

Crooksville Exempted Village School District

4065 School Drive, Crooksville, OH 43731 * 740-982-7040

www.crooksville.k12.oh.us



A Note from the Superintendent

Dear Ceramics,

I can't believe that the first quarter of the school year has already been completed. The first few weeks of school are always extremely crucial because that is when the tone for the school year is set by establishing expectations and routines. Now that the groundwork is in place, it is very rewarding for me to enter different classrooms and see students highly engaged in educational activities. A handful of these activities and events are highlighted in this newsletter. This includes updates from each of our schools, an athletic department update, the launch of a student newspaper, and many others.

Being new to the district, I have been amazed at all of the positive learning experiences available to our students. I also have been impressed with the amount of community pride shown by our students, staff, and community members at our school and sports events. I have enjoyed meeting many of you at these events. If we have not yet had the chance to meet, please do not hesitate to introduce yourself as you see me out in the community. The hospitality that has been extended to me in these first few months has been fantastic and it is greatly appreciated. I encourage you to attend one of our upcoming events. We all must work together to provide the best education possible for our students.

Your partner in education,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew L. Sheridan".

Matt Sheridan

Crooksville Primary truly is a *School of Promise*

K-7 Principal, Mr. John Toeller received the following letter on October 27, 2014 from the State Superintendent

Dear Principal Toeller:

My greatest commitment as the leader of Ohio's public education system is to make sure that every child, in every school, in every Ohio community receives the best education possible. That's why I am pleased to tell you that the Ohio Department of Education has named Crooksville Primary School a 2014 Ohio School of Promise based on your 2014 Ohio School Report Card. This is the second consecutive year your school has received this honor.

We all know that poverty presents major challenges to student achievement, and it often continues from generation to generation. Yet with 40 percent or more of Crooksville Primary School's students coming from low-income homes, your school has closed the math and reading achievement gap for students from every background. That means *all* of your girls and boys are gaining the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in college, other postsecondary training, jobs and life. Only schools like yours can help break the cycle of poverty. What a wonderful legacy you are building for your community.

As one of 98 elite Schools of Promise in Ohio, you have set a strong example of what educators, parents and community members can achieve when they work together with student achievement as the goal. I thank you for your leader-

ship and ask you to pass on my thanks to others who share in your success. Crooksville Primary School truly is a School of Promise for all of your students.

In the coming weeks, you will receive an official School of Promise banner to display in your school building. If you have questions about the banner or the award, please contact Sherry Panizo in the Office of Policy and Research.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Ross, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

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Crooksville EVSD + Community Eligibility Provision = Success for our Students

Crooksville Schools is delighted about implementing the Community Eligibility Option of the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program for this school year. All enrolled students are eligible to receive breakfast and lunch at no charge without having to submit an application. CEP is a federal program that helps schools and districts in high poverty communities serve all students. The district must meet a 40% minimum of identified students for free lunches the prior year.

Children who regularly eat school breakfast score 17% higher on standardized math tests.

If you have any questions call the district office, 740-982-7040.

CCR– College and Career Readiness

Crooksville Schools is in its second year of College & Career Readiness (CCR) for the district. Through grant funding, Crooksville's teacher, Sean Hill, CCR Advisor (15th year with the district) is able to focus his duties on this federal and state pushed initiative. The goal and design of this position follows Crooksville's CCR Strategic Plan. The plan focuses on three pillars: Academic Preparation, Accessibility, and Aspiration. This means that Crooksville will continue to focus on preparing our students for the real world. Starting on their career path in pre-school, our students begin to hear about jobs people have; and by the time students are graduating, they have had an opportunity to learn about many possible directions to go in life. We have students examining their own interests in the intermediate building so they can: consider education at Mid-East CTC, begin a dual-enrollment track (generally to go to a four year college), look into military service, consider a vocational type of college for a one or two year certification, or jump into the entry level of our work force.

This year a new class called Ceramic Success (taught by Mr. Hill), is a great fit for juniors and seniors but can benefit underclassman as well. Students have access to real life resources such as Ohio's web tool for employment, **ohiomeansjobs.org**, and a program called **Virtual Job Shadow**. Students find what their personalities are and how they might correlate with a career. During this class students also have an opportunity to listen to guest speakers from area colleges, military recruiters, and employers and other business people from the area.



Mr. Richard Mator from the Lincoln College of Technology discussing future options for our students.

