The Puma Press

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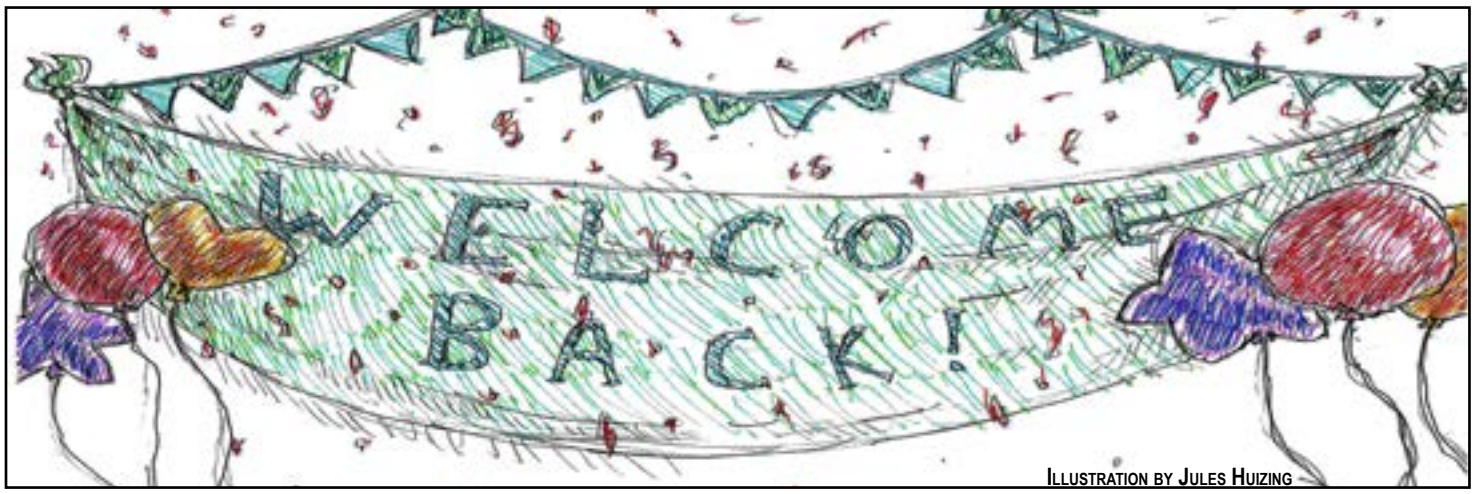

Illustration by Jules Huizing

Students, teachers easing back into school life

BY MACI LEDYARD '28
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Office secretary Ms.Kirstin Scott spent much of the summer promoting he school at community events and organizing Pansophia's front office.
Puma Press File Photo

After the stillness of summer break, the main office at Pansophia seemingly transformed overnight back into a welcoming place.

Ms.Kirstin Scott, one of the school secretaries, was at work for many weeks over the summer. She was answering phone calls left and right and checking her emails daily.

Her desk became chaos; it was covered by piles of student schedules and enrollment forms.

As the first week of school began, she was bombarded with freshmen searching for their classes and students needing help opening their lockers.

We appreciate Mrs.Scott for her hard work helping everyone get a great start to the first week of school.

Pansophia teachers have been working extremely hard these first weeks of school. Teachers have been decorating their classrooms making them safe and fun places to learn. The teachers were making sure they knew what assignments they were going to teach and how they were going to introduce themselves to their new students.

" How stressed was I on a scale from one to 10 and 10 being the worst? I would probably say a four," said high school science teacher Mr. Bernie Nowak. "The reason it's only a four is because this is my third year teaching so I know what I'm doing, but it's still nerve-wracking getting into it. My first week is going well because I know what I'm doing now after three years. One thing I follow is to build relationships with students first so they enjoy your class which makes it easier to learn."

If we take Mr. Nowak's opinion into consideration, it seems like the more you work at the same job and doing the same process every year you begin to become less stressed and it becomes more of a routine and habit and not an overwhelming process.

New phone policy receives support, criticism

BY KAYLEE FIELDS '28
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At Pansophia Academy, a new cell phone policy has been implemented for the 2025-2026 school year.

This policy helps ensure students receive a better education. Pansophia has always wished the best for the students enrolled here; they hope that not having a cell phone on their minds or in sight would help them achieve that.

Teachers have noticed improvement in the past weeks with kids turning work in on time or getting assignments done early.

Although Pansophia has some rules that need to be followed with

See Phone Policy, Page 12

News You Can Use

Media literacy declining

BY JUDAH FRONCZAK '28
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In 2022, a nation-wide poll from Media Literacy Now partnered with the Reboot Foundation showed that "only 4 out of 10 survey participants were taught to analyze science and news stories for bias and credibility" in high school.

So what exactly does all of that mean?

A majority of respondents were never taught how to see the message of the media they chose to read. Eighty-four percent of respondents answered "yes" when asked if they supported required media literacy classes in secondary school.

It's safe to say that media literacy should be a topic in high schools across the nation, however, only California, New Jersey, Delaware, and Texas have implemented a requirement for these classes.

This means very few students nationwide are learning to analyze news.

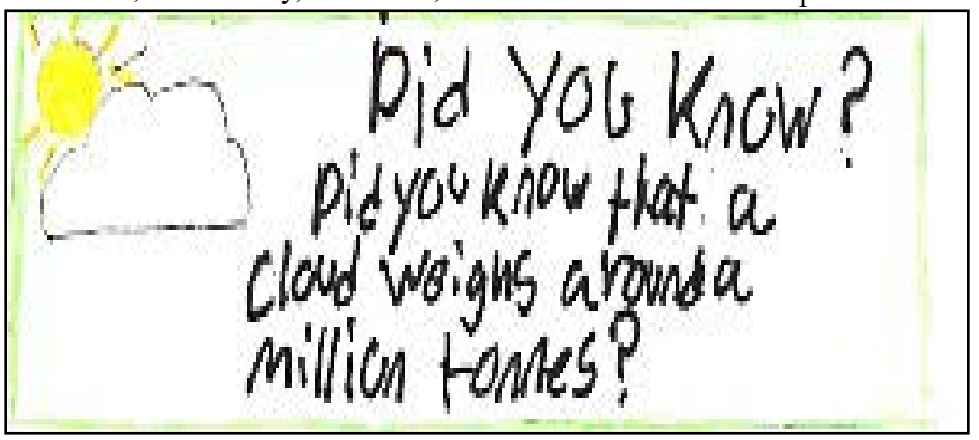
However, the ranks of states that require media literacy classes are growing, with California being added to the list in Oct. 2023.

