

The Panther Press

Seminar, But Better!

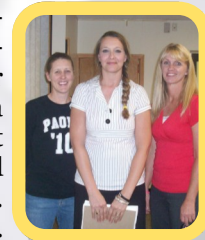
By: Alexis Kuehl and Mackenzie Loar

Struggling with homework? Try Panther Power Hour! Panther Power Hour (PPH) is an opportunity to get homework done, to get the students organized, and to study.

It is available if the students need help from the teachers. Panther Power Hour is held in room 100 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. PPH has two time periods. One is from 3:05-3:25 P.M., but if the student is not done with his or her work by that time, he

or she can stay until 3:45 P.M. This will be evaluated at the end of first quarter.

Panther Power Hour was created to offer a positive time to complete homework and become a successful student. Snacks and teacher support are provided. Four to five teachers come on a regular basis to help PMS students with their homework. Three teachers applied for a grant to fund the Panther Power Hour. Last spring they received word they had received the money from the Netti Hook Foundation. A big thank you goes to Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Hudgeons, and Mrs. Armbruster for their hard work in getting this program off and running this year. The Paola Middle School staff hopes this program will help bring the numbers down of the students who need to attend Friday Night School.



View From The Sidelines

By: Delaney Clemetson and McKayla Mercer

Football is starting up again and its time for you to get your Panther spirit on! The staff interviewed different football players to see what their points of view were about this rough sport. Eighth grade running back, Tristan Lunsford, said that he was very happy about being able to play football this year and that he had played for awhile. Another football player, seventh grade running and cornerback, Nick Modes, said that

he also enjoyed playing this sport and that he really liked the coaches. The football games were usually once a week on Tuesdays. The coaches were: Mr. Collier, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Meek, and Mr. Hull. The staff also interviewed one of the coaches, Mr. Collier, who stated that he coached this sport because he had played it through his school years and loved it! He also expressed that he liked getting to know the kids better than just in the classroom setting. Good luck, Panthers! We hope you have a great season!



Go Panthers!!!

By: Delaney Clemetson and McKayla Mercer

A new season for sports has begun and the Panthers have a new season for the Cheerleaders as well. What a good way to start off a new season with a new sponsor! The staff interviewed the new sponsor, Mrs. Weatherbie, and gained some very valuable information.

Mrs. Weatherbie said, "I really enjoy working with the girls! It lets me get more involved with the students, and they always energize me." She signed up for this activity because she thought it would be a lot of fun and very entertaining. Mrs. Weatherbie exclaimed that she loves it when she sees the girls running up to her and saying, "Hey, Coach!"

The staff has learned from Mrs. Weatherbie that she would appreciate it if the student body would get more involved with what the cheerleaders are doing. The games are once a week, usually on Tuesday. The cheerleaders practice daily in the commons area.

Panthers—let's support their efforts!

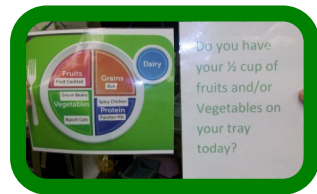
Do We Want Healthy Habits?

By: Josh Tegarden and Jessie White

Changes are happening in Paola Middle School... and lunch is one of them. There have been major changes in the food students are served at school and also where the students sit in the lunchroom. More circular tables have replaced the rectangular tables, so there are less people seated per table. Along with the new seating arrangements, students also have new food changes. The students now have to pay for their condiments. Not only are there changes with the condiments but there are also changes with the seasonings; salt and pepper are no longer an option. Since last school year, there is also a change on the salad bar. Instead of having the salad bar, the food service provides little, pre-packaged salads. Most of the food changes were made due to our health. There is a smaller portion size and they have more fat free items for your selection.



Most of the reasons for these changes are that through every grade there are health restrictions. Each grade has a calorie intake and certain nutrients they need. So they composed a new lunch plan where they have cut down on the extra seasonings and extra sugar so that we can be healthy and make the right healthy decisions with our food. The Newspaper staff entered this interview thinking that we were just getting cheated, but in a recent conference call we found that they don't want our money, they want us to be healthy. So we Paola Panthers thank you for your concerns.



Rewards

By: Alexis Kuehl and Mackenzie Loar

Do you get your homework turned in on time? Are you never late with homework and have good grades? Well, you will be able to go on the rewards trip.

For 6th grade, the students will have one responsibility party at the end of each nine weeks. The first two are in school; the last two are outside. The reporters talked to Mrs. Husted about the 6th grade responsibility party require-

ments. She said, "The students cannot have more than five late papers, five unexcused absences, or any F's in their classes." The 6th grade teachers do this to help the student body learn responsibility. The students went to Wallace Park for their 1st quarter activity.

The reporters interviewed Mrs. Armbruster about the 7th/8th reward activities. She said that the 7th and 8th grade qualifiers will have an activity at the end of each quarter and a huge end of the year event. The 7th grade will be going to a Royals' game and the 8th grade will be going to Worlds of Fun. To qualify each quarter, the 7th and 8th graders cannot have more than five late papers, no ISS or OSS, no more than two behavior referrals, and at least a C average in all of their classes.

