University, Division II
- Samantha Oberdorf: Soccer, Tiffin University, Division II

---

**PHS North**

Pickerington High School North and Central

**Panthers**

---

**PHS Central**

Pickerington High School North and Central

**Tigers**
# PICKERINGTON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
## 2014-2015 Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>August 2014</th>
<th>January 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 Teacher Work Day</td>
<td>S M T W T F S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Uninterrupted Teacher Work Day</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 First Day of School (Gr. 1-12)</td>
<td>4 5 6 7 8 9 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 First Day of Kindergarten</td>
<td>11 12 13 14 15 16 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 No School - Professional Development Day</td>
<td>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>September 2014</strong></td>
<td>25 26 27 28 29 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 No School - Labor Day</td>
<td>S M T W T F S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Interims</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 2-hr. Late Start - Professional Development Day</td>
<td>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 K-12 Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences</td>
<td>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>October 2014</strong></td>
<td>23 24 25 26 27 28 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 K-12 Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 No School K-8 Only (All-Day P/T Conferences)</td>
<td>S M T W T F S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>regular school day for grades 9-12</em></td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 No School Kindergarten Only (All-Day P/T Conf.)</td>
<td>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>regular school day for grades 1-12</em></td>
<td>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 End of 1st Grading Period</td>
<td>23 24 25 26 27 28 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 2-hr. Late Start - Professional Development Day</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Grade Cards</td>
<td>S M T W T F S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>November 2014</strong></td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Interims</td>
<td>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-28 No School - Thanksgiving Break</td>
<td>16 17 18 19 20 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>December 2014</strong></td>
<td>22 23 24 25 26 27 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 End of 2nd Grading Period/1st Semester</td>
<td>29 30 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 No School - Teacher Record Day</td>
<td>S M T W T F S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-31 No School - Holiday Break (Dec. 22 - Jan. 2)</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>January 2015</strong></td>
<td>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2 No School - Holiday Break cont. (Dec. 22 - Jan. 2)</td>
<td>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Classes Resume</td>
<td>23 24 25 26 27 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Grade Cards</td>
<td>29 30 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 No School - Professional Development Day</td>
<td>S M T W T F S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 No School - Martin Luther King Day</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>February 2015</strong></td>
<td>8 9 10 11 12 13 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Interims</td>
<td>15 16 17 18 19 20 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 K-12 Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences</td>
<td>22 23 24 25 26 27 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 No School - Presidents Day</td>
<td>29 30 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 K-12 Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences</td>
<td>S M T W T F S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>March 2015</strong></td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 End of 3rd Grading Period</td>
<td>10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Grade Cards</td>
<td>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-31 No School - Spring Break (Mar. 30 - Apr. 3)</td>
<td>25 26 27 28 29 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>April 2015</strong></td>
<td>S M T W T F S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-3 No School - Spring Break cont. (Mar. 30 - Apr. 3)</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Classes Resume</td>
<td>10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Interims</td>
<td>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 No School - Professional Development Day</td>
<td>25 26 27 28 29 30 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>May 2015</strong></td>
<td>S M T W T F S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Last Day of Classes for Teachers &amp; Students*</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Early Dismissal</td>
<td>10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make-up days will be: 2/16, 5/26, 5/27, 5/28, 5/29</td>
<td>18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Key
- **First/Last Days of School**
- **No School - Prof. Development/Work Day**
- **No School - P/T Conferences (select grades)**
- **No School**
- **Interims or Grade Cards**
- **End of Grading Period**
- **2-hr Late Start - Professional Development**
- **Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences**

## Grading Periods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Levels</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th># of Days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>8/13/14-10/15/14</td>
<td>43/44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>10/16/14-12/18/14</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester break</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>1/5/15-3/6/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>3/9/15-5/22/15</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*BOE Approved February 10, 2014*
READ
continued from page 1

Association President Becky Higgins, PEA President Heather Miller and PEA Vice President Carla Fultz toured the building and enjoyed looking at the reading projects and artwork created by students.

OEA President Becky Higgins shared her belief with students regarding the importance of reading every day.

The NEA student chairman read *Green Eggs and Ham* and the students enthusiastically joined in the reading.

Delta Dental, a sponsor of the tour presented a check in the amount of $500 to the school media center. A representative from Delta Dental led students in the Reading Across America Reading/Brushing Oath.

Students attending the assembly received a Dr. Seuss hat, a gift bag with a copy of *The Cat in the Hat* book and a toothbrush.

---

TEAM
continued from page 1

the school district’s actions violated their First and Fourth Amendment rights.

PHS Central students competed against 8 teams in the district competition in Zanesville in January, where they won both of their trials and advanced to the Regional competition held at the Municipal court house located in Columbus in February.

They were one of three teams that won both trials from a pool of 30 teams competing in the Columbus regional competition. Central then advanced to the State competition held in Columbus two weeks later.

PHS Central competed well, but lost their trials in the state round by one point each.

---

Mock Trial team members were chosen after tryouts in early October. Under the guidance of advisors Julie Brunner and Leigh Farrington, and the help of local attorney and Pickerington resident Trey Pauley of Vorys, Sater, Seymour, and Pease in Columbus, and former Pickerington students, Grant Garber (attorney Ohio University Athens), and James Ferguson who attended Capital Law School (compliance office at Target), the team practiced 2-6 hours per week in the evenings from October through March.

Both Garber and Ferguson participated on the Pickerington High School Mock Trial team under the direction of Advisor, Julie Brunner while attending Pickerington. Brunner has been an advisor for twenty-three years.

---

Pickerington Local School District
90 N. East Street
Pickerington, OH 43147

Postal Customer
Pickerington, OH 43147

**WINTER 2014**
**SCHOOL BELL**
Visit us at: www.pickerington.k12.oh.us