

# PERSPECTIVE

■ SPRING 2019

CREATING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

RECORD BREAKING 2,007 ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

#PSDNEXTWAVE



OPENING THE DOOR TO

**PEWAUKEE**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

EACH CHILD'S FUTURE



ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE.



# TOGETHER

WE CAN DO SO MUCH.

- Helen Keller



**MIKE CADY, PhD**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Earlier this spring we had 85 staff, students, parents, and community members come together on two evenings to engage in our annual strategic planning feedback sessions. **Since 1993 the Pewaukee School District has sought community input to help set our future direction as we strive to improve.**

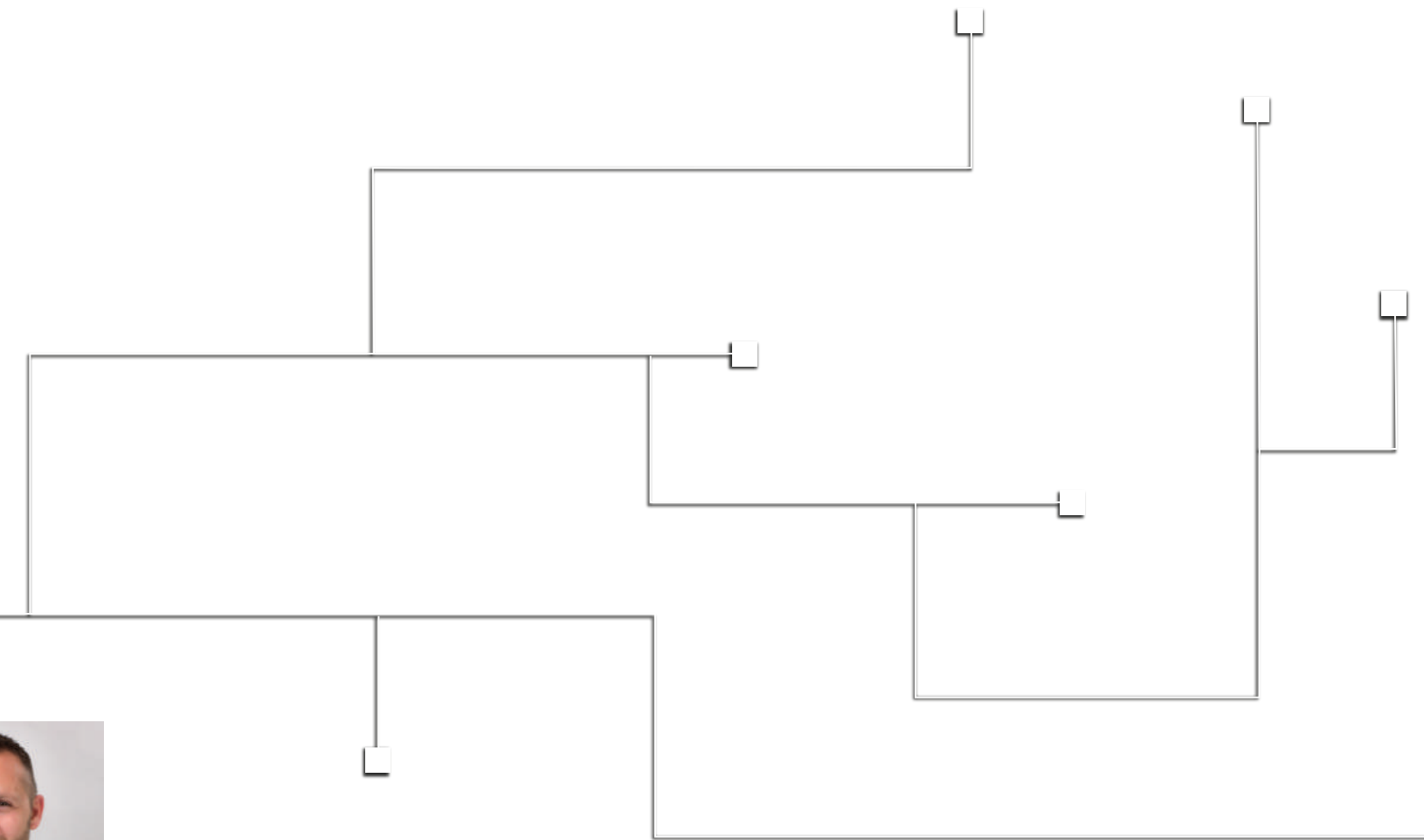
On the first evening of Strategic Planning we completed a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis in relation to current perceptions of the district and views on how our schools might respond to future anticipated trends and changes in our world. During the second evening we focused on our new PSD Graduate Profile which is a product of our current strategic plan goal focused on ensuring all students are future ready. The feedback from the varied perspective of so many stakeholders gives the district a more comprehensive set of viewpoints to inform our priorities. The administrative team will synthesize all of this information and incorporate it into our next strategic plan that will be presented to the Board of Education for approval in the fall.