The law required the state's Instructional Quality Commission to roll out a curriculum framework on media literacy after Jan. 1, 2024.

With this, other states are being pushed to adopt similar standards regarding media literacy.

The Library of Michigan and Western Michigan University received a grant to develop resources based on the "Wonder Media" exhibit.

The exhibit targets middle-schoolers, encouraging critical thinking towards media consumption.



What We're Thinking

What is your favorite type of music?



I love country based music.I love the sound of it and the fact that I was raised listening to it. Country music is what I'm used to listening to.
— Chelsea Imoe, Senior



I like old country music, it's what I grew up listening to, it's what I was raised on hearing.
— Kden Hiestand, Senior



I like early 2000s rock and heavy metal.
— Gracie Leland, Senior



I like emo rap 2000s music, It makes me feel better about who I am than today's music.
— Madison LaPratt, Senior

— Compiled by Jenna Anderson '26

For his sister's Honor

Columbine survivor shares powerful message of forgiveness



Craig Scott, a survivor of the 1999 school shooting at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., spoke at Pansophia on Sept. 3.
Luis Martinez Photo

BY LUIS MARTINEZ '28
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Craig Scott is a very motivational speaker who travels the country talking about his troubles as a young adult.

On April 20, 1999, Craig was 15. At first, it was a normal day of school for him at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo. — but later it would turn out to be the worst day of his life.

On that day, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, students at Columbine, would come into the school with guns and pipe bombs and start destroying the school and killing or injuring dozens of staff and students.

Craig was in the school library when the massacre started. Around 11:20 a.m., Harris and Klebold entered the library, where they killed multiple students, including Craig's older sister, Rachel Joy Scott, 16.

Just after his sister's death, Craig spiraled into a fit of anger. As time, passed, however, he read his sister's journals and decided to take up her cause of making the world a better place.

Through an organization Craig and his parents named "Rachel's Challenge," Craig helps students change their lives and thinking. This is a way he feels his sister can still make a big impact on the world. He speaks to stydent all over the country in his sister's honor.

On Sept. 3, Craig came to Pansophia and shared his personal story and the incredible legacy of his sister. He said his sister's dream was to create a chain reaction of kindness and compassion. Her goal was to encourage others to choose empathy, courage, and connection every day.

To learn more about Rachel's story and how her legacy continues to change lives, visit: rachelschallenge.org.

News You Can Use

Drama Society season to begin in November

BY EMILY WORLAND '29 and AUBREY WOOD '29
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The Pansophia Academy Drama Society was launched in the spring of 2019.

It all started in the gym with a stage that had to be set up and taken down for every performance, borrowed lights, and the school's sometimes tempermental sound system.

"I worried the whole time that it would be a disaster," said Mrs.Jamie Barrand, who teaches Theater Arts at Pansophia and is the adviser of the Drama Society. "But it ended up being a triumph for the students."

The first show the Drama Society put on was a shortened version of "Little Women" in May of 2019. Since then, the Drama Society has put on at least one show every year.

To date, they have put on 10 shows and two dinner theater fundraisers to help raise money for the program.

"My purpose for starting the Drama Society was to give artistic kids another outlet and a place where they could meet people and make friends who had like interests," Mrs. Barrand said. "Athletics are great, but they're not for everyone. The kids who love the arts deserve a special place where they can go and showcase their talents, just the same way athletes do."

The Drama Society is always looking for new members. They will happily welcome anyone who just wants to have a place to go and perform.

"I was horribly, horribly shy in elementary and middle school," Mrs. Barrand said.

Even though she was scared, she had always wanted to be in a play, so she auditioned in the fall of her sophomore year in high school and got a part.

"The minute that spotlight hit me, I was hooked. My shyness disappeared; I became comfortable in my own skin," Mrs. Barrand said. "All of a sudden, I could talk to anyone and I started to love public speaking. I know the value of the performing arts and what they can do for our students.

"I have seen kids I love blossom ... just like I did," she continued. I want those quiet kids to embrace their talents and have their time to shine."

If you are interested in joining the Drama Society the season will kick off in mid-November with a dinner theater fundraiser.

Even if you don't want to be onstage, there are plenty of things you can do to help out. Backstage hands are essential to the theater experience and are equally as important as the actors and actresses.



"Little Women" in May of 2019 was the first show staged by the Pansophia Academy Drama Society. Delaney Squires played Jo; Leo Savage played Laurie.

PUMA PRESS FILE PHOTO

Bein' Judgey



Senior Rashel Martinez serves as a line judge during a recent middle school volleyball game.

MARIA CANCINO PHOTO

Friendly reminder: Personal hygiene is very important

BY KYLIE FIELDS '29
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The awkward moment when you realize you're standing too close to someone with poor hygiene is really an uncomfortable experience.

It reminds us that cleanliness isn't just about preventing illness; it's a social contract.

But what happens when that contract is broken? What do you think is acceptable, and what crosses the line?

Here we are collecting stories and opinions to explore this interesting subject.

As we all get older our bodies change and we must get used to our bodies developing. Some people need help understanding the basics of personal hygiene and the importance of getting advice, even if it's from people you may know or even a teacher.

"I think you shouldn't stink, and I think people should at least smell decent before leaving the house," said 10-grader Kayelee Fields

Even if kids still don't understand the concept of taking care of themselves nd their hygiene even after a certain age, this tends to make others wonder why can't they just take a shower or think "Man, just buy some deodorant already."

What kids need to understand is sometimes it's a matter of others not having access to things they need to stay clean. Other times, they're just not educated on the subject

"Most people don't even know about personal hygiene or putting on deodorant every day or showering before coming to school," said sophomore Ashton Cleckner.

Practicing good hygiene can also improve your mental health and social interactions, making individuals feel more comfortable. Our counselors and social workers at Pansophia can help with personal hygiene issues and items.

Viewpoints

The Puma Press

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Students weigh in on new cellphone policy

BY ANESHA TENNEY '28
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Schools all around the world have changes every year, and one of those major changes at Pansophia is the new phone ban policy.

The phone ban has affected many students in many ways. During classes, students can't play games on their phones or call their parents; music use is limited.

