



Cat Chat

Hardin-Houston Local School

February 2022



News from the Superintendent's Office!

As you will soon see, the majority of the February Chat Cat will be spent highlighting student and group accomplishments for the first half of this school year. In addition to this information, I would like to touch upon a few items the administrative staff is currently planning for next school year. Starting next school year, every 5th and 9th grade student will receive a Chromebook as part of our 1-1 technology initiative for grades 5-12. More specific information will be shared with the affected parents and students before school starts this coming August. The second major change for next school year will be transitioning from our online OneView system to Final Forms. You will receive an email notification this spring detailing what you need to do as a parent to make this a seamless transition. Enjoy the February Cat Chat edition!

As always if you have any questions or concerns throughout the school year, I can be reached at rmaier@hardinhouston.org or at 295-3010 ext. 3001. Go Wildcats!

Ryan Maier, Superintendent

Spelling Bee

On Wednesday, December 15, the annual Hardin-Houston Spelling Bee was held involving students in grades 3-8. After 18 rounds, 7th grader Heidi Jenkins emerged victorious.

First runner-up was 6th grader Hannah Ostendorf. The next level of competition will be the Lima Regional Spelling Bee on March 15th.



Left to Right: Heidi Jenkins and Hannah Ostendorf.

Philip S. Abbott Junior Honor Society



On Friday, November 5th, the membership of the Philip S. Abbott Junior Honor Society held an induction of new members. Addie Mowery led the induction ceremonies with the assistance of Reagan Steiner, Dylan Shaffer, Lucas Mohler, and Mason McDermit. The newly inducted freshman members included Riley Burger, Sophia Waesch. Newly inducted eighth graders were Cadence Delong, Ryleigh Hughes, Isabella Shultz, Jackson Koenig, Lauryn Crim, Lylah Kennedy, Makenna Vondenhuevel, and Olivia Burks.

Current members of the PAJHS are: Addie Mowery, Emilee Earl, Lexi Hartings, Dylan Shaffer, Reagan Steiner, Mason McDermit, AJ Edwards, Desiree Baxter, Mya Lentz, and Lucas Mohler.

Congratulations to all the new members and their families. The Philip S. Abbott Junior Honor Society is advised by Danielle Poeppelman.

Important Dates:

Mar 18 & 19	Spring Play
Mar 18	No School
Apr 2	Prom at the Oaks Club
Apr 7 & 8	Kindergarten Screening
Apr 26	JH/HS Art Show & Band Concert
May 19	Last student day
May 22	Graduation- 2:00PM

Kindergarten Celebrates 100th Day of School!

Here are a couple of things we enjoyed during the day:

- We crowned ourselves 100 days smarter
- We completed a creative writing using the number 100
- We made a necklace out of 100 fruit loops
- We share our 100th collections from home



Substitute Cooks/Substitute Custodians/Substitute Aides

Hardin-Houston Local School is actively looking for caring and dedicated individuals to fill substitute positions within the school system. There is an immediate need to fill positions, as well as a need to fill anticipated openings in the near future. Please call the superintendent's office for more information.



Elementary Principal's Message - Mrs. Roseberry

Happy Winter! Perhaps you've noticed that the days are slowly growing longer. Soon, we will see signs of spring. Right now, we are in the midst of our third quarter. With state testing right around the corner, our teachers are working hard to

prepare the students to perform their best. Teachers at all grade levels and content areas engage their students in our District initiative, Collins Writing, in an attempt to teach the students to think critically and use writing as an effective means to communicate ideas and knowledge. It is a very effective instructional strategy, and we are lucky to have learned how to use it. We are especially seeing growth in our youngest learners as a result of Collins.

This April will mark the end of our 21st Century Grant Program, Earthlab. The grant was awarded to us for five years. Earthlab has been a very special program that served to benefit many of our students. Earthlab had an exceptional staff and included some wonderful enrichment activities. A special thanks to all who participated.

As always, please feel free to call us with questions or concerns regarding your children.

