



Liberty Center Local Schools
The Liberty Link

The “Link” Between the School and
the Community

August 2017- Back to School Edition

From the Desk of Superintendent, Dr. Tod A. Hug

I hope this mailing finds you having an enjoyable summer. This publication of *The Liberty Link* will provide you with important information for the upcoming school year. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Staffing Update:

Since publication of the June edition of *The Liberty Link*, we have two additions to our teaching staff: Danielle Helberg will be a new intervention specialist in third grade. Ms. Helberg previously taught at the Defiance Middle School.

Mary Bentancur will be teaching Spanish in the middle and high school. Ms. Bentancur previously taught at Hilltop High School in West Unity.

Please join me in welcoming these new staff members to our district.

Construction Update:

This fall will mark the final semester of use of the existing facilities, except the 1995 and 1998 buildings, which will house the pre-school units, the athletic office, the central office, and continue to serve as the varsity gymnasium. It is an important time in the history of the Liberty Center Local School District. As of this writing, the construction project continues to be ahead of schedule and our anticipated move-in is still scheduled for December of this year. We plan to be fully moved into the new K-12 building by Monday, January 8th 2018, which is the date when the students return from Christmas and New Year’s break. Demolition and construction of parking lots will continue through the summer of 2018 with the expected completion of the entire project in mid-August 2018.

Due to the limited parking issues, open houses will take place in late January/early February of 2018 for community and parents to see the new building. Once the entire project is completed in August of 2018, a formal dedication ceremony will take place properly acknowledging the new K-12 facilities. As these events grow closer, additional information will be provided so the entire community can partake in the activities.

As previously discussed, parking will continue to be at a premium throughout the entire 2017-2018 school year. This fall a portion of our student parking will again be located to the south of the football field. This property will serve as both student parking during school hours and event parking for football and other district events. An admission gate is located on the south side of the football field and allows easy access for visitors and handicapped parking. The need to shuttle visitors will still be a necessity, as even with the additional parking, we do not have enough to accommodate the large crowds expected during varsity events.

AM Bus Drop Off and PM Bus Lineup Procedure Is the Same as Last Year:

Once again, during the fall semester, our busses will utilize Young Street on the west side of the 1995 building to drop students in the morning and then in the afternoon to load students. PARENTS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO

ACCESS YOUNG STREET WEST OF PARRISH STREET. The stone parking lot on West Young Street will not be accessible at the end of the school day due to the bus line-up.

As I have stated before, and I will continue to remind everyone, there will be inconveniences while the construction process continues. Please have patience as we do our best to overcome these difficulties, while continuing to perform the task of educating the children of our community to the best of our abilities.

Bus Drop-Off Policy Reminders:

Students must be waiting in the Designated Place of Safety, at his/her stop at least *5 minutes prior to the designated bus arrival time*, regardless of weather conditions.

- The law does not require parents to see the bus stop from their home. Students in Ohio may be assigned to a bus stop up to ½ mile from their home and we encourage parents to accompany their child to the bus stop whenever possible. Bus stop locations are determined by each district's board of education.
- **Students in grades K-3 who are dropped off without siblings/family members (4th grade and older), must have a parent/guardian present in order for the child to be dropped off.** If a parent/guardian does not indicate their presence to the bus driver during the drop-off of a child in grades K-3, the child will be returned to the school. Contact with the parent/guardian will be attempted prior to moving on from the drop off, but please be aware that the bus schedule must maintain consistency on a daily basis and the bus cannot wait for a parent/guardian in the event no such person is at the drop off.
- We encourage parents to discuss their expectations of being at home alone for students in grades 4, 5 and 6, who are mature enough to be dropped off after school. They should have their own door keys, or information on accessing the home, should no one else be at home when they are dropped off after school.

SchoolMessenger ® Instant Notification System

It is imperative that you maintain your student's profile. If you have changed your home phone, cell phone, email address, etc., you must make sure the school has this information. Not only is this important, so parents can be reached in an emergency, but also so you can continue to receive information via SchoolMessenger®. All of the contact information that is entered in the school's student software system is used to notify parents/guardians of school delays and cancellations.