But what is affecting them the most is that not being allowed on their phones is making it so they can't get easy help for their work, so when they don't fully understand the meaning of something on their paper they can't look it up to better understand it.

Students use their phones to look up how to spell words. They also use their phones to look up information that the Chromebooks don't have, but the phone ban is making it so they can't.

Students actually use their phones for many educational purposes, like I already stated they use it to understand things they don't, better their spelling, to look up topics or questions that the Chromebooks don't have good answers to because a lot of the stuff is blocked on the Chromebooks, Students use their phones to also email themselves photos for slide shows, presentations, and projects that they don't have access to on the Chromebooks.

I personally have been affected by this phone ban. I struggle to find good explanations on the Chromebook to help me with work.

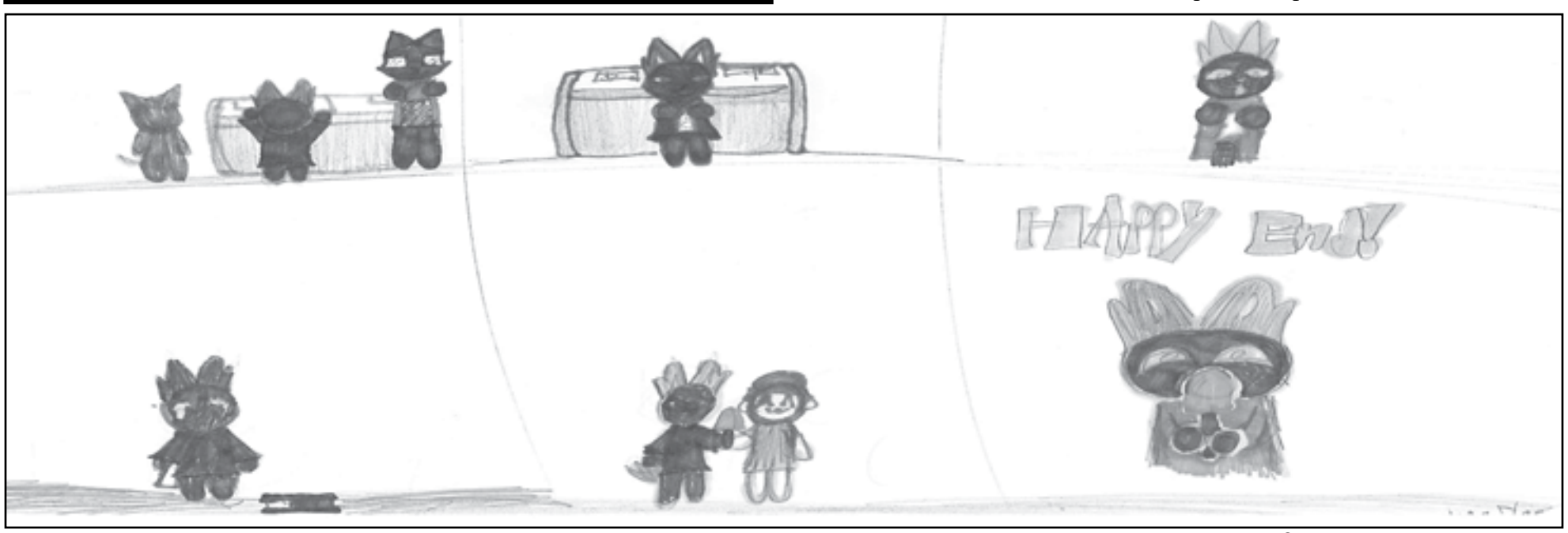
Kids might even fail because of this ban; they won't be able to find good answers or even effectively complete assignments which could in the long run make the students get so stressed that they stop completing the work all together which will make students grades drastically drop.

"I think the phone ban has its ups and downs… It helps some students focus, but others need music to help them concentrate on their work. I think they didn't need to ban them completely though," said sophomore Addisyn Hulliberger.

The phone ban also has its good aspects, no more unconsented photography, no more rumors because they can't post things anywhere online during class time, student's grades could also go up.

"I think the phone ban is good because kids can't take photos in class," a student who wished to remain anonymous said.

I strongly believe that the phone ban has good and bad qualities, even if you don't like the phone ban please respect it.



— Comic by Anesha Tenney '28

Viewpoints

What We're Thinking

What cool, random facts do you know?



Most of your bones are in your hands and feet.

— Mr. Nowak, Science Teacher



1983 was a year they never made a Corvette.

— Mrs. Burton Building Substitute



Whale sharks were around when dinosaurs were.

— Mrs. Nowak, Art Teacher



Margaret Mead found a middle-aged woman who had a broken leg, and it was healed with help from others, showing early signs of human civilization.

— Mr. Pavlica English Teacher

— Compiled by Haku Poley '28

'Superman': A Movie Review

BY EDWARD MUSSELMAN '28
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James Gunn's adaptation of "Superman" was heartfelt, relatable, and funny.

Though he dealt with some criticism, he took a chance putting a fresh take on one of most iconic pop culture heroes of our time.

This could be the signs of something awesome starting in the DC Universe.

Gunn portrays a more down to earth and vulnerable Superman, focusing on his emotions and struggles of being the protector of Earth. It shows his struggle between being both alien to this planet and having grown up on Earth, not focusing on his struggle of hiding being Clark Kent as much.

The supporting characters have depth and emotion. Lex Luthor was given depth that made him more than just a standard villain. There were also lots of classic DC characters sprinkled in to further the plot and add comic relief such as Nathan Fillion as the Green Lantern.

The CGI in the movie was hit or miss. While Krypto the Super Dog was entirely CGI, he looked just like a real dog even in the up close scenes.

However, the Baby Alien didn't look quite as good.

The action scenes are intense and exciting.

Gunn, who is known for his great movie soundtracks, did not disappoint in this film either. There were epic scores alongside modern hits. If you enjoyed the soundtrack to Guardians of the Galaxy volume one through three you won't want to miss this one.

Overall, I think these movies are worth a watch even if you don't normally enjoy superhero movies. Imdb gave superman a 7.3 out of 10. Letterboxd gave it 3.9 stars out of 5. Common Sense Media's age guide says 12+, while parents say 13+ and kids say 11+.

There's no nudity but some passionate kissing. There is also a few uses of foul language, but probably nothing you haven't heard before.

