



COVINGTON CONNECTION

The Newsletter Linking The Covington Schools,
Home & Community



Gene Gooding, Superintendent

www.covington.k12.oh.us

September 2020

COVINGTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Covington K-6

by Josh Long

CES PTO

Parents, we have a great PTO at CES and we are always looking for other wonderful volunteers. If you are interested in being involved we meet the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Listen for an upcoming one call that will give our location for our meetings. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

CES Student Arrival and Departure (Reminders)

Covington Elementary School is in session from 8:10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., the tardy bell rings at 8:10 a.m. Students who walk, ride bikes, or are brought to school in the morning, will be permitted to enter the building at 7:50 a.m. **Please do not walk your students across the crosswalk in the morning. If you must walk them across the road, we ask that you wear a mask.**

At 2:50 p.m., the bus riders will leave school grounds. Those who walk, ride bikes, or are picked up will be dismissed between 2:55 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **We ask that only parents with students in grades K-2 use the car loop and parents that have students in grades 3-6 park in the lot to pick up their students.**

Covington JH/HS News

by Josh Meyer, 7-12 Principal

Parents and staff at Covington Jr/Sr High School are off to a fantastic start to the 2020/2021 school year! While there are definitely differences in the day-to-day operations of the building one thing remains the same, and that is the dedication and commitment to providing our students with a terrific education.

The 7-12 students received their Chromebooks on the first day of school and have been using them daily. A few reminders concerning Chromebook usage:

- Please charge Chromebooks every night
- Please keep track of the Chromebook- never leave it unattended
- Keep the cases free of other materials

Early in the school year, 7th grade students attended “7th Grade Orientation” under the direction of Mr. Jim Meyer. This is an exciting time for this group as they become more independent and the expectations that we as parents and staff have for them rise. As a former JH teacher I enjoy working with this age group and watching them mature through Junior High.

8th grade students that are interested in attending the Smoky Mountains trip in the Spring have received information from Mr. Harrison. This trip provides a wonderful opportunity for our students to learn outside of the classroom setting. Any parent of an 8th grade student that is interested in the Smoky Mountain trip can contact Mr. Harrison at harrisonm@covingtonk12.org.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Covington community for the support they have provided to their children and the staff as we begin this school year. I am excited to begin the year and look forward to continued successes in academics, fine arts and athletics.

Go Buccs!

Hope Squad

By Bridgit Kerber,
Curriculum Director

Students are back in the halls of Covington schools, and staff is overjoyed to see their smiling faces! Providing those students with ongoing social-emotional programming during these unprecedented times is paramount to their success this school year. One way that students will be supported is through the implementation of Hope Squad in grades 9-12.

Hope Squad is a school-based peer-to-peer, suicide prevention program for students which will kick off in January of 2021. In the meantime, two staff members at the high school will receive Hope Squad counselor training to prepare to lead this awesome student organization. Once the program starts, the student members are nominated by peers as trustworthy classmates and are trained to identify at-risk students, provide friendship, and seek help from an adult. These students will receive monthly training in a social emotional curriculum, in peer to peer counseling, and leadership skills. The goals of the program are to lower the stigma surrounding mental health struggles, provide intervention to peers who are struggling, and build student capacity for leadership within the Buccaneer culture. Studies show that students are more likely to be aware of the distress of their peers, and this program helps facilitate earlier access to care for those in need.

For more information about Hope Squad, check out the parent organization online at GrantUsHope.org.

Chelsea Hausfeld, CHS Math Teacher

My name is Chelsea Hausfeld and I graduated from Hilliard Darby High School (near Columbus) in 2015. I then proceeded to get my Bachelor's degree at Bowling Green State University in AYA Math Education, graduating in 2019. Last year I taught high school math at Graham High School.

I just got married this past July to my husband Riley. He graduated from Fort Loramie High School and also attended Bowling Green State University. He is currently working at Houston High School as a math teacher, so we look forward to helping each other this school year. I enjoy running, working out and watching the Philadelphia Eagles on Sundays.

I am very excited to be joining Covington's Staff as a high school math teacher. I am looking forward to the coming school year.

