



The Plymouth Pilgrimage

Summer 2017



Washington Third-Graders Host 5K to Benefit U.S. Military (Page 12)

Registration for the 2017–2018 School Year:

Plymouth Community School Corporation will be offering one-stop, on-site registration at Plymouth High School on Wednesday, July 19, 2017, and Thursday, July 20, 2017.

The registration times are as follows:

Wednesday, July 19:

7 a.m.–9 a.m.

11 a.m.–1 p.m.

4 p.m.–7 p.m.

Thursday, July 20:

5 p.m.–8 p.m.

Beginning July 5, 2017, online registration available for current PCSC families at: plymouth.k12.in.us

Superintendent's Message

By Daniel Tyree, Superintendent

When I first started teaching, public schools held a monopoly for your choice in your child's education. Today, parents have plenty of choices. Parents can send their children to any other public school, if they take transfers or they can take a voucher and send their children to private schools. I am proud to say that Plymouth schools have been the choice of local parents and parents in Marshall County. Presently, we have approximately 300 transfer students enrolled here at Plymouth Community School Corporation. This allows us to add programs rather than cut programs. It allows us to hire teachers rather than reduce teachers. So, Plymouth has the dollars to continue giving all children a great education.

The best news I can share with you is that we will start building a new junior high in a little less than a year. We've gotten a lot of use out of the old Lincoln, but it's time to look at the classrooms of the future. The new Lincoln will be built on the same site that houses the old Lincoln. They will build the new Lincoln on the far east part of that city lot. Lincoln will have room for adequately sized, flexible rooms, with the ability to use digital devices throughout the building. Instead of building two gymnasiums, the new Lincoln will provide a space large enough for two basketball or volleyball courts, a wrestling room, and a cardio/weight room. Instead of a stand-alone auditorium, the new building will have an auditeria, which is the combination of an auditorium and a cafeteria. The auditeria will house more seating and the space will be flexible for many uses. Finally, the site of the junior high will be in a friendly neighborhood where students can practice service-learning by helping the neighbors with projects that are good for everyone.

After 38 years in Plymouth, I will retire on June 30, 2017. I am confident that I am leaving the school corporation in great shape. A dedicated staff of professional men and women will continue to do their very best for your children.

I hope you enjoy this year's *Pilgrimage*. It offers just a glimpse of the great things that happen in our schools. If you are already a student in Plymouth, we welcome you back for another year. If you aren't, don't hesitate to call for a tour. We are now accepting transfer students and would be happy to welcome you for the 2017-18 school year.



PCSC Deemed First K-12 NTN Demonstration Site in the Country

Innovation Academy @ Lincoln is the latest Project Based Learning (PBL) school within Plymouth Community School Corporation (PCSC) to be approved as an Exemplary Demonstration Site by the New Tech Network (NTN). The status means the junior high school for seventh- and eighth-graders ranks as one of the top in the country by the NTN, a school in which other districts throughout the country can tour and use for modeling their programs.

The approval is extraordinary for Plymouth schools, because our other three PBL schools all have been deemed Exemplary Schools as well. Therefore, this honor makes PCSC the first K-12 Project Based Learning system in the entire country to have all its schools declared all Exemplary Demonstration Sites.

This is the third consecutive year both the Innovation Academy @ Riverside (grades 5 and 6) and the Weidner School of Inquiry @ Plymouth High School (9-12) has received this honor. Washington Discovery Academy (K-4) has received this distinctive honor for the past two consecutive years.

Superintendent Dan Tyree said, "Achieving this New Tech National Demonstration Site Exemplary status can give Michiana parents the reassurance that their children will be able to be educated in the best Project Based Learning hands-on environment possible, from kindergarten all the way through to graduation."

NTN President and CEO Lydia Dobyns said, "This national milestone is the direct result of a powerful community vision and the unwavering dedication by teachers and principals to bring the New Tech school model to every learner. Our partnership with Plymouth Schools provides compelling evidence that public school districts can provide relevant and innovative education that truly prepares graduates for success in college, career, and civic life."



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Plymouth High School Students Earn Ivy Tech STGEC Certificate

By Plymouth High School Student Caleb Koss '17

On May 11, at the University of Notre Dame's Purcell Pavilion, 13 Plymouth High School seniors were able to walk in the Ivy Tech commencement ceremony wearing a graduation cap and gown. All 13 PHS seniors qualified to receive an Ivy Tech STGEC certificate. The acronym stands for Statewide Transfer General Education Core certificate and is designed to prepare students for a successful transfer to the baccalaureate-degree-granting institution of their choice.

The STGEC is an agreed upon framework of competencies that fulfill general education requirements at public colleges and state universities across Indiana. Weidner School of Inquiry @ PHS Co-Director Jennifer Felke said,

"This is the first year PHS students have had an opportunity to earn this, and in the future, many more of our PHS students will be able to earn the STGEC for completing the minimum credits required in each of the competencies." She went on to say, "This certificate transfers as an Ivy Tech block of 30 credit hours. So students can transfer these college credits to any in state public school, and based on courses, some private schools as well."

Principal Jim Condon said, "Ivy Tech's STGEC certificate opens up doorways to the future for our students and provides them with post high school opportunities that may not have existed." Felke said that is exactly true, "One of our 13 students who received the



Plymouth High School seniors who earned a STGEC certificate at Ivy Tech graduation in May.

(L-R) Back Row: John Gerard, Edgar Gallardo, Dylan Manuwal, Hudson Yoder, Travis Owen, Garrett Garver, and Dillon O'Brien.

Front Row: Anna Bockman, Natasha Craft, C'Airra Stephens, Alicia Dennie, Seth Grimmel, and Isaias Frias.

STGEC had no intention of pursuing higher education, but now after finding out the first year of college is completely paid for through Ivy Tech, this student is going to college with goals of completing a degree."

The STGEC represents a minimum of 30 college credits in six different competencies. "Ivy Tech puts a value on this certificate of close to \$25,000. That's a freshman year of tuition, room, and board at a public institution. We are so proud to be able to partner with Ivy Tech and offer this option to our students who can complete the required components of the STGEC," said Felke.

PHS Emory Smith receives Marshall County Community Foundation Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship

Plymouth High School graduating senior Emory Smith received the Marshall County Community Foundation Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship this year. The Scholarship Program provides full tuition, required fees, and a special allocation of up to \$900 per year for required books for four years of undergraduate study leading to a baccalaureate degree at any Indiana public or private college or university accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Smith will attend the University of Notre Dame this fall to major in Chinese and Computer Engineering. She said, "Earning the 2017 Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship is a blessing. It will allow me to pursue opportunities to advance my education, and ultimately my career.

Receiving this scholarship makes attending Notre Dame possible for me because otherwise I would not be able to afford a school like Notre Dame. I am grateful to those who believed in me—from the scholarship committee to my family, friends, teachers, and coaches. I feel blessed and ultimately humbled."



The mission of the Marshall County Community Foundation is to serve all of Marshall County, its people, and its future through the growth and administration of endowment funding and philanthropy.

PHS Teacher Receives \$12K Creativity Grant to Pursue Interest of Hammered Dulcimer

By Plymouth High School Student Breanna Dillard

Rebecca Ippel, an English as a New Language teacher at Plymouth High School, received a \$12,000 Lilly Endowment Teacher Creativity Fellowship grant to pursue her interest in the hammered dulcimer.

"This is finally my chance to learn to play the hammered dulcimer," said Ippel.

She found out she received the fellowship grant in December. The grant requires Ippel to do much more than to play and learn all about the folk instrument that generally has strings stretched over a trapezoidal sounding board. "I have always thought the hammered dulcimer is an amazing instrument. I first saw one when I was in third-grade," said Ippel.