In addition to the tremendous support we regularly receive with strategic planning, our community consistently steps up in so many other ways to provide benefits for our students. This includes the incredible level of volunteerism we experience with a record 2,007 registered volunteers supporting our students and staff this year. Volunteerism extends to our highly successful PTO that enhances learning and programs with grants

supporting our 4K-8 classrooms and our Booster Club which provides generous support for our high school athletics and activities programs. Our students also benefit from other parent and volunteer run organizations such as the Friends of the Fine Arts (FOFA) and the Pewaukee Scholarship Fund.

In addition to parent and volunteer groups, employers and community organizations in our area mentor high school students and provide authentic learning opportunities that bring learning alive. A recent example involved classroom visits by World War Two era veterans who provided a personal and human connection to such an important time in our nation's history. This experience, along with the opportunity for several of our students to complete video oral history interviews of veterans that will be submitted to the Library of Congress, were made possible through our partnership with the Bell Tower Memorial. Likewise, partnerships with businesses allow teams of students to complete real world projects and our relationship with WCTC has been a critical component in the expansion of our Health Care Occupations program which has led to dozens of students earning their CNA certifications. Together, we make learning more powerful and open more doors for our students.

**So I want to take this opportunity and say thank you to the countless individuals and organizations in our community who generously give of your time, talents, and resources to support our district mission.**





# PEWAUKEE LAKE ELEMENTARY



## COMMUNITY HELPERS

The kindergarten classes of Mrs. Beck, Mrs. Wymer, and Mrs. Vullings took part in a community helpers based learning experience early February. The Pewaukee Police Department, the Riteway Bus Terminal, and Silly Willyz Toy-Store graciously offered their time and opened their doors to help students expand their knowledge and expertise on a chosen profession.

At the Police Station, students received a tour of interrogation rooms from our very own School Resource Officer, **Julie Buddenhagen**. They were also shown the officers' squad cars, receiving their own look at what it would feel like to sit in the back seat. **Jessica Shields**, one of Pewaukee's bus drivers, simulated a safety check of the bus's mechanics to make sure everyone is safe to and from school. Lastly, the owner of Silly Willyz Toy-Store in downtown Pewaukee, **Jackie Schoenholtz**, explained the inner workings of running a toy store and how she decides what she wants to sell in her shop.

After a fun-filled day of hands on learning, the kindergarten students used the information they gathered to create a play based center to teach other students about a specific community helper they witnessed on the field-trip.



## PTO HOOPS NIGHT VICTORY

The PTO Hoops Night on March 15th was a total success thanks to all the amazing volunteers who made it possible. The community enjoyed games, food, face-painting, halftime performances, and of course, basketball! Congratulations to the PLE team for winning this year's trophy after an exciting shot by Erin Heiman to force an overtime win against Horizon! **Check out the buzzer beating shot for yourself by scanning the QR code.** Also a big thank you to the Bucks Rim Rockers for their amazing and jaw dropping show for our community!



## CODING AT PLE

Coding is the new wave of the future, but teaching it to our students, while also regulating their screen time, can be a tricky balance. Christa Miller leads a group at PLE called the "Tech Squad." The group meets once a week to discuss and learn new tech skills that can be implemented in classrooms at the younger level, all while focusing on limited screen time. Last year, the "Tech Squad" taught all of kindergarten and 1st grade how to use Ozobots - an award winning miniature robot that bridges digital and physical gaming while teaching the basics of coding. This year, Christa's own 2nd graders continue to practice using the Ozobots during their realistic fiction writing unit. After the students write their stories, they draw paths on poster paper and code their Ozobots to follow the line to help illustrate their story. Not only do these skills introduce coding in a fun and interactive way, the students then get to teach other classes about what they have learned.

