

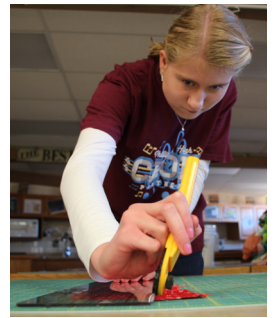


Student newspaper of  
**Phillipsburg High School**  
 410 South Seventh Street  
 Phillipsburg, KS 67661

# the panther pause

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Senior Leah Nyland strategically lines up her fabric and knife to cut fabric for her pajama pants. *Photo by Megan Stapel. See page 3 for story.*



November 20, 2018

## Juniors and seniors receive career assistance with job shadow opportunity

CHEYENNE MCGILLIVARAY

Senior Editor

“What do you want to be when you grow up?” How many times have high school students pondered this question. And yet for all of the thinking and planning, many still do not know what career they want to pursue.

Fortunately, juniors and seniors get the opportunity to job shadow someone in the career that they want to major in. The purpose of this job shadow program is to give students exposure to potential careers that they are interested in prior to college.

The idea for this program originated two years ago with a problem-solution project in Comp II. Then last year, the idea was revisited with another Comp II class and was presented to the school board. Eventually, the program was approved and implemented this year.

Mrs. Sides’ who is the Job Shadow Coordinator, goal is to prepare students for their futures by exposing them to their careers and building relationships in and out of the community by working with people in their chosen career field.

“This will definitely benefit students and help them learn prior to college if they are interested in a career or not. The program might save students from changing their minds in college and ultimately save them money,” Sides said.

Seniors are allowed one job shadow in the fall and one in the spring. Juniors have the opportunity to have two job shadows in the fall and one in the spring, but if more exposure is needed, special requests may be made.

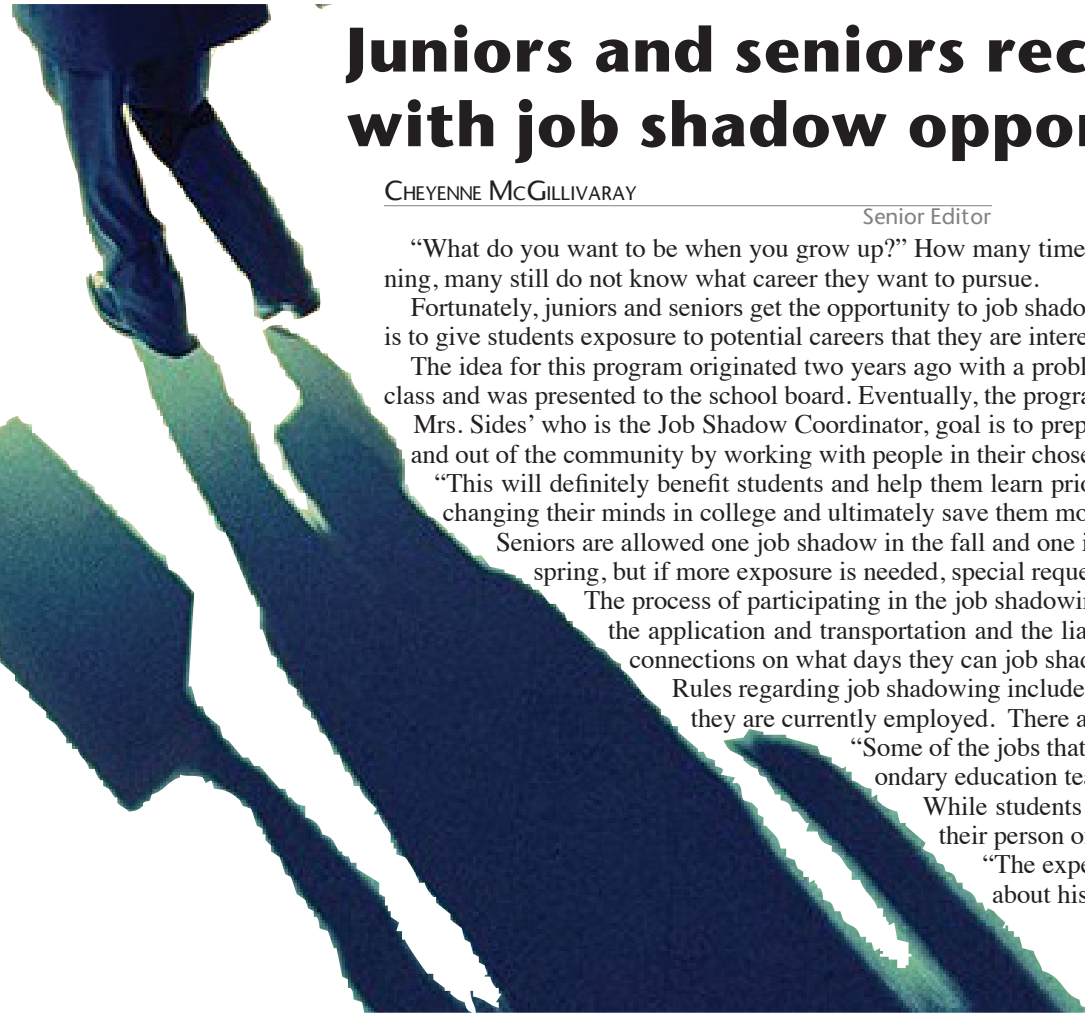
The process of participating in the job shadowing is to contact Mrs. Sides about applying for the job shadowing. Students need to complete the application and transportation and the liability forms prior to their job shadow experience. Students are also responsible for making connections on what days they can job shadow and what times will work for the person they job shadow.