High School Happenings

By Principal, Kevin Smith

We started a new student of the month initiative this year for every grade. We want to recognize and celebrate our student's great efforts and contributions to our school. The basis for nominations include; grades, character, citizenship, respect and responsibility. The students are taken out to lunch, receive a T-shirt, window decal and their picture in the newspaper. This month five individuals were selected: Terri Taylor (8th grade), Paige Beish (9th grade), Kolvin Hunter (10th grade), Christina Mursa (11th grade), Leann Hinkle (12th grade).

The Perry County Tribune also honors one student monthly in their Wednesday edition. Jalyn Bolyard was selected as September's Student of the Month for her academic and athletic success. She is a member of the drama club, choir, student council, National Honor Society, quiz team, literary club and Destination Imagination. She was a member of our girls' golf team that advanced to the district tournament.

We have been blessed to have had the opportunity to provide our teachers and students with iPad carts. We have dispersed fifteen carts this year supplying 24 iPads in each. This was funded through grant money obtained at the end of last school year. These carts bring learning experiences to the hands of students in every classroom and provide valuable resources. We hope to continue to provide these great opportunities for our students to enhance their learning experiences here at Crooksville High School.

Senior, Tyler Ansel through his leader-

ship and contributions with our Red Cross Blood Drives received the Towers/Tyler Diversity Award. Tyler schedules, organizes and manages all the drives here at Crooksville High School. He was recognized at an awards assembly in October. See the picture on the school HS webpage.

New Student Newspaper Released By High School Language Arts Teacher, J.J. LaBatte

Mr. LaBatte and his journalism class are pleased to announce the release of Crooksville High School's official newspaper *The CHS Potter's Paper*. The newspaper and class is nearly 100% student-run from behind the scenes to final production every Wednesday.

Students began the course developing the sections of the paper as well as designing their own rubric for grading the weekly articles. From there an extensive brainstorming session is held in which students discuss what is relevant, important, and newsworthy. After signing up for an article, the students use a variety of interview methods. Students maintain a journalistic style with their writing, and before a final submission they must go through a peer review process. The class has caught on quick concerning this new style of writing and also adopted tricks and strategies to their core English class.

While the class is an elective there has been plenty of opportunity for cross-curricular carryover in that writing skills have improved, an introduction to new research methods, and a new familiarity with databases. Each week has a "mini-lesson" with cross-curricular application in mind, on top of the weekly article assignment. Students are staying extremely busy five days out of the week.

The reaction and feedback from the paper has been overwhelmingly positive from students and faculty alike. We sincerely hope this is the start of a new exciting tradition at CHS and something we can look forward to for years to come.



On October 1st, we inducted 12 new members into our National Honor Society. Mr. Chad Miller, who advises the club, performed the ceremony in the high school commons. Staff, parents, friends and family members all witnessed the induction of the new members. Pictured left to right—row 1; Jade Thompson, Tanner German, Kaitlyn Mills—row 2; Ashten Dobbins, Audrey Thomas, Trevor Piccone—row 3; Aaron Holcomb, Bailey Hartley, Dylan Storts. Not pictured; Shelby Garey, Kaitlyn Stewart, and Faith Stickdorn.

2014 Crooksville High School National Honor Society

Intermediate School News

By Assistant Principal, John Gardner

The intermediate school has gotten off to a great start. Students in grades four through seven are being recognized by their teachers for their hard work. Congratulations to the following students for being chosen as the August and September students of the month; Amari Smith, Gavin Fields, Samantha Reed, Haley Compston, Fate Porter, Leah Spring, Makenna Motz, Alaina Miller, Emily Zartman, Ashley Allen, Colton Porter, Sarah Stalter, and Patrick Hazlett. These students were honored by attending lunch at Crossroads Café and receiving a t-shirt and car sticker.

Student athletes at the intermediate school have enjoyed some successes as well. The seventh grade football team has a record of 4-3 on the year. Our seventh grade volleyball team advanced to the second round of the MVL tournament. Congratulations to seventh grader Kam Hunter for placing fifth at the district cross country meet. All of our student athletes have improved tremendously since the beginning of the season.

Primary School Update

By K-7 Principal, John Toeller

The first nine weeks have come and gone quickly in the primary school. Teachers are working hard to meet student's individual needs. We are using a new system to track student progress called STAR. Students will have their progress in reading and math monitored using this system. The system will generate reports that will help teachers design instruction that meets the needs of all students.