Amy Eide and Erin Heiman use a similar robot called a "Bee-bot," pictured to the right. Again, their 2nd grade class codes the device to help present stories, characters, and plot-lines for their book clubs. **"We always come up with engaging ways for students to present and share their learning at the end of units," explains Amy.** "Our focus this year has been on incorporating more technology in meaningful ways for our students... the Bee-bots worked perfectly as they do not increase screen time and teach students some simple coding principles at the same time."



## CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

"GREAT JOB  
PIRATES! THANK  
YOU FOR SHOWING  
**EMPATHY** AND  
**CARE** FOR YOUR  
**COMMUNITY!**"

Miss Eide's and Mrs. Heiman's combined 2nd grade class worked together to create care packages for the homeless in early March. Several families from their classroom organized and donated the materials while the students took the time to assemble the care packages. They included hand warmers and prepackaged foods such as beef jerky, tuna, fruit cups, and granola bars. Each of the 48 students wrote positive and uplifting notes that accompanied the 50 packages donated to the Hebron House in Waukesha. Dr. Cady was quick to thank the class for their awareness, generosity, and contribution: **"Great job Pirates! Thank you for showing empathy and care for your community!"**



- Dr. Mike Cady





## WELCOMING CHEF JEFF!

A group of Horizon 4th grade students worked with our district's new Chef Jeff Fliss to prepare some impressive pizzas earlier this year. From picking their own toppings to preparing the dough from scratch, the group learned all about how Chef Jeff loves to use the freshest ingredients while preparing his dishes. Jeff received his culinary degree from WCTC and continued to work for fine dining restaurants, country clubs, and the Oak Creek School District before joining us here at Pewaukee!



## LEADING THE "GREEN TEAM"

Horizon was the first school in the district to prioritize composting and recycling after lunch periods. The other three schools were soon to follow suit. With these efforts, our schools are contributing 70 percent less waste into our landfills. Who helps to make sure this happens on a day to day basis? Who ensures that students throw their trash in the correct bin, that liquids are poured separately into a container so their cans and bottles can be recycled properly? **Meet the Green Team...** a group of 5th graders who volunteer their time by staying after lunch to assist Custodian Mary Grunwald in sorting recyclables, washing down tables, and taking out the trash.

John K. (pictured to the right) also helps out during 6th grade lunch, skipping his own recess to make sure Custodian Mary has the help she needs. **"He is extremely special," she explains. "He is here every day for both lunches to try to make my job easier."**



"I JUST THOUGHT I COULD BE MORE PRODUCTIVE AND DO SOMETHING **GENEROUS** WITH MY TIME."

John explained. "I just like helping out." This isn't the first time John has volunteered his time. Previously, at PLE, he skipped his recess to help younger students with reading. He is hoping that he can continue to be "productive" and eventually be a student custodian when he gets to the high school. When asked what he would like to be when he grows up, John explained that he would like to continue serving others. **"My dad is a firefighter and I believe that would also be a great job for me."**



# HORIZON ELEMENTARY

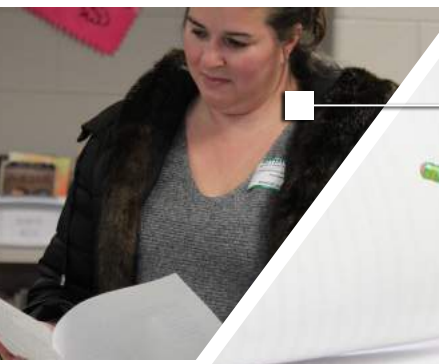
## TECHNOLOGY IN GYM CLASS?

Adam Ebbole, one of Horizon's gym teachers, was excited to share that his 6th grade students were using technology during their basketball unit. The group of students used an app that helped to self assess students' lay up technique as they approached the hoop. The display relays a delayed recording of the student so they can watch themselves directly after their turn in the drill. **Check out the video by scanning the QR code to see the tool in action.** What a cool way to implement technology in gym class!