Straight A's for 1st semester at Hardin-Houston Elementary



Hardin-Houston Elementary had 25 students in grades 3-6 who earned straight A's for the first school semester this year. They are: 6th graders Amber Young, Delaney White, Kaleb Sybert, Claire Rust, Kaelyn Richardson, Kenleigh Nation, Lacey Naseman, Ava Mowery, Olivia Maier, Emma Koenig, Caden Hoellrich, Blake Heitman, Trenton Hartings, Tucker Echols, Jackie Earl, Davis Burks, Carmen Beaver, 5th grader Alex Ginn, 4th graders Alexis Rust, Dominic Richardson, Nolan Ludwig, Landon Heitman, Harlow Bonnoront, and 3rd graders Madeline Ginn and Craig Breeze. Congratulations to these students!

National Honor Society

The David L. Boggs Chapter of the National Honor Society inducted 16 new members at their October 21st ceremony. NHS President: Megan Maier conducted the ceremony, with the assistance of NHS officers: Delia Adkins, Devin Barker, Ryan Ely, Keirstin Ludwig, and Grace Rader. The new inductees are Juniors: Luke Beaver, Makayla Burch, Aiden Campbell, Malina Chappie, Rory DeLong, Addy Frohne, Anna Henry, Emily Hollinger, Alex Kellersmith, Grace Koenig, Lucas Langenkamp, Hayden Mowery, Lainey Peacock, Kate Rockwood, Bryce Sauvie, and Isaac Wills.

Science Fair Winners 2021-2022

The annual Hardin-Houston Science Fair was held on December 7th. The sixth grade students were required to create a presentation board pertaining to their topics. I would personally like to thank the judges who dedicated their time and expertise in this event. Congratulations to the following winners:

Mrs. Larger's Class: (left to right)

- 1st - Ava Mowery, Exploding Rainbow
- 2nd - Chase Branam, Dipping and Dripping
- 3rd - Hannah Ostendorf, Bacteria Blast



Mrs. Knouff's Class: (right to left)

- 1st - Blake Heitman, Elephant Toothpaste
- 2nd - Davis Burks, Hovering Hovercraft
(Not Pictured-Absent);
Claire Rust, Soapy Plants
- 3rd - Lacey Naseman, Sparkling Spikes



Mrs. Koverman's Class: (left to right)

- 1st - Hudson Mowery, Buzzer Beater
- 2nd - Zoey Kinsella, Apple Action
- 3rd - Madison Plunkett, Potato Power



Overall: (left to right)

- 1st - Blake Heitman
- 2nd - Davis Burks (Not Pictured-Absent);
Claire Rust
- 3rd - Ava Mowery



Adventures with Books and Crafts (ABC program)

Hardin-Houston kindergarten teachers want to welcome all of our children ages 3-5 to attend our monthly ABC program. Children listen to stories, sing songs, learn rhymes, make a craft to take home, and play an active game. The dates of the program are 2/12, 3/12, 4/9, and 5/14 from 9:00-10:00 in the school Commons. Children will be rewarded with books and prizes for reading books throughout the month. An adult is requested to stay with the child during the program. Please come and join in the fun! Feel free to call the school with any questions (937) 295-3010.





JH/HS Principal's Message - Mr. Jeff Judy

As we have come to the halfway point of the 2021-2022 school year I have taken some time to reflect on all of the success that our students have had thus far. I am proud to say that those successes are too abundant to mention each and every one of them here. That said, two items that help to highlight that success is our Wildcat of the Week

program and the Honor Roll.

A new initiative that we have started this year is our Wildcats of the Week. Staff and students have been focused on promoting the values that can be found in our Culture Playbook and "Walking the Wildcat Way". The values of our Culture Playbook are respect, academic success, and school pride. Throughout the first and second quarter, our staff has identified and recognized students who have exhibited those values. Each week teachers have nominated students for Wildcats of the Week. Those students received a special coffee bar coupon, were recognized on the Friday announcements, and pictured on the district Twitter account (@hhlocalschool). This has been done in an effort to catch students doing the right things and promote those positive behaviors throughout the school. 31 students during the 1st quarter, and 38 students during the 2nd quarter were recognized as Wildcats of the Week.

