



COVINGTON CONNECTION

The Newsletter Linking The Covington Schools,
Home & Community



Gene Gooding, Superintendent

www.covington.k12.oh.us

March 2020

COVINGTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Josh Meyer, 7-12 Principal

Every day the teachers, administrators, and staff get to work with a great group of students and staff at Covington Jr/Sr High School. I would like to share just some of the successes that our students have had during the winter months.

2020 OMEA District Honor Band and Choir

The following JH Students were chosen to participate in the OMEA District Honors Band at Troy in January: Luke Brown, Cam Haines, Lilly Hare, Asher Long, Monica Ostendorf, and Paxton Wion-Shook.

Also, congratulations to Marci Auxier, Sophia Iddings, Olivia Mohler, Holly Beasley, Jerrick Wolfe and Aiden Helman for being selected to the OMEA High School honor choir! These outstanding singers were selected by audition.

Varsity Wrestling

The team entered the month of February with a dual meet record of 18-3. They also had a school record of nine individual placers at the Lima Central Catholic Invitational in January. Congratulations to the BUCCS and continued success in the post-season!

Competition Cheer

Competition cheer qualified for the State Competition being held in March. Along with that honor, the competition cheerleaders also performed at the National Competition at Disney World in February.

College Credit Plus

A parent and student meeting was held on February 13th for students that are interested in College Credit Plus for next school year. If you failed to attend this meeting please contact Ms. Brackman at 473-3746 for more information.

Jr. High Scholarship Club

The Jr. High Scholarship Club induction ceremony was held on February 21st. This event was very well attended by parents and community members. 32 members were inducted into the Jr. High Scholarship Club.

CHS Blood Drive

The annual blood drive at CHS will be held on March 2nd.

Lastly, as we finish up the winter and head toward spring that will mean our students will begin Ohio state standardized testing and start preparing for end of course exams. Here are some basic test taking tips for your child:

- Remind students to read and listen to all directions carefully so they understand what is expected of them.

- Review the importance of budgeting time wisely.
- Turn text booklet pages with care so they don't accidentally miss a page.
- Read all the answer choices and answer any question to which they know the answer immediately.
- Highlight or underline key words, phrases, ideas and to go back to the text to find evidence or clues to support the answers.
- Remind them to utilize text features — captions, graphs, charts, and illustrations
- Questions may have more than one part and to answer all of them.
- Go back and check their answers if time allows. Check the answer key periodically to make sure answers line up with questions.

Summer Bridge Activities

by Josh Long

Covington Elementary School is once again offering an opportunity for your child to review and retain their current skill levels through a summer activity book called "Summer Bridge Activities." This workbook will enhance the skills students have developed over this past school year, plus boost new learning. Look for order forms to be sent home in early April.

2020 Scholarship Club Induction Ceremony

by Adam Sweigart, JH Scholarship Club Advisor

Covington Junior High School held its annual Scholarship Club Induction Ceremony on Friday, February 21, 2020 in the K8 gymnasium. Our keynote speaker was National Honor Society President Cade Schmelzer, emphasizing never to give up on your schoolwork and take ownership in your success! A great message that supported the thirty-two new inductees from today's assembly. In all, twenty-nine (29) seventh graders and three eighth graders met the academic challenges set forth by this club.

Grade requirements include maintaining a 3.6 GPA in the five core areas of a junior high student's schedule: Reading, English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Students' grades are recalculated each grading period. We hold an annual induction ceremony after the first semester of the school year. Congratulations to the new inductees in the Covington Junior High Scholarship Club. With today's induction, we now proudly have 62 members in our organization! Special thanks goes out to all of our staff members who have helped make this a continued success year in and year out. It is a privilege to be a part of this excellent tradition at Covington Exempted Village Schools.



Row 1: Marin DuBois, Allison Burns, Maggie Mullen, Hannah Alexander, Gabbi Hartwig, Elizabeth Coblentz, Maggie Anderson, Elyza Long, and Audrey Tobe.

Row 2 : Allison Jay, Alexis Walters, Zoey Gonzalez, Taylor Kirker, Alexa Hitchcock, and Mazelle Reck.

Row 3: Christian Jarvis, Rowan Issacs, Tanner Palsgrove, Reagan Tipps, Brogen Angle, Beck Wilson, Kian French, Ashton Skaggs, and Christopher Deaton.