To sign up for text messages please refer to the enclosed flyer and post this flyer where you have easy access if needed in the future.

With the use of the SchoolMessenger ® system, only the following media will be notified in the event of a delay or cancellation: Clear Channel Stations: 105.7, 98.1, 103.1 and 1280AM. WMTR 96.1FM, K-100, and Toledo Television Channels 11 and 13.

The 2017-18 school year will be a terrific year as we continue to look forward to moving into a new state-of-the-art building. This is the end of an era and the beginning of another. Our current students will long-remember moving into the new school just as those of you who remember the events of the past that have brought us to this wonderful new beginning.

Please be sure to review the information in this *Liberty Link* as there are many events in the fall that are important for you, the students, and for the community!

Go Tigers!!



Finance Office News

By: **Jenell Buenger, Treasurer**

Summer is the busiest time of the year in our office. Since July 1st, we have processed 327 purchase orders, all of which required three people to review and sign off on. The principal or supervisor, treasurer, and finally the superintendent all had to approve the orders. After the purchase orders were completed, we ordered approximately \$65,000 worth of classroom and office supplies. Also, we ordered instructional software totaling \$67,228. We keep the UPS and Fed-Ex drivers extremely busy! In fact, we have so many orders coming in that we have to use a high school classroom to stage all of the boxes until we can unpack them, check the contents in, and finally deliver them to the correct location in the building.

We are also setting up the newly hired employees in our payroll system, taking out the employees who resigned, and then calculating the new accrual rates and stipends for all of our current employees.

This time of year, we are establishing the general fund and student activity budgets. These include budgets for everything from wages, to utilities, to sports equipment, and all of our educational supplies. Additionally, we have to submit our year-end transportation reports, to insure we get funding for our transportation costs from the state.

These things are all done in addition to our regular daily duties which include processing the bi-weekly payroll, paying bills, depositing money, grant reporting, and keeping the financial records for our new building project.



Orders ready to be checked in



Mr. Neal Carter is in his third year as a board member and is currently serving as the Vice-President of the Liberty Center Board of Education.

Neal grew up in Liberty Center. He is the son of Cheryl and Carl Carter and has a younger sister, Chelsea. After graduating from Liberty Center High School in 2001, he went to Northwest State Community College, earned his Associates Degree, and then went to the University of Toledo where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering Technologies. Currently, he works at Railtech Boutet as the QHSE Manager, keeping the company in compliance with safety regulations, training, and also developing and maintaining quality operating standards. Neal has been married to Trisha for seven years and they have four children, Avery (6), Brody (4), Case (2) and Dawson (3 months). With four young children, he does not have much free time, but he enjoys spending time playing and camping in the back yard with the kids, and working in the garden. Neal and Trisha are also active members of Liberty Chapel United Methodist Church.

Mr. Carter said he was prompted to run for the board because he likes to be involved in the community and having young children, he has a stake in their education. Neal said he likes working with the staff and teachers and knowing that he has a part in the decision making that will have an impact on the future of Liberty Center Schools, as well as the community. He said he knows that when making decisions there is someone who may not be satisfied. He said, "You can't make everyone happy, but if you are honest and explain why, people tend to understand". Neal thanks the community members who have put their trust in him and the rest of the board, saying, "I can't think of a better school and community for our family to call home".



Cafeteria Prices

Lunch-Grades PK-8	\$2.80
Lunch-Grades 9-12	\$2.95
Lunch-PK-12 reduced price	\$.40
Milk-all grades	\$.50
Lunch-Adult	\$3.25
Breakfast-PK-12	\$1.25
Breakfast- K-12 reduced price	\$.25
Breakfast-Adult	\$1.50

Get your Sports Pass!

Athletic Passes and Senior Citizen Passes will go on sale in the Athletic Office beginning on Thursday, August 17 from 1:00-6:00 p.m., Friday, August 18 from 7:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and during Open House on Monday, August 21 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Prices are unchanged from last year:

Family Pass \$200.00
Includes two Adults and two children.
(Each additional child is \$ 25.00)
Adult Pass \$ 75.00
Student Pass \$ 35.00
Senior Citizen Pass \$ 25.00
Passes are to all home sporting events, excluding spring events. If you have questions, call the athletic office at 419-533-6404.