An additional reflection of the pursuit of our values is the recognition of those students that achieve honor roll status. During the first quarter, 239 students (61%) in grades 7-12 made the honor roll with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. During the 2nd quarter, 226 students (58%) made the honor roll. These students have taken responsibility for themselves and their education, and have been willing and determined to learn. Please visit the school website to see the names of each one of these individuals.

As I mentioned, this is a small sample of the success that our students have achieved this year. That success is a reflection of the

HOUSTON HIGH SCHOOL

These are the expectations for all members of the Houston High School community.

VALUE	BEHAVIORS THAT SUPPORT IT	OUTCOME
RESPECT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treat others the way you want to be treated as well as the way they want to be treated. Accept and encourage the individuality of ALL Students and Staff. Show your true character and integrity at all times - DO THE RIGHT THING! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will become the best versions of ourselves, inspiring others to do the same.
ACADEMIC SUCCESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do more than what is asked of you. Use class time efficiently and effectively. Ask questions when you do not understand the topic. Take responsibility for yourself by being willing and determined to learn. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will be equipped with skills that will help to prepare us for our future.
SCHOOL PRIDE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in various school associated activities and community events. Have confidence in yourself and always put your best foot forward. Appropriately represent and care for our school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will have a more positive internal and external image of our school.

extraordinary work that our staff and students are doing each and every day. We are dedicated to building on these achievements and will work tirelessly to continue to educate the whole child and become the best version of ourselves.

HS Band

"The Wildcat Marching Band had a successful fall at the Ft. Loramie performance, Halloween parades, and Homecoming performance. The Band is looking forward to going to OMEA Concert Band Contest on March 12th. Additionally, all Performing Arts Ensembles are looking forward to presenting their Spring Concert April 26th!"



HOUSTON FFA HIGHLIGHTS

CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS:

The Food Science & Technology CDE team consisting of Addy Frohne, Anna Henry, Megan Maier and Ryan Ely competed in the state contest on December 4. The team placed third in the state with Anna Henry placing fifth.



Emily Hollinger competed in the State Job Interview CDE on December 4. She was required to write a resume and cover letter, fill out a job application, participate in a job interview and write a follow letter during the contest. Emily placed eighth in the state in Division III.

GREENHOUSE SALES:

The Houston FFA Chapter will be hosting its annual greenhouse sale fundraiser this spring. Products include flowers, vegetables, hanging baskets, decorative pots and no-fade black mulch by the yard. The FFA chapter will be launching their online order form in early April with pick-up and in-person greenhouse sales occurring Saturday, May 7 and 14 from 9am-noon. The greenhouse is located behind Hardin-Houston Local School. Mulch can be purchased on open Saturdays and by appointment only during the week, April 18-May 20.

If you have any questions about the FFA chapter or future fundraisers, please contact Mr. Derek McCracken, FFA Advisor, at 937-295-3010 ext. 2026 or by email at dmccracken@hardinhouston.org, or visit the chapter website at houstonaged.com. Thank you for supporting the Houston FFA Chapter.

Homecoming:



Congratulations to: Ryan Ely and Megan Maier for being crowned King and Queen during Homecoming festivities on Friday, December 17th. They presided over the Homecoming Dance, "Disco Fever", on Saturday, December 18th.

The Court consisted of: Senior attendants: Keirstin Ludwig, Rylie Voisard, Ethan Funk, and Luke Ryan; Junior attendants: Kate Rockwood and Hayden Mowery; Sophomore attendants: Kayla Winner and Jaxon Douglas; and Freshman attendants: Sara Loraine and Skylar Bowman. Crown Bearers were second grade students: Paulina Mummey and Cooper Poeppelman.

Washington DC Info:

1st meeting with 7th graders & parents -

Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commons.
Trip dates - Monday, October 24 - Friday, October 28, 2022.

Final meeting - Monday, September 29, 2022 at 6:00 for chaperones, and 7:15 for students/parents.