Row 4: Sophie Shaffer, Layla Brown, Caroline Wolfe, Jennifer Fisher, Preston King, Zander Bishop, Amie Burtrum, and Sydney Richard.

Eric Flory - P.L.U.S. 5K

by Josh Long

The Covington P.L.U.S. (Positive + Leader + Uplifting + Supportive) organization will host the 14th annual P.L.U.S. 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, April 11, 2020 at 9:00am. The event will begin and end at St. John's Lutheran Church at the corner of Bridge and Wall Street in Covington. Please register and enjoy a flat/fast course that runs through a residential area and down a country road.

The entry fee is \$25 for participants who pre-register by April 3rd, \$25 same day registration (beginning at 7:30a.m.), with pre-registration participants receiving an Eric Flory - P.L.U.S. 5K t-shirt. Participants may register online at: <http://www.cantstoprunningco.com/local-races>.

All proceeds benefit the 5th and 6th grade "overnighter," which is designed to promote personal growth, improve self-esteem, and foster healthy life choices, with the primary focus being on substance abuse. This year's P.L.U.S. overnighter will take place on May 1st and 2nd. Those interested in volunteering at the 5K, or wishing to donate door prizes, can contact Dave Larson at 937-570-0197.

Making Connections K-12

by Bridgit Kerber

One of the benefits of being on one campus is the freedom of movement between spaces. For example, we can finally use high school students in the role of mentor and tutor to younger grades without those students having to travel outside our doors. The PBIS student ambassador committee, high school student council, and Key Club advisors have worked closely with the volunteer coordinator and elementary teachers to make this happen. We are happy to say that high school students are now providing this service to classrooms in grades K-5, with 15 high school students selflessly giving their study hall time to help others.

Student volunteers traverse the connector hallway during their study halls, and are involved in a variety of activities on a weekly basis. Some are helping with reading groups, others with rotations in math, and a few even help out during lunches and recess to provide buddies to play games. In just a few weeks, this program has shown many benefits for everyone involved. High school junior Madison Jones, who volunteers through Key Club, said the best part of volunteering for her has been "when students ask about high school, and [she] can tell them what it's like." Having access to a role model one-on-one must be a really inspiring experience for the younger students.

Teachers, too, are seeing benefits in their classrooms. Sometimes having an extra set of hands makes a huge difference, but there is more to the program than that. Mrs. Kate Shaffer, 4th grade ELA teacher, mentioned that "the high school students have been so responsible. It's very valuable for the younger students to see the

older kids who like school, and who show up when they are supposed to, even more than the academic help they can provide. It's one of the best things we've done." Making new connections with students is always important, and the benefits are showing. Need evidence? One sophomore volunteer asked if she can increase her time from one day a week to two because she is having so much fun working with the younger grades. The program is mutually benefiting everyone involved.

The ultimate goal of PBIS is to improve relationships and culture within the district, and that is just what the mentoring program is helping to accomplish. There's a lot to be proud of in the halls of Covington Schools.

Drama Club Play

by Zane Barhorst

This school year many of our students are participating in Drama Club. The club, advised by Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Langston, and Mrs. Robinson is a popular club at Covington High School. Every year auditioning students "act" their best to be included in the play.

This year the play is "*Those Wild West Women*" and listed below are the following students in this year's play: Colleen Killigrew - Sophia Iddings, Amy May Flint - Josie Schaurer, Cleo Killigrew/Mrs. Green - Abby Fraley, Loretta Lane - Megan Naylor, Krazy Kate - Allie Garman, Virginia Vance - Sydney Hogue, Hetty Kane - Bailey Tipps, Cordelia (Delia) York - Claire Fraley, Euphemia York - Jessicah Besecker, Beulah Barnes - Katie Hembree, Maud Yates - Autumn Willoughby, Enid Shaw/Bad, Guy - Destina Wills, Eunice Wright - Holly Beasley, Allegra Price - Nora Hand, Lily - Emmaline Kiser, Daphne -

Lillian Hughes, Belle - Summer Anderson, Gladys - Haley Hargrave, Scalper Murphy - Meadow Byers, Vickie "The Kid" - Christina Monnin, Jebediah (Zeb) York - David Robinson, Jack Barnes - Will Collins, Dusty Barnes - Ayden Rench, Jasper Kane - Josh Wall, Kit Keenan - Andy Hutchinson, Cody Colt - Owen Rawson, Utah Bill - Gavin Fraley, Augustus Preston - Grant Humphrey, Doc Conners - Austin Davis, Reverend Shaw-Austin Smith, Custer Tarnation - Dustin Kerce, and Cornelius Green - Dalton Bishop.