New Student Registration

Children who are new to the Liberty Center School District need to get registered for the 2017-18 school year. Please call Mrs. Ruth Niese at 419-533-5011 (Ext. 5111) to set up an appointment. Her office hours are Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

We've Gone Mobile!

Check out our NEW App.
Just search for Liberty Center Schools from your mobile device's App store.

Open House

Open House for all Elementary and Middle School students will be held on Monday, August 21, 2017 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. This is a good opportunity for parents and students to meet the teachers and bring in their supplies. The PTO will be offering refreshments in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Dress Code for Grades 7-12

Shorts or skirts must extend beyond the fingertips of the student when they are standing straight up with their feet together. Pants must be worn at hip level. A belt must secure pants that are falling down or too large for one's waist. Clothing should be neat and clean. Skin shall not be visible through holes in pants or shorts. Students may wear studs in the nose or lip. Hoops, loops, chains or dangling jewelry is prohibited on the face and discouraged on the ears, because of the safety hazards they present.

Parking Passes Required

Student parking is extremely limited due to the ongoing construction of the new school. Parking passes will be required to park on campus lots. To obtain a parking pass students must fill out an application and submit proof of car insurance. Application forms will be available in the High School office on schedule pickup days. Passes will be issued based on a student's need to drive and availability of space to park. It is strongly advised that students travel to and from school by another method.

NO Locker Signs This Year

As we prepare for the move into the new school building, locker signs will not be allowed this year. We hope to preserve the finish on the new lockers as long as possible.

School Offices Open on Monday, August 7th

Office Phone Numbers

Elementary- 419-533-2604
Middle School- 419-533-0020
High School- 419-533-6641
Athletic Office- 419-533-6404
District Office- 419-533-5011



August 22 is Back to School

The first day of school for students in grades 1-12 is Tuesday, Aug. 22th. Classes begin at 8:00 a.m.

Kindergarten students' first day of school is Friday, August 25th. Kindergarten Orientation is scheduled for August 22-24. Parents should have already received a letter with their orientation appointment date and time. If you didn't receive a letter, please call the Elementary office at 419-533-2604 for an appointment.

Schedule Pickup for Grades 5-12

Students in grades 5-12 may pick up their schedules, information packets, and Chromebooks in the cafeteria on Thursday, August 17 from 1:00 - 6:00 and Friday, August 18 from 8:00 -2:00

Students must have a signed (by parent) Chromebook Agreement, \$20.00 deposit, and be present to get their Chromebook. If a student does not want to take his/her Chromebook home during the school year, no insurance deposit is needed.

School Pictures will be taken on Monday, Sept. 25.

School Fees will be mailed home with first quarter grade cards.

New Attendance Rules

It is necessary for the parent (or guardian) to notify the school office of the impending absence of their son or daughter prior to 9:00 a.m. on the day of the absence. If the parent or guardian fails to contact the office, it will result in personnel attempting to reach the parent, guardian, (or designee) by phone to verify knowledge of the absence. If the office fails to contact the responsible party involved, a mailing will be made and if warranted, contact made with the proper authorities charged with

such matters. Ohio House Bill 410 addresses habitual and chronic truancy. A habitual truant is someone who is absent 30 or more consecutive hours without a legitimate excuse or absent 42 hours or more in one month without a legitimate excuse or absent 72 or more hours in one year without a legitimate excuse. Excessive absences is defined as 38 or more hours in one school month with or without a legitimate excuse or absent 65 or more hours in one school year with or without a legitimate excuse.

Excused Absences

Notes from a parent or guardian will be accepted as excused absences for up to 7 absences. Notes converting unexcused absences to excused absences must be submitted to the school office within 24 hours of return to school. All absences over 45 hours per semester and 72 hours for the year require a doctor's note or waiver from the principal to be excused. All doctor's notes must be received within 48 hours of an absence to be excused.

