



The PHS Emerald



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SENIOR EDITION



Advice for the class of 2016 Taylor Swartz '15



Clorissa Hall-“Don’t rush through your senior year, take time and enjoy it. Finish it out strong!”

Mikaela Lake-“Don’t let the chaos of senior year keep you from appreciating the small but memorable moments of life.”



Braxton Burchard-“Buckle down and don’t fall behind.”

Erin Parker-“Don’t give up, You’re almost done! Everyone tells you that it goes by quickly but when it happens it’s so different. Don’t waste your senior year.”



Ben Campbell-“Drugs don’t make friends.”

Connor Brown-“Don’t give up halfway through the year.”



5 STEPS TO HOSTING A DIY OPEN HOUSE

Jaymee Wilber '15

Step 1: Prepare a property description sheet

Find the perfect place to host your open house at. Make a list of what you want/need and make sure the places you’re checking out has them all. Or just have it right at home!

Step 2: Prepare and stage the place

Get creative with decorations! Here are some examples of what you could do.



Step 3: Spread the word

Tell relatives, friends, and neighbors that you’re having an open house. Send out invitations if you want as well.

Step 4: Be a gracious host

Make sure you provide everything people might want/need such as food and drinks. Spend time with everyone who comes to your event, don’t just hang around a couple of people.

Step 5: Have fun!

Those 13 years of waking up early have finally paid off, you graduated! Choose your career choice wisely and have fun with your life.

CLASS ADVISORS

Ainsley Haaksma '17

As a senior, you need to be in touch with your class advisors. Little do you know, but they are behind the scenes pushing you towards a great future. This year, the class advisors were Mr. Lamb and Mr. K. Students of all grades can agree that they are both challenging teachers that really push us to do the best that we can. Like all advisors, they always made an effort to shape the students into responsible young adults. High school teachers have a huge impact on the people we become after graduation. Class advisors especially. Throughout these past four years, they have stuck with the class of 2015, and lead them to a successful senior year.

GRADUATION SPEAKER

Taylor Stout '15

Graduation Day is something all the seniors look forward to. This year, the senior class gets to share the experience with a member of the teaching staff, Mr. McCafferty. Before walking across the stage, seniors and everyone else in the room will be able to hear Mr. McCafferty speak on our behalf. “I am excited, but it’s a lot of work. My goal is to make it entertaining and inspirational, but mostly entertaining,” explains Mr. McCafferty. Many seniors have had the privilege of being a student in Mr. McCafferty’s class throughout high school. Mr. McCafferty has been at Pennfield for twenty-two years, student teaching and then teaching classes in social sciences such as History and Psychology, and plans to stay right where he is at, “I enjoy the classroom, it’s just a perfect fit for me.” Mr. McCafferty is a beloved teacher here at Pennfield and we can’t wait to hear what he will say on graduation day.



Advice from Pennfield Staff DeJana Tellis '18



Mr. Forton: College isn’t as hard as they say it is. But don’t skip

Mr. Piotrowski: Continue to work hard and follow your passions



Ms. Metcalf: It’s good to meet people, expand your contacts. Don’t be an introvert, be an extrovert

Mr. Berg: Have a savings/checking account. Learn to budget, pay bills, finance. Learn all this before school starts.



Mrs. Allen: Follow your heart and enjoy a new adventure in your life.

Preparing for the Future

Emma Stover '18

May 31, the day all Seniors have been waiting for. But what comes after that? A lot of seniors are excited to start their future, but are they really ready? Prepared? Do they really know what they want to do with their lives? Hunter Williams says that he wants to travel. “Italy, or something like that. I also want to go to the U.P [after I graduate]! I’ve never been, and I really want to taste actual fudge from the island.” Some people want to go headfirst into college. “I want to get my doctorate in Botany (the study of plants), and also go to culinary school, and master in music.” Says Timothy Clevenger, when asked if he wanted to go to college. When asked if he’s afraid of anything down his career path, he simply replied, “Nope.” The future depends on the senior. Good luck, with whatever you choose!



Where Are They Now? DeJana Tellis '18

In High School, Seniors come and go, but where do they go? Caitlin LaValley, Class of 2009, is living a successful life. After graduation, she attended Olivet College in August of 2009 and in 2013, she graduated with a degree in sports management and business.

Caitlin was then hired at the Battle Creek Parks and Recreation as recreation coordinator March of 2014. One thing that Caitlin misses about high school is, “seeing my closest friends everyday while growing up. There are still about 15-20 of us that still stay in touch with each other, but some are out of state working and it is hard to see them everyday.” When asked if she had any advice for the graduating seniors she said, “My advice for the 2015 graduates is to attend college and pursue a degree that you want to study in. My degree at Olivet College was very beneficial to me since after graduation I received a job right off the bat and started my career. If any of the students have questions regarding what colleges to attend or what should they study, feel free to contact me and I can point them in the right direction.” You can contact Ms. LaValley at cldalvalley@battlecreekmi.gov.