Senior Spotlights

BY KYLIE BOLENBAUGH '28
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I asked three seniors various questions, such as favorite hobbies and weather or stuff about being a senior.

The three seniors I talked to are Dominic Wood, Sky Leland, and Jennifer Fitch.

Here's what they told me.

DOMINIC WOOD

Q. What is your favorite hobby?
A. Working.
Q. What is the best weather in your opinion?
A. Sprinkling.
Q. How does it feel being a senior?
A. I can't wait to be out of here.
Q. What career are you shooting for?
A. I legit don't know.



SKY LELAND

Q. What is your favorite hobby?
A. Reading.
Q. What is the best weather in your opinion?
A.)Fall.
Q. How does it feel being a senior?
A. Surprising.
Q. What career are you shooting for?
A. Registered nurse.



JENNIFER FITCH

Q. What is your favorite hobby?
A. Reading.
Q. What is the best weather in your opinion?
A.Sunny with a cool breeze.
Q. How does it feel being a senior?
A. Really good. I can't wait to get out of school.
Q.) What career are you shooting for?
A. Business and managing.

Court , Field, & Course

Girls playing golf: Pansophia ladies love the links

BY KYLIE BOLENBAUGH '28
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What it's like being a girl who plays golf?

I started playing golf with the Pansophia team because my boyfriend wanted me to try it out.

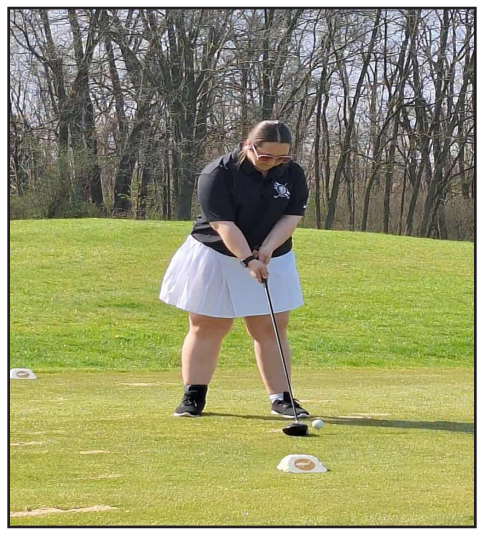
At first I didn't think I would like it, but now I'm always wanting to go play. Golf can be very relaxing and fun — but other times it could be stressful.

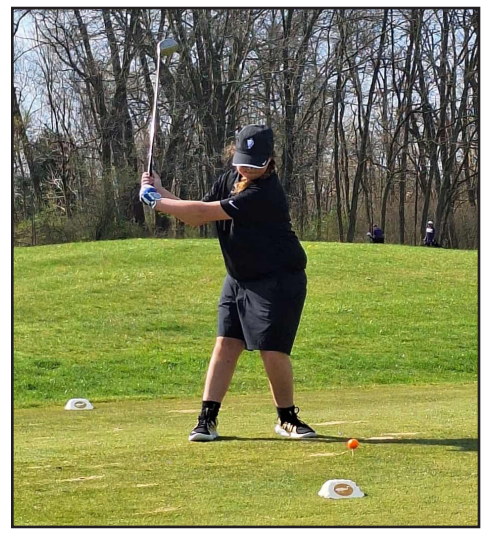
Lilly Reed, a 2025 Pansophia graduate, was also on the golf team last year. She said she really liked golfing and would do it again. She also said that playing with a team of boys is "less drama and more entertainment."

Pansophia junior Bree Burton was another girl on last year's golf team. Bree said she likes golf and she will be on the team again. She said that playing with a team of boys is not a lot of drama, unlike what you would get with a team of girls.

The Pansophia Golf Team is coached by Mr. Bernie Nowak, who said he loves golf , loves coaching the golf team and has a lot of fun with the team _— so much so that he feels it isn't a job because he loves it so much.

His favorite part of golf is the challenge.





Kylie Bolenbaugh, left, and Bree Burton, right, were members of the 2025 Pansophia Academy Golf Team.

PUMA PRESS FILE PHOTOS

Students flock to soccer

BY JULIAN CESAR-VILLA '28
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In 2023, Pansophia fielded their first soccer team since 1997, and the school has had a soccer team ever since.

For many years, the only sports Pansophia had were volleyball and basketball, but since Mr. Jose Gonzalez became the athletic director a few years ago, Pansophia has added sports like baseball, tennis, cross country, football, bowling and soccer.

I'm here to write about how soccer has an impact on students at Pansophia.

When you see the elementary kids playing at recess, what sport do you seem them play most of the time?

It's soccer.

You can see years worth of the impact of the ball hitting the fence. I would say it might be good to have those moveable soccer nets added to the playground, because if they moved it to recess more people would play.

Mr. Kyle Burke coaches Pansophia's soccer team.

"The more sports Pansophia offer makes it more beneficial for students" Mr. Burke said.

The difference between soccer and volleyball and basketball is that we don't have home games since we don't have a field and we don't play the same teams so we just play teams everywhere.

Offering new sports helps give students opportunities and expands students' love for other sports. Pansophia offers good sports and hardworking teams.