Acceptable reasons for student absences include, but are not limited to: illness, doctor appointments, death in the family, religious reasons, or family vacation/activities (up to 36 hours maximum).

Unexcused Absences/Tardies

When a student reaches 30 or more consecutive hours, 42 hours or more in one month, or 72 or more hours in one year without a legitimate excuse, a letter is sent to the parents, along with a copy of the school attendance policies and a copy of the student's attendance record. Absences are cumulative, including tardies to school, and count toward the student's overall hours missed. At this time, a formal attendance intervention plan will be developed between the school personnel, parent and child.

The district may seek mediation prior to a formal attendance intervention plan at any time.

The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Bus Routes

Mrs. Stacey, Transportation Supervisor, reports there have not been any big changes to the bus routes from last year and pick-up/ drop-off times should remain about the same. Mrs. Stacey will be in her office from 8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. beginning on Monday, August 7 to Friday, August 11 and again on Tuesday, August 15 to Thursday, August 17. The Transportation Office is located inside the Athletic Office near the Middle School entrance and the phone number is 419-533-5031. Mrs. Stacey will also be in her office during Open House from 5:00-6:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 21 to answer any questions.



Visit the Bus

A school bus will be parked in front of the Elementary during Open House from 5:00-6:30 p.m. on August 21st to give students who haven't ever ridden the bus a chance to check it out.

The Harvest Market!

The Harvest Market is a grocery store on wheels, a direct service program provided by the Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank. The mission of the Harvest Market is to increase access to healthy food choices with an emphasis on reaching those least served in a food desert. Items for purchase include an array of shelf-stable products with select produce offered free of charge. Thanks to the partnership with the Liberty Center School District the Harvest Market is available near you. We would love to see you there!

When: 11:00-2:00 on Aug. 8 and Sept. 12

**Where: The Spring Sports Complex,
T-713 St. Rt. 109, Liberty Center 43532**

**Accepted Forms of Payment: SNAP Benefits,
Credit or Debit cards ONLY**

* Cash/Check payments ARE NOT accepted

Further Questions:

<http://www.toledofoodbank.org/harvest-market/>

Varsity Football Schedule

Date	Day	Time	H/A	Opponent
8/9/17	Wed.	3:30 PM	H	Rogers
8/12/17	Sat.	10:00 AM	A	Defiance
8/17/17	Thurs.	4:00 PM	A	Waite
8/25/17	Fri.	7:00 PM	A	Tinora
9/1/17	Fri.	7:00 PM	A	Napoleon
9/8/17	Fri.	7:00 PM	H	Woodward
9/15/17	Fri.	7:00 PM	A	Evergreen
9/22/17	Fri.	7:00 PM	H	Pike Delta York
9/29/17	Fri.	7:00 PM	H	Wauseon
10/6/17	Fri.	7:00 PM	A	Archbold
10/13/17	Fri.	7:00 PM	A	Swanton
10/20/17	Fri.	7:00 PM	H	Bryan
10/27/17	Fri.	7:00 PM	H	Patrick Henry

Varsity Cross Country Schedule

Date	Day	Event	H/A	Time
8/26/2017	Sat.	Seneca East Invitational	A	8:00 AM
9/02/2017	Sat.	Greenville Invitational	A	9:15 AM
9/09/2017	Sat.	Tiffin Carnival	A	9:00 AM
9/12/2017	Tues.	NWOAL Preview @ Wauseon	A	4:30 PM
9/16/2017	Sat.	Cedarville Friendship Invitational	A	9:00 AM
9/23/2017	Sat.	L.C. Widewater Invitational	H	9:00 AM
9/30/2017	Sat.	Old Fort Invitational	A	9:00 AM
10/07/2017	Sat.	Fostoria Invitational	A	8:30 AM
10/14/2017	Sat.	NWOAL Championships @ Wauseon	A	10:00 AM
10/21/2017	Sat.	District Championships	A	TBA
10/28/2017	Sat.	Regional Championships	A	TBA
11/04/2017	Sat.	State Championships	A	TBA

