

Success Starts Here

Crooksville Exempted Village School District

The newsletter may be found on our district website www.crooksville.k12.oh.us.

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November 2012

Issue II

A note from the Superintendent

Mr. Kyle Newton

As you are in the grocery store, walking the track, or having your lunch in the community, you may hear some discussion regarding our schools. Sometimes this discussion is positive, but periodically it has an undertone of being negative. In the district our staff works hard to provide the highest quality education for the children of our community. We do this because we love being educators. Our staff is filled with individuals who want to make a difference in the lives of young boys and girls. I am proud of our staff and their efforts.

Our primary students have been introduced to a behavior plan that includes filling the “buckets” of others with positive statements and actions and not dipping into the “buckets” of others with negative statements and actions. I challenge you to add to our “school’s bucket” and seek out solutions and ask questions that lead to resolution rather than conflict over issues you may have encountered. Throughout our school community we are filled with individuals that are dedicated to the education of our students, please take a second to thank them, support them, and to continue our positive momentum.

As you know, our district’s focus is to Strengthen Instruction, Improve Operations, and Foster Collaboration and on these fronts our students and staff are leading these initiatives. Through candid and cooperative professional development, district and building workgroups, and teacher teams, instruction and collaboration is taking place daily to improve the instruction for our students. The people of our district are moving forward in a collective effort to raise our collective level of education. Recently, a



large group of our staff received results regarding their growth as educators.

As dedicated professionals who internalize, sacrifice, and personalize their efforts, receiving a measurement of their efforts can be both terrifying and exhilarating. Overall, these results validate that our focus and collective efforts as a district, and individually as teachers are on target and moving forward. I commend our staff for their growth and look forward to our efforts in supporting them in the future.

Again, I believe that our district has a positive momentum that will continue forward and impact our students. I also want to thank those of you that have raised your hand and stepped forward to share in this momentum. We are building a different kind of school community, one that listens and is influenced by those who want to make a difference and are willing to act.

Curriculum News

Alea Barker, Director of Learning

We are pleased to announce that our ROCHS-Rural Ohio College High School has been named one of 100 exhibitors at the Ohio School Boards Association Student Achievement Fair, November 13 at the 2012 Ohio School Boards (OSBA) Capital Conference and Trade Show. OSBA will be showcasing 100 innovative programs at this year’s fair, held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in downtown Columbus.

ROCHS-Rural Ohio College High School was selected to participate based upon its program’s creativity and positive impact on student achievement. Students from three school districts; Crooksville, Morgan and New Lexington participate in this program. Currently, the students are learning College Physics from CHS teacher and Central Ohio Technical College adjunct professor, Mr. Will Sheets. Mr.

Sheets will be directing the students at the achievement fair to showcase the unique capabilities the program offers to enhance student learning.

The Student Achievement Fair is sponsored by the OSBA Student Achievement Leadership Team, which is an integral part of OSBA’s focus on improving public education. Approximately 10,000 school board members, administrators, teachers, students, vendors and guests attend the four-day Capital Conference, which will be held November 11-14.

Another presentation that was selected for showcasing entitled, “Growing Our Own-Building Human Capital” will be presented by the following group of educators during the same conference; Kyle Newton, Alea Barker, Casey Coffey, Terri Caton, John Toeller and Renee Eppley. This presentation will focus on the empowerment of our own school staff through peer to peer observations, focused professional development during embedded professional time and valuing leadership teams.

Ohio School Boards Association leads the way to educational excellence by serving Ohio’s public school board members and the diverse districts they represent through superior service and creative solutions.

Congratulations to
our students and staff
for this great opportunity to showcase
our school district!

Crooksville High School

Mr. Casey Coffey, Principal

At Crooksville High School we are focusing on the demand of College and Career Readiness within the scope of this charge, three pillars exist as focal points.

The First Pillar is Academic Preparation:

College and Career Readiness

Within our high school we operate under what we refer to as the Collaborative Model. Through increased rigor and constant communication that drills down standards of instruction, we have developed Teacher Based Teams that develop a plan of action for student success. We meet twice a week by departments and twice a month by grade level to review all student needs ranging from academic progress to review of individual student ability predictors. We implemented a system that includes Internal Learning Facilitator services which involves an additional opportunity for teacher leaders and capacity building. The charge of this piece is Reading Fluency. One of the things that have been a success at our K-7 building has been the process of consistently monitoring and evaluating fluency through the DIBELS reading assessment system. We are incorporating this as a part of academic preparation in order to meet the challenge of the increased rigor of instruction that lies ahead. Professional development of all staff during this process is essential in order to change learning culture. Our curriculum department has left no stone unturned and continues to provide high quality training opportunities through the Ohio Appalachian Collaborative and through the capacity of local resources.