Rules regarding job shadowing include that students cannot job shadow with an immediate family member or at a business at which they are currently employed. There are no distance restrictions, but students are responsible for transportation.

“Some of the jobs that seniors are job shadowing locally are Dr. Juenemann’s office, Midwest Energy, Tamko, secondary education teaching, local farmers and Nex-Tech,” Sides said.

While students get ready for their job shadowing, some students had a fun experience will job shadowing their person of their chosen career.

“The experience was fun to do and I learned a lot from my experience and how a history teacher goes about his or her day on a regular school day,” senior Cheyenne McGillivary said.



## DRAMA CLUB PERFORMS ANNUAL PLAY

Phillipsburg High School’s annual play, *The History of Dating*, was performed by 16 high school students on Saturday, Nov. 17 and Sunday, Nov. 18 at the Huck Boyd. Around 259 adults and teens attended (children entered free and were not counted).

The play revolved around showing different dating rituals from various time periods. For example, the Cavemen attracted potential dates with having the right food, while during the women’s suffrage time period, dating took a turn as women became more aggressive in securing dates.

Cast members had to assume different characters throughout the play. Senior August Ricker played roles such as a Roman woman, Greek woman, cheerleader, widow and a wild west woman.

The different characters each cast member had to play allowed the cast members to develop a new persona and change their acting styles. However, the change of characters also made for some tricky costume dilemmas.

“Costume changes during the speed dating scenes were the biggest challenge. Mine were only a page apart, so I would have to change quickly. It was really faced paced,” Ricker said.

Overall, the performances were received well by the audience. The cast members kept up their energy according to Ricker and knew their lines, which made for better performances.

Cast members were Sidney Mitchell, Matthew Mahathey, Tara Conn, August Ricker, Kalli Moore, 2R: Alexis Rudd, Ben Bennight, Nikole Huntley, Summer Peak, Carter Jenkins, Theo Keesee; 3R: Laike Imm, JJ Minkler, Jeremy Ford, Rylan Hays, and Sierra Portenier. *Photo by Michelle Peak.*



# I am thankful for...

With busy schedules of school, work, homework and extra curricular activities, sometimes people forget to be thankful for the good things in their lives. With Thanksgiving upon us, students pause to reflect on the things they are most thankful for and what they are looking forward to over Thanksgiving break.

**senior Cha'ron Ellis**  
**"I am thankful for friends, family, and football. My favorite Thanksgiving food is Cherry Cheesecake. On Thanksgiving I like being together with my family watching football."**

**junior Kylie Solida**  
**"I am thankful for my friends and family. My favorite Thanksgiving food is pumpkin pie. On Thanksgiving, I like to play card games and spend time with my family."**



## What makes games so popular?

SUMMER PEAK

Reporter

Hay Day, Geometry Dash, Flappy Golf and Minecraft--these games are known around the entirety of Phillipsburg High School. From students to teachers to even janitors—everyone has most likely heard of these games as they have at one point or another taken the school by storm. But the question is: how and why do these games get this popular?

