

# PARIS COOPERATIVE HIGH SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2009

## PCHS FALL SPORTS UNDERWAY

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### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- October 9th  
No School—Institute
- October 12th  
Columbus Day
- October 16th  
End of 1st Quarter
- October 22nd and 23rd  
Parent-Teacher Conferences
- October 22nd  
Report Cards Out

The fall athletic season is now underway, and the coaches and athletes are excited about another successful season.

Head football coach Mike Brouwer and his staff are anxious to follow up last year's playoff run with continued success with a young and talented football team. Our varsity football team opens the season with three straight home games, and we invite everyone to John P. Allen Memorial Field to cheer for the Tigers.

The PHS volleyball team welcomes new head coach Crystal Graham to the program. Coach Graham joins us from the University of Illinois-Springfield where she was an assistant coach and also a former player. The Lady Tigers

have been working very hard and look forward to opening their season as they continue to build their young program which is now entering its fifth season.

Marilyn Wright and the girls tennis team had an eventful summer and welcome back plenty of experience as they get set to compete in a tough Apollo Conference that is full of talented teams. The Lady Tigers have one of their largest rosters in recent years and hope continue to build a quality team.

The PHS boys and girls golf teams also return plenty of depth and talent for the 2009 season. Both teams opened their seasons early this year and have been very successful so far. The boys golf invitational will be held September

19th at Sycamore Hills Golf Club and will feature over 15 teams. This is always a great event, and we expect more of the same this season.

PHS cheerleading is also gearing up for another run at the state competitive cheerleading championship. Last year the PHS Cheer Team finished 2nd in the entire state, and many of the talented young ladies that earned them that distinction are returning this year. The cheer team earned many 1st place awards and honors at camp this summer and are poised to make another strong effort this year.

All of our sports schedules are available online at [www.paris95.k12.il.us/phs](http://www.paris95.k12.il.us/phs). We hope to see you at the games, and go Tigers!

## CHANGES TO STAR MENTORING

Based on the discussions and feedback during the school improvement meetings that took place this summer, many changes have been made to the mentoring program for the 2009-2010 school year.

Implementing a new morning mentoring period allows the mentor and mentees to interact on a more regular basis. This is meant to be a time to listen to the morning announcements, discuss grades, engage in thought-provoking activities, and have general discussion among peers.

Another major change to the

program is the addition of the second monthly meeting. It is the intention of the M&M committee that this time is used for informational meetings delivered by class sponsors, but, more specifically, it is for the mentors to choose a topic or activity of their choosing to engage their group.

In an attempt to lessen the struggle of transitioning from junior high school to high school, the M&M committee has put together an additional support system for the freshman class, the S.T.A.R. Leader program.

Using the Freshman Focus model, S.T.A.R. Leaders went through a lengthy application process in which they were required to submit a resume, letters of recommendation, and lesson plans and ice breaker activities. Nineteen juniors and seniors were chosen to pilot the program for the 2009-2010 school year. At least two S.T.A.R. Leaders have been assigned to every freshman mentoring group. They are to serve as role models, facilitators, and assistants to their respective groups. They also serve as a contact to freshmen.

## OPEN HOUSE HAS HUGE TURNOUT

The first PCHS open house was held on August 27, 2009, and was considered a success by many. Gary Doughan, English teacher, said, "I think the open house went really well. A lot of parents stopped by my room during the evening."

Other teachers were happy with the response as well. Tammy Pittenger, FCS teacher, and Heather Seaton, business teacher, said they also had a large number of visitors and that they were especially excited because so many

recent alumni came back to visit them.

In addition to classroom visits, parents and students had the opportunity to attend workshops. Dave Meister, PCHS director, informed parents about the new online gradebook system called MMS, and Mark Cox, PCHS assistant principal, discussed changes to the student handbook.

PCHS also offered a raffle at the end of the open house. Although some students and parents had to leave early,

there were still a fair number of people who stayed for the raffle.

Kyle Andrews was the lucky student who won the iPod nano, and a yearbook was also given away to Corey Hays. Several students and parents won Pride Passes to athletic events as well.

Overall, it seems that the open house was well received, and PCHS staff members were thrilled to have so many visitors from the community. Thank you for making open house such a positive event.



Open house 2009 was a booming success.

## PCHS HOMECOMING WEEK

"Welcome to the Jungle."

No, this is not a flashback to the 1980's. Rather, this was the theme for Homecoming 2009 at Paris Cooperative High School.

Homecoming week was filled with many fun events, including dress up days, a penny war, a float building contest, and class games at the end of the week. In addition to these activities, there were also the basics—the Homecoming football game and the Homecoming dance, of course.

Students and teachers alike embraced the dress-up days, and many could be seen decked out in silly or

serious outfits, depending on the mood of the participants. Many teachers dressed up for twin day: Mr. Ogle dressed up as Apollo and Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Sherer dressed up as Artemis, the teachers on the bottom floor all dressed up as Mr. Happ, Mr. Doughan and Mr. Lynch wore similar outfits, and Mr. Dundas and Mr. Tripp were twins.

Students had a great time with the dress-up days as well, and they seemed to really enjoy class color day on Wednesday. The hallways were flooded with shades of orange, pink, blue, and green, and students were anxious to have their Pow-

der Puff shirts signed by all of their friends.

