

JR. PANTHER NEWS

Staff: Kat Abney, Neva Coomes, Cordell Dusin, Lily Eller, Adley Epley, Ella Knowles, Ellie McClain, Madilyn Myers, Jack Seems, Fletcher VanKooten, Adelynn Yoxall

New Staff Members Join Phillipsburg Middle School Team 🙌❤️⭐

We have many staff changes this school year! Miss Kelsi Blew moved to 7th and 8th grade Math, and we have six new teachers in the building. We also have three new janitors and two new paras. We asked our new teachers where they went to college, what made them want to be teachers, and anything else they want us to know. Welcome to our school!

Mr. Jarrett Bates teaches Physical Education. He went to Colby Community College for two years, then Fort Hays State University for three. "Growing up I was very fortunate to have a lot of good teachers, so I wanted to be that positive influence to someone else as they were to me. I have one pet, which is a dachshund named Remy."



Mrs. Lynette Ehm teaches Special Education. She went to Dana College in Blair, NE and Concordia University in Seward, NE. "My dad was a teacher and he has been my role model. I enjoy working with students to learn new things. I have two children. My son is married and lives in Texas with his wife. My daughter lives in Phillipsburg currently. I love animals and have had a variety of pets over the years."

Ms. Aubrey Larson teaches Vocal Music. She went to Bethany College. "I wanted to become a teacher because I had some really amazing people as my teachers who inspired me and showed me how much of a positive impact we can have on students and their learning. I love to read!"



Mrs. Kyleigh Lennemann teaches 5th and 6th grade Science. She went to Kansas State University. "During COVID, when USD 325 opened but K-State was still online I was a substitute and fell in love with teaching, so I switched my major. I coach volleyball."



Mr. Kurt Pakkebier teaches PE the first two periods for us, and the rest of the day at PES. He went to Kansas State University. "So when they asked me in college what I wanted to study and like to do, I said PE and recess. They said, we can make that a career for you. It's been a pretty good job so far! I'm glad to be here!"



Mrs. Marty Wolfe teaches 5th and 6th grade Math. She went to Colby Community College and the University of Nebraska - Kearney. "I always loved school. I had the opportunity as a high school senior to work with the math teacher during Algebra I, and found it natural to help students learn. I have 4 children, 7 grandchildren, and 3 Labrador retrievers. I LOVE to travel!"



Our new janitors, Mike Romo, Veronica Romo, and Leonard Graf. They are keeping our school spotless!



Our new paras, Amy Rose and Corrina Abney, are ready to help our students and teachers!

Angie Driggs is Mrs. Ehm's long-term substitute. She said, "I like seeing new faces, and I like being around the kids in a routine. It's nice knowing where I'm going, but I also like subbing for different teachers."



Fletcher's Photos! 📸

On the first Friday of the school year, we had an awesome assembly in the gym. Randy DonGiovanni had some funny stories, but he really encouraged us to be true to ourselves and respect authority figures. Everything he said lined up with the goals Mrs. Keeten has for us this school year. Remember, we ARE Phillipsburg Middle School! Fletcher snapped this photo for us. Thanks, Fletch!



Cheer Camp Fun 💙⭐

Our cheerleaders had fun and learned a lot of new things at Spirit Spreader last Thursday. They got to cheer on the Panthers last night for the first time!



Secret Staff Member 😎

I am a female teacher. I was born in May. I live in Phillipsburg. I have two sisters and one brother. My eyes are brown. My favorite season is summer. I like to eat at Chick-fil-A. Strawberry lemonade is my favorite drink. My favorite snack is anything that is chocolate. I like to go to the lake and ride side by sides in my free time. Adidas is my favorite brand. My goal for this school year is to remember to take attendance and lunch count every day. Who am I?

Character Counts! SEL Program Launched at PJH 🙏

As a part of Mrs. Keeten's plan to help us be the best version of ourselves, she rolled out our school's **Social Emotional Learning** program last week. Focus words will be highlighted every two weeks, and building character is our goal. Student Council made posters and acted out a fun skit over the intercom last Monday to reinforce the importance of our first word: RESPECT. If a staff member sees you demonstrating the focus word, you could receive a "brag tag." If you do, tear off your name and put it in the grade level jars in front of the office. Winners drawn out of the jars will receive a snack shack gift certificate. The adults in our school aren't the only ones who think good character is important. Brenda Chanley heard about it, and Blossoms and Butterflies donated money toward the snack shack gift certificates for the winners. Wow, thanks! Students, make sure you're demonstrating these positive behaviors. If any other local businesses or families would like to support our efforts, please contact Mrs. Keeten.



Brenda Chanley presenting a check to our Student Council President, Jake Russell



8th Grader

I am a boy. I was born in March. I live outside of Phillipsburg. I have one sister and two brothers. My eyes are brown. My favorite season is fall. I like to eat at Chick-fil-A. Iced tea is my favorite drink. My favorite snack is popcorn. I like to play Xbox in my free time. Under Armour is my favorite brand. My goal for this school year is to cook in sports. Who am I?

6th Grader

I am a boy. I was born in February. I live in Phillipsburg. I have one brother. My eyes are hazel. My favorite season is winter. I like to eat at Raising Cane's. Kool-Aid is my favorite drink. My favorite snack is popsicles. I like to play games in my free time. Under Armour is my favorite brand. My goal for this school year is to get all A's. Who am I?

7th Grader

I am a girl. I was born in May. I live in Phillipsburg. I have four brothers. My eyes are green. My favorite season is summer. I like to eat at Taco Bell. Dr. Pepper is my favorite drink. My favorite snack is Doritos. I like to play sports and ride horses in my free time. Nike is my favorite brand. My goal for this school year is to be nice to everyone. Who am I?

5th Grader

I am a girl. I was born in April. I live in Phillipsburg. I have one sister and one brother. My eyes are hazel. My favorite season is fall. I like to eat at Subway. Dr. Pepper is my favorite drink. My favorite snack is chocolate. I like to lay in my bed in my free time. Adidas is my favorite brand. My goal for this school year is to get my AR goal. Who am I?