"They get popular because they're fun," junior Jacob Mahathey said.

While what Mahathey said may be one reason why games get popular, many others think the main reason is more like a bandwagon sort of situation.

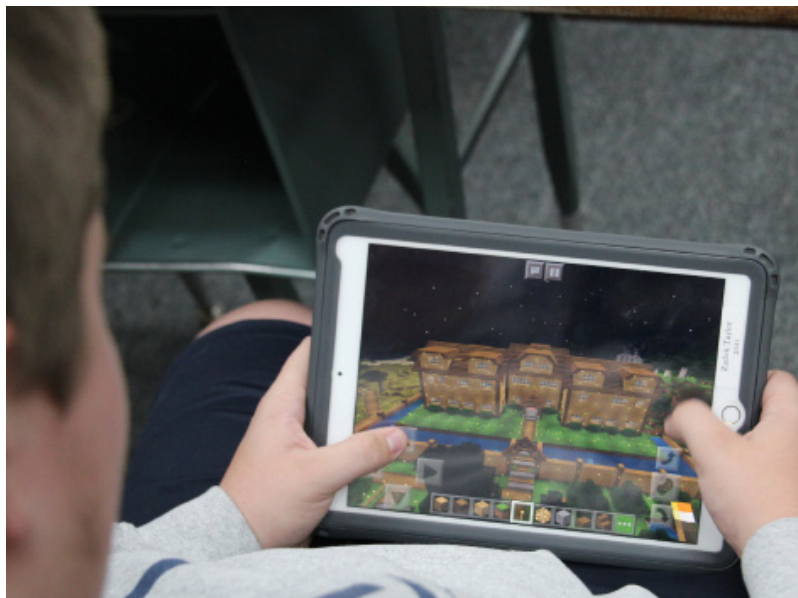
Sophomore Emily Brandon and freshman Ashton Howell both said that it starts with one person then that person's friends find out about the game and start playing it, too. The cycle continues to repeat until most of the school is playing the game.

Someone that seems to support the bandwagon idea is sophomore Nathaniel Huntley. Nathaniel says he joins in on the newest popular games because most of his friends are playing it and having fun so he'll get it too, so he can have fun with his friends.

But lots of other students around the school don't join in on the newest game fad, these students have varying reasons why they don't but the most common reason is that they are just simply content with their own games.

"No, I don't join in with the newest game fads because I don't really want to play different games," freshman Ashton Howell said.

So to answer the earlier question, games seem to get popular around the high school because of a surprisingly simply answer: students just want to play fun games with their friends.



Sophomore Zadok Taylor works his way through Minecraft after completing his homework. Minecraft, along with Hay Day and Rules of Survival, are some of the popular games this school year. Photo by Ethan Leidig.

## What would you change about the school?

*Like most things in life, there are certain aspects of the school students would like to see changed during their tenure in high school. Below are a few suggestions made.*

### Freshman Joel Ford

"I would like to have the gym doors open at all times in case someone or some people want to play basketball. Sometimes it is too cold to play basketball outside, and I don't want to spend money to rent the community building."

### Sophomore Kenzie Storz

"I would like there to be more of a variety at lunch, because the lunches that we have are not liked very much, so if we had a larger variety than more people might eat every day."

# Phillipsburg Procrastinators

SUMMER PEAK

Editor

While teachers may not recommend procrastination, some students still partake in the unwise, unofficial vacation from their homework. Other students get their homework done as soon as they can so they don't have to worry about it later.

"I think people procrastinate because sometimes they have other stuff like jobs that they have to think about and sports, but usually I think they just don't want to," senior Kylie Russell said.

Students said that they have their reasons for procrastinating, like junior Nolan Harris said that he farms more often than he does homework every day of the week. Other procrastinators, like sophomore Madison Kendall, have many reasons for putting off working on their homework.

Some of those reasons include telling themselves they'll do it tomorrow then never do, getting distracted by playing games, talking to friends, listening to music or other activities that specifically don't include homework.

Non-procrastinators, like sophomore Kagan Keeten, feel like this behavior is just a waste of time and are under the impression that these students just want to complain about the work they don't do.

