

Students shined off the senior wall

By Emily Lloyd

In effort to hurry students to class so they would not be tardy, Perry Police Officer **William Klein** beamed his flashlight in students' eyes sitting on the senior wall during several passing periods in late August.

In an interview, the officer said that he "was just joking with some of the kids."

But seniors **Jacey Scales** and **Maddy Eder** don't agree. They both had the flashlight directed at them.

"He wasn't joking," insisted Scales.

That kind of treatment was excessive, given that students still had time to get to class, said Eder.

In addition, other students complained about the flashlight being directed at them at other times of the day, too.

Why would Klein keep repeating the same "joke"?

Also, shining a bright light in people's eyes could hurt them if they have epilepsy, a concussion or photophobia

(light sensitivity).

These are all serious issues that could have occurred whether Klein was joking or not.

Possible reactions include nausea, dizziness, fainting, amnesia and seizures. The officer couldn't have known if any of the students had these afflictions.

"He wasn't joking"

- Jacey Scales

Led by new principal **Kert Boedicker**, Perry administrators are enforcing a strict policy designed to eliminate class tardies. They are urging students to be moving toward class by the two-minute mark.

"The first and last 10 minutes of class are the most important, and it's respectful to your teacher to be on time," Boedicker said. He was not aware that the officer was using his flashlight to startle students.

Lauren Buesking, Assistant Principal and Dean, didn't know about the flashlight occurrences either. She said school resource officers don't implement or enforce school policies. Instead, they assist administrators when needed.

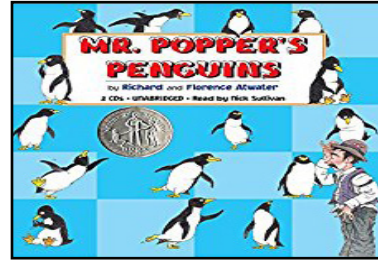
Students can hear, so why would a flashing light make them move any faster than a verbal warning? They haven't committed a crime so the use of anything other than words is unnecessary.

In the staff ethics policies for Perry Township schools, By-law 3210 states: "Professional staff members in the performance of their professional duties will exercise due care to protect the mental and physical safety of students, colleagues, and subordinates."

Klein did not take these laws into consideration. I'm not saying he should have them memorized, but stepping into this building shouldn't mean giving up rights or being at risk from anyone, let alone people who are hired to protect us, the students.

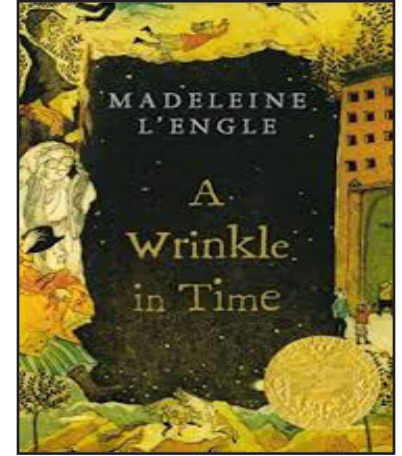


Principal **Kert Boedicker's** favorite childhood book is "Where the Wild things Are," by **Maurice Sendak**.



Maria Delon said "Mr. Popper's Penguins" by **Florence Atwater** and **Richard Atwater** became a favorite after her second grade teacher read the book aloud.

Educators share favorite childhood novels



Science teacher **Sue Frantsi** chose "A Wrinkle in Time" by **Madeleine L'Engle** as her childhood favorite. Frantsi loved it, because she "indented with the main character."

the CROZ NEST



Adam Crozier interviews **Tluang "Daniel" Thang**, AP student-athlete and drummer.

What are some foods you miss from Hakha, the capital of Chin State in Burma, you can't have in America?

Khuhlu-- it's a small, green fruit. It is very sour. You can find them in the forest, which is only in some parts of Southeast Asia. It is not in the United States so it is very hard to get. There is also this thing aitek. It's brown, it's like they're very small. It is sour, too. I mostly like sour foods. I guess I've been eating sour foods since I was little. There's not like anything that's more sour than khuhlu. Khuhlu's like one of my favorite foods. I haven't had them in a long time. A fresh one, to be precise.

Why do you have two first names?

I named myself when I first came here. I was kind of frustrated because they couldn't say my name correctly. So I came up with an American name that's meaningful. In the Bible, Daniel was very wise, and he thinks before he acts and stays to his Faith, so that's how I want to be.



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