Thus far, Ippel has used some of the grant money to travel to a dulcimer builder in Oklahoma where she toured the workshop and bought a large dulcimer. She is currently taking lessons to learn to play the instrument. This summer, she will build a small dulcimer after visiting another builder.

Also on her to-do list is to attend jam sessions and the 45th Dulcimer FunFest in Evart, Michigan, this July.

She is one of the 100 educators who received this grant through the 2017 Teacher Creativity Fellowship program from a competitive pool of more than 500 applicants. The grant program allows K-12 educators the opportunity to nurture their own curiosity and development through Lilly Endowment Teacher Creativity Fellowships. Ippel is documenting her project on Instagram; you can follow along by following her account name @buildingmusictoways.



Rebecca Ippel stands alongside the hammered dulcimer she purchased thanks to receiving a Lilly Endowment Teacher Creativity Fellowship grant.



(L-R) 2017 graduate Nicole Horvath seen in this photo and her classmate Anna Bockman (not pictured), take on 2017 grads Nick Felke and Seth Grimmett in the 'Big Questions' Debate final round.

The "Big Questions" Debate Series

By Weidner School of Inquiry @ PHS Caleb Koss '17

Weidner School of Inquiry @ PHS English 12 and Advanced Speech students participated in the "Big Questions" debate series in late January. The National Speech and Debate Association offered a grant program to encourage debate in schools across the country. WSOI Facilitator Regina Warren applied for the NDSA grant and was approved to have seniors in her English 12 classes be part of the debate. Also, WSOI Facilitator Charlotte Tyree's Advanced Speech and Communications classes participated in the debate.

The 2016–2017 Big Questions topic was "Science leaves no room for free will." Debating the specific topic was part of the requirement of the NDSA and the grant program. Students were not supposed to find a right or wrong answer, but instead look at an issue from both sides and analyze evidence from both sides. Tyree said, "In a debate like this, students have to prepare and speak on both sides, and if you want to win, you have to be equally prepared and polished with both sides as well." Tyree and Warren both believe that this debate will help students in the future with college and their eventual careers. Warren said, "We had our learners analyze the question, 'Does Science leave room for free will?' They had to research the issues and then weigh both the pros and cons of both sides in front of guests from our community and school corporation. Our guests rated the learners and a winning group was chosen."

Warren received a \$1,700 grant to purchase books and reading materials.

The "Big Questions" debate series is made possible by a generous grant from the John Templeton Foundation. It gives students around the world the opportunity to think critically about the place of humanity in the natural world by asking them to analyze and debate the best arguments on each side of a series of topics at the intersection of human nature, science, and ethical life.

Both WSOI facilitators say they would love the opportunity to be part of the "Big Questions" debate series in the future.

Weidner School of Inquiry @ PHS Clay For Cancer

By Plymouth High School Student Destiny Griffin

The last four years the Weidner School of Inquiry @ PHS BioArt Class has held an event called Clay for Cancer. BioArt is a class that combines art and science. Each learner in the freshman class creates one piece of artwork made from clay. Phil Koops, who is one of the two co-facilitators of the event, said science plays an equally as large role in the classroom as art does. Koops said, "However, the achievement goes beyond the science knowledge of DNA, protein synthesis, mutations, mitosis, and the art skills. Facilitators truly learn collaboration skills of how to work in a group, and oral communication skills by speaking to an authentic audience." Hailey Church, the other co-facilitator of the project, said, "We collaboratively came up with the Clay for Cancer idea by brainstorming on how to raise awareness about different types of cancer, plus it is a great way to showcase students' artwork."

Each year, the culmination of the classroom project concludes with the Clay for Cancer silent auction event, which is open to the public. The money raised from the learners' clay projects is donated to the Cancer Association of Marshall County. The organization allows the money to stay local and go directly to helping individuals who are battling cancer with such things as bills, gas money, groceries, etc.

This year's Clay for Cancer event was held on March 6, 2017, and raised \$1,352.

WSOI's Co-Director Michael Delp said, "It takes a lot of people to put on this event, including our administration, and the participation of other learners who have helped out in previous years. It has been fun seeing this grow as a tradition for the cause."



The 2017 Clay for Cancer silent auction raised \$1,352. In this picture WSOI presents a check to representatives with the Cancer Association of Marshall County. Pictured: (L-R) Front Row: Shirley Gidley and Fernanda Cortes Back Row: Haley Church, Matthew Champion, Thomas Dolan, and Phil Koops.

Hamilton Project in WSOI American Perspectives Class Is a Success

By Plymouth High School Student Sadie Bastardo

This past fall, sophomores in Dylan Connor and Grant Masson's American Perspectives class at the Weidner School of Inquiry @ PHS got to do a fun and exciting hands-on project involving the popular play *Hamilton*. *Hamilton* opened in New York in 2015, and quickly moved to Broadway as a hip-hop musical about the life of American Founding Father Alexander Hamilton and the American Revolution. Connor, an English facilitator at WSOI, said this project simultaneously centered around the learners' development of historical understanding and creative expression. "Learners were able to create their own plays about the lives of other American revolutionaries and performed their original plays for one another in the PHS Studio Theatre, which included their original songs, scenes, poems, raps, and dances," said Connor.



Bridget Schafer and Jack Garner

WSOI learners engaged in the hands-on, Project Based Learning assignment and were extremely committed. "Learners were required to use costumes, lights, memorized lines, music, props, etc.—the whole nine yards. They embraced their resources to present the story of their revolutionary figures."

Learners also got to use and analyze the soundtrack from *Hamilton*, which is a current pop-culture phenomenon. The buy-in occurred at the beginning of this project when the students were informed they would be able to use the popular hip-hop soundtrack to learn about history and model that type of storytelling. Connor said, "Listening to something so current and exciting helped inspire their own creativity and engagement."

After the project was over, WSOI learners did a presentation about this American Perspectives assignment and what they learned in front of the full Plymouth Community School Corporation school board. Connor said, "The kids rocked it!"

The lesson was such a success, the WSOI American Perspective facilitators plan to incorporate this project again next school year.



Lincoln Expands to China

By Plymouth High School Student Lauren DeMont

Lincoln Junior High School is proud to have a sister school in China. The school is called Zhejiang University of Technology and is located in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, China. ZJUT is a suburban public school with an enrollment of around 1,700 students.

Hangxin Yu, Lincoln's former Chinese teacher, initiated a partnership between the two schools during the 2015–2016 school year with the help of some of his eighth-grade students. Although he is no longer teaching at Lincoln, he is still involved with helping the current Lincoln Chinese teacher, Xiaoqing Wang, keep the two schools connected due to the many cultural learning benefits.

Yu said, "This partnership program has increased students' cultural understandings both here and in China at ZJUT. Students are able to communicate by letters and online digitally with students around their same age from another culture. They can see the cultural diversity of this world."

Principal Reid Gault said, "This is an invaluable partnership for our students that provides an additional educational opportunity; not only are students forming friendships, they are reinforcing what they're learning from authentic classroom materials."

Wang said, "We took a field trip to Chicago this year to visit the Field Museum's Cyrus Tang Hall of China to explore the authentic culture close to home, but this partnership with our sister school in China offers an opportunity for our students to figuratively go on a trip to China through the friendships they're building. They get to learn about China from our sister school friends and see a world outside Plymouth. Students talk about their personal and school life in those letters."



March 18, 2017—LJHS Chinese teacher Xiaoqing Wang and her students visit the Field Museum's Cyrus Tang Hall of China in Chicago.