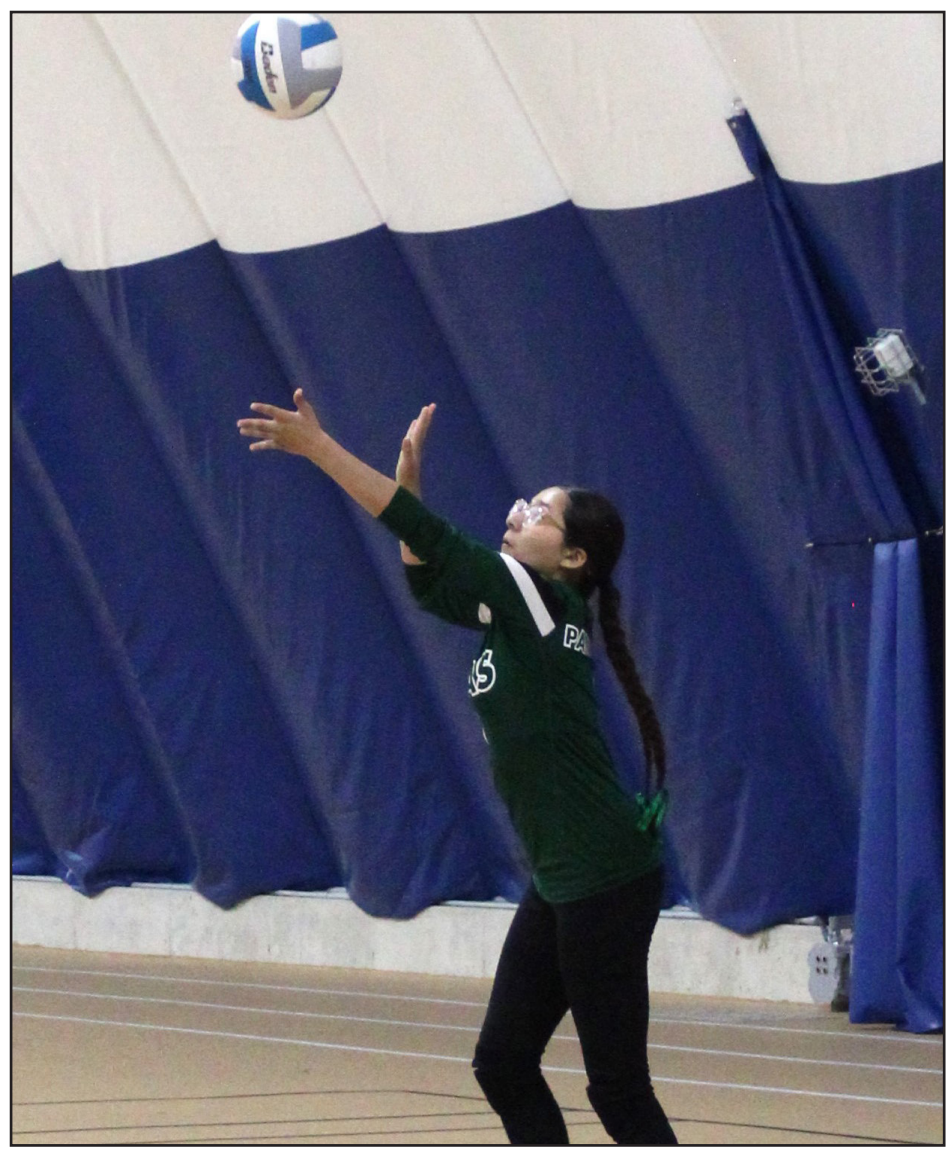
Soccer might not be as popular at Pansophia as other sports, but its definitely one of the most played.



Pansophia freshman Wilker Sanchez-Barrios dribbles a soccer ball down the field during a recent game.

PUMA PRESS FILE PHOTO

HERE IT COMES



Freshman Elizabeth Guzman serves at the Sept. 29 Jackson game.

LUIS MARTINEZ PHOTO

Court , Field, & Course

Pansophia hosted a volleyball tournament on Sept. 27. Teams from Maple Valley, Jackson Prep and Rudolph Steiner participated. The Pumas played Maple Valley in the final round, finishing in second place after two hard-fought, close sets.

Photos courtesy Photo Finish Racing & Sports Photography





Freshmen Lilly Parker, left, and Arizona Reed, right, go for the ball.



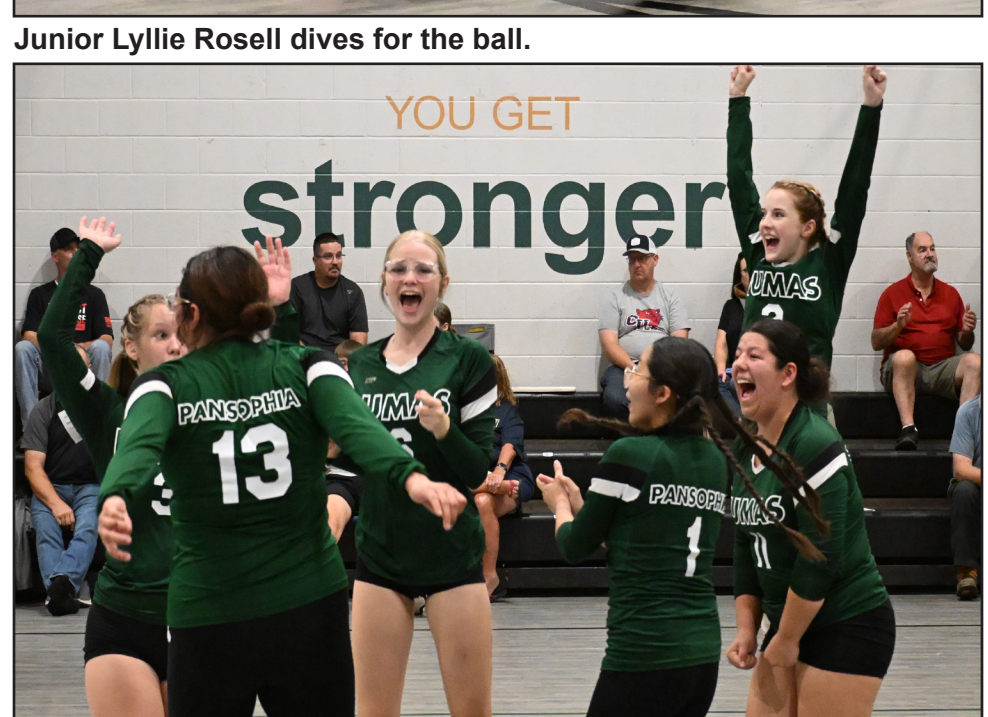
Junior Lyllie Rosell dives for the ball.



Freshmen Farran Spaulding tips the ball over the net.



Coaches Mrs. Sheree Silva, far left, and Ms. Ali Silva, far right, pose with their team at the tournament's conclusion.



From left, Lilly Reed, Iris Ramos, Farrah Spaulding, Elizabeth Guzman, Lilly Parker and Rashel Martinez celebrate a successful play.

News You Can Use



A no-strap rule for classrooms has been put in place this school year at Pansophia Academy.

Haku Poley Photo

Students not pleased with new no-strap rule

BY HAKU POLEY '28
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At Pansophia Academy, there is a new no-strap rule. This means no backpacks, purses, mini backpacks, or fannypacks are allowed inside the classrooms.

There are a lot of students who believe this rule should not be a thing.