Hardin-Houston Local School

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Board of Education

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The CAT CHAT is published and distributed two times a year by Hardin-Houston School for the purpose of keeping district residents informed.

Highly Qualified Teacher Report

In order to comply with the state's Highly Qualified teacher mandate, all districts across the state have to report if they have any teachers not considered by ODE as fulfilling the Highly Qualified requirements. Each school district strives to be 100%. Hardin-Houston has one teacher who is not considered by the state as being highly qualified, because he/she are lacking in specific area of the qualifications. Although that teacher has all degrees and certifications necessary to teach in the state of Ohio and has been doing so very well for many years, the District wants to inform you that Hardin-Houston's HQT percentage is 99.58%.

Neola 9160 Handicap Access Disclaimer

This notice is available for anyone who is interested in attending a Hardin-Houston Event who may require one or more accommodations. In accordance with State and Federal Law, the District will provide reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities who wish to attend and/or participate in school events. Such individuals should notify the principal/athletic director if they require a reasonable accommodation.

*The Hardin-Houston Local School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, color, religion, national origin, handicap, or age in its education, activities, admissions, or employment policies as required by Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972, Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Executive Order 11244 and all its amendments.

Any violations of this policy should be referred to the Civil Rights Officer for Hardin-Houston Local School District, Superintendent Ryan Maier, (937) 295-3010 ext. 3001.



Athletic Department

Mr Knouff - Athletic Director / Asst. K-12 Principal

As always, it is my pleasure to highlight our athletes' accomplishments which have occurred so far this year. First, I would like to recognize the high school boys' cross country team and Coaches Bill McKinney and Ron Boeke for their incredible achievement in qualifying to the regional cross country meet for the seventh year in a row. The team was led by Hunter Mowery and other qualifying members were: Wes Vondenhuevel, Justin Pollock, Ryan Ely, Ethan Davis, Lucas Langenkamp and Dylan Shaffer. Hunter Mowery also earned 1st Team SCAL All-League honors. In addition, he was an individual qualifier to the State Cross Country Meet by finishing 12th at the Regional CC meet.

Likewise, the high school boys golf team had multiple team and individual record setting performances. Coach Fridley's JV golf team finished out the season undefeated! They had a record of 23-0. Moreover, the varsity team placed second at the Sectional Golf Match. The members consisted of: Ethan Lukey, Ethan Funk, Parker Herrick, Tanner Cooper and Tanner Voisard. As Sectional Runner-Ups, they moved on to play in the District Golf Match for the first time in school history. Additionally, Ethan Lukey, Ethan Funk, Parker Herrick and Tanner Voisard set two school records. They captured the 9-Hole Team Record shooting a 159. Previously, the record had been a 163 which was initially set back in 1985 and then tied in 2020. The same four athletes destroyed the 18-Hole Team record firing a 325. The score was 15 strokes better than the previous record set earlier in the season at the SCAL Preview. Lastly, Ethan Lukey set two individual school records. He set the 9-Hole Low Record by firing a 34. Ethan also set the 9-Hole Season Low Average with a 38.9. Furthermore, Ethan earned a spot on the 1st SCAL All-League Team. Congratulations to Coach Fridley and all of the golf members for their amazing performances.

Finally, the varsity volleyball team had several athletes set new records for Houston High School. Brianna Kemp set the school's Season Assists Record with 513 assists. Rylie Voisard set the Season Serving Percentage Record with a 99.7%. Additionally, she set the Career Serving Percentage Record with a 98.6%. Lastly, Megan Maier finished out her career at Houston with 1,342 digs. This increased her own record from last year, which was 884 digs. Megan also earned all-league honors by being named to the 1st All-League SCAL Team. Finally, Megan was named to the 2nd All-League District 9 Team. Congratulation to the girls on their remarkable performances.

In conclusion, I would like to say good luck to all of our individual athletes and teams as they continue to compete throughout this year. And remember, achieving a high level of performance is not attained just by focused commitment during the season, but also with dedication and hard work devoted during the off-season. Go CATS!



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