The reporters talked to some of our PMS students to get their feelings about these events. Sixth grader Delaney Armbruster said that she liked the idea and the fun activities being offered; Corbin Grant, a new student to Paola Middle School, felt this was a way to meet new people. Seventh grader Gabe Cunningham said that he wanted to earn the Royal's game to have fun and watch the Royals dominate; Ashley Stites wanted to catch a home run ball. The reporters interviewed 8th grader Ethan Palsmeier who liked the idea of going to Worlds of Fun and was looking forward to doing anything fun; Alex Rodgers liked the idea of going to Worlds of Fun because she has always wanted to go to this theme park.

On the Ball!

By: Mckayla Mercer

Bump, set, pass....the volleyball players are back! It's a new season of volleyball and with a new season comes new players. The staff interviewed some of the new volleyball players. Skyler Williams

said that her favorite part of volleyball was the spiking. Anna Ohlemeier said she decided to play volleyball this year because it was fun and she could spend time with her friends. The volleyball practices were a in the Paola Middle School gym for two hours right after school.

Ten seventh grade girls were selected for the varsity volleyball team and nine eighth graders were on the 8th grade varsity





team. Eleven 8th graders were on the JV team and ten 7th graders were on the 7th JV team. The teams performed well this season. The staff interviewed Jessie White and she said that the eighth graders worked well together because "we are all a family and we just work really well together." Go Lady Panthers!

New Friends, New School, New Experiences

By: Tiffany Wolverton & Asisa Patillo

Experiences.....

The *Panther Press* staff asked the new students of Paola Middle School how they liked their new school and their teachers, and how they liked dressing out for PE, having more than one teacher, and switching classes. Here are their responses.

Asyyn Fuller: "My first day was ok. I like this school because you don't have to stay in one classroom. I think my teachers are ok. I like dressing out in P.E. Switching classes is not hard for me because I know where everything is."

Destiny Ritch: "My first day was awesome and a little bit confusing. What I like about this school is that you don't have to stay in one classroom. I think my teachers are awesome. I don't like having to dress out in P.E., but I do like having more than one teacher because it's more organized. It's not really that hard for me to switch classes because they are close to each other."

Cameron Strausbaugh: "My first day was good. This school is different. I think my teachers are funny. I don't like having to switch classes because time goes by quicker. It is not hard for me to switch classes, because I can run fast."

Carson Elise: "My first day was scary because all the big kids scare me. I like this school because you get more freedom. I hate P.E. because it is gross. I like having more than one teacher because it is better. It is not hard for me to switch classes because all of them are not very far from each other."

Luke Villers: "My first day was good because I met new people. I like this school because you get more freedom. I like having more than one teacher because it's different than being in Sunflower. No I don't like having to dress out in P.E. because it's gross. Switching classes isn't hard for me because you get a lot of time between classes."

Kaitlyn Write: "I felt that I always had to be moving. I

like Paola Middle School because of all the new freedoms. This school is different from my old school because there we had to go to church and we had a buddy system. My teachers are ok. Mrs. James and Ms. Burnett are my favorites though. Dressing out in P.E. really doesn't bother me. Switching classes wasn't hard for me because I think we get enough time to transfer."

Joshua Saberwall: "My first day was scary because I was the new kid. I love my teachers and coaches. The difference between this school and my old school is that we had a lot less kids. I like not staying in one classroom because if you dislike them, then you don't have to be with them the whole day. It isn't hard for me to switch class."

Kurt Golbubski: "My first day was fine because the work was easy. I like this school because the colors are black and gold. I like my teachers but some of them are strange. I think we need more time to dress out in P.E. I like having more than one teacher because you don't get bored. It is not hard switching classes, because I have a good memory."

Allie Hamm: "My first day was scary because I didn't know anybody. I like this school because there are less hours. My teachers are cool. I like this school a lot more than my other school because the teachers here are stricter and the work is easier."

Elizabeth Brown: "My first day was pretty good because the teachers are nice. I think this school is a fun environment. I think my teachers are pretty good because they really understand. It's not hard for me to switch classes because there is enough time to get from class to class."

Dakota Gile: "My first day of school was good and exciting. Paola Middle School isn't as hard as I thought it would be. The teachers are great and they teach me a lot. I love having more than one teacher. This school isn't hard at all."

Josh Johnson: "My first day of school was good. The thing I like about Paola Middle School is that the people and the teachers are nice. My teachers are cool. This school is different than my old school because we had a cafeteria and the gym lockers were harder to unlock."

Paola Middle School welcomes these new students to our school. Let's have a great year, Panthers!

Renaissance

By: Josh Tegarden

This year the limited AR Program was replaced with the new Renaissance Reading Program which has the tests for over 140,000 books. While the new program is much better for taking tests, the system is still new and takes some getting used to. The Renaissance Reading Program is more multipurpose, involving more intricate tests, such as vocabulary tests, literacy skills tests, and of course the reading test. The reading test is the equivalency of the old AR Program, and this is where you get your points.

Even though it should be referred to as AR or Renaissance, most students and teachers refer to it simply as the AR program or just AR. As the saying goes: old habits die hard.