



Liberty Center Local Schools
The Liberty Link

The “Link” Between the School and
the Community

October 2017

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

Construction Update:

The time is certainly flying by quickly and the finishing touches to the new K-12 building are coming to completion. On September 28th, the wood flooring for the gymnasiums was delivered to the site. The following day, September 29th, all students were provided the opportunity to write their signature on the concrete in both the elementary and the middle school gymnasiums that will soon be covered by the wood flooring. In fact, September 29th was the only day we could allow this opportunity because the installation of the wood flooring was scheduled to begin on October 2nd. This activity will be remembered for decades to come.



(Pictured above are members of the senior class signing the gym floor)

We are working diligently to plan for the moving process, which is scheduled to take place over the holiday break. We will begin the wholesale moving of classroom materials and equipment on Monday, December 18th and it is our plan to have all necessary materials moved by the end of the day on January 4th. We have scheduled a professional day for Friday, January 5th in order to provide a staff orientation to acquaint all to the new operating procedures in the new building.

When students return to school on January 8th, we will have fully vacated the old buildings and will begin our educational experiences in the new facilities.

It is truly an exciting time for the students, staff, and community as we continue toward the occupation of the new building.

Senior Citizens' Breakfast Sponsored by The Henry County Bank:

September 28th marked the first of four Senior Citizens' Breakfasts sponsored by The Henry County Bank. Over 40 residents attended this event, enjoyed a hot breakfast, and not only casual conversation, but also an up-to-date video tour of the new building—as it currently stands—and they also heard from Head Football Coach Casey Mohler.

Coach Mohler discussed the football program at Liberty Center from the youth football organization through the high school program. It was a very in-depth discussion on the traditions and the expectations of the program.

The next Senior Citizens' Breakfast is scheduled for Thursday, October 26th, beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the school cafeteria. All Liberty Center district senior citizens are welcome to attend.

Fog Delays/Cancellations:

Of all the weather conditions that impact the delay or cancellation of schools, fog is the most difficult. As you are aware, fog is generally difficult to predict, can present itself and then lift in a matter of minutes, and varies in its coverage of the area and its density. There are times, when we delay and in some parts of the district, the fog may be very light, or not apparent at all, while in other areas the fog may be much worse. Additionally, keep in mind that the delay or cancellation must be called an hour or more prior to school's regular beginning time.

Many times, the characteristics noted above vary from one school district to the next. There are times when we may delay and neighboring districts do not. I am in constant communication with our neighboring districts' superintendents and/or transportation directors, and we do our best to make the best decision based on the conditions in each of our districts.

Snow and Ice Delays/Cancellations:

Snow and ice are a different issue. Generally, the onset of snow and/or ice is predicted well ahead of time. This gives us the ability to plan for the impending event. During such an event, I am communicating with area superintendents and/or transportation directors, and we are comparing road conditions.

During snow and ice events, three factors determine the impact on our delay or cancellation; the severity of the storm, the timing of the storm, and the local response of the county, township and our school's snow removal crews. If the snow event ends early enough, then the snow removal crews have time to make the roads ready for school transportation. If the event timing is late morning, then the storm will more likely affect the school day.

In any of the cases discussed above, the decision to delay, cancel, or go to school on time is very carefully considered. We do live in the snow-belt and there is an expectation for people in our geographic region to learn to drive with snow and ice present. The key to safe driving in winter weather is to slow down. Many times, the first snow of the year is a shock to drivers who must re-learn how to drive in winter conditions. By slowing down, many of the incidents that occur can be alleviated.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Thursday Evening, Nov. 9th 3:30-7:30 p.m.

and

Friday Morning, Nov. 10th 7:30 -11:00 a.m.

(No School on Friday)

“Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence.” - **Robert Frost**



Finance Office News

By: Jenell Buenger, Treasurer

The Five-Year Forecast

Per the Ohio Revised Code, all city, local, exempted village, and joint vocational school districts must file a General Fund Five-Year Forecast, along with assumptions, to the Ohio Department of Education prior to Oct. 31st of each fiscal year and are required then to update this forecast between April 1 and May 31st of each fiscal year. The district treasurer is responsible for submitting the forecast, but the board of education must approve the document and is technically the “owner” of the forecast.