## WRITER'S WORKSHOP

Lauren Bartel's 6th grade class presented their literary analysis essays to a very supportive group late January.... their parents! Students' essays were to focus on a strong thesis, text evidence, and insightful character analysis. Feedback was then given to the students from their parents and classmates during a "Gallery Walk." **The Pewaukee School District is lucky to have such supportive and involved parents within our community.**





## PROMOTING KINDNESS AT ACMS

Promoting kindness through fun and thoughtful activities was the focus for Asa Clark Middle School students during a special week in March. The first day encouraged students to write thank you notes to teachers and staff that they appreciate and admire. Later in the week, 7th and 8th graders created a chain of compliments and kind words that decorated the cafeteria for all to enjoy. The students also participated in dress up days, Pirate Pride, and even some eccentric hairdos were part of the fun as they checked off challenges on the "Kindness Week Challenge List."

**This is not the first of the middle school's efforts to promote a culture of kindness and acceptance this year.** To help capture snapshots of kindness, students continue to fill out "Insta-Kind" posts that share and congratulate a kind gesture they've witnessed at school. Modeling positivity is part of every day at Asa Clark!



# ASA CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL



"A.J. IS WELL DESERVING OF THIS HONOR. HE IS A DEDICATED EDUCATOR WHO IS CONTINUALLY LOOKING TO IMPROVE HIS PRACTICE IN ORDER TO HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON STUDENT LEARNING."

- Anthony Pizzo

## HERB KOHL AWARD RECIPIENT

On March 5th, Asa Clark Middle School math teacher, A.J. Giese, became a recipient of the 2019 Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Award. Recipients of this award are chosen for their superior ability to inspire a love of learning, their ability to motivate others, and for their leadership and service within and outside the community. A.J. began teaching at Pewaukee in 2005, shortly after graduating from Edgewood College. **"I quickly recognized how lucky I was to be a part of such a great school, district, and community,"** said Giese. Anthony Pizzo, Principal at ACMS feels "A.J. is well deserving of this honor" though Giese is quick to humbly state he couldn't have done it alone. "I am honored to be recognized for this award, but it is really a reflection on the whole school community that has supported me. **I look forward to continuing my teaching career in Pewaukee and can't wait to see the great things to come!"**

## BRINGING HOME THE GOLD

On Saturday, March 2, 2019, the annual Wisconsin Chinese Language Speech Contest was held at UW-Milwaukee. Students learning Chinese from all over Wisconsin came together to celebrate what they have learned. Students who competed in the contest had to write their own speech, memorize it, and deliver it in front of an audience. **This year, 7th grader Kellen K. competed in the middle school beginner category and won the gold medal.** Congratulations!



## LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

In February, six Student Council Leadership Team members traveled to UW-Madison to attend the WASC Ignite Student Leadership Summit. UW wrestling coach, Chris Bono, talked about the importance of social discipline for emerging leaders. **"Social discipline applies to many parts of our lives, from serving on a school club to being captain of a sports team and focuses on making the right choices to be the best person we can be in that role."** Leadership Team members then participated in different breakout sessions while networking with other local Student Councils and clubs.

## MARY POPPIN'S JR.

The Asa Clark Middle School drama classes brought "Mary Poppins Jr." to life at multiple showings in late January. Their colorful costumes, impressive singing skills, and outstanding acting made the shows a hit! **Congratulations ACMS drama students on a fantastic performance!**