Carmen Siefring, Treasurer

I graduated from Coldwater High School and earned my Bachelors of Science in Accounting and Finance from Wright State University in 1992. I served as Fiscal Officer for the

Village of Covington between 2010 and 2015, and followed that as a staff auditor for the Auditor of State. During my five years at the AOS, I worked on-site at local townships, villages, counties and schools to audit their annual financial statements and test compliance requirements.

My husband, Vern, is a Ft. Recovery graduate and is an electrical engineer at Crown Equipment. We have been married for 26-years and are blessed with four children. My daughter is married and living in the Akron area and my three boys are in college pursuing engineering degrees. We recently became empty nesters when we moved my youngest to UD to join his brother.

My husband and I are avid track and field fans and enjoy following Flyers basketball. In our free time we like to fish on Lake Erie, travel, camp at state and national parks, bike the local bike path, and both water and snow ski.

I am very excited for this opportunity to be a part of the Covington School administration. The staff has been great to work with and retired treasurer, Carol Forsythe has done a fantastic job of preparing me for a smooth transition.

Go Buccs!

Homecoming 2020

by Bridgit Kerber

Due to COVID related regulations on schools from the Health Department and other government officials, the high school student council has voted to postpone the 2020 Homecoming ceremony until basketball season. The council deliberated for several days on the decision, and did not take it lightly. With the restrictions on spectators, parades, dances, pep rallies, and other mass gatherings, it was very clear to the members of the council that the usual traditions could not be carried out with the fanfare that the Homecoming court, students, parents, and community deserved. The new date of the Homecoming ceremony will be announced soon.

Covington FFA News

by Jessica Helsinger

The Covington-UVCC FFA Chapter is excited to announce that sophomores Teylor Meyer and Lilly Hughes have been named the school's first ever National Agriscience Fair Finalist! Their project will now be in consideration to win at the national level. Their research involved comparing heart rates in multiple dogs while they experienced different genres of music.

In other FFA news, 2020 graduate Hunter Zell received a Gold Rating at the national level with his Agricultural Mechanics Design & Fabrication project. Several Covington community and staff members have been clients of Hunter's metal work business.

Also, the Covington-UVCC FFA chapter earned a Three-Star rating at the national level for our annual program of activities, which included all the activities that the chapter planned through the year. A three-star rating is the highest level a chapter can earn at the national level.

Congratulations to all FFA members and, although the National FFA Convention will be held in a virtual format this year, we will all be rooting for our finalist from Covington!

A Message from Superintendent Gene Gooding

Off and running

I would like to thank our students, staff members, parents, and community members for helping us get the 2020-2021 school year off to such a great start. Everyone has been extremely cooperative, and the support that we have received has been remarkable. It took a large team effort to reopen school this fall, and everyone has certainly done their part. Thanks to the efforts of this community, our students are back in class, and participating in the events and activities that make school great.

We are blessed to have such a caring community. Over the last few months, we have received many offers of support from individuals, churches, and local businesses. The donations of cleaning supplies, personal protective equipment, bottled water, school supplies, and more, have been very generous and very helpful. Thank you to everyone who has offered to donate their time, donated supplies, or provided our students and staff members with the moral support and encouragement that they need to be successful.

We are also blessed to have such fantastic students. Our kids have returned to school and not missed a beat. They have been extremely patient and cooperative, and we are very proud of them. They have proven once again how adaptive they are. Thank you Covington students for your hard work, leadership, and great attitudes!

Athletics

The attendance restrictions put in place by Governor DeWine have prohibited many

Buccaneer fans from attending our athletic contests. This is unfortunate, and we would certainly love to have everyone in attendance cheering on our student athletes. However, we are very grateful that our students are able to participate in these contests, and I would like to thank everyone for supporting our kids, even when you cannot be in the gym, at the course, or at the field. While these restrictions are in place, we will continue to livestream as many events as possible on the athletic department Facebook page. Again, thank you for supporting our great student athletes!

Plan for inclement weather

If we need to delay or cancel school this year due to fog, snow, ice, etc., we will notify district residents in multiple ways. As always, we will contact channels 2, 7, 22