The five-year forecast is divided into two sections: revenue and expenditures. A district’s revenue is made of two main sources, local and state funding. The expenditures are comprised of mainly salary and wages, benefits, and purchased services.

The figures used in this forecast are constantly changing. There are decisions made by federal and state officials to mandate activities and programs in our district that we have no control over. For example, every two years when our state budget is adopted, there are no guarantees that the new state budget will bear much resemblance to the prior budget. In addition, federal mandates are often placed on districts, but no additional funds are allocated to districts for implementing those mandates. Additionally, if the economy is flourishing and if the tax base is steady or increasing, we know our revenues will stay strong. Conversely, if the economy is suffering, tax revenue will be down. Our school enrollment also affects the forecast; the more students we have enrolled, the more state money we receive. This forecast is based upon the current financial picture of the district, taking into account all activities that we know will happen in the future, along with assumptions and predictions of what we think will happen.

The five-year forecast is a key planning tool for the board of education and the administration. The forecast is used to look at future years’ projections and enables us to be proactive if we see a potential problem. We want to insure that we are utilizing the investment of our taxpayers to provide the best

education possible to all Liberty Center students. We know the forecast numbers will be constantly changing, but we must rely on past and current trends to develop an accurate financial forecast of the district.

If you have any questions pertaining to our district’s Five-Year Forecast, please contact me at 419-533-5011 (Ext. 5100).

Willson Walk-a-Thon was a Success

The 6th grade class of 2024 held their annual Willson Walk-a-thon on September 8th. Seventy-two students participated and to date they have raised \$8291.69! The students and teachers want to send out a heart-felt thank you to all of their sponsors. The cost to attend Camp Willson is about \$185.00 per student, which includes lodging, food, transportation, t-shirt, activities, and supplies. The walk-a-thon is the only fundraiser for the trip and any monies not raised through it must be paid by the students’ families.

This spring, May 16-18, will be the 18th consecutive year Liberty Center students have attended outdoor education at Camp Willson. Studies have shown that students who learn outdoors develop; a sense of self, independence, confidence, creativity, decision making and problem solving skills, empathy towards others, motor skills, self-discipline and initiative.

If you would like to donate to the camp fund, please make your check out to Liberty Center Schools and either mail it with attention class of 2024 on the envelope, or drop it off at the school.



Pictured left to right are: Joey Wymer, Seth Navarre, Jacob Sexton, Christopher Patchin

Guidance News

Fall 2017 Dates to Know About!

College Night at UT!

FASFA presentations, College Fair and more!

Open to the public!

October 4, 2017 from 4:30-7:00pm

Scott Park Campus, University of Toledo

2301 Nebraska Ave. Toledo, Ohio 43607

FASFA Clinic Opportunities:

Completing the FASFA doesn't have to be a headache! Join us at one of the events listed below, and we will have FASFA professionals available to help you complete the FASFA that evening!

Parents should bring a copy of their PPY taxes and their own device (or your student's chrome book).

We will have an internet connection!

Wauseon High School

October 16, 2017 from 7:00pm-8:30pm

Wauseon Cafeteria

Liberty Center

October 25, 2017 from 6:00pm-8:00pm

LCHS Cafeteria

LCHS Coffee with the Counselor:

October 19, 2017 from 7:00am-7:45am in the Home Ec Kitchen (room 105)

November 16, 2017 from 7:00am-7:45am in the Home Ec Kitchen (room 105)

College Credit Plus Info Night

December 6, 2017 from 6:00pm-8:00pm

LCHS Cafeteria

This is a mandatory meeting for all parents and students who are interested in participating in College Credit Plus courses for the 2018-2019 academic year.



October Senior Citizens'

Breakfast

The October Senior Citizens' Breakfast will be on Thursday, Oct. 26 at 8:30 a.m. in the school cafeteria. No reservations are required.

Art Displayed at Research Facility

Over the summer, some high school students had their artwork displayed at the University of Toledo's Lake Erie Research facility.