Preparing for College and Careers Class Now Offered

By Plymouth High School Senior Sophia Keller '17

Preparing for College and Careers has been a class at Plymouth High School for several years. However, starting in 2017, all eighth-grade Lincoln Junior High School students will take the class for high school credit at LJHS for the first time. The class will be one of seven courses offered for high school credit at LJHS. All LJHS students will now have the opportunity to leave Lincoln Junior High with at least three high school credits. College and Careers is an approved Career Technology Education course.

Superintendent Dan Tyree said, "Plymouth Community School Corporation decided to make this class available earlier for students to address the knowledge, skills, and behaviors that all students need to be prepared for success in college, career, and life."

Students will learn in a blended learning environment meaning the course content will be online via a computerized program that students are familiar with called Canvas. Advisory teachers will facilitate various projects throughout the class. Darlene Derifield is CTE certified and is the teacher and creator of the course.

Principal Reid Gault said, "We believe students have to be ready for high school with more knowledge about their future options and more information about possible pathways, so they can hit the ground running as freshmen." The class will be available to eighth-grade students for two semesters, and they will earn a high school credit upon completion.



Hangxin Yu



South Bend Cubs Reading Program Is a Hit for Lincoln

By Plymouth High School Student Micah Calhoun '17

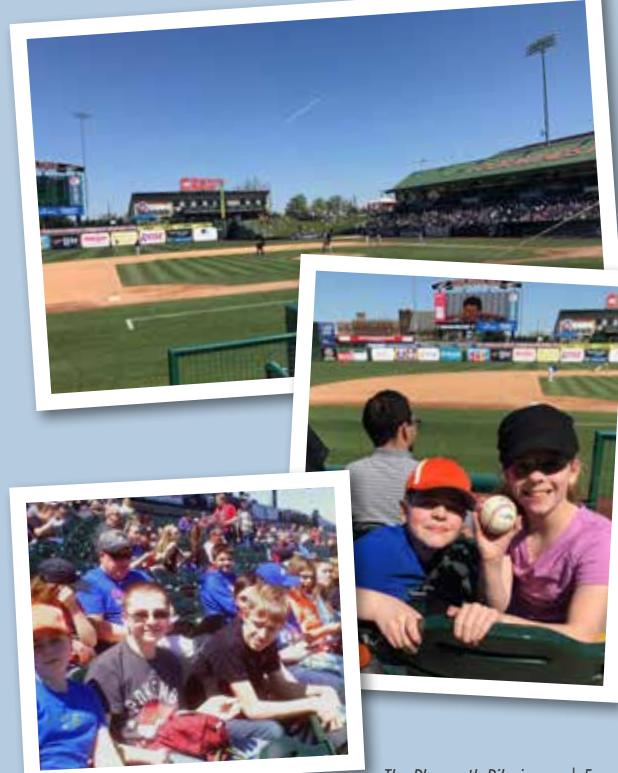
For the past three years, Lincoln Junior High School has been part of the South Bend Cubs Reading Program. Lori Day, the Lincoln Junior High School information literacy assistant, found out about the program in 2014 and informed LJHS Principal Reid Gault.

Gault said, "The program is a great way to get our kids excited about reading again." Each year, the staff at LJHS is eager to get more students involved, and that is exactly what has happened every year Lincoln has taken part in the program.

Day said, "Students read as many books as they can during the four-week-long program and are awarded points for each book they read."

At the end of the four-week reading journey, students who participate are rewarded by being able to go to a South Bend Cubs game for free. The students board a bus to Four Winds Field with their classmates and teachers to watch the South Bend Cubs play ball.

This year, more than 90 students took part in this exciting program. "This is a great program for LJHS because it goes right along with the values Lincoln practices," said Gault. Day said, "We teach our students that with reading you can do just about anything!"





Innovation Academy @ RIS Learners Raise Money for Marshall County Relay For Life

By Plymouth High School Student Garrett Schrameyer

The Marshall County Relay For Life is a community-based event that raises funds for the American Cancer Society. This year's local Relay For Life event took place on June 17, 2017, for 12 straight hours, at the River Park Square in Plymouth. The funds raised at this annual event benefit cancer patients and their families who live in the Marshall County area.

This is the fifth year Riverside Intermediate School (RIS) has raised money for the Marshall County Relay For Life. Last year, learners and staff raised \$5,000. "Our goal this year was to raise \$10,000, but meeting an exact dollar amount isn't necessarily our main focus; instead, it's showing collaborative support across our school to help raise as much money as we can to help fight cancer," said Principal Jeni Hirschy.

Close to a dozen fundraisers held throughout the school year were organized by Project Based Learning (PBL) sixth-grade learners who attend Innovation Academy @ Riverside. Sixth-Grade Facilitator Zane Cooper said, "Learners started planning fundraising events last August when the school year began. First, they brainstormed possibilities, then they met with Riverside administrators for approval to proceed. Next, they created flyers, commercials, and videos for their school announcements to help spread the news among their peers."

Some of the events the learners planned are as follows:
• Two Movie Night Events (Riverside Cafeteria and Riverside Gymnasium)

- Escape Room Fundraiser (Riverside PBL Rooms)
- Basketball Tournament (Riverside Gymnasium)
- Dress-Up Week (All School)
- Read-In Day (All School)
- Lock-In Day: Rocket Night (All School)
- A School Dance (Riverside Gymnasium)

"This year-round project gives our PBL learners an opportunity to be event planners and oversee all of their fundraising events for a great cause. We are very proud of their efforts," said Hirschy.

"This whole experience provides a service-learning opportunity for our learners that they will always remember. This year, the learners met their fundraising goal and we couldn't be more proud they accomplished this truly on their own, with our staff cheering them on the entire time," said Cooper.

This is the first year Riverside learners organized a team for their school to walk in the Marshall County Relay For Life event. RIS learners and staff enjoyed being able to participate in the relay so much, they hope a team is planned by next year's class of PBL sixth-graders who will be leading fundraising for the sixth year.



The Read-In at Riverside Intermediate School in March netted more than \$600 in donations to go toward The Marshall County Relay For Life annual fundraising collection.

The American Revolutionary War

By Plymouth High School Angela Busse '17

Premetz said, "Innovation Academy @ RIS Facilitators Terri Dennie, Jeff Hunter, and Stacy VanDerWeele also help with the play. Music teacher, James Horner works hard and collaborates with our learners to handpick the music for the play."

More than 100 learners took part in the play, from actors/actresses to stage crew, light crew, and sound crew.

"This isn't just a play for entertainment; the performance is extremely educational. The lesson ties into several Project Based Learning hands-on activities and also involves language arts as well," said Principal Jeni Hirschy.

"The learners put together the whole play. Their costumes are handmade, not store-bought. Prior to the play, learners research a Revolutionary War historical character and event. Innovation Academy @ RIS learners then give a presentation to their class and that leads to learners brainstorming skits for the play," said Premetz. The learners generally present the American Revolutionary War play around the same time frame as the actual war started during the month of March. If you are a history buff, and you would like to see the play, there is good news; Innovation Academy @ RIS is already planning for another production this upcoming school year.



(L-R) Maddie Thangum, Denise Gama, and Skye Shook



Fighting for a Kidney

By Plymouth High School Student Micah Calhoun '17

Riverside Intermediate School (RIS) student, Giovanni "Jio" Jurado, had a kidney transplant on January 10, 2017. Giovanni's Riverside first-grade classmates and teachers knew he needed a kidney transplant, but many of them did not know just how long he had to wait. Jio was on the kidney transplant waiting list for four years. Finally, in January his family got the call they had prayed about; he was next in line for his lifesaving transplant.