What Does Being an Adult Mean to You?

Logan Messenger '16

A majority of the seniors graduating in May will be at the age of 18, giving them the freedom to do whatever they please, as long as it isn’t illegal. I had the wonderful chance to speak with 4 lovely seniors about what the concept of being an adult means to them.



Alexis Scott - “It means that there is going to be more responsibility and that instead of hiding from it you should just face it. You have to learn how to support yourself.”

Levi Campbell- “It means putting your responsibilities before yourself and doing what needs to be done even if you don’t like it.”



Caleb Minear - “Making decisions by yourself without advice from your parents or teachers.”

Justin Wyatt- “A person who supports themselves financially and who doesn’t rely on any one for anything.”



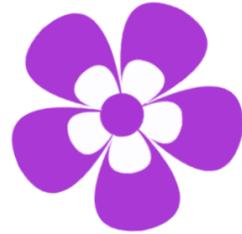


Asia Vasquez asking Jacquilyn Boehmer



Erin Geering asking Taylor Freelove

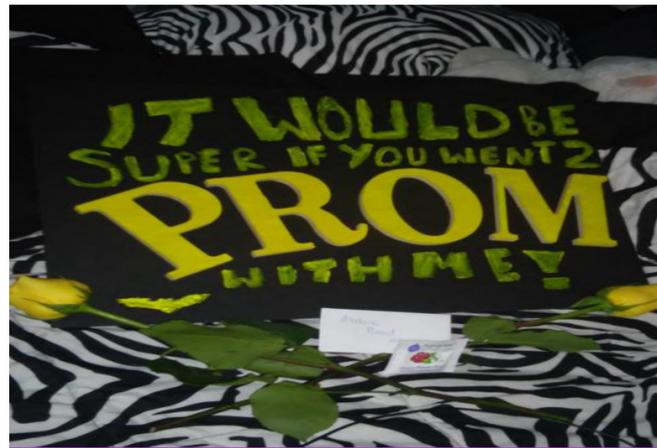
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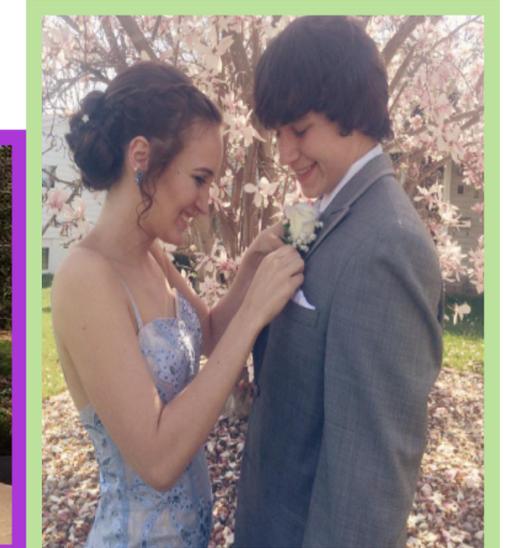
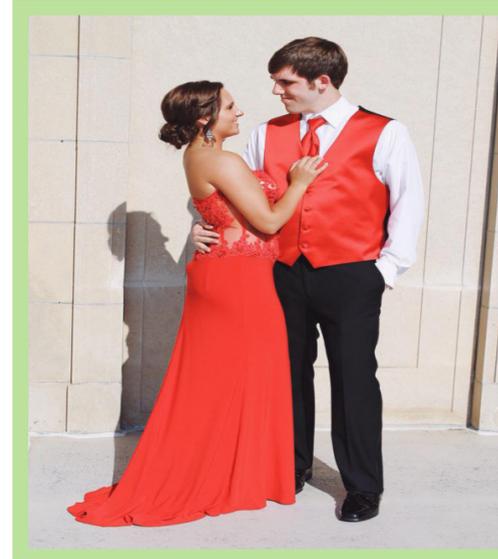
Mike Wilson asking Rebecca Coppess



Brandon Babcock asking Taylor Flood



Ashton Amaro asking Abbie Markos



WHAT WAS YOUR TOP MOMENT OF SENIOR YEAR?

Senior year is known for being one of the best years of our high school experience. From the highs and the lows, there is always some moment that you'll remember for the rest of your lives. I interviewed five seniors and these were their top moments of their senior year!



Tess Needham - "It would be the time that I saw a freshman trip up the stairs."



Trent Rizer - "When Cam put lotion from a magazine on his face in nutrition."



Kayler Beech - "My favorite senior memory would be powderpuff season when I ran that 50 yard dash."



Ryan Lowe - "Playing games in front of big crowds on Friday nights with my teammates."



Cassidy Miller - "My favorite senior memories would be going to all the football and basketball games to help cheer the teams on and support them."

WHAT WOULD YOU REDO?

Mikkii Lovelace '15



Charles Hollins- I would go back and fix all my grades.



Saniah Saleh- I would be more involved in things.



Kayla Colbert- I would redo my organization skills.