But there might just be something more to procrastinating and what causes it rather than it being something as simple as someone just

not wanting to do their work. In fact, Harris and Kendall both said that their friends and parents don't seem to care about their procrastination, which could directly affect how motivated they are to do work, if they care about getting their work done at all or if they care about the long-term effects procrastinating will have later on in their life.

"Maybe [procrastinating] is a tad bit of a problem, but I don't really care. Mom never does anything about it," Kendall said.

Kendall feels like she has more freedom, but also feels like a sense of responsibility has been handed to her because she doesn't have someone there to push her to do things, so all the responsibility and motivation to get that project done falls onto her.

Many agree that it's hard for people to get motivated to do work that they don't particularly like or understand, but it's especially difficult when no one helps motivate them to do that type of work. But in some of these cases, the absence of a motivator actually helps motivate students to do their work, because these particular students don't want teachers to act as their motivator and push them to do work.

Students that never or almost never procrastinate tend to have parents that are more involved in their school life. These parents will often stress the importance of getting assignments in and on time, which often influences their child's grades and how motivated students are to do something.

For example, Kim Pakkebieer, English teach-



Junior Jillian Bohl works on Algebra homework during block day to get ahead and better prepare for next week's test. Instead of putting off getting her work done and taking advantage of free time, Bohl chose not to procrastinate, but instead use her time wisely. *Photo by Megan Stapel.*

er and mother of sophomore Kay Pakkebieer, is (by default she says) very involved in her daughter's school life and very heavily stresses the importance of not only getting the work done but understanding the material. Kay agrees that this has helped her stay motivated with not only her studies but also with her sports.

But in the end, whether there's a deeper

reasoning as to why people procrastinate or not, there will always be people that procrastinate and there will always be people on top of the game. If a student ever finds that he or she is questioning which side he or she falls onto or are struggling to get himself or herself out of the procrastination hole, he or she could always try and talk to their friends, family or teachers.

## Pajamas provide plethora of new skills

MEGAN STAPEL

Pillows and pajamas are required for class? Yes, but it won't be nap time. Students in Mrs. Weishaar's FACS 1 and Community Connections classes are making pillows and pajamas for their semester projects.

According to uca.edu, skills taught in FACS classes are among those most valued by employers.

"Employers value personal responsibility, punctuality, employees who take initiative and solve problems, and a variety of other soft skills which can be found in the Family Consumer Science curriculum. I have my FACS 1 and Community Connections classes sew simple projects to learn basic familiarity with running a sewing machine and piecing fabrics together. Hopefully they will use this skill to create new projects or repair clothing that they already own," FACS teacher Mrs. Debbie Weishaar said.

Not only are students learning to sew, they also are learning a variety of valuable skills. On Oct. 8, the FACS 1 and Community Connections classes embarked on a Hays trip to Hobby Lobby. At Hobby Lobby, Mrs. Weishaar's classes not only got to choose their own fabric(s) but also learned how much was needed for which projects.

"While at Hobby Lobby, I most enjoyed looking around at all the fabrics that were available. For my pajama pants, I chose a tie-dye print fabric because I enjoy being colorful," senior Nyla Salinas said.

Family and Consumer Science classes are so much more than cooking and reading. Hands-on experiences allow students to actively learn and get involved. Whether you're making pajama pants, sewing a pillow or even repairing your own clothing, learning these basic skills in FACS class will not only better prepare you but it may also spark your creativity.



Alec Weishaar, the son of Mrs. Deb Weishaar, has been sewing pajama pants for ten years. He now shares his experiences and tips with the Community Connections classes. *Photo by Megan Stapel.*

## KMEA Honors

The Kansas Music Educators Association Northwest District 2018 High School Honor Band, Honor Choir have been announced. Musicians for the band were selected by taped auditions performing required music. The High School choir musicians performed live auditions of required music at Hays High School on November 3. Selected from Phillipsburg to perform with the district honor band are Conlee Hugunin, trumpet; Sierra Portenier, percussion. Selected to perform with the honor choir are Tara Conn and Sydney Mitchell, soprano; Zoey Dinkel, alto; Laike Imm and Theo Keesee, tenor; Jeremy Ford, bass. The student's will attend an all day rehearsal on Saturday, Dec. 8, followed by a concert at 12:30 for the Elementary choir and 3:30 for the Honor Band and Honor Choir at the Beach Schmidt Performing Arts Center on the campus of Fort Hays State University. Band director Bill Schick and choir director Kelsey Pinkerton teach the students.