The Second Pillar is Accessibility:

At Crooksville we have blended out course offerings to anticipate the needs of 21st century demands. We offer our ROCHS (Rural Ohio Early College High School Program) as a means to prepare our students for higher learning opportunities. In addition we have identified “buckets” of students based on data sets that give them the opportunities for courses of increased rigor and demand. We are constantly evaluating the needs of our students. We are

creating and sustaining dual enrollment courses that meet the needs of our student population. We are partnering with local colleges to provide these opportunities.

The Third Pillar is Aspiration:

This particular pillar will involve evaluating our community resources available, and barriers that students face. It is our hope that the outcomes of this pillar will range from increased graduation rates to personalized postsecondary plans for all students. Our future plans are to provide the opportunity for every junior to take the ACT and provide the financial support through the procurement of grants that support College and Career Readiness. Additionally, we will continue to provide after school and before school programs through our 21st Century Program.



Crooksville Intermediate School

Mrs. Terri Caton, Principal

**Character *Involvement *Scholarship*

Dear Parents, Families and Community Members,

It is my pleasure to report to you the progress our Intermediate School Students are making in their learning. You may have seen in the newspaper or online that our school received a rating of Effective from the Ohio Department of Education for the 2011-2012 school year. I'd like to explain how that rating is determined and provide you with some more detailed information about the report card.

Every school with students in grades 3-8 must give the Ohio Achievement Tests in reading and in math. In addition, students in grades 5 and 8 take an achievement test in science as well. One of the scores that play a part in our rating is the number of tests (reading, math and science) passed at each grade level at or above the 75 % level. Attendance also counts, with schools receiving a point if yearly student attendance is at or above 93%. At the intermediate school, that

means we have the opportunity of earning a total of 10 points. Ohio says that schools that earn 93% of the available points will be rated as Excellent. This year we achieved 9 of 10 possible points or 90%. That makes our rating Effective.

Ohio also gives each school a score called the Performance Index. The short explanation is that schools receive more points for advanced and accelerated scores than for proficient scores. A Performance Index of 100 or higher also earns a rating of Excellent. Our Performance Index score this year is 97.8 (Effective). We've improved our score almost 7 points in the past two years.

The final reported measure is called Value-Added. Value-added measures tell us if students in our school met the yearly growth goals set by the state. For the third year in a row, our students met or exceeded the yearly goals.

I am really proud of the accomplishments of our students and of all the teachers who made that learning possible. However, those scores are just a part of what we do. Every day in our classrooms, I see students who are working hard at their learning and teachers who are working just as hard to make lessons both challenging and achievable.

One important factor in our progress is the increased use of assessments. Some of you are probably thinking quizzes or tests. Those are just two examples of how our teachers are looking at student learning. Ask your students about rubrics, entrance and exit slips, red, yellow, green strategy or muddiest point! These are all tools teachers are using to determine what students have learned and what they still need to learn. Students do not receive a “grade” for this work; rather, teachers use the information to plan new instruction. Those of you who check Progress Book may be surprised or even concerned that you do not see as many grades as in the past. That is because we are using more *assessment for learning*. That's a very good thing for your student! Think back to when you were learning to drive. Imagine if every time you

practiced, even from the very first time you were behind the wheel, you were given a score that determined if you received your license! No one would think that was fair. Classroom assessments work the very same way. We practice to get better. Grades should show how much we know at the end of the instruction, not at the beginning!

A big thank you to all of our cross-country runners, cheerleaders, volleyball players and football players and coaches! We appreciate all the time and effort you put forth to represent our school. Basketball and wrestling will be starting soon. Come out and support the kids! Enjoy our wonderful autumn weather.

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Crooksville Primary

Mr. John Toeller, Principal

Our first Connection Report on your student's progress went home on Friday, October 12. We will be sending home a report at the beginning of November and then again before Christmas break and each month from January through May. We feel these Connections will give parents a more frequent look at their child's progress than a traditional report card. If you have questions concerning your child's Connection please contact the teacher. We ask for your patience as we work with this new way of reporting student achievement.

Thank you to all parents who helped insure your child attended school during "count week" which was the first full week of October. One child from each class whose attendance was perfect during count week received a \$10.00 gift card for Wal-Mart. The money used for this incentive was raised through ongoing fundraisers to reward students. Fourteen students in all won gift cards. Thanks again! And we look forward to seeing everyone at the Parent-Teacher Conferences.