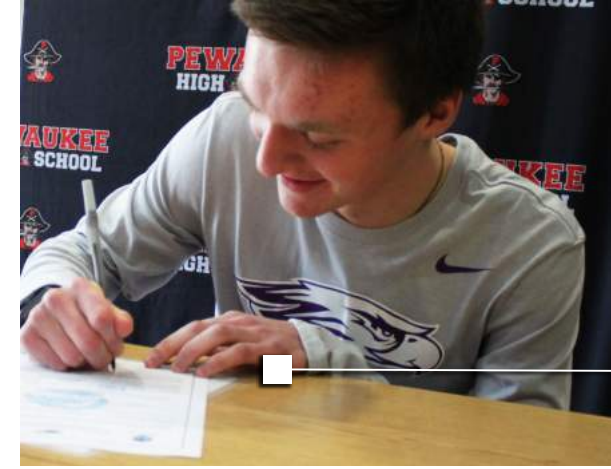
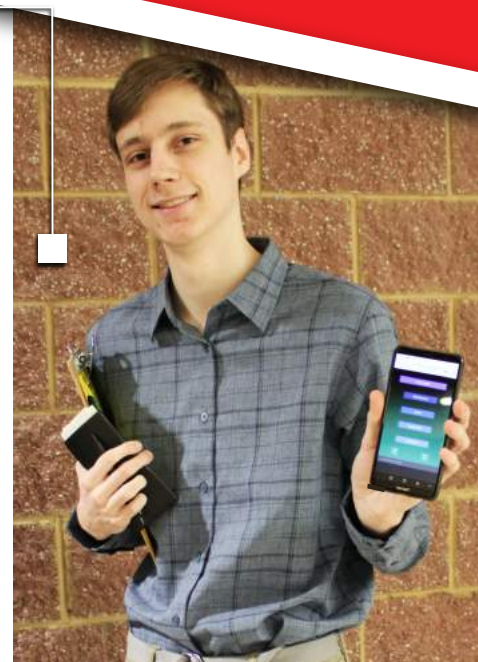
# PEWAUKEE HIGH SCHOOL

## ERIC'S APP

The annual "Reality Store" was held this February for Pewaukee High School seniors. Students tried their hand at managing their annual income, balancing their checkbooks, and practicing their interviewing skills. Throughout the simulated day of "adulting," the seniors tracked their payments by using a banking app **developed and coded by one of their very own classmates, Eric C!**

As a sophomore, Eric was approached by Mrs. Frankwick, the orchestrator of the "Reality Store" event. She asked Eric to assist her in making the simulation more realistic. "As technology evolves, very few people in the real world are physically writing checks and instead logging and making payments through an online banking app," Eric explains. "Mrs. Frankwick expressed to me that she wanted something similar for the students to use throughout the day." **With the skills learned from his involvement in robotics, coupled with a computer science course offered at the high school,** Eric took on the challenge and began prototyping the banking app. He also received help from his father, a software engineer for GE. "He works with code all day and I was really lucky to have that avenue of help in case I needed it." On February 25th, students roamed the PHS gym budgeting their mortgage, rent, car payments and more, simply with the use of their own cell phone. **The day was a complete success, enhanced by the implementation of Eric's banking app.**

Eric will be attending UW-LaCrosse next fall to pursue a degree in Computer Science. He also plans to continue his work on the banking app and eventually hopes to promote it on the app store one day.



## SIGNING DAY

Congratulations to four superb Pirate student athletes who signed national letters of intent to play collegiate sports:

**Josh K.** signed to play football at UW-Oshkosh (top left), **Justin K.** signed to run cross-country for UW-Whitewater (top right), **Megan G.** signed to play soccer at Viterbo University (bottom left), and **Cameron K.** signed to play golf at St. Norbert College (bottom right).

## CUT OUT CANCER

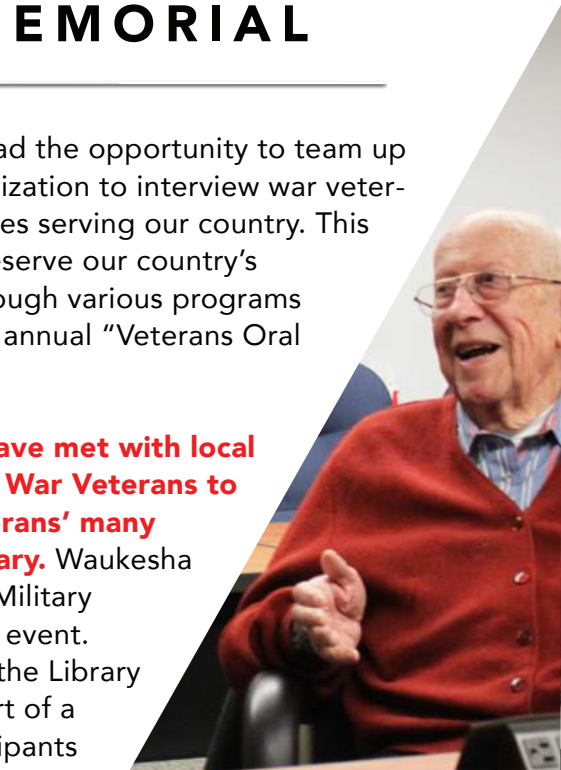
This year's Winter Ball Pep Rally took on a meaningful and supportive twist as students and staff donated their hair for a great cause! Volunteers from local hair salons attended the assembly at PHS to help "cut out cancer." A group of eighteen brave individuals donated their hair in front of the entire school, cutting a total of 693.35 inches. **That's almost 60 feet of hair!** Not only did it make for an entertaining pep rally, but a wonderful way for our students to give back to the community. Great job, Pirates!