# STATE BOUND

In a rematch of week seven, the Panthers once again hosted the Hoisington Cardinals. Though the Panthers defeated Hoisington 51-21 in their previous match up, the Cardinals had been putting up big numbers since the loss to Phillipsburg. This second match up had major rewards, however, with the winner advancing to the state tournament and the loser ending their season just shy of every team's goal.

With a slow start offensively by the Panthers, the Cardinals were able to put the first points on the board and lead 7-0 early in the second quarter. The Panthers weren't down for long, however, as senior Nathan Moon broke out for a 68-yard rushing touchdown. From there, the Panthers added ten more with a 27-yard field goal by senior Jonathan Hunnaccutt and a 22-yard pass completion from senior Trey Sides to sophomore Ty Sides. The Panthers went into half leading 17-7.

Following halftime, the Cardinals came out firing as junior Wyatt Pedigo capped off a long drive with a one-yard rushing touchdown. With one minute to go in the third quarter, Sides connected with senior Treylan Gross for 39-yard touchdown pass. The Panthers went into the last quarter 24-14.

The final quarter brought penalties and turnovers for the Cardinals, while the Panthers tacked on another touchdown from Gross. The final score of the game rested at 31-14, with the Panthers heading to their second state appearance in four years.

The Panthers will face 10-2 Riley County on Saturday, November 24 at the Salina District Stadium in Salina at 1:00 p.m.



Following his lead blocker senior Nathan Moon, senior Treylan Gross works to the outside to advance the ball. Gross finished the game with 87 rushing yards on 14 carries. Right: After receiving a bubble pass from senior quarterback Trey Sides, senior Cha'ron Ellis works up field to find an opening in the defense. Photos by Ashley Babcock.



# Feature Athletes

ETHAN LEIDIG

Reporter

## Boys Basketball

Senior Konner Roth

Roth is a wing player. "I am a shooter; when I'm open I will shoot," Roth said.

Roth has played basketball for two years and enjoys playing 21 in practice and building team chemistry. His goal for this season is to bond with the team and make it back to state.



## Girls Basketball

Sr. Mya McDonald

McDonald has been playing basketball officially since the seventh grade. In practice she enjoys playing Dr. Pepper and scrimmaging. McDonald's favorite part is being able to be with her teammates and doing all of the team bonding activities

that they do. McDonald is a guard who wants to be aggressive, but also looks for smart shots this season.



## Football

Senior Nathan Moon

Moon is an MCL honorable mention defensive back who has been playing football for nine years. What Moon likes most about football is being surrounded by a group of brothers who want to be the best and aren't afraid to put everything on the line. Moon wants to score once per game, but would like also to win a state championship.



## Wrestling

Sophomore Rylan Hays

Hays has been wrestling for 11 years. His favorite move is the power half. Hays is most proud of winning Little Kids Wrestling state and being on varsity as a freshman. Hays loves to play ankle tag in practice. His goal for this season is to make it to state and win.



## Personal and team goals in mind for boys' basketball team

CHEYENNE MCGILLIVRAY

Senior editor

Let's get ready to rumble! Winter is here and that means its time to start practice for basketball and wrestling. This year in the boy's basketball team, there are 28 players, 20 of whom are returning, along with two mangers freshmen Claire Chestnut and junior Natalie Conner.

"My goal for this year is to win league and make it back to the state tournament," Coach Sides said.

The first practice of the year was November 12; however, with football still in season, only a small number of participants were in practice. The first game will be November 30 against Ellis. Sides has high expectations for the team which include playing hard and improving daily.

Sides is not the only one that is wanting to improve, individuals are also wanting to improve their own skills.

"Personally, I want to improve my shooting percentage from everywhere on the floor. I'd like to shoot better from the free throw and 3-pt line. Also, I want to have a better assist to turnover ratio by taking care of the ball and making smarter passes. Team wise, I think we need to improve on shot making, spacing the floor a little better and finding ways to get easy baskets. Our rebounding will have to be better due to the smaller lineup we'll have," senior Trey Sides said.