Sophomore Dakotya Hurlburt said, "The no-strap rule is stupid, because what if I need my women products for my time of the month and my locker doesn't open, then what do I do?"

A lot of the girls at Pansophia probably agree with that, since a lot of the lockers don't like to work and the bathrooms don't have women's products available in them.

Sophomore Ella Brown is also not a fan of the new rule.

"I think that girls should be allowed to carry bags with straps, because who is it really bothering?" she said. "It's not a distraction; it's just a bag that we need to carry around for our personal items or just stuff we would like to have on us."

I agree a lot with this because of the short time we have to go to our lockers, unlock our lockers, which a lot of the time don't work, then grab what we need and walk all the way back to class.

A lot of the time we're late to class because of how far our lockers are from the classrooms we're in.

Listening to just these two people talk about how much they need their backpacks for certain needs makes me agree a lot with them, especially if you're a girl.

School is already rough for us girls when it comes to that time of the month, and now at school we can't carry our backpacks with women's products we need since the bathrooms don't have them.

School board convenes

BY AUBREY WOOD '29
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The first meeting of the year for the Pansophia Academy Board of Trustees took place on Aug. 25.

In the meeting, the board discussed the annual education report. Representatives from Central Michigan University, which holds Pansophia's charter, were at the meeting also.

The school board approved the school improvement plan.The school improvement plan has three goals: Improve ELA NWEA; improve math NWEA; and improve outcomes for at-risk students.

Also, the school board approved the budget. Willis and Jurasek is an auditing company has used several years; the board voted to used them again this year.

The board was informed of crime reporting of last school year; there were zero crimes to report.

Two members who serve on the board, Caitlin Sheets ad Emily Ellis, are Pansophia graduates.

The board is really supportive of Pansophia's staff. The board is like the government of the school. They approve the budgets and other legal requirements of the school.

Parents don't usually come to board meetings, but they are always welcome. Meeting dates are available on the school app and at pansophiaacademy.org.

Nyah!



Eighth-grader Anali Martinez gets silly before a volleyball game.

Luis Martinez Photo

News You Can Use

PTO has big plans for 2025-26 school year

BY EMILY WORLAND '29
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The first Pansophia Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) meeting of the 2025-26 school year took place on Aug. 25.

Many things were discussed during the meeting, including the PTO's plans for the year, the new additions at Puma Parlor, and just things around the school that they want to be a part of.

This year the PTO will be putting on many events. October will be very busy, starting with homecoming events during the third week and a homecoming dance on Oct.18.

On the Oct. 25, the Trunk or Treat will be held and the PTO will be building a haunted hallway.

"In December, of course, we have Santa's Secret Shop, and that's a huge event the last week of school before the Christmas break," Diane Epps, the PTO president, said.



PTO President Diane Epps, left, and PTO Representative Emily Leland show off the new Puma Pride blanket available at the Puma Parlor.

EMILY WORLAND PHOTO

In January there will be the Sweethearts Dance and Snow Coming. In February they will be helping the second grade with Valentine Grams.

"Yeah, we have a big stock on inventory to help them with," Emily Leland, a PTO representative, said.

Spring will also bring some events.

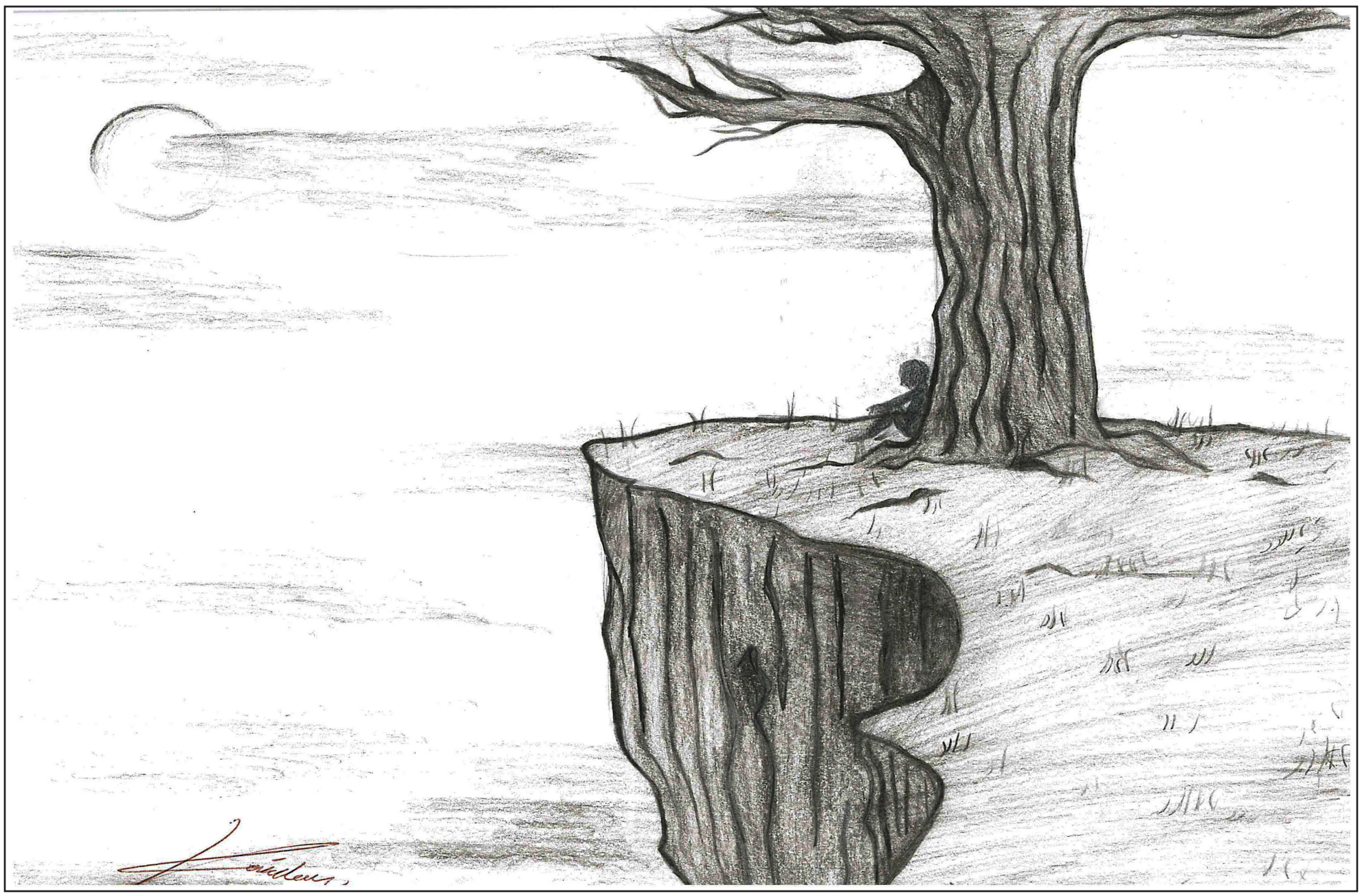
"Prom is April 25 again this year; it will be in Angola, Ind. And we did vote that we are going to do Fun Fair this year," Epps said.