## BELL TOWER MEMORIAL

A group of Mrs. Straub's students had the opportunity to team up with The Bell Tower Memorial organization to interview war veterans about their incredible experiences serving our country. This non-profit organization works to preserve our country's history and to promote learning through various programs and events, including this year's 4th annual "Veterans Oral History Project."

**Pewaukee High School students have met with local WW II, Korean, Vietnam, and Civil War Veterans to create a lasting record of the Veterans' many stories from their time in the military.** Waukesha South and St. John's Northwestern Military Academy are also taking part in this event. The interviews will be submitted to the Library of Congress upon completion as part of a National Oral History Project. Participants will be celebrated at the Ceremony and Luncheon to be held on May 19th.





## PROSTART EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR



The Pewaukee School District would like to congratulate Ryan Demers for receiving the **2019 ProStart Educator of the Year Award** presented by The Wisconsin Restaurant Association Education Foundation. Ryan is a Family and Consumer Science Teacher at the high school and continues to be recognized for his outstanding commitment through his roles as a food service educator, industry expert, and community leader.

"Mr. Demers exudes passion for his ProStart students and provides an in-depth culinary experience for everyone taking the course," shared Principal Brian Sniff. **"We are incredibly proud of the recognition for his hard work and dedication to PHS students!"** Watch the video of Mr. Demers receiving this honor by scanning the QR code.



## PEWAUKEE HIGH SCHOOL

CONTINUED

## DISTRICT OFFICE NEWS

### RECORD BREAKING ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

The Pewaukee School District is pleased and humbled to celebrate a record high of **2,007 active volunteers this year!** This incredible number is a result of the constant support of our community. From students to parents, grandparents to alumni, so many choose to stay or become involved with the district. That gift of time even extends from professionals and business owners within our generous community.

**Christine Baar** is the district's "ultimate" Volunteer Coordinator. For six years, she has been working with hundreds of interested volunteers, matching them to positions best suited to their passions within the district. "My husband calls me EHarmony for volunteers," she jokes.

**Christine explains the creation of the volunteer program, how it has grown, and what this record breaking number means to this community.**

### "SUPER DEREK"



Cathy Walz's Graphic Arts II class has been hand printing and selling T-shirts in an effort to raise funds for a local Pewaukee boy fighting cancer. Derek Hilgemann, who was just under eighteen months old, unfortunately passed away February 11th from spinal cord cancer, but the group of students now focuses their attention on honoring Derek's memory and raising awareness for this deadly disease. **"By the time we took on this project I already knew my Graphics II group was something special, but seeing their genuine care and concern for a child and family they had never met still caught me by surprise,"** shared Cathy. Derek's memory continues to inspire the class as they witness first hand the generosity of the community through the project. Because of this, Cathy plans to create similar opportunities for her classes to do more community based work in the future.

### "GRACIOUS PROFESSIONALISM"

Team #1259, also known as the PHS Robotics Paradigm Shift Team, had a very successful weekend at the St. Louis Regional competition in late March. They made it to the finals placing 2nd overall but are most proud of winning the "Gracious Professionalism" award which recognizes their commitment to helping other teams. "One of the ways that we do this is by always keeping ourselves open to assist anyone, or any team, that needs it," the team shares in their newsletter. **"We realize that because of our success we have the opportunity to help others and we make it our goal to do exactly that."**



#### 1 How did the Volunteer Program at Pewaukee initially start?

This program was developed after a Strategic Planning meeting I attended. Teachers wanted more support to help reading and math proficiency in addition to our Intervention Coaches for extra practice. Unfortunately, they didn't have the time to cultivate the parents and community to volunteer. And so, an academic-based volunteer program was created.