School Activity News

Crooksville High School Student Council elected officers and the following students were voted to represent their school:

- President—Jaden Derwacter**
- Vice President—Shelbi Van Meter**
- Secretary—Taylor Pennington**
- Assistant Secretary—Mia Dalrymple**
- Treasurer—Dalton Rollison**
- Assistant Treasurer—Austin Ebert**

C.H.S. National Honor Society held its banquet on September 25 inducting new members. Current members are **Brianna Finck (President), Nathaniel Stalling (Vice President), Gage Shinn (Secretary), Adam Holcomb (Treasurer), Keyona Daniels, Sedona Sowers, Alyssa Stalling, and Jenna Barbarotta.**

New members are **Austin Ebert, Elliot Collins, Jaden Derwacter, Kimberley Creech, Mia Dalrymple, Kristen Hunt, Dalton Rollison, Hannah Cavinee, Taylor Pennington, Joseph Penrod, and Shelbi Van Meter.**

Yearbook News

There are still **2012 high school yearbooks for sale** in the high school office for \$40.00. There are 2012 K-7 yearbooks for sale in both the K-7 office and the high school office for \$16.00. Seniors had tux and drape pictures taken, orders were placed and chose their pose for the yearbook. Retakes for tux and drape pictures will be the beginning of March. Mrs. Miller will send out a definite date when she has it. Also, you can find information, order forms and important dates for the yearbook on the school website.



2012 Homecoming Court (left to right) Senior—Mariah Watts, Queen Brianna Finck, Senior—Whitney Thomas, Junior—Shelbi VanMeter, Sophomore—Jenna Berry, Freshman—Brooklyn Harrison, and Eighth—Amy Orecchio

Drama Club News

The Crooksville Drama Club already has over thirty members in grades 6-12. The students have been busy selling raffle tickets for a \$50 Market Day® gift card. The drawing will take place at our Mystery Dinner Theatre on November 15. We have also had two very successful Market Day® sales. Every student in our school district should get a Market Day flyer every month. The drama club will receive 10% of all purchases. There will be several months where Market Day® will run specials and the drama club can earn more money. Also, there are a lot of opportunities for you to earn free items through Market Day®.



On **November 15 at 7:00** the drama club will present their annual **Mystery Dinner Theatre, *Trouble at the Talent Show***. This year's cast will consist of high school students and staff members from Crooksville Schools. Cast members include: **Nicole Dickerson, Amy Ward, Mary Ann Headley, Tammy White, Lindsey Cox, Ron Childress, Ashley Krieger, Ethan Wintgens, Jordan Rose, Collen Ward, Mirranda Pharis, Kristen Hunt, Storm Gillman, Aaron Erwin, Alyssa Stalling, Jalyn Bolyard, Trevor Piccone, Taylor Dilley, Tyler Ansel and Joey Penrod.** Tickets are \$10.00 and include the following dinner: Salad, Lasagna, Breadsticks, Dessert and Drinks. Tickets may be purchased from cast members, drama club members or at the high school office. This is a fun evening where you get to try to guess "who done it" and possibly win some prizes!

KIDS Space

After-School Program

This year Crooksville KIDS Space After School Program is in full swing and operating at maximum capacity. We are entering our ninth year of operation in the K-7 building and we are excited to work with our students and families. We have just completed our first round of enrichment clubs that culminated in a very successful family Fall Fest on October 18. We had many families attend the program where we highlighted the students' artwork from the craft club around the gymnasium, joined hands as we sang campfire songs, and partnered up for some square dancing. Many brave students took the microphone to try their hand at joke telling prior to storytelling by Melissa Marolt from the Perry County District Library. We would like to thank many area businesses for their generous donations to the event for door prizes and supplies and would also like to thank the high school art department for volunteering to operate a face painting booth.

KIDS Space is also working with a very enthusiastic group of fourth through seventh graders to complete community service projects. The group ran a canned food drive, resulting in over 200 cans of food to be donated to the Iliff Church food pantry. The intermediate school donated the food on October 26 by way of a fireman's pass. This group is also working with the Crooksville Village Council and the Crooksville Rec Center to begin a mural painting project on the doors of the Rec Center. If you are interested in working with the KIDS Space Community Service group, or have suggestions for local projects, please contact Diana Davis at 982-7010. (Additional pictures may be seen on the extended newsletter on the school website.)

Young joke-tellers!