The RIS staff and Jio's classmates felt relieved when they found out he could get the surgery that he needed. Giovanni said, "I am so thankful for the support my friends, family, and school have given me through this time."

Since his surgery, he has had to stay at home to recuperate. However, every day for an hour after school, Chelsea Coons, a Riverside teacher, meets with him to go over his classwork material and lessons.

Coons said, "Jio's friends and our teachers have sent him videos, notes, letters, toys, pictures, and candy because we want him to know how much we care about him. The way Jio handled this whole situation is a true inspiration and I am thankful for the lessons he taught our entire school."

Riverside Principal Jeni Hirschy said, "Giovanni's classmates all had life lessons on how important good health and organs are, to be thankful for a healthy body, and how important it is to appreciate your friends."



Congratulations, Giovanni, on your new kidney!

Riverside Intermediate School Receives IDEOE Full STEM Certification

Riverside Intermediate School is among 32 schools across the Hoosier state that is officially qualified as a Full STEM Certified School by the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE). STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Riverside earned this distinct honor in April of 2017. Principal Jeni Hirschy said her Riverside staff went through a rigorous application and review process with the IDOE, which started two years ago. "The process included a site visit from a IDOE STEM Review Team. Our sixth-grade students took the members on a tour of our building and highlighted various programs which referenced STEM," said Hirschy.

Riverside received certification based on their commitment to teaching the STEM disciplines in every fifth- and sixth-grade classroom. STEM Certified Schools exemplify a highly nontraditional approach to education, employing a great deal of inquiry, Project Based Learning, community engagement, entrepreneurship, student-centered classrooms, integration into humanities and related arts, and out-of-school STEM activities.

In March, Riverside held the first ever Title I STEM Family Night. Each staff member provided a demonstration on a STEM activity. The night was so well attended that Riverside is hoping to make the event annual.



Close to 200 people attended the hour-long Riverside Intermediate School Title I STEM Family Night in March.

Riverside Doghouse Gang Builds Much More than Doghouses

By Plymouth High School Student Breanna Dillard

For the last three years, Riverside Intermediate School teachers Jeff Hunter, Tim Schmidt, and Trenton Porter have been holding an after-school woodworking program for male students in fifth-grade. After the first year, this group became known as the "Doghouse Gang." However, the original name of the program is the Woodworking Club.

The students who make up the group are picked by the Riverside staff as individuals who might be overlooked. Porter said, "Our project gives students the opportunity to interact with other students, staff, and community members to develop life skills such as leadership, cooperation, and a sense of pride in their accomplishments."



The Doghouse Gang is a safe place for young men to come talk, bond, and build together. The group earned their nickname after the first year when their end project was an enormous luxury doghouse that they sold to the highest bidder. The money raised was then donated to the Marshall County Humane Society.

For the first year, the group met in the woodshop room at Plymouth High School, but the last two years they have

been working after school in a classroom at Riverside. Porter said, "In 2015, we made a doghouse and in 2016 we created a wood bench that currently sits outside of Riverside. This year, we built GaGa pits for the gym class."

GaGa is easy to learn and fun for all, regardless of athletic skill or abilities. It is an extremely fast-paced game similar to dodgeball played inside a GaGa pit. The object of the game is to avoid being struck by the ball.

Hunter said, "We go beyond woodworking skills to try to create a small community where it is safe to talk about issues, problems, and concerns in the group."

"Ultimately, we hope that these students learn about woodworking, but more importantly our goal is to make sure they develop into fine young men," said Schmidt.



The Legacy of a Man Who Dedicated 41 Years to Education— Superintendent Dan Tyree Retires

Superintendent Dan Tyree has dedicated 38 years of his life to ensuring Plymouth Community School Corporation students have the best teachers, tools, and programs to succeed in life. At the end of this month, he will officially retire. Tyree became the superintendent in 2008; prior he was the assistant superintendent for three years. From 2000 to 2004, he was the assistant principal at Plymouth High School where from 1979 to 2000 he began his career at PCSC as a teacher.

Tyree graduated from Manchester College with a bachelor of science in English, Speech, and Drama in 1976. After earning his degree, he had aspirations of teaching English and becoming a basketball coach. However, it was at his first job, Manchester High School, where his passion shifted from coaching basketball to speech. His second teaching position was a two-year stint at Knox High School coaching speech and teaching English. Tyree came to Plymouth HS in 1979 and taught English, speech, advanced speech, acting, stage crew, and broadcasting. He earned a master of science in Secondary Education from Indiana University South Bend and he earned his EdS in Educational Leadership from Ball State University.

Tyree has taught, directed, and coached thousands of students over his career. His teaching legacy includes creating both acting and stage crew classes and starting the PHS Children's Show in 1979 where area elementary students come to PHS to see a live production put on by acting and stage crew students, a tradition that still continues today; starting the PHS Speech and Debate Team, and

coaching the team to its first IHSFA State Championship in 1997; and starting the TV broadcasting program at PHS, which came to be the first Indiana high school TV station that was HD.

As superintendent, he has had the opportunity to expand his love of education by working with K-12 teachers and students, support staff, administrators, and the community. Tyree's administrative legacy includes implementing a corporation-wide K-12 Project Based Learning program. This led to the creation of four schools within our schools; Weidner School of Inquiry @ PHS, Innovation Academy @ Riverside, Innovation Academy @ Lincoln, and Washington Discovery Academy.

In 1987, Tyree married his wife, Charlotte, who is currently an English, speech and theatre teacher, director, and speech coach at the high school. He has three grown children, Katie, Nancy, and Jonathan; and four grandchildren, Owen, Duncan, Macson, and Benjamin, who range in age from 14 to just two weeks old.

Tyree, who turned 64 in April, said during his retirement he looks forward to spending more time with his family and fishing. He will not completely retire. He plans to stay involved in education by teaching a graduate class for Purdue to train incoming superintendents.



There are no words that can fully express the magnitude of appreciation and gratitude for Tyree's time, dedication, and successes here at Plymouth schools. We can only say thank you for all you have given to our students and our community. Plymouth schools will continue to build on what you have provided; your legacy will continue to flourish and will never be forgotten.

We wish Superintendent Dan Tyree the best in his retirement!



Thank you for the your assistance, guidance, and leadership you have provided throughout the years. Under your leadership, K-12 Project Based Learning was implemented, giving our students a choice in learning styles. We are extremely grateful.

Jeni Hirsch, Principal,
Riverside Intermediate School

"The passion that Mr. Tyree displays for our learners helps us all go the extra mile to ensure our students have the best learning environments available. We will always seek ways to keep improving those resources."

Ken Olson, Dean of Students,
Plymouth High School

His passion for quality instruction and advocacy for student-centered learning has inspired many educators and brought them to PCSC. I wish Mr. Tyree a retirement filled with many enjoyable fishing trips, and pride in a job well done for PCSC.

Angela Mills, Principal,
Jefferson Elementary School

Mr. Tyree's influence on PCSC and the Plymouth community is far-reaching and deep-rooted. I will always admire how he was steadfast and resolute in his commitment to prepare students for a world that is much different than today's.

Kyle Coffman, Asst. Principal,
Plymouth High School

All four years of my high school career, I was on the Speech Team and in the Theatre Department. I watched Mr. Tyree have so much fun teaching about communication, confidence, and determination; I knew I wanted to do the same thing. I will forever cherish these incredible memories. Years later, he hired me, and now I teach theatre.

