

Wrapping up First Semester

PBL High School

November-December 2017

Second Quarter Begins

Second quarter is always a strange time of the year as it definitely moves more quickly than any other time. For one, there are only 38 days in second quarter, so it is literally our shortest quarter of the year by about a week and a half. Two, this portion of the year is full of breaks every few weeks (Fall break, Thanksgiving break, and Winter break), which help to keep the students and staff energized. However, it causes due dates for major assignments and semester exams to creep up very quickly. As we move through this time of the year, I encourage all parents and students to monitor due dates, grades, attendance, etc. through Skyward in order to help avoid any of these potential pit falls.

Speaking of grades, what an awesome first quarter! Sixty-eight students earned their way onto the Straight A Honor Roll, 125 onto High Honor Roll (3.5-3.999 GPA during the quarter), and 96 onto Honor Roll (3.0-3.499 GPS during the quarter). That is 289 students, almost 61% of our student body, who earned some sort of honor roll recognition during the first quarter of the 2017-2018 school year. All of these students need to be congratulated, and, hopefully, this is a trend that we see continue throughout the school year.

Travis Duley

Principal
Paxton-Buckley-Loda High School

BRIM Anti-Bullying Software

PBL High School continues to recognize that bullying is an issue in all schools, and we are not an exception to this. Due to this fact, we continually look for ways to better address this issue in order to provide a safe and comfortable learning

environment for all students. One additional tool we are using this year is the BRIM anti-bullying software, which allows anybody to report bullying directly to Mr. Duley and Mr. Graham through this

user friendly online platform. If there is a bullying incident you would like to report please go to the high school [BRIM](#) link and complete the form.

Upcoming Events:

- November 10th
 - District Veterans Day Ceremony
- November 10th
 - Winter Sports Kick-Off
- November 22nd-24th
 - Thanksgiving Break – No School
- December 19th-20th
 - Semester Exams
- December 21st-January 2nd
 - Winter Break No School

Special Points: Attendance at School Matters

- Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year. Half the students who miss 2-4 days in September go on to miss nearly a month of school.
- Research shows that missing 18 days of school, excused or unexcused, negatively affects a student's academic performance. That's just two days per month.

First Quarter Perfect Attendance

135 students had perfect attendance during first quarter. We are proud of all of these students as they are persevering and showing up every day, which is an important skill for all of us to learn in order to be valuable and reliable employees in the future. Each of these students will receive a certificate from Monical's Pizza for a free individual pizza in order to recognize this accomplishment. These students are:

Emma Afoa	Evelyn Ellis	Makenna Klann	Alex Rueck
Lyndi Allen	Hailey Ellis	Keaton Krumwiede	Kayla San Diego
Seth Allen	Bailey Eyer	Keegan Lantz	Nikolas Schnabel
Kayley Anderson	Calvin Foster	Maria Lemengaer	Emma Schuler
Marissa Arnett	Katy Geurts	Brock Marron	Hannah Schwarz
Dylan Atkins	Brayden Geyer	Kassidy Marshall	Parker Shoemaker
Carson Atkinson	Aubrey Goodson	Ashlee Martin	Carmen Shurr
Garrett Bachtold	Kalie Goudy	Ben McClure	Clayton Skinner
Cainan Bagwell	Tate Graham	Alexis McCubins	Dustin Smith
Jordan Blackburn	Alexis Gray	Rick McPherson	Charman Snow
Marcus Bowen	Patrick Griffin	Ashlin Morris	Mitch St. Peter
Leah Brown	Madison Grohler	Trevor Morse	Hunter Stranz
Tera Brown	Kody Harrison	Amanda Muhl	Andrew Swanson
Tkairah Brown	Jarrett Hazelwood	Jonathan Muller	Megan Swanson
Tkaylah Brown	Benjamin Hernandez	Angel Nava Camarena	Jordan Thilmoney
Maya Brust	Kris Hewerdine	Kendrick Newlin	Abigail Thompson
Sydney Brust	Tim Hewerdine	Dru Mormile	Jasiah Tims
Ben Busby	Clint Hopper	CJ Nuckols	Kaleb Ulrich
Aaron Caspers	Cori Hopper	Gavin Ogburn	Trey VanWinkle
Joey Chickini	Jalen Hutchcraft	Ryan Perkinson	Samuel Wade
Gunner Coe	Aiyanna Ingram	Curtis Phillips	Brooke Walder
Tanner Coe	Liberty Jamison	Alexander Plott	Paige Warner
Colton Cofel	Kirsten Jensen	Dane Polson	Morgan Warren
Brianna Combs	Kayley Johnson	Dylan Polson	Jacob Watts
Gavin Coplea	Carlee Johnson	Alex Potter	Anna Wesslund
Dylan Crank	Samuel Johnson	Dylan Raub	Christina White
Alberto Cruz	Valeree Johnson	Nick Reck	Collin Wieneke
Savanna Davis	Abigale Jones	Jacob Rich	Landon Wilson
Joel Deatrick	Austin Jones	Patricia Richardson	Lindsey Windler
Jordan Delaney	Mikayla Jones	Brittany Rock	Anna Wolken
Drew Diesburg	TJ Jones	Karla Rodriguez	Lily Wood
Dylan Durham	Hayley Keeling	Austin Rose	Nathan Woodmansee
Mallorie Ecker	Kalista Klann	Branden Ruder	Kyle Yeary
Mason Ecker	Makayla Klann	Miranda Rudin	