Varsity Volleyball Schedule

Date	Day	Time	H-A	Opponent
08/14/2017	Mon.	7:00 PM	A	Fayette Scrimmage
08/19/2017	Sat.	11:30 AM	A	Stryker High School
08/26/2017	Sat.	7:00 PM	H	Otsego High School
08/28/2017	Mon.	7:00 PM	H	WAYNE TRACE SCHOOLS
08/29/2017	Tues.	7:00 PM	H	Archbold High School
09/05/2017	Tues.	7:00 PM	H	Hilltop High School
09/07/2017	Thurs.	7:00 PM	H	Swanton High School
09/09/2017	Sat.	10:00 AM	H	Varsity Tri-Match LC-North Central-Hicksville
09/11/2017	Mon.	6:45 PM	A	Montpelier Schools
09/12/2017	Tues.	5:30 PM	A	Pike-Delta-York High School
09/16/2017	Sat.	11:30 AM	H	Ayersville High School
09/18/2017	Mon.	7:30 PM	A	Holgate High School
09/19/2017	Tues.	7:15 PM	A	Patrick Henry High School / Middle School
09/21/2017	Thurs.	7:00 PM	A	Tinora High/Junior High School
09/23/2017	Sat.	10:00 AM	H	Varsity Tri-Match LC-Pettisville-Edgerton
09/25/2017	Mon.	7:00 PM	A	Fayette Local High School
09/26/2017	Tues.	7:00 PM	H	Wauseon High/Middle School
09/28/2017	Thurs.	7:00 PM	H	Fairview High School-Sherwood
10/03/2017	Tues.	7:30 PM	A	Evergreen High School
10/10/2017	Tues.	7:00 PM	H	Bryan High/Middle School
10/13/2017	Fri.	7:00 PM	H	Miller City HS/MS

Varsity Golf Schedule

Date	Day	Opponent	Location	H/A	Time
8/4/17	Fri.	Patrick Henry/Delta	Pike Run Golf Course	A	10:00 AM
8/10/17	Thurs.	Paulding Invitational	Auglaize Golf Course	A	9:00 AM
8/14/17	Mon.	Hicksville	White Pines Golf Course	H	3:00 PM
8/17/17	Thurs.	Napoleon	White Pines Golf Course	H	4:30 PM
8/24/17	Thurs.	North Baltimore	White Pines Golf Course	H	4:30 PM
8/29/17	Tues.	Holgate	Auglaize Golf Club	A	4:30 PM
8/31/17	Thurs.	NWOAL Tri-Golf P.H. & Bryan	Pike Run Golf Course	A	4:30 PM
9/7/17	Thurs.	NWOAL Swanton	Valleywood Golf course	A	4:00 PM
9/9/17	Sat.	Stryker Invitational	Riverside Greens	A	8:00 AM
9/14/17	Thurs.	NWOAL Tri-Golf Delta & Evergreen	White Pines Golf Course	A	4:30 PM
9/18/17	Mon.	NWOAL Tri Golf Wauseon & Archbold	Ironwood Golf Club	A	4:30 PM
9/22/17	Fri.	NWOAL Championship	Auglaize Golf Club		TBA

Varsity Boys Soccer Schedule

Date	Day	Time	H-A	Opponent
Aug 15	Tues.	6:00 PM	H	Rossford HS/JHI
Aug 19	Sat.	11:45 AM	A	Lincolnview Junior/Senior High School
Aug 22	Tues.	5:00 PM	A	Pike-Delta-York High School
Aug 31	Thurs	5:00 PM	H	Swanton High School
Sep 02	Sat.	1:00 PM	A	Defiance High School
Sep 07	Thurs.	7:00 PM	A	Napoleon High School
Sep 12	Tues.	5:00 PM	H	Wauseon High/Middle School
Sep 16	Sat.	11:00 AM	H	Cory-Rawson High School
Sep 21	Thurs.	4:30 PM	H	Pettisville High School
Sep 26	Tues.	5:00 PM	H	Bryan High/Middle School
Sep 30	Sat.	11:00 AM	A	Paulding High School
Oct 03	Tues.	5:00 PM	A	Toledo Christian Middle/High Schools
Oct 05	Thurs.	7:00 PM	A	Archbold High School
Oct 10	Tues.	5:00 PM	A	Miller City HS/MS