Jane Faulstich, PHS Teacher and Auditorium Director

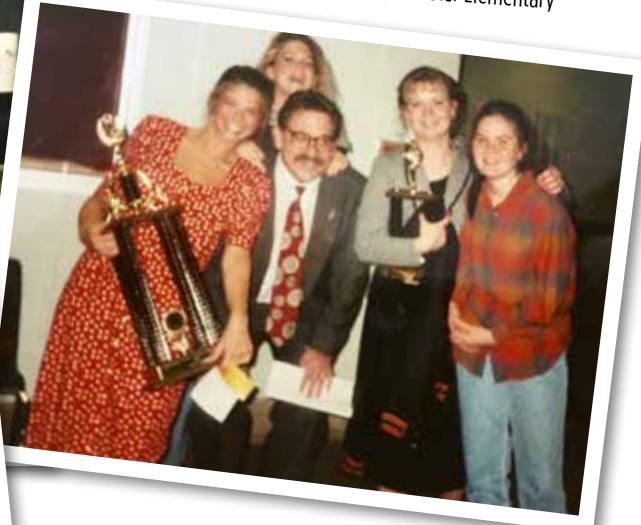


Mr. Tyree undertook many projects and turned them into realities, creating positive change within our schools for our students.

Ryan Welch, Asst. Principal,
Riverside Intermediate School

Unlike most school corporations, Superintendent Tyree allows PCSC students to gain real-world experience. Our students have designed billboards in our community. Their articles and pictures have appeared on the news, in the newspaper and right here in this publication.

Judi Lykowski, PCSC Marketing Communications



Through his years of dedicated service as a teacher and administrator, Dan has established himself as a true icon for the Plymouth Community School Corporation. Under his direction, PCSC has established itself as a leader among her peers.

James Condon, Principal,
Plymouth High School

He was one of my mentors, and he invested a lot of time in me as a coach and a teacher long before I came to Plymouth. Dan Tyree has always been driven to succeed and has an immense ability to inspire others to succeed.

Dave McKenzie, PHS Teacher
and Director of Forensics

Dan was always a strong advocate to get all our kids involved in extracurricular programs at PHS. He helped foster past, current, and future public/private partnerships. We will continue to enjoy some of the best facilities in Northern Indiana as a result.

Roy Benge, Athletic Director,
Plymouth High School

I have always admired Dan Tyree's extraordinary vision and the ability to think "outside the box." His Project Based Learning concept of connecting our community with our students has been an amazing journey for our learners and our community.

Kelsey C. Flynn, Dir. of Comm.,
Weidner School of Inquiry @ PHS

Mr. Tyree has been a true visionary with the courage to explore different types of learning and articulate the need for educational change in our community, allowing PCSC to be an award-winning and exemplary model for others to replicate.

Jennifer Felke, Co-Director,
Weidner School of Inquiry @ PHS





Jefferson's Kids Hope Program Continues to Grow

By Plymouth High School Student Kris Rehfus

Now in its second year, the Kids Hope USA program at Jefferson Elementary School has 20 mentors. Sara Spasic, a retired Jefferson teacher, said, "I hope that the program continues to grow. I would like to have twice as many mentors, so we could use more volunteers," said Spasic.

Spasic brought the Kids Hope USA program to Jefferson because she said, "Nowadays not all students have a loving two-parent home, and some students are in and out of foster care. I want to be there for them and make them feel like they are loved because every child deserves to have that environment when they are growing up."

Kids Hope USA is a national program that develops one-on-one relationships through the creation of a church-school partnership that pairs local church members with at-risk kids in supportive, mentoring relationships. Mentors meet once a week during lunch and recess times.



Kids Hope USA Mentor Sara Spasic plays a game with 10-year-old Braxton Sanders while spending time together at Jefferson Elementary.

Angie Mills, the principal at Jefferson, said she is thankful that Spasic is still involved with the program even though she retired from Jefferson last year. "Mrs. Spasic is one of our volunteer mentors. She is truly passionate about helping Jefferson students." The Kids Hope USA program allows Jefferson mentors to spend one hour a week, reading, talking, playing, and listening to Jefferson students.

Spasic said the time mentors put in really helps the child feel loved and valued. "Volunteer mentors truly help students learn, grow, and succeed. The program's goal is to build a loving relationship with the student, help them feel loved, and have a role model in their life that they can look up to."



Audrey Gheorghiu-Adams stands next to her fourth-grade science fair display.

Carter Filson stands next to his fourth-grade science fair display.

Jefferson Elementary School Science Fair

By Plymouth High School Student Lauren DeMont

Jefferson Elementary School holds a science fair for its students every May. The science fair is open to Jefferson family, friends, and students. Third- and fourth-grade students work in small groups to perform multiple experiments to determine if their project's hypothesis is correct. Students track data, create a visual presentation, and present their scientific findings to parents and students the night of the science fair.

Second-grade students create animal habitats and explain their research. Students are stationed with their experiments or biomes throughout the cafeteria, library, and gym as visitors make stops exploring all the students' exhibit stations. The audience can participate at the science fair in a hands-on way by taking part in a scavenger hunt as they make their way around each science fair display.

"The science fair is a great way for individuals or groups to demonstrate their skills in a nongraded and nonthreatening environment. Students really seem to enjoy when they get to pick their own project," said Jefferson's principal, Angie Mills. Every year the science fair gets bigger and better. "The projects become more dynamic with video demonstrations, and data recording/visuals," said Mills.

One thing that remains the same is how much students look forward to showcasing the skills they have learned throughout the year. The science fair has become a proud tradition at Jefferson because it has been going on for decades.

Jefferson Elementary School Staff Trained in the Orton-Gillingham Approach

OG stands for **Orton-Gillingham**. It provides a structured, phonics-based, multisensory approach to help teach students to read.

Brooke Busse, Plymouth Community School Corporation's curriculum director, organized and implemented training for Jefferson Elementary School staff with the help of Kathy Hunt and Allie Brubaker, certified trainers through the Dyslexia Institute.

The training is extremely important because it teaches

educators how to teach reading development skills, which provides a strong foundation for critically essential reading instruction. This method of instruction is very beneficial for every student to learn in a way that is visual, verbal, and kinesthetic (through movement) because the brain stores and is able to retrieve this information to improve reading beyond simple recall.

The training was provided for teachers and instructional assistants. Staff were trained and tested over eight weeks

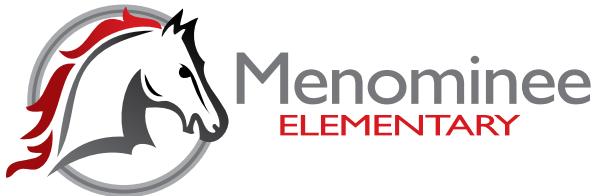
on their ability to use the strategies and apply the knowledge learned. Three staff members were trained prior to the 2016-17 school year, but this past school year eight more teachers and administrators from Jefferson were trained. There are OG trained staff from kindergarten through fourth grade at Jefferson.

If you are interested in learning more about the OG method, visit the Academy of Orton-Gillingham website at www.ortonacademy.org.