Artwork from left to right by: Thomas Spieth, Dezirae Marr, Davina Fredrick, Alex Wells

Dept. of Education Responds to Students

The U.S. Department of Education responded to multiple students after we sent letters to the U.S. Cabinet last spring after reading *Nickel and Dimed*. The class project was to provide information about the most pressing issue in dealing with the homelessness situation in our country. Students were to decide if they felt that housing, employment, transportation, education, lack of food, etc., was the most important issue on which to focus and then propose a creative solution to this issue. Letters were then mailed to the appropriate U.S. Cabinet member. In August, we actually received two responses from the Youth Liaison to Betsy DeVos at the Department of Education. The team of Abby Keller & Kirsten Roseman and the team of Brycen Espinoza & Stephen Arnette both received form letters thanking them for their interest in education and promising to do whatever is in the best interest of the students in the U.S. Education system. We were surprised and pleased to receive a response, even if it was delayed.

Mrs. Dawn Mericle
High School English Teacher

Middle School Student Council Makes Plans

Middle School Council members are busy planning events for this school year. They planned the spirit week activities preceding Homecoming, they are working on a “Hurricane Help” Fundraiser, which will be a teachers vs students dodge ball tournament. Also, they are collaborating with the PTO on the Spooktacular Dance for 5th and 6th graders, which will be held on October 27th from 3-5:00 p.m. in the Jr. High Gym.

This year’s student council members are:

5th Grade

1st semester:
Louis Whitmore
Tatum Oberhauser
Leah Orr
Addison Zientek
Cheyenne Segura

2nd semester:

Tala Dotson
Paige Mason
Payten Hageman
Janelle Sattler

6th Grade

Eliza Jones
Beatrice Barrett
Molly Perry
Kaden Soto
Vivian Gebers

7th Grade

Meredith Bowers
Alexa Evans
Kaelyn Gerken
Calla Oelkrug
Matt Orr
Jeff Zacharias

8th Grade

Delaena McClure
Lucy Jones
Audrey Bowers
Emma Reckner
Hope Oelkrug



Liberty Center Local Schools is in the process of applying for the Ohio Department of Education's (ODE) Purple Star Award, which is set to come out in October. According to ODE, the “Purple Star Award for military-friendly schools recognizes schools that show a major commitment to serving students and families connected to our nation’s armed forces.” ODE also states, “The Purple Star Award is a result of conversations among

veterans, educators, military family members, students, service members and others about ways schools could better serve military students and families. There are 34,000 children in Ohio with one or more parents serving in the military. This number includes the children of active duty, reserve and Ohio National Guard members. Some of these students will attend six to nine schools during their K-12 years. Students from military families also can be affected by a parent’s deployment. Schools can help students and families cope with these issues by connecting them with the resources they need.”

Based on our school’s location to the 180th Fighter Wing in Swanton, and the amount of veterans and members of other components of the military living in and around our community, this program is one that we felt was important to take part in. The goal of this program is to assist military students and families in the district in any way possible. It is understood that there are a variety of challenges that come with being a military family, and it is imperative that school leaders, teachers and staff understand how to positively and proactively work with these individuals.

In addition to additional professional development that will occur within the staff, there will be resources available to families on our school website. Along with these resources, there will be a school liaison who facilitates the program and can work with families, school and state staff for any questions that may arise. The liaison for LC Schools will be Mr. Brett Green, who is still serving in the Ohio Army National Guard, along with being the Digital Academy Coordinator at LCHS.

Finally, we are conducting a survey to get a better understanding of who our military families are that are currently serving and have students in the district. This survey can be found by going to the District website, navigating to the District Office area and selecting “Military Family Info” link. Once there, the link to the survey is titled “Military Parent Survey”. Your participation in this survey is very much appreciated!

We want to thank all of our military members, past and present, who are part of the Liberty Center community for their service and sacrifice.

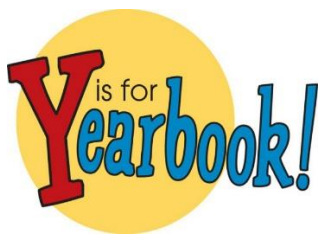
For questions pertaining to this program, please call Mr. Green at (419) 533-6641 x5120 or email bgreen@libertycenterschools.org. Thank you!