The big event, though, was Class Games, which was held on Friday, September 25, 2009. Students' shouts and cheers echoed off the gym walls as dozens of students and teachers competed in the competition. After it was all said and done, the seniors won the competition, and they also won the Spirit Award for Homecoming Week after placing 1<sup>st</sup> in a very close float contest.

Thank you to everyone who helped make Homecoming Week possible and exciting for all those involved.

Paris Cooperative High School is a learning community dedicated to developing well-educated, productive, engaged citizens in a respectful, safe, supportive environment.



Welcome to the Jungle Homecoming 2009

## MEET THE NEW PCHS STAFF

### MR. MARK COX NAMED ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Born in Charleston and raised in Paris, Mr. Mark Cox attended both Crestwood and Paris High School. His father was a counselor at Mayo Middle School, and he followed his footsteps by entering the field of education himself.

Mr. Cox earned his B.S. from Eastern Illinois University in 1994 and his M.S. at Eastern Illinois University in 2008. After graduating from college, he was first employed by St. Teresa High School in Decatur, where he taught physical science and biology for two years. In 1996, he took a new job at Shiloh High School as a junior/senior high school science teacher and assistant coach.

After teaching at Shi-

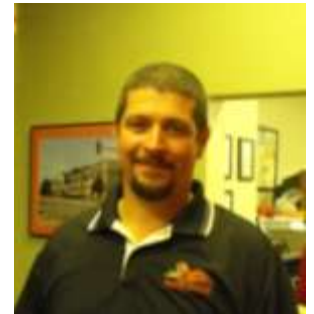
loh, Mr. Cox accepted a position teaching science here at PCHS and is now starting his first year as a new administrator in the building.

His new role consists of a great deal of tasks: reviewing the school handbook, reviewing building updates, and overseeing parking; however, he primarily takes care of school discipline and conducts faculty evaluations.

On a personal note, Mr. Cox is married and has four children. He has a lovely wife named Tina, who is employed at First Bank & Trust in Paris. He has two sons, a stepson, and a stepdaughter. His oldest son, Levi, graduated from Shiloh High School, is working construction in Champaign,

and is enrolling in a heavy equipment operator training program in January. His youngest son, Zach, is a student at Crestwood and loves football. Mr. Cox's stepson, Blake, is in the National Guard and is enrolled at EIU, and his stepdaughter, Brittany, is a student at ISU and is pursuing a degree in elementary education.

When not working at Paris Cooperative High School, Mr. Cox is an active member of St. Michael's Parrish in Hume, Illinois. He also enjoys spending his time as a volunteer youth football coach here in Paris, and he has coached YMCA basketball, soccer, and American Legion baseball since his return to Paris in 2004.



Mr. Mark Cox is the new assistant principal at PCHS.

### ENGLISH DEPARTMENT WELCOMES MRS. WELLS

Betsy Wells, our new English teacher, is enjoying her very first year as a teacher. After completing her student teaching at West Vigo High School and Middle School, Mrs. Wells graduated from Indiana State University in May 2008 with a bachelor's degree in English teaching and a minor in creative writing.

She is married to Ryan, and they have two children: a four-year-old boy, Liam, and a one-year-old girl, Chloe. Being an English teacher, she, of course, loves to read and write, and she hopes to someday be a published author. She is interested in taking some classes to earn an endorsement in either

Spanish or computer technology, and she would also like to start working towards her master's degree in English or library media in the next year, but she has not decided what to do first yet. She would love to just do them all and be not only a life-long teacher, but a life-long student as well!

Parent-Teacher Conferences are Thursday, September 22nd from 4–8 and Friday, September 23rd from 8–11:30.



Mrs. Betsy Wells is a new English teacher.

## THE PRIDE OF PARIS

### TWELVE NAMED STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the students of the month! Teachers nominate students for this honor for a variety of reasons: excelling in the classroom, striving to make great improvements, maintaining a positive attitude, helping their classmates, and so on. For this edition of the faculty newsletter, PCHS is pleased to announce the twelve students who have been nominated by their teachers for this honor. Great work, Tigers! Way to make your teachers, parents, community, and school proud. You truly are the *pride* of Paris.



The following students have been named PCHS students of the month. Front row (from left to right): Jasmine Bennett, nominated by Mrs. Wells ; Kalen Pennington, nominated by Mrs. Sherer; Christiana Daniels, nominated by Ms. Seaton; and Tyler Bouslog, nominated by Mr. Tripp. Back row (from left to right): Charles Harris, nominated by Ms. Collier; Shannon Ueberfluss, nominated by Mr. Dundas; Brandy Foley, nominated by Mrs. Terrell; Michael Moreschi, nominated by Mr. Roger Thomas; and Ethan Mason, nominated by Mrs. Kelsheimer. Not pictured: Kirsten Middleton, nominated by Mrs. Phegley; Brian Groover, nominated by Mr. Carl Ogle; and Marissa Mace, nominated by Ms. Hewitt.

## PARIS COOPERATIVE HIGH SCHOOL

Paris Cooperative High School is home to over 600 students and 50 staff members. In the center of Edgar County, PCHS is one of the most recognized landmarks in Paris. Offering a variety of courses, students have the opportunity to study anything from horticulture to criminology to music appreciation in a technology-rich atmosphere. If you would like to know more about the school, please contact the office or visit us on the web!

[www.paris95.k12.il.us](http://www.paris95.k12.il.us)



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