Academic & Behavior Values at Menominee

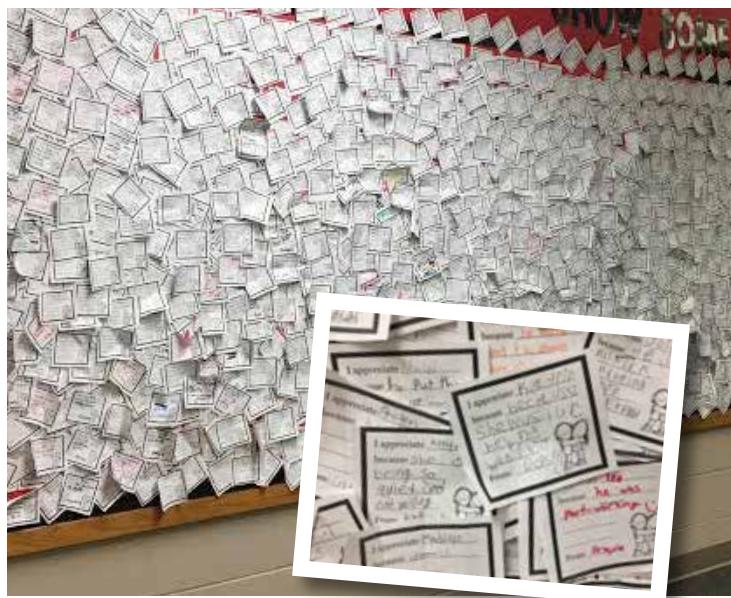
Menominee Elementary School implemented a new school motto and associated academic values during the 2014–15 school year: “Be better today than you were yesterday,” and optimism, effort, and perseverance. The purpose of the motto and values is to foster students’ growth mindsets, beliefs that hard work and resilience lead to continuous improvement. This year, the Menominee staff and Principal Steven Boyer developed the behavioral values of safety, respect, responsibility, and learning time. This is to proactively teach their students necessary behaviors conducive to high levels of learning.



The idea for this program started when Menominee created a PBIS Plan (Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports) that included the values and other procedures and expectations. Boyer communicated these procedures to the students and families during the first week of school. As to the success of the program, Boyer said, “Teachers and staff have been continually educating students and ensuring they meet our schoolwide expectations.”

The importance of values helps provide our staff and parents a meaningful foundation of general academic and behavioral skills that, when instilled within our students, will serve them well as successful, happy adults.

The success of a school is a team effort. The values were created in collaboration with the entire Menominee staff, and parents have had the opportunity to provide feedback.



Menominee Appreciation Board

By Plymouth High School Student Lauren DeMont

Menominee Elementary School recently created an Appreciation Bulletin Board for students and staff to share appreciation for the many acts of kindness they do for one another on a daily basis. The Appreciation Bulletin Board displays Appreciation Tickets that staff and students give to one another for any act that is appreciated. Principal Steven Boyer said, “The idea was inspired by the passing of Bob Pickell, who was kind and helpful to everyone.” Pickell was a music teacher at Menominee and worked for Plymouth Community School Corporation for decades. He retired in 2016 just one month prior to his accidental death.

The Appreciation Bulletin Board is located outside of the gymnasium. The notes continue to pile on top of one another. Although the board has gotten cluttered, it serves as a reminder of all the kind things staff and students do for one another and the appreciation they have for those kind acts. Boyer said, once a note is received, students and/or staff members place the notes in the Menominee appreciation basket in the office. “During Thursday’s morning announcements, we have a Thankful Thursday segment, in which a random sampling of the notes are read aloud our PA system. We started the Appreciation Bulletin Board to ensure everyone knows that kind acts do not go unnoticed,” said Boyer.

Menominee Checkmate

By Plymouth High School Student Angela Busse ‘17

Is your child interested in chess or competing against others by strategizing? If so, Menominee Elementary School has created Chess Club for students in grades two through four. The Chess Club meets every Friday after school starting in October and ending in February.



(L-R) Miles Barger (4), Reid Barger (2), Leo Sickmiller (4), Chris Firebaugh (4), and Lance Edison (2)

Soon-to-be third-grader, Reid Barger, who has a love for the game of chess, founded the club. Menominee teacher, Ryan Anderson, saw the club to fruition at the beginning of the 2016–17 school year. Anderson said, “As a newly founded club Menominee students compete against each other instead of other schools.” Anderson has hopes of competing against other nearby elementary schools in years to come.

Principal Steven Boyer said, “In the game of chess, you use strategy; it fosters concentration and critical thinking. Learning to play helps students become efficient problem solvers.” Anderson said, “Students who have joined our chess club have gained patience and strategy skills.” More than 20 Menominee Mustangs signed up to be part of the club last year. If your child is interested in being part of the club, look for sign ups for the 2017–18 year, and then watch your children’s minds expand.



*Reid Barger,
Chess Club’s Founder*



Front Cover Story:

Washington Third-Graders Host 5K to Benefit U.S. Military

Third-grade learners at Washington Discovery Academy planned and executed the, "Not All Superheroes Wear Capes" 5K in Centennial Park in Plymouth this past May. Students raised \$1,400 in proceeds to benefit real life superheroes. The money was used to create care packages for deployed service men and women.

WDA third-grade facilitator Alyssa Mentz said, "The learners started planning for the event three months prior to the race. In all, four third-grade classrooms were involved, which totaled close to 100 learners."

"Our learners wrote persuasive essays to get community members, friends, and family to join the race. They were able to plan out the run and participate in the creation of a map," said third-grade facilitator Lorien Goodwin.



Courtney Young, Lindsey Risner, and Lorien Goodwin with their third-grade classes at the WDA "Dare to Dream in Color"

Each learner took pride in creating a T-shirt design for the race. Student Mia Hartley's T-shirt design was selected by her peers as the winning artwork printed on this year's 5K T-shirts. Mia and her winning design can be seen on the front cover of this publication.

This wasn't the first 5K WDA held to raise money for a good cause. Two-years ago, \$1,400 was raised to purchase equipment for the all-inclusive Freedom Park playground in Plymouth. The project named, "Dare to Dream in Color" received national recognition by the New Tech Network as the 2017 Best-in-Network project within the entire K-12 network of schools across the country.

As a reward, the New Tech Network has invited our "Dare to Dream in Color" facilitators and two learners to attend and speak about their project at this year's New Tech Network summer conference in St. Louis.



A Demonstration Site
in the New Tech Network

Washington Discovery Academy - First U.S. Elementary School to Earn Demonstration Site Status Two Years in a Row

Based on intentional work around best practices in Project Based Learning, Washington Discovery Academy has been named a Demonstration Site by New Tech Network for the second consecutive year. New Tech Network is a national organization that supports schools using PBL to make learning relevant and engaging.

PBL is a way of learning in which knowledge and skills are gained by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to an authentic, engaging and complex question, problem, or challenge. Students learn the expected content to solve real-world problems and work with community partners and outside experts. Washington Discovery Academy students also learn to work together in teams, thinking critically, and present their learning to the community, which prepares them for life and their future career.

Washington Discovery Academy is the only elementary school Demonstration Site School throughout the entire New Tech Network to achieve this honor. As a Demonstration Site, New Tech Network sends teachers and administrators from across the country to visit WDA and learn from their staff and students. This year, educators from South Carolina, Ohio, California, Michigan, and New York visited WDA to observe PBL in action and learn from WDA staff and students.

Amy Gerard, director of Project Based Learning at Plymouth Community School Corporation said, "Earning this distinctive New Tech Network status and welcoming education professionals into our school for visits, truly creates a sense of pride in our school. It validates the hard work and time our students and staff give everyday to make WDA a great place to learn."

New WDA Voice Club Gives Students a Voice

The Voice Club was started in November of 2016 and is open for learners in second through fourth-grade. The club is sponsored by facilitator Kristin Harter. The group meets on the first Monday of every month. Last school year, 10 learners took part. One representative from each class was chosen by their peers to be in the club. Harter said, "I saw that there was a need for student involvement, and for learners to have a say in the direction of the school." WDA believes learners have a voice and a contribution to make. The Voice Club is a beginning form of student council, which gives their class a powerful voice for the student body that makes up a portion of the overall school.