Menus are sent home with
students grades PS—8
Menus may be printed off from
the school website.
www.crooksville.k12.oh.us

Lost and Found

Mrs. Terri Caton, I.S. Principal

Remember the cartoon where the mother asks, "Who made this mess?" and all of the kids reply, "Not me!" That same thing happens every day when I hold up an item from the lost and found and ask, "Who forgot their jacket?" It is not even November and our lost and found rack already has about 40 coats, sweat-shirts and jackets. We hang them up and even roll them into the cafeteria asking students to check for their belongings. I say, "This belongs to someone in this room" but the pile grows ever larger. If your child is missing something, give us a call and we'll send them to retrieve it. To prevent this from happening, **PLEASE WRITE YOUR CHILD'S NAME INSIDE HIS OR HER JACKET, HATS, GLOVES, BACKPACKS, ETC.** Unfortunately, sometimes students say they see another child with something that belongs to them but we have no way of fixing the problem.



November 2012 School Activities

- Nov. 3 Chinese Auction & Student Talent Show
By the Music Boosters—HS Commons, 2 pm—6 pm
- Nov. 7 Two Hour Late In**
- Nov. 8 K-7 Picture Retake Day
- Nov. 12 Parent-Athlete OHSAA Mandatory Meeting 7 pm
H. S. Commons
- Nov. 19 Parent-Teacher Conferences
Grades 4-12 3:00 pm—6:30 pm
Grades KG-3 4:00 pm—7:30 pm
- Nov. 20 Parent-Teacher Conferences
Grades 4-12 1:00 pm—4:30 pm
Grades KG-3 2:00 pm—5:30 pm
- Nov. 21 PT Comp Day—No School
- Nov. 22 Thanksgiving Day—No School
- Nov. 23 No School
- Nov. 26 No School
- Nov. 28 Crooksville Athletic Booster Meeting
7 pm HS Com
VRGBK—West M H 6:00 pm



Athletic Department News

Our winter sports OHSAA pre-season parent meeting will be conducted on November 12 at 7:00 pm in the high school commons. Coaches place this on your practice calendar and remember to ensure that all student-athletes and parents know of this meeting taking place. Attendance is mandatory. Parents, all coaches will conduct a short meeting with their team and parents afterwards. Junior high athletes are also required to attend.

We will have our Crooksville Athletic Booster Meeting on November 28, 2012 at 6:00 pm in high school room 101. We encourage everyone interested in athletics at CHS to come and support our kids in ALL sports! Coaches, parents, staff, athletic director and community members will be there.

To view our updated winter sports schedules and bus times to www.crooksville.k12.oh.us and click on athletics.

WE ARE BIG "C"

Dave Rupe, A.D.

Extra Good Happenings and Pictures of School Events

Mrs. Anderson's preschool classes have been learning about the changing seasons and recently took a nature walk. Preschoolers are looking forward to a trip to McDonald's pumpkin farm.



Thanks to our two recent parent volunteers for helping **third grade teacher, Mrs. Eppley's students** meet their learning goals—Mrs. Michelle Snouffer and Mr. Pete Bowen.

Fourth grade teacher, Mrs. Chamberlin's science class practice the Scientific method and became Consumer Scientists, and planned product tests for some of their favorite products.

Fourth graders are selling T-shirts for \$10.00 deadline is November 2, pick up an order form from Mrs. Coleman in room 202. Thank you!

Crooksville Intermediate Student Council will have held election of officers, young leaders become a positive part of the face of CIS. Members will be required to attend at least one meeting a month. Meetings are usually after school, but extracurricular activities are always considered when meetings are scheduled.

In the high school **Literary Studies** class, intervention specialist, **Mr. Ron Childress** and ninth grade English teacher, **Mr. J.J. LaBatte** have been having the students work closely with the English standards and reaching out to parents, making them aware of what type of material is being done on a daily basis. The students have been participating in a variety of new formative strategies in bringing them in to a larger and more diverse Language Arts curriculum. Mr. LaBatte said he is proud to say the results have been very positive in engagement and assessment; and they both are eagerly looking forward to their next units of non-fiction reading and poetry.

Technology teacher, Dave Mason wanted to share this great picture of two brothers who happen to come to school dressed alike—the **Love** brothers, **Dylan**, 11th grade and **Chaz**, 8th grade.



Technology teacher, Dave Mason wanted to let everyone know that **Mr. Gardner's sixth graders** went over to Mr. Mason's Robotics class to play Robot Soccer. The high school students taught the younger students how to use them and they had a fun time!



Title to this picture: **What makes a good gym teacher?** Mr. Matt McIntyre with Mrs. Gaddis' first graders.



Robotics Class playing soccer.



KIDS Space—Face Painting



KIDS Space—Ghost Suckers



KIDS Space—Storytelling with Mrs. Marolt—Perry County District Library



KIDS Space—Scarecrow Stuffing



Robot Soccer Mr. Mason's high school technology class.