## Larger numbers lead to greater goals

MEGAN STAPEL

Reporter

**Q. How many athletes are out for wrestling?**

A. 22- Coach Kenney

**Q. How many returning wrestlers do you have?**

A. 11- Kenney

**Q. Is this one of your bigger seasons?**

A. The teams have gotten bigger since I have been head coach.- Kenney

**Q. What are your main goals for the season?**

A. place in top two in league, qualify more boys to state, improve every week- Kenney

A. I want to get better and not only make it to state, but win state.- junior Aaron Lenker

**Q. Why did you choose to do wrestling this year?**

A. I like wrestling better than basketball, and I enjoy being active year round.- Lenker

**Q. Who are the wrestling managers and how many do you have?**

A. There are 4 managers: Anahy Sanchez, Kalli Moore, Corie Hanchett, Abby Roth- Kenney

**Q. When was the first practice?**

A. November 12- Kenney

**Q. When is your first meet and who is it against?**

A. November 30, Beloit and Plainville and tournament on Dec. 1 with varsity to Osborne and JV to TMP- Kenney

**Q. What is your main focus in practice?**

A. My main focus is to get better and stronger.- Lenker

## Defense and decision making top priority for girls' basketball season

CHEYENNE MCGILLIVRAY

Senior editor

Brisk mornings, gentle snowfalls, freezing classrooms - all of these items signify the coming of winter. But while the temperature outside is frightful, inside is so delightful because basketball and wrestling are about to begin.

This year girls' basketball team includes 26 players, 18 of whom are returning members, and four managers.

Practices this year will last as long as needed to get things accomplished according to Coach Rachel Miller.

The first practice of the season was November 12 and the first game will be November 30 against Ellis.

"My goal for this year is for the team to be healthy, which will allow us to build chemistry on the floor," Miller said.

Miller is wanting to improve on the team's defense and decision making offensively. She is also expecting the team to come hungry to practices each and every day to get better.

Not only is Miller wanting to improve the team, individual players are also wanting to improve on certain things this year.

"I would like to work on and improve my ball handling skills this season," senior guard Alexi Beach said.

# Life Behind the Broom

MEGAN STAPEL

Reporter

If you roam the hallways after 2 pm on school days, you may be able to faintly hear jingles ringing throughout the building. It may be close to Christmas but it's not Santa Claus you're hearing, it's just Michael Miller working the janitorial night shift.

Eighteen years before Michael roamed these hallways jingling, he was a freshman student new to the high school environment.

"When I was in high school, things were much different; we didn't have as many rules, drug testing wasn't a thing and many teachers here now weren't here 18 years ago," Miller said.

Although some teachers have retired or left since then, two certain teachers stick in Michael's head. Those would be former Economics teacher Mrs. Cheri Chester and Mr. Keith Sides. Not only did he most enjoy the classes those teachers taught, he also greatly enjoyed the subjects being taught.

"Economics and accounting have always interested me. It's something I grew up around and felt comfortable working with," Miller said.

Accounting, economics, adjusting--they all tie in together and not only did Michael learn these subjects in school, but he's grown up around them most his life. Michael's parents, Sue and Dennis Miller, are owners of Mapes and Miller, a general accounting business.

"It's a good business to be in, everyone needs their taxes done. When I work there, I'm usually the gopher. I empty the trash, shred paper, move files and run errands," Miller said.

Before Michael enters the school daily, he's got to eat lunch as he begins work around 2 p.m. Choosing where to eat in Phillipsburg can be a hard decision, but for Michael he favors two places in town: The Bakery and the Sandtrap, which is closed during the lunch hour.

Cleaning up his leftovers from these two restaurants, if he has any, should seem like an easy task as he does pick up after high schoolers every afternoon. As many students prefer a teacher or subject, Michael prefers a classroom to clean and also dislikes a few.

"My favorite classroom to clean would have to be the Spanish room as it doesn't usually get very dirty. My least favorite room to clean would definitely be Mr. Fehlman's because it's always dirty and somehow happens to have a new smell waiting for me everyday," Miller said.

Janitors are an everyday part of students' lives as they were 18 years ago in this very school. Although Michael didn't know being a janitor would be his fate, in high school, he looked at janitors as the unsung heroes of the school. Bob Wood, who was the head janitor during Michael's school days and also a football coach, was respected by Michael and many others during Wood's time at PHS. Michael was always sure to not leave trash and pick up what was left behind.

After Michael graduated, he found his place working at ACE Hardware for roughly the next nine years.