The primary school will be choosing a student of the month for each class in grades one through three. The students of the month for September received a car sticker and t-shirt. They also joined their fellow students of the month for a lunch at Crossroads Café. The primary school students of the month were: Raidyn Davis, Victor Bobb, Drake Skeenes, Grayson Houk, Isabella D'amato, Noah Peck, Brynn Lundell, Denver Dyer, Ryan Taylor, Rayne Schooley and Sienna Porter.

Eleven primary students "Stepped Up to Blue" during the months of August and September and were recognized at a ceremony in front of their parents and peers on Friday, October 10. Students "Stepped Up to Blue" by

To BLUE"

"Step Up

going above and beyond what's expected of them in the areas of character, helping others, acts of kindness, and leadership. Those stepping up to BLUE were: Ella McCormick, Denver Dyer, Alli Wilson, Sonni Nelson, Drew Hartley, Raidyn Davis, Eli Tedrow, Kemersyn Hunter, Shelby Reed, Alexia VanMeter and Amista Hill.

We invite you to visit the school website for additional information, such as; school calendars, athletic schedules, staff directory, cafeteria menus, building telephone numbers, current activities and news.

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Curriculum Update

By Curriculum Director, Alea Barker

Our fall has been extremely busy with the opening of school, attaining supplies for classrooms and assisting teachers with unit planning to deliver high quality lessons for our students.

We are pleased to begin the incorporation of technology into our daily instruction utilizing iPads that were purchased with Straight A Grant monies. Students are able to use the technology for engaging lessons, gain instant feedback from teachers and to ready themselves for the new assessments that will be required in the state of Ohio.

Teachers have been utilizing a new tool to our district, the STAR assessment in reading and mathematics, to gain knowledge about their student's instructional levels. Teachers meet in teacher-based teams to discuss student data and determine an instructional path for each student's

learning. We have gotten some great feedback from parents regarding the reports they have received. Please feel free to ask your student's teachers about their STAR assessment data.

A great opportunity has been afforded to our district from a grant entitled GEAR UP. Our district has partnered with the Ohio Board of Regents and the Ohio College Access network to obtain this grant which will focus on increasing academic performance, as well as, students enrolling in post-secondary options.

We were fortunate that the Crooksville Fire Department came to our district in honor of Fire Prevention Month in October. The firefighters built a pretend fire house and the students got to hold the hose and practice their firefighting skills. To the right is a picture of a student being shown how to hold the hose. We appreciate the community partnership with the CFD!



✓ Check out our Facebook page @ Crooksville EV Schools!



Crooksville Athletics * 2014 Fall Sports

GOLF—Our first girls' golf team in school history had a successful season. Coached by Phil Wollenberg the Lady Ceramics went on to play in the district tournament after finishing third at the sectionals. Team members—seniors, **Lindsey Crowder (pictured)**, Jaylyn Bolyard, and Alisha Schilling—juniors, Kaitlyn Stewart and freshman, Daralyn Ater. The boys' golf team, coached by Tim Wollenberg had three JV players; Tyler Ansel (12th), Robert Penrod and Tyler Norris (9th) while Dylan Storts



(11th) played a varsity schedule with New Lex golfers.

CROSS COUNTRY—Coached by Doug Carder, a young girls team with one senior, Cheyenne Howell qualified 15th out of 27 teams to place at the district tournament. The boys team ran at Rio Grande and advanced two sophomore runners to regionals; Kolvin Hunter and Dustin O'Neal.

VOLLEYBALL—first year head coach, Kim Russell-Reed led the young but talented volleyball team to one of its most productive seasons in history as they finished fifth in the MVL at 9-6 and 13-8 overall. The varsity team won their first sectional vs. Belpre on their home court hosting



Jordan Smith

the first sectional tournament at CHS. The team won 25-8, 25-14, 25-15 supported by a large crowd of C-ville fans. They lost to Meigs in the sectional final.

FOOTBALL—Our first year head football coach, Chad Mickey, has moved the team in the right direction this season. Junior quarterback Tanner German went down with a season ending injury in week three. Even though he was greatly missed, freshman, Landon Hinkle did a nice job of taking over the position for the rest of the season. Outstanding efforts from senior running backs, **Nate Daniels (pictured)** and Jeffrey Patrick and sophomore Alan Wolfe helped to make the season a success.