The 2017 Homecoming Court



Front: Freshman Sophie Kundo, Sophomore Bailey Johnson, Queen Abby Keller, Senior Mackenzie Detmer, Junior Mackenzie Collins,

Back: Freshman Kamden Krugh, Sophomore Logan Watkins, Senior Jared Sturgell, Senior Lucas Frankfather, Junior Jacob Romine



The 2017-18 Yearbook is on Sale

The 2017-18 edition of the *Tigeron* yearbook is currently on sale. The high school book will feature the theme of EVERYDAY and consist of 144 pages while the PreK-8 book will be titled WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE and be 40 pages. Prices for each book vary. The high school book can be reserved for \$47 and the PreK-8 book is \$18. The best way to order your book is to go

to www.yearbookforever.com and order with a credit card. There are paper order forms in each office as well for cash or check ordering. Order soon because prices will increase on January 1.

There are a limited number of the 2016-17 yearbooks available for purchase as well. We also have books from previous years. Contact Mr. Ressler

at jressler@libertycenterschools.org if you are interested in purchasing books from the past.



Board of Education Member, Todd Spangler

Todd Spangler grew up in Liberty Center and has lived in this community all of his life. He graduated from Liberty Center in 2000, and then attended Bowling Green State University where he graduated in 2004 with a Bachelors in Business. Todd works at Holgate Metal Fab in Napoleon. He is married to Elizabeth and they have four children, Hunter-10, Cole-8, Dexter-5 and Everly-2. His hobbies are hunting, coaching football, and coaching his children's youth sports.

Mr. Spangler was appointed to the Board of Education in November 2014 to fill the unexpired term of Doug Desgrange. In 2016, he was elected to a three-year term, which will expire in Dec. 2019. Mr. Spangler said he wanted to be on the school board because he wanted to serve and support the school. He says he enjoys the conversations he has had with members of the community and he has especially enjoyed being a part of the building project that will be such a great asset to the kids and the community. Todd says, "I think our school system is fantastic and really something to be proud of. We have great students, teachers and administration". He is very passionate about Liberty Center and he is thankful to be part of such a great school district.

Board of Education Meetings

November 20

December 11

Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and are held in the High School Media Center on the second floor.



Technology Spotlight

We are excited that students in first and second grades now have Chromebooks to use in their classrooms this year. This means all students K-12 have an individual device to use for learning during the school day. (Kindergarten uses ipads, while grades 1-12 use Chromebooks.) Students do a great job of teaching each other how to use these devices, so it hasn't taken the first and second grade students long to learn how to use their Chromebooks. The first graders recently met with their "Buddy Class" (sixth graders) to work together on an "All About Me" presentation. This not only helped students from each grade get to know one another, but it also provided an opportunity for sixth graders to help first graders learn how to use their new Chromebooks.



Sixth graders Lilah Krueger and Reese Kessler work with first grader Raelynn Smith.

Sixth graders have also been using an app called SeeSaw on their Chromebooks. With it, they have created their own blogs to not only work on their writing and communication skills, but also to demonstrate their learning. Sometimes the students will type an answer to a question from the teacher on their blog. Other times, they will create a drawing, use a picture or create a video of something that explains a concept they are learning. Students in the class can view and comment on each other's posts so the blogs provide a great way for students to reflect on their learning and share with each

other. This gives students an opportunity to work on digital citizenship, communication, and collaboration skills.



Logan Estelle and Xander Myers take a picture to demonstrate a point of view.



Music Performances

High School Fall Choir Concert

Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Little Theater

Music Department Coffeehouse

Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Little Theater and Old Commons

4th Grade Music Program

Thursday, Dec. 7 at 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the Little Theater

2nd Grade Music Program

Thursday, Dec. 14 at 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the Little Theater

Fall Play is *Murder by Indecision*

The High School Fall Play, *Murder by Indecision*, will be performed Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 16, 17, 18 in the Little Theater. Any fan of Agatha Christie mysteries will love this delightful spoof! Tickets go on sale Oct. 23 to family and friends of the cast for \$6.00/ticket and to the public on Nov. 6 for \$8.00/ticket.

Liberty Center Local Schools
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