While PTO acts as more of a fundraising tool for the district, our program focuses on integrating community members to help directly in our schools. Our Intervention Coaches train our Expert Listeners and Math Mentors so they use the techniques and manipulatives that the students are familiar with. It was exciting to develop the program to accommodate teacher and admin requests. We've grown from math and reading to now recruiting for library helpers and lunch duty, field trip chaperones, classroom helpers and special events. For example, Asa Clark wanted speakers on

restaurant/hospitality careers for their Intro to Culinary Arts class, so we found local restaurants who came to speak and share their stories and techniques. We help with Insight mentors for the high school students, and even ran the collection of 1100 cookies to decorate as part of PLE's Winterfest event. The variety of requests and the appreciation from teachers makes this job a pleasure.

#### 2 What do you think this record breaking number says about both Pewaukee School District and the members of our community?

Not only parents volunteer, but also grandparents, students, senior citizens and other community members. They understand it takes a village to raise a child. Volunteering is at the core of a human being. No one has made it through life without someone else's help.

Many communities do not have parents who are as involved because of jobs or interest. When we have a

special event, I can fill our volunteer shifts quickly - sometimes within a day. Our parents are engaged with their child's education. They see first hand the passion of our staff, the organization of our programs, and the positive direction from our administration.

#### 3 What does this record breaking number mean personally to you?

I am so excited to see our numbers growing. It shows that our community members and parents are interested in their child's education. With all the directions we are pulled in as parents and employees, it's good to know people can still find time to give an hour or two to a good cause. **Their time is a gift, really. And no act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.**

**Interested in volunteering for the Pewaukee School District? Visit our website to complete a volunteer application and get involved today!**



# HONOR THE PAST. WELCOME THE FUTURE.

#PSDNEXTWAVE



1850

1900

1950

2000

2019

**1840**  
**ASA CLARK'S HOUSE PARLOR**

After settling in Pewaukee in 1836, Deacon Asa Clark built a spacious white frame house on the corner of Main and Prospect. He and his wife Naomi opened their home to a neighborhood school in their parlor in 1840.

**1844 - 1858**  
**THE "COLD STORAGE PLANT"**

According to the memoirs of 1917 Pewaukee Board Member Alexander Caldwell, a 20'x30' oak school was built in 1844 by Asa Clark on the current site of the Pewaukee Public Library to hold the increasing number of students.

This structure was later replaced by a stone school in 1858. Students referred to it as the "cold storage plant" known for having an inch of frost on the window panes from November to March.

**1884**  
**CREAM CITY BRICK**

As the community continued to grow, a new two-story structure of cream city brick with an ornate patio was built on the same property. It taught students from all twelve grades, including the two 1st graders shown above. In 1898 a library and science room were added.

**1914-1917**  
**THE ORIGINAL PHS**

After a representative from the Department of Public Instruction condemned the "Cream City Brick" school for overpopulation, a motion was made to raise \$25,000 to build a new one. This building, remodeled in the 1960s, served later as the Middle School after PHS relocated in 1968.

The group of students pictured above is the last class to graduate from the "Cream City Brick" school in 1915.

**1946 - 1950**  
**404 LAKE ST.**

Although the district continued to grow, the Depression and war delayed the building of more schools. In 1946, there was a "critical" shortage of space resulting in the purchase of fifteen acres of William Steele's dairy and orchard farmland. A ten-room elementary school was built on the Lake Street property in 1950 and is still part of PLE today, occupied by the district office as well as 3rd grade classrooms.

**1953**  
**PHS FIRE**

More construction was needed but a fire at PHS on July 13, 1953, caused an even greater shortage of space than anyone could have ever anticipated. The school was rebuilt and remodeled with the wholehearted help of the community.

