

Dear Mr. Porcello,

Our school has been very successful when it comes to athletics and academics. We have been fortunate in recent years for being so successful, but being seniors at Perry High School we have noticed a cultural issue within the school. These last four years our school stands out in that, we struggle in having good school spirit. Our school spirit lacks the strength and pride that nearby schools have, when these schools have been less successful than Perry.

Perry has tried to promote school spirit with the Red Army, which was working, but it seems that the Army has slowly deteriorated. There has been success with the spirit bus and the spirit rock but more has to be done. The fact being that our school is very high achieving in many areas and school spirit seems to be on a downfall; we think there should be some actions taken place to make sure Perry High School will have the best school spirit around.

The problem is that Perry lacks fun school events like pep rallies, students vs faculty games, and student competitions. Perry only has at least one pep rally a year, this being the same anticipated homecoming rally. While Madison on the other hand has had at least 3 pep rallies already just this year as we watch on Madison's student's social media, where the students are shouting with school pride. Perry also lacks a Homecoming King which is something most schools around here have, like Riverside and Orange, which produces positive student competition. Other schools have signature late days (late day- is a day we're schools normal start time is pushed back later) like Madison has late days on Tuesdays start time is 9:00 am and Mentor has late days on Wednesdays at 8:30 am. This gives their school a special difference than being the same as all other schools and give the students something to brag about. Most schools host a football vs girls volleyball team game which could give a fun twist to school spirit. Also Many school's student councils take a huge role into the school's decisions creating more student participation. Whereas, every year our leading students council members talk about how they have little to no responsibility or participation in anything. Also important to school spirit is traditions, traditions give students something to stand for and take pride in. Chardon High School has their "Hilltopper pickaxe" and Madison has their saying "212" these schools take great honor in these traditions. Being a Perry student I can't say we have a certain import school tradition or saying, but what we do have is a rock. There's so many other activities that other schools participate in that Perry does not. Other schools do senior painting parking spots, school movie nights, yearbook cover competitions, school cookouts, and have an actual mascot at all the games. All of these activities are great for school spirit and can even bring in some school money for fundraisers.

There's no hiding that Perry High School lacks school spirit. You can go to a sporting event and you notice the small student section and the only people making any noise are the parents. You can ask any students at Perry High, how they feel their school spirit is, most would answer with a negative response. When we looked at other schools with noticeably good school spirit we saw that they do many things differently than Perry High School. Our conclusion came down to the many fun school activities we have mentioned that the school of Perry has not participated in years, or frankly ever. We believe Perry needs to add more school events and

traditions, like the other schools mentioned do. This would create a better overall feeling of school spirit and create a fun and high achieving school.

CITE:

https://www.madison-lake.k12.oh.us/school_home.aspx?schoolid=1

<https://www.weareteachers.com/50-surefire-ways-to-build-school-spirit/>

<http://www.mentorschools.net/protected/ArticleView.aspx?iid=5AA2Y2&dasi=3YUY>