This year there are some changes to the Puma Parlor, the weekly in-school shop at the school. These include new inventory and new prices. The popcorn prices have been raised to 75 cents from 50 cents, and Puma Pride blankets are available for $25.

"We have restocked the sweatshirts and the windbreaker jackets because those are our most popular items, so we do have those again," Epps said.

All PTO decisions are voted on; everyone who comes to the PTO meetings gets a vote.

PTO is always welcomes new members, whether it is a parent, guardian or a staff member.



News You Can Use

Pansophia has rich history

BY KAYELEE FIELDS '28
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Pansophia Academy first opened its doors in the 1995-96 school year. Pansophia was one of the city's first charter schools. There were 472 students that attended Pansophia that year. It was a K-12 school when it opened, and it still is.

Over the next few years the school grew so much it became an amazing school. Their main sports over the years were basketball,volleyball and cheer.

There were very few because it was a brand new school, but the sports expanded over the years. Many students played those sports.

Pansophia's first-ever game played was not publicly available because the charter school's athletic programs were established and organized well after its founding in 1995, with a limited number of sports at the start.

Pansophia's first building was a converted structure on Abbott Avenue; the building has expanded a lot over many years.

In the 2022 school year, Pansophia added to the building with extra class rooms for the teachers and more lockers in that same building.

Many students really enjoyed the extra build because it separated the older students from the little kids.

There is talk of another addition at some point.

"I feel we don't necessarily need a large build; we have too many kids now," said Edward Musselman, a Pansophia sophomore.

This year is Pansophia's 30th anniversary, and staff and students are celebrating the school's growth.

Pansophia has an amazing principal, Mr. Ryan Tomlinson, who has been here for five years. He has helped make Pansophia what it is today.

We really appreciate what he has done to help the school and the students.



Pansophia Academy is celebrating its 30th year in operation.

KAYLEE FIELDS PHOTO

Energy drinks popular with teens



Over half of Pansophia students polled, including freshman Aubrey Wood, said they used energy drinks.

JUDAH FRONCZAKPHOTO

BY JUDAH FRONCZAK '28
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Out of 21 secondary students polled at Pansophia 11 — the majority — said they used energy drinks.

Two were ambiguous on their use of energy drinks.

When asked about use of energy drinks in teenagers, hygienist Judi Springhall, RDH stated the following: "The sugar in the sodas isn't good for your teeth, and citric acid and the phosphoric acid too."

When inquired about potential benefits, Springhall said "The caffeine gives you a short boost in energy. However, it wears off quickly and leaves you tired."

Student-provided reasons for using energy drinks contrast this.Those polled had various explanations for why they felt the need to use energy drinks.

Pansophia Academy sophomore Edward Musselman said, "I drink energy drinks because I don't get enough sleep."

Another Pansophia Academy sophomore, Jules Huizing, said, "I drink them because I like the flavor."

Pansophia sophomore Mike Walters uses energy drinks to maintain daily stamina.

"I have chronic fatigue," they said.

In my opinion, energy drinks can be a useful tool for many students. However, I believe that overuse can result in negative effects like irritability and increased stress.

Health problems can arise as well, due to aforementioned high sugar content.

I believe that, when taken responsibly, these drinks are overall beneficial. However, I also think that the acids and sugar content pose a risk to student health, and these risks should be known and acknowledged.

Faces & Places

For the Love of Nowak

Young marrieds bring art, science to life at Pansophia

BY MACI LEDYARD '28
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Mr. Bernie Nowak and Mrs. Laura Nowak are both teachers at Pansophia, and everyone admires the way they work as a team.

Though they teach different subjects, they still support each other by encouraging one another and sharing ideas for their classrooms.

Their marriage brings a sense of warmth to the school, and students can see how much they care for each other through small gestures and talking about each other to their classes.

Mr. Nowak is a high school science teacher. Many students consider him a very funny and wise man.

Mr. Nowak is knowledgeable on many topics, not just science. He strives to make all of his students feel safe with him.

Mrs. Nowak teaches art to grades K-12. She is very artistic and very smart. She us also is very caring and sweet.

So, how did the Nowaks meet?

"We have known each other since we were in fourth grade," Mrs. Nowak said. "We didn't talk until middle school when we became part of the same friend group."

They dated briefly when they were in high school, "but it didn't work out because of us being in high school and trying to work things out with what we want and everything."

Mr. Nowak's recollection is almost identical to his wife's.

"I transferred to her elementary school in the fourth grade, and the first time I saw her was on the playground," he said. "We dated once in high school for about a month, and then realized we were in high school and didn't know what love was at the time."

Fortunately, as time went on they reconnected. They both graduated from Midland High School in

We graduated from Midland High in 2013, "spent maybe a year not talking to each other before we reconnected at Delta College," Mrs. Nowak said, and then they both transferred to and graduated from Central Michigan University.

The Nowaks married on Nov. 5, 2022, and welcomed daughter Briar on Nov. 12, 2024.

Mr. Nowak said his wife is "so many great things it's hard to pick one," but said a word he would use to describe her is "genuine."

"She doesn't fake anything about herself ... what you see is what you get," he said. "I know this might be cheesy but I would say our family is perfect."

Likewise, Mrs. Nowak had trouble choosing one word to describe her husband, as "he could be described in many great ways."

"If I could describe Mr. Nowak in one word I would say dependable," she finally decided. "He has helped me through lots of things, and I know I can always count and depend on him. I would say our family is very fun-filled."

The Nowaks' story is a true reflection of their love. Both of their eyes lit up as they spoke about each other.