**1968**  
**THE PHS WE KNOW AND LOVE**

In 1964, the board was authorized to buy sixty-four more acres from William Steel adjacent to the elementary school. A modern two-story structure, windowless because of the novel heating system, was dedicated on October 27, 1968. In 1985, the middle school was closed. The 6th grade was moved to the elementary school and grades 7 and 8 were moved to a newly completed section of the high school.

**1991-1993**  
**NAMED AFTER FOUNDER**

The creation of many new subdivisions in and around Pewaukee warranted the building of yet another school. Construction began in 1991 and Asa Clark Middle School was completed and named for Pewaukee's founder on August 31st, 1993.

**2002**  
**INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

The last school to round out the Pewaukee School District's campus opened its doors on September 3, 2002. It welcomed 475 fourth, fifth, and sixth graders. The \$8.8 million structure included a dedicated wing per grade level.

**1996, 1972, 2002, 2012, 2015**  
**ADDITIONS AND RENOVATIONS**

Pewaukee School District is fortunate to be able to renovate and enhance its facilities in an effort to provide an innovative space for its students to learn. From the 2012 PHS additions that included a new gymnasium as well as a state of the art auditorium, to the 2015 Horizon classroom additions, our schools continue to adapt and evolve over time.

**2019**  
**#PSDNEXTWAVE**

As we look forward to the construction due to the passing of a referendum, it is important to look back and "honor the past" as we "welcome the future."

Although this timeline acts as a summary of the highlights of the District's growth, there are so many stories and interesting insights to share about our history.

Join us as we gear up for the first round of construction this summer! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to learn more about the history of our wonderful schools.







**BRIAN KAMMERS**  
BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESIDENT

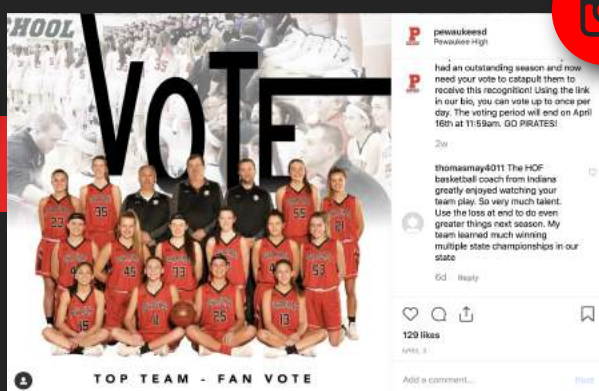
Education is about change and that change happens at a personal level for every student. Education must constantly evolve because the future is constantly evolving. It is essential that we prepare children for a world that continues to undergo change at an increasingly faster rate.

Our district's growth and the educational needs dictated by a future that is unpredictable are impacting our facilities. Once again, we thank our community and the support they showed for the school district by generously approving our facilities referendum. The District is working with our architects on the final design details for the additions and upgrades that will impact every building on the campus.

Change is not something that just happens to the District. **The District actively engages transformation to continually improve.** Since 1993 Pewaukee has had a robust strategic planning process to drive change in your schools. Every significant thing that has happened in this school district since then can be traced back to a strategic initiative. These strategic plans were developed with the help and input of this community. We recently finished this year's strategic planning process with members of the community, staff, parents, and students. They help to provide an image of what our educational experience should look like in the future. To facilitate this change, this input will be translated into action items to be accomplished as we move forward.

Pewaukee has continually worked to address the future needs of our students, and we will continue to do so. Teaching processes and academic targets of the past will not work for future graduates. We cannot predict what tomorrow will require of our graduates. **What we can do is determine what those graduates should look like in terms of skills and attributes in preparation for whatever the future looks like.**

This work has already taken place. You will be hearing more about our Graduate Profile in the future. The profiles are already being displayed in classrooms to reinforce for students and staff the direction we are headed. The list of skills and attributes have been tailored to each school building on our campus. It would be impossible to discuss all the details here. Please know that it is our commitment to have all students graduate with the skills required to **Contribute, Create, Compete, Connect, Commit, and Care** in our global society.



## FOLLOW US!

STAY INFORMED WITH ALL

- EVENTS
- ACHIEVEMENTS
- UPDATES
- VIDEOS
- ALERTS
- AND MORE!

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