WDA Learners Get Up Early for Popular Science Club

WDA's Science Club meets on Tuesday mornings for 35 minutes before school starts. Any fourth-grade learner can sign up to be part of Science Club. The club was started last year, and already 20 learners have signed up, making it pretty popular. Club co-sponsor Kim Riddle said, "The goal of the science club is to expose students to a variety of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) related activities and have a lot of fun while doing it. Bryan Kratzer is assisting me with the Science Club." Kratzer and Riddle are both fourth-grade facilitators at WDA. On March 14, also known as Pi Day around the world, the WDA Science Club got a lesson on Pi from a guest speaker, Purdue University junior Aaron Houin, who's studying Mechanical Engineering. When they were done with the lesson they got to eat pie on Pi Day!



WDA is Proud of Newly Formed Robotics Club

The Robotics Club started in October of 2017. The club is sponsored by facilitators Lorien Goodwin, Amanda Dreibelbis, and Katie Straub. The Robotics Club is affiliated with the VEX Robotics organization. The club is open to fourth-grade learners only and the season begins in October and wraps up before spring break in April. Students meet after school on Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:15 p.m. WDA received a grant sponsored by the Guggenheim Life and Annuity, a global investment and advisory firm, to start the Robotics Club.

WDA was able to purchase two VEX robots. Fifteen students took part and the goal for the 2017-18 school year is to have three teams and a total of 18 learners. The club attended one competition at Bremen Elementary/Middle School where they placed third overall. The WDA Robotics Club missed going to state by one place! WDA is excited to see how this club grows in the upcoming years.



Webster's After-School Tutoring

By Plymouth High School Student Sophia Keller '17

During a building discussion meeting several Webster Elementary School teachers brought up the idea of after-school tutoring. Webster Principal Carrie McGuire said, "The program was introduced because many parents work long hours and children aren't able



(L-R) Kody Theilmann, Brycen Anderson, Hayden Smith, Cora McGee, Caleb Shortt, Olivia Cooper, Chloe Cory, and Carlos Nieves-Mejia

to get help with homework in a one-on-one environment." The after-school tutoring program has become quite popular and has helped hundreds of students since fruition in 2012.

Webster's hour-long after-school program starts at 3:15 p.m. Students are greeted with a drink and a snack. Tutoring is done with a group of 10 to 15 students per night with two or three staff members who volunteer to stay after school. This year, tutoring for third-grade students is offered every Tuesday after school, and on Thursday tutoring is offered for fourth-grade students.

The majority of tutors are staff members at Webster; however, Plymouth High School students have been known to volunteer as well. Autumn Wilson, a PHS junior, is a member of the National Honor Society. For her required five



Hayden Smith and Autumn Wilson

hours of volunteer hours, she chose to tutor students at Webster's after-school tutoring program. Autumn said the program is so rewarding she decided to volunteer as a tutor at Webster for the whole school year.

Special Tribute in Honor of Bob Pickell

By Plymouth High School Student Sadie Bastardo

Bob Pickell was a music teacher who taught for 38 years throughout the Plymouth Community School Corporation. From 2005 to June of 2016, Pickell taught music at Webster Elementary School. A few weeks after his retirement last year, Pickell passed away from an accident at his home. For decades, students mentioned how much fun



they would have in Mr. Pickell's music class. Students looked forward to attending his classes due to his enthusiasm and energy about music.

Pickell had a love for many volunteer projects, including coordinating recycling with the Knights of Columbus. For many years, Pickell spearheaded a recycling initiative at the elementary schools in Plymouth, which turned recycled materials, such as bottle caps and plastic container lids, into pieces of outdoor furniture, such as benches and tables.

Over the past several school years, the staff and students at Webster have collected over 2,000 pounds of recyclable plastics. After Pickell's retirement, the Webster staff and students continued with the project in his honor. The staff and students collected so many recyclables that they purchased two benches and a table. Each item required over 500 pounds of recycled plastics.



(L-R) Randy Pickell (Bob's brother), Chris Pickell (Bob's wife), Sally Pickell (Bob's sister-in-law), and his sister Leslie Pickell

In May when the new playground furniture arrived, Webster Elementary School held a special tribute memorial for students, staff, and Pickell's family.

"We decided to call the benches we had made "Buddy Benches" in Pickell's honor because he was a great friend to anyone he ever met and would do anything to help others and raise their spirits. His enthusiasm and humor were infectious," said Principal Carrie McGuire. The benches will be placed on the playground for all students to use when they are in need this upcoming school year. When children are feeling lonely, or just want a friend to play with or someone to talk to, they will be able to go over and sit on the benches. Other children will be encouraged to approach the child(ren) seated on the bench and ask them to play with them or just have a conversation with them," said McGuire.

Pickell's wife, Chris, along with his sister and brother attended the special tribute. McGuire said the Buddy Benches are not only special for their Webster family, but for all who knew Mr. Pickell.



Webster students make cards for the Pickell family's visit.



In His Own Words — 2014 PHS Graduate Logan Richards

Plymouth High School was instrumental in helping me achieve a large part of my current success, and I am very thankful. I completed my undergraduate bachelor of science degree from Purdue University in three years thanks to the outstanding course offerings available at Plymouth High School. I took advantage of most of the available dual credit classes, and these classes totaled up to 32 transfer credits. Essentially, I earned enough college credit throughout high school to start my college career as a sophomore rather than a freshman, effectively shaving off an entire year.

This has obvious financial benefits and saved me approximately \$20,000. Also, it allowed me to continue my journey in life one year faster than others who did not have this opportunity. Rest assured, I was not required to take an intense course load to achieve my goal. Rather, I had the luxury of skipping introductory and mandated courses, because I already took them. I cannot emphasize the financial relief taking dual credit courses at PHS has provided me.

I have PHS to thank for introducing me to two people who have been exceptional supporters of my success: Guidance Counselor Stacy Scheetz and PHS teacher Suzie Clevenger. Both were aware of the hardships I was facing during high school and they always strived to assist my success in any way they could. We have such a deep personal connection, to the point where I wanted them both to see me walk across the stage to receive my college degree. This level of kindness was not available at the high school I attended in Tennessee, nor at the one I attended in Florida. The staff at PHS provided support that my immediate family could not and networking opportunities that I haven't seen nor heard about anywhere else, making them and Marshall County truly exceptional. They also put me in touch with organizations such as the Purdue Alumni Club and the Marshall County Community Foundation. Those organizations played a major role in me graduating

from college in three years. I also want to thank both of these organizations for making monetary contributions, which has helped allowed me to graduate entirely debt free.

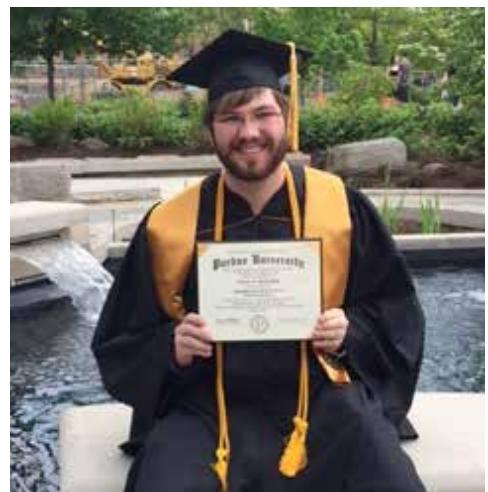
Now that I have earned my BA degree in Biochemistry, I set my sights to the next chapter—graduate school in pursuit of a PhD. I will be moving to Nashville to attend Vanderbilt University, one of the top institutes for medical research. I will be a part of an umbrella program, allowing me to sample and choose a field I truly love. I plan on working in disease-related research, most likely Cancer Biology. After I hopefully obtain my PhD, I plan on continuing my work in cancer research, because I see it as our generation's biggest problem.