You can see *Those Wild West Women* on March 20th and 21st in the K-8 building. See you there!

State Testing Dates

by Bridgit Kerber

Spring End of Course and AIR tests will be administered beginning in early April. All test dates are also on the master district calendar on the District web page.

Testing Dates are as follows:

Elementary AIR Tests:

- 3rd Grade - ELA April 2-3,
Math April 23-24
- 4th Grade - ELA April 7-8,
Math April 28-29
- 5th Grade - ELA April 7-8,
Science April 21-22,
Math April 28-29
- 6th Grade - ELA April 2-3,
Math April 23-24
- 7th Grade - ELA April 15-16,
Math April 21-22
- 8th Grade - ELA April 15-16,
Math April 21-22,
Science April 24

High School End of Course Tests:

- ELA II (sophomores)- April 8th
 - American History- April 23
 - American Government- April 23
 - Biology & Physical Science- April 28
 - Math (all sophomores)- April 29
 - Math (all freshmen)- April 30
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A Message from Superintendent Gene Gooding School Resource Officer

In January, A.J. Hickman became our new School Resource Officer. Officer Hickman is a 2015 graduate of Miami East High School and has been a member of the Covington Police Department since 2018. While he has only been with us for a short time, Officer Hickman has already made a tremendous impact on our school district. He is well-liked and respected by the students and staff of CEVSD, and he is clearly dedicated to the safety and success of each of our students.

Officer Hickman is replacing Tim Cline, who was recently promoted to Sergeant in the Covington Police Department. We would like to congratulate Sergeant Cline for his promotion, and thank him for his four and a half years of service to the students of Covington. In his time here, Sergeant Cline was instrumental in improving the safety and security of our school buildings. He trained our students and staff on emergency procedures, helped update our safety plan, taught our students about internet safety, the dangers of drug abuse, how to use an AED machine, how to perform CPR, and much more. Thank you Sergeant Cline for all that you have done for our students, and for

making our school a safer place to learn!

I would also like to thank the Village of Covington for continuing to partner with the school district on the SRO program. The benefits to the school and to the Covington community have been substantial.

Smith Field Locker Rooms/Restrooms

Anyone who has attended a football game, a track meet, or any event at Smith Field has probably noticed that the restrooms are in great need of updating. The locker rooms in the building are also too small to house our teams, and the teams that we play. Therefore, we are in the planning stage of updating this building to better serve the needs of our students and our community.

The current plan is to renovate the existing building and to add-on to it. The renovated building will still contain two locker rooms and two public restrooms. However, the size of the locker rooms will be greatly increased and a small storage room will be added.

When completed, the renovated restrooms will be able to be utilized for school track meets, football games, baseball games, and softball games. They will also be available during the summer for events held on the youth baseball and softball diamond. The locker rooms will be large enough to house our high school and junior high football teams during the fall,

and our boys and girls track teams during the spring. It is our hope that this building will make our sporting events much more comfortable for our student athletes, our guests, and our fans.

Communication with our Staff

Thank you to the many parents and family members who attended parent/teacher conferences in February. I encourage every parent to reach out to your child's teachers, coaches, and principals any time that you have a question or a concern. Our staff is here to help our students succeed, and we find that students are more successful when there is open communication between the students, parents, and staff members. Please do not feel like the only time that you can have a face-to-face meeting is during our two scheduled parent/teacher conference nights. Our staff is available to meet throughout the school year to address any concerns that you may have. To schedule a meeting, please feel free to call the elementary office at 937-473-2252 or the junior high/high school office at 937-473-3746. You can also email your child's teacher directly at any time.

In addition, if you have any concerns that I can help you with, please feel free to email me at goodingg@covingtonk12.org or call me at 937-473-2249.

Thank you and Go Buccs!

THANKS FOR ASKING!

I have a question about the Covington Schools or a suggestion for improving the schools.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Mail your questions or suggestions to: Mr. Gene Gooding, Covington EVSD, 807 Chestnut St., Suite B, Covington, OH 45318.