"The work environment was fun, and I enjoyed all the people I worked with. Like most jobs, there are times when I miss

working there," Miller said.

While working his shift at ACE Hardware one day, Cory Jacobs came to Michael and explained how there was an open janitor spot at the school. Michael thought about it and finally applied when the job opening hit the papers.

"I started working at the school in the summer of 2012, as the job pretty much just fell into my lap," Miller said.

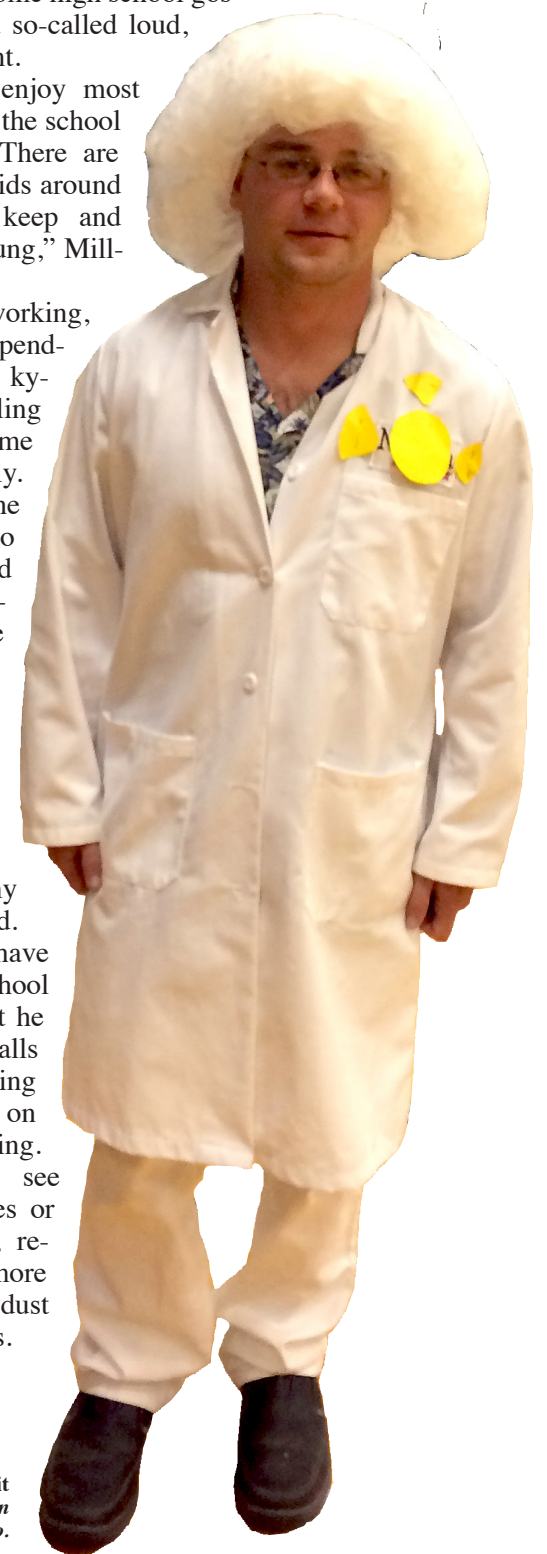
Though Michael enjoyed his position working at ACE, working at the school has provided him with the same friendly faces everyday, some high school gossip and overall a so-called loud, crazy environment.

"The thing I enjoy most about working at the school is the students. There are some very nice kids around here that both keep and make me feel young," Miller said.

Aside from working, Michael enjoys spending his free time ky-acking, traveling and spending time with his family. Every summer, he and his family go on vacation and it's always a surprise on where the destination will be.

"I've been on cruises, traveled across Chicago, and the one place I go every year is Texas to see my sister," Miller said.

Michael may have attended this school 18 years ago, but he still walks these halls everyday jingling like Santa Claus on Christmas morning. Next time you see him wiping tables or cleaning carpets, remember there is more to him than just dust rags and vacuums.



Emulating Julius Caesar, janitorial staff member Michael Miller gives a regal glare during Homecoming spirit week. Miller dressed as the Roman emperor during Caesar day on Wednesday, September 26. Photo by Megan Stapel. On October 21, 2015, Miller dressed as Doc Brown to represent Back to the Future day. Courtesy Photo.