Mrs. Laura Nowak and Mr. Bernie Nowak, who married in 2022, teach art and science at Pansophia, and bring love and family vibes to the school.

Maci Ledyard Photo



Spillin' the Tea: A Pansophia Podcast

Our Audio-Visual Communications class produces a school podcast! You can view our podcasts and other video clips and compilations by subscribing to our YouTube channel, "Spillin' the Tea: A Pansophia Podcast." At our channel, you will find clips about school and current events, sports, society, culture and much more.

Faces & Places

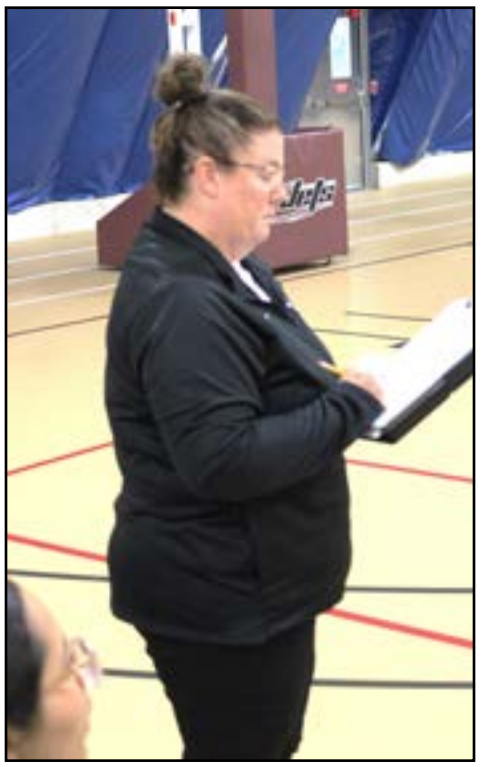
Gotcha!

Our photographers have been on the lookout for moments to capture. Did they catch you?



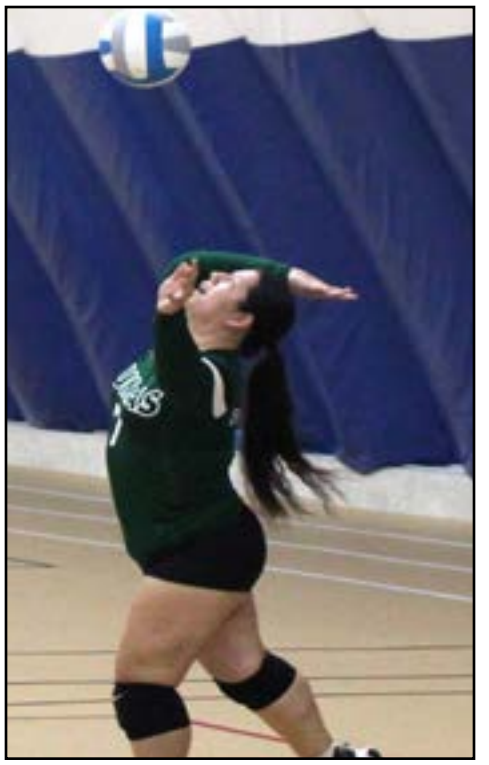
Dixie Bohne, left, and Brenden Clossen do a scene in Theater Arts class.

Emily Worland Photo



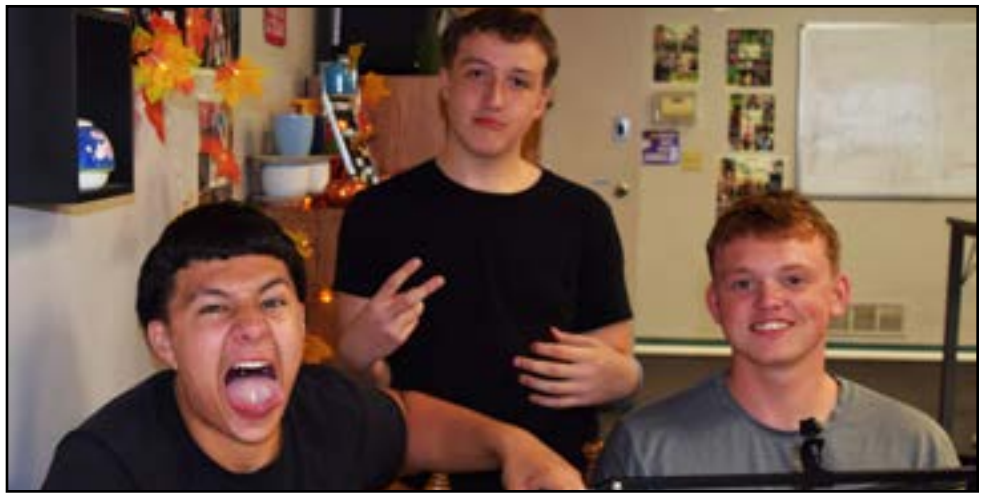
Mrs. Sheree Silva coaches the Pansophia Varsity Volleyball Team.

Luis Martinez Photo



Senior Rashel Martinez puts up a serve during an away game.

Luis Martinez Photo



From left, sophomore Luis Martinez and juniors Deon Danner and Blake Reed prepare to record a podcast in Mrs. Barrand's class.

Adin Ernsberger Photo



Gym teacher Mr. Stephen Graham shares a thoughtful moment with Pansophia's signature Puma.

Deon Danner Photo

PHONE POLICY

Continued from Page 1

the phone policy, like the students can have them during passing time and at lunch.

"I like that we can have our phones during passing time and lunch, and I think they should continue to do that," said sophomore Addisyn Hulliberger. "In the hallways and while we eat we don't need to concentrate on work. We should be allowed to have them in the times we have no work to do."

Most of the kids here are happy that they get to have the cell phones on them or in their backpacks or lucky to have them at all. Staff will be warning the kids to put their phones away, but if they do listen then the phone eventually will be put into a Yondr bag or a parent will have to come get the cell phone, but that's only if they continue to take their phone out even after they have been told to put the phone away multiple times.

The students are still able to listen to music and play games on their Chromebooks on their free time.

Pansophia is improving their education very well by teaching these kids that the phone is not as important.

" How I feel about only being able to have my phone out during lunch and passing ... I honestly don't really mind it, because I can still listen to my music, but I feel as if I don't really get enough time on my phone I wish we had a little more lenience," said sophomore Anesha Tenney.