Thank you Plymouth High School for the opportunities you have given me.

— Logan Richards



PHS Guidance Counselor Stacy Scheetz, Logan Richards, and Suzie Clevenger



2014 PHS graduate Logan Richards holds his bachelor of science degree from Purdue University on May 12.

Andy Hartley Named New PCSC Superintendent

The Plymouth Community School Corporation's school board unanimously approved promoting current Assistant Superintendent Andy Hartley to the position of superintendent during the June school board meeting. He will assume the position on July 1, 2017, the day after current PCSC Supt. Dan Tyree officially retires.

Hartley became the assistant superintendent in March 2015. Prior, he was the principal at Washington Discovery Academy, a position he held since 2012. He first began his career at Plymouth Schools in 2008 as the assistant principal at Plymouth High School. Prior to coming to Plymouth, he worked for six years for Crawfordsville Schools.

In 2010, the Indiana Association of Schools Principals named Hartley Assistant Principal of the Year in District 2.



Newly named PCSC Supt. Andy Hartley with PCSC outgoing Supt. Dan Tyree

Hartley holds a bachelor of science in Elementary Education from Manchester University with Junior High/Middle School Social Studies and Math endorsements. He additionally holds a master of science from Butler University. He obtained a Superintendent's License after earning his Educational Specialist degree in School Administration in 2012.





1997 PHS Graduate Adam Krupp

Adam J. Krupp, a 1997 PHS graduate, was appointed commissioner of Indiana's Department of Revenue by Governor Eric Holcomb in January 2017. Prior Krupp served as general counsel for Indiana's Bureau of Motor Vehicles. He was also the clerk for the Honorable Paul D. Mathias of Indiana's Court of Appeals. He began his career in the private sector in New York. He is licensed to practice law in Indiana, Georgia, New York, and Texas.

Krupp received his undergraduate degree in Secondary Education from Purdue University. He taught high school before attending Indiana University's Robert H. McKinney School of Law.

Krupp volunteers with Special Olympics Indiana and is a member of the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club of Zionsville, the city where he and his family currently live.



Commissioner Adam J. Krupp

Rockpile Scores New Turf in Time for Football Season

By PHS Athletics Intern Nicholas Nordmann

Renovations at the Rockpile continue this summer with the resurfacing of the football field. The Motz Group out of Cincinnati, Ohio has been contracted to tear up the old field and replace it with a synthetic, Cross Flex turf. Other renovations include football goal posts, a new scoreboard, and drainage areas. Final renderings place the scoreboard outside of the north spectating fence leaving only the high-jump pit inside of the track. Turf will completely fill the infield consisting of red end zones, white field markings, and alternating lime and field greens. New runways and concrete pit foundations will be constructed for two long-jump and one pole vault competition areas on the south side of the visitors bleachers. With the exception of the south end high-jump pit, all field events will now be located outside of the spectator fence. In



Lieutenant Thomas A. Flynn, U.S. Navy

2006 PHS Graduate Thomas Flynn

Thomas A. Flynn, a 2006 Plymouth High School graduate, received a BS degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. He was selected to attend Naval Flight School in Pensacola, Florida, after USNA graduation.

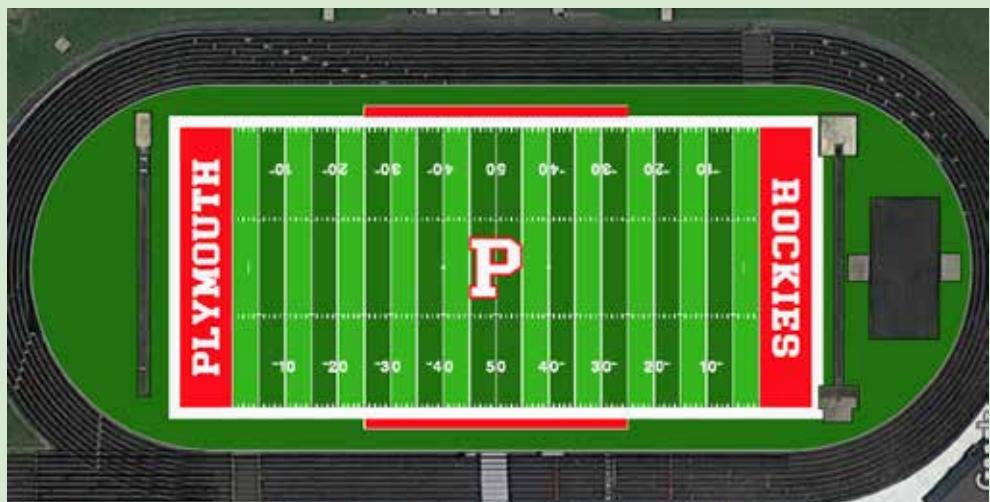
Received his "Wings of Gold" and was selected as a F/A-18 E single seat Super Hornet Strike Fighter Pilot in 2012. In 2015, he received the "Pukin' Dogs" LCDR "Basher" Blaschum Award "Esprit de Corps" Award.

November 2015 through July 2016, Lt. Flynn was deployed

to Iraq and Syria with VFA 143 "Pukin' Dogs" Squadron on the USS *Harry Truman* aircraft carrier.

In July of 2016, he received an Air Medal from the president of the United States and U.S. Navy Rear Admiral. The medal was created in 1942 and is awarded for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight.

In December of 2016, Lt. Flynn graduated from TOPGUN, United States Navy Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor program in Fallon, Nevada, where he is currently a TOPGUN Instructor.



Colors shown are only for The Motz Group rendering reference

combination with the 2016 renovations of the ADA-compliant bleachers, spacious press box, entry gates, concessions area, and restroom facilities, the 2017 renovations will create a facility among the best in our area. The Motz Group plans to finish construction on July 20 with the resurfacing of the high school parking lot in time for the fall season.

Superintendent Dan Tyree said the Plymouth Community School Corporation is currently in negotiation with a local business that is interested in securing the 10-year naming rights sponsorship contract. The PCSC administration is hoping to announce the name of the field in the near future.



(L-R) Larry Holloway, Larry Pinkerton, Robin Cupka, Melissa Christiansen, and Todd Samuelson



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School Board:

Todd Samuelson, President

Larry Holloway, Vice President

Melissa Christiansen, Secretary

Larry Pinkerton, Member

Robin Cupka, Member

Mission Statement

Plymouth schools commit to doing whatever it takes to maximize the academic and social achievement of every individual as measured by state and community standards.

Core Values

Commitment to Students

- We see that decisions are based on what is best for students.
- We do whatever it takes.
- We utilize strategies that work.

Caring

- We respect and nurture one another.
- We value individual diversity.
- We demonstrate compassion, empathy, and tolerance.

High Expectations

- We have a challenging curriculum.
- We differentiate instruction.
- We communicate expectations.
- We prepare students to compete globally.

Team Player

- We make time to collaborate.
- We work cooperatively for the good of the whole.
- We help others in times of need.
- We embrace diverse thoughts and ideas.
- We build positive relationships.

Integrity

- We follow through.
- We are accountable / dependable.
- We are honest with one another.
- We behave honorably.

Enjoyment

- We celebrate success.
- We actively engage students in the classroom.
- We provide positive feedback.
- We promote a sense of belonging.

July 2017

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April 2018

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May 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30