Varsity Girls Soccer Schedule

Date	Day	Time	H-A	Opponent
Aug 19	Sat.	10:00 AM	A	Lincolnview Junior/Senior High School
Aug 24	Thurs.	5:00 PM	H	Pike-Delta-York High School
Aug 26	Sat.	11:00 AM	A	Cory-Rawson High School
Aug 28	Mon.	7:00 PM	A	Napoleon High School
Aug 29	Tues.	5:00 PM	A	Swanton High School
Sep 09	Sat.	11:00 AM	A	Northwood High School/Middle School
Sep 12	Tues.	5:00 PM	A	Toledo Christian Middle/High Schools
Sep 14	Thurs.	5:00 PM	A	Wauseon High/Middle School
Sep 19	Tues.	5:00 PM	H	Evergreen High School
Sep 25	Mon.	7:00 PM	A	Sylvania Southview High School
Sep 28	Thurs.	5:00 PM	A	Bryan High/Middle School
Oct 02	Mon.	5:00 PM	H	Maumee High School
Oct 03	Tues.	5:00 PM	H	Archbold High School
Oct 10	Tues.	7:00 PM	A	Ottawa Hills Junior/Senior High School
Oct 14	Sat.	5:00 PM	H	Otsego High School

For all a complete list of all L.C. sports schedules, visit Liberty Center Local Schools at www.libertycenterschools.org/athletics

Parents and Guardians

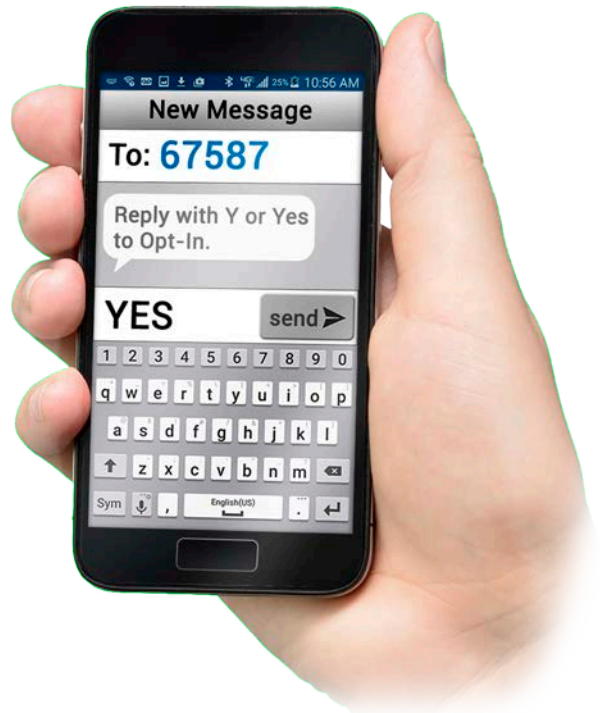
You can take advantage of our Text Messaging Service

Our school utilizes the SchoolMessenger system to deliver text messages, straight to your mobile phone with important information about events, school closings, safety alerts and more.

You can participate in this free service* just by sending a text message of “Y” or “Yes” to our school’s short code number, **67587**.

You can also opt out of these messages at any time by simply replying to one of our messages with “**Stop**”.

SchoolMessenger is compliant with the Student Privacy Pledge, so you can rest assured that your information is safe and will never be given or sold to anyone.



**Opt-In from
your mobile
phone now!**



**Just send
“Y” or “Yes”
to 67587**

i *Information on SMS text messaging and Short Codes:*

SMS stands for Short Message Service and is commonly referred to as a “text message”. Most cell phones support this type of text messaging. Our notification provider, SchoolMessenger, uses a true SMS protocol developed by the telecommunications industry specifically for mass text messaging, referred to as “short code” texting. This method is fast, secure and highly reliable because it is strictly regulated by the wireless carriers and only allows access to approved providers. If you’ve ever sent a text vote for a TV show to a number like 46999, you have used short code texting.

Liberty Center Local Schools
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Liberty Center, OH 43532

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