Shawn Clark- I would like to redo my algebra classes.



Gavin Goss- I would like to do some sort of sport.



Tabitha Tomasi- Pay more attention during my freshman year so that I could have a higher GPA.

SENIOR TILES

Ashley Tate '15



FAVORITE HS SPORTS MEMORIES

Logan Messenger '16



"Standing on the sideline cheering on the varsity football team on Friday nights looking into the stands"- Briana Everline



"When I ran into the shortstop at districts, Taylor Dean and I almost got into a brawl with Parma"- Junior Vanvalkenburg



"Junior year playing baseball. Tanner Dean got hit by a pitch and grabbed the ball and threw it back to the pitcher. Then he said "you don't throw hard enough to hit me". Also, just playing baseball with the boys"- Kyle Moore

Can you guess who these babies are?



A



B



C



D



E

A.) Ashley Tate B.) Briana Everline C.) Cassidy Miller D.) Taylor Swartz E.) Samantha Penland

Remember When

Chester Dalski '18



Emily Kent
"When Zayn left One Direction and I found out in Mr. K's class."

Brian Case
"6th grade year when Justin bought a bad bottle of root beer and threw up during lunch."



Angelica Burd
"I'll remember when the band was doing "The Run-on" and I slipped and fell straight on my back."

Nikki Klinkel: "I'll remember all the great times in track, but the one I remember most is tripping Taylor Swartz"



MILITARY SENIORS Defending our great country and joining the Military is the greatest honor that some people can only dream of, but a few people get lucky enough to achieve their lifelong dreams of defending our nation by joining the military. Pennfield High School has some of our very own Military Seniors. Senior Sam Penland said, "I wanted to join the military because it is kind of a family thing. I feel like it would be good for me in the long run and I am continuing the "tradition." I am going into the Air Force." Another senior Corie Gardiner is currently in the Army. He was asked if he enjoyed being in the military. Corie said, "It is great that I am doing something for my country and helping people." Thank you to everyone who joins the military, whatever branch. Thank you for your service.

Back in the Day

Taylor Stout '15

When we were in Kindergarten (2002):

- Spiderman was the top movie
- Russia and the United States sign the Moscow Treaty
- "How you Remind me" by Nickelback was the top song
- Eminem and P!nk win the 19th MTV awards
- No Child Left Behind Act is passed
- Kelly Clarkson Wins First American Idol Contest
- The Beltway sniper attacks begin
- 20th James Bond film was released
- George Bush creates the Department of Homeland Security
- The Winter Olympic Games are held in United States

College Sports Camarie Smith '16

As the school year starts to come to an end for seniors, one thing on their mind is where are they going to go for college and what are they going to do at college. Whether academic or athletic. Then again, some people already know what they are going to do. For instance, DaWan Smith is going to Siena Heights to play football. Where as Parker Bowen is going to Albion for football, he is most excited to be able to continue playing football. "After playing my last high school game I thought my season was over, now I have the opportunity to play four more years and I am very thankful for it." Ryan Lowe is also headed to Albion, but to play basketball. Trent Rizer is going to Northern Michigan University to play soccer. He is thrilled about the opportunity. But not everyone knows what they want to do just yet. Some still have to make the final decision.

THE EMERALD

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Senior Newspaper Staff

Taylor Stout-Editor-Being on newspaper has brought me new experiences and lessons. It can take a lot of patience and perseverance. It has taken me out of my comfort zone, especially when talking to people I don't or didn't know. Being editor has also taught me new skills, and I can't wait to take them with me on my college journey.



Samantha Penland-Layout-Newspaper has been a great experience for me. I have come out of my comfort zone and talked to people. I have become very creative and I am getting better. I wish I would have joined sooner, who knows how far along I would be now.



Taylor Swartz-Layout-Being on the newspaper staff has been a great experience. When I first signed up for the class I wasn't sure what I was getting into, but it turned out that I loved it! I wish I would have joined the class earlier in my high school career instead of waiting until I was a senior. I would recommend this class to anyone who might be interested.



Ashley Tate-Writer-Newspaper has been a great experience, I am glad that I made the decision to join this class junior year & continued on with the class senior year. Newspaper has made me step out of my comfort zone at times interviewing people you may not know for an article. It also brought me closer to people in this class. If you're thinking about joining this class but you are unsure, I say just join you just might like it! I wish I would have joined newspaper a lot sooner.



Jaymee Wilber-Writer-Newspaper class has been amazing this year! Bringing me closer to my friends and teaching me great writing skills that I can take with me off to college now. This class definitely takes you out of your comfort zone and gets you to meet new people who you may have never talked to if you didn't have to. Anyone can do and have fun in this class, just try it out!



Mikkii Lovelace-Writer-My Favorite thing about being on Newspaper would have to be how close I have become with the people in this class. It's a great way to learn to leave your comfort zone and its a great way to make friends. I think this is one of the best classes and I would tell anyone that they should join because its a great experience.