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure" – Colin Powell

Working Towards Better Academic Performance

Improving academic performance is a team effort between the school and the families we serve. As a school, our staff has continued to attend a variety of workshops and work with various content experts in order to grow as educators and learn new methods to teach the same content in more engaging ways. A great example of this occurred during our fall in-service when staff from throughout the district had the opportunity to work with Dr. Grant Miller whose research focuses on historical thinking and developing curricula that help students think like historians and social scientists.

During our October 30th in-service, high school teachers also had the opportunity to dig into

SAT data in order to identify areas of strength and areas of needed growth based on the results of the PBL students who took this test in the spring. Our staff then developed action plans for how these areas of needed growth can and will be addressed within our classes.

As I mentioned though, improving academic performance is a team effort. Just as the parent of an elementary student reads with his/her child several nights per week in order to help his/her child improve reading skills, high school parents can help improve their child's academic performance also. Obviously we are not going to ask you to read with your child, but we do ask that you are aware of

the many resources available for free which allow students to prepare for the SAT. I say this with the concern that parents will think this is only about preparing for a test, which it is not. If used properly the resources provided by The College Board and Kahn Academy will help students improve specific academic skills which will help them in the classroom, in life, and on the SAT.

These free resources are available on the [Khan Academy SAT Practice](#) site, where students can create an account that will also be linked to their PSAT scores, thus making this practice even more individualized. Students or parents wanting more information should visit this website and/or contact our guidance department.

Attendance Matters

Did you know, as of November 1st, if your child has missed 5 days of school, they are on pace to be considered chronically truant?

As we attempt to teach students, and also attempt to have them prepared for the next phase of

their life, teaching them the importance of showing up every day is critically important. Research shows the academic impact of missing 10% of the school year is the same whether the absences are excused or unexcused. Additionally, and not

surprisingly, when students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating.

Illinois School Report Card

The [Illinois Interactive School Report Card](#) was released on Friday, November 3rd. As always this is data the district will use in order to help us drive our instruction and make improvements that will benefit our students as they prepare for college and/or a career. A portion of this report card is the reporting of SAT scores, which below you can see a comparison of PBL High School versus other schools in the Sangamon Valley Conference and other schools in east central Illinois.

Sangamon Valley Conference SAT Mean Scores and Meets & Exceeds Percentages

School	ELA % Meets & Exceeds	ELA Mean Score
Dwight	46.4	521.7
Clifton Central	46.3	516.1
Cissna Park	45.5	525.9
State Average	39.8	511.5
Watscka	38.8	494.2
PBL	30.3	493.4
Iroquois West	29.9	495.3
Momence	21.9	465.9

School	Math % Meets & Exceeds	Math Mean Score
Cissna Park	50.0	526.8
Dwight	48.5	543.8
Clifton Central	40.2	511.8
PBL	38.5	510.2
State Average	36.4	504.4
Iroquois West	28.6	495.1
Watscka	26.6	482.5
Momence	16.4	442.9

East Central Illinois SAT Mean Scores and Meets & Exceeds Percentages

School	ELA % Meets & Exceeds	ELA Mean Score
Monticello	64.7	554.3
Mahomet-Seymour	63.2	564.5
SJO	56.1	541.6
GCMS	47.8	518.7
Tolono Unity	45.2	520.4
Champaign Central	41.5	516.7
State Average	39.8	511.5
Champaign Centennial	38.2	507.2
Fisher	37.7	502.5
Bismarck-Henning	37.0	507.5
Urbana	32.6	486.5
PBL	30.3	493.4
Armstrong	25.8	501.5
Oakwood	25.4	486.8
Hoopeston	24.7	468.0
Rantoul	20.0	453.9

School	Math % Meets & Exceeds	Math Mean Score
Mahomet-Seymour	65.4	581.4
SJO	64.5	556.2
Monticello	54.3	541.6
Tolono Unity	42.4	523.4
GCMS	41.8	517.2
Champaign Centennial	40.4	514.7
Champaign Central	39.0	514.4
PBL	38.5	510.2
State Average	36.4	504.4
Fisher	34.0	485.7
Oakwood	33.3	497.0
Bismarck-Henning	30.4	492.9
Urbana	24.8	471.0
Armstrong	22.6	489.4
Hoopeston	21.6	464.8
Rantoul	13.5	453.6

Semester Exam Information

Semester exams will be on Tuesday, December 19th and Wednesday, December 20th. Some important items of note for semester exams are:

- Semester exams count for 20% of the overall grade.
- **As always, we have a closed campus, so all students should be in attendance all day during semester exams, unless he/she is a junior or senior who has earned an exemption.**
- Juniors and seniors, who are exempt from all exams, are also exempt from school on Monday, December 18th as this is designated as a review day.
- Juniors and seniors, who are exempt from all exams, should not be on school grounds during the school day.
- Juniors and seniors who are exempt from some, but not all exams, must be here by the start of the class period they must take an exam in and stay through the end last period that they have an exam in.
- The schedule for each day is as follows:

Tuesday, December 19th

8:00 – 9:27	2nd Period Exam (87 Minutes)
9:32 – 10:59	4th Period Exam (87 Minutes)
11:02 – 11:32	5A Lunch/Guided Study (30 Minutes)
11:35 – 12:05	5B Lunch/Guided Study (30 Minutes)
12:08 – 1:35	6th Period Exam (87 minutes)
1:40 – 3:07	8th Period Exam (87 Minutes)

Wednesday, December 20th

8:00 – 9:27	1st Period Exam (87 Minutes)
9:32 – 10:59	3rd Period Exam (87 Minutes)
11:02 – 11:32	5A Lunch/Guided Study (30 Minutes)
11:35 – 12:05	5B Lunch/Guided Study (30 Minutes)
12:08 – 1:35	7th Period Exam (90 minutes)
1:40 – 2:25	Exam Make-Up (45 Minutes)

Lunch periods will be just like a regular school day. Students who eat during 5A on a regular day will eat during 5A on exam days, and students who eat during 5B on a regular day will eat during 5B on exam days. Also, just like a regular school day, students will report to Guided Study during the period they are not eating.

The last period on Wednesday is to allow time for students who need to finish or make-up any exams. Students who need to do this will be expected to report to the classroom of the teacher they need to finish or make-up the exam with. If a student has all of their exams completed, and they have transportation available, then they may leave at 1:35. Buses will not be at the school to pick up students until 2:25, so all students who have their exams completed, but do not have any transportation, will report to the high school gym.



Principal: Travis Duley
Assistant Principal: Jeff Graham
Paxton-Buckley-Loda High School
700 W. Orleans
Paxton, IL 60957

tduley@pblpanthers.org
jgraham@pblpanthers.org

(217)379-4331

pblunit10.com

**“Excellence through Rigor,
Relevance, and Relationships.”**



Our Mission & Vision

It is the mission of Paxton-Buckley-Loda Community Unit School District No.10 to prepare each student to be a successful citizen as demonstrated through strong character, responsible actions, and a passion for life-long learning. PBL students will be empowered with the skills that allow them to read with comprehension, communicate clearly, utilize technology, think critically, work effectively with others, and use information to solve problems. PBL is committed to a systematic approach of support and intervention to assist each individual in reaching his or her full potential. We are dedicated to providing a safe environment while fostering a climate of high expectations for our students, staff, and the communities we serve.

Rigor: PBL is dedicated to providing a rigorous curriculum, coherent across grade levels, where students learn, think, comprehend, and communicate analytically.

Due to a rigorous curriculum:

- I can achieve anything by giving maximum effort, using my academic skills to think critically to solve problems and to communicate with others.

Relevance: Relevance is reinforced at PBL by making curricular connections between learning objectives and real life experiences. Students will prepare for adult roles by learning and applying fundamental skills and competencies.

My educational experiences are relevant to me because:

- I can be a self-motivated, life-long learner.
- I can be accountable to myself and others.
- I can plan for the future by adapting easily to change and managing new technologies and information.

Relationships: Positive relationships are the foundation for all learning experiences at PBL. Students, staff, parents, and community members will collaborate to create and foster a safe environment where respect for others and tolerance of individual differences are modeled and expected at all times.

To build positive relationships:

- I can be tolerant and accepting of individual differences.
- I can demonstrate responsibility through good decision making.
- I can display good citizenship by representing myself, my school, my community, and my country with pride.
- I can achieve my goals through self-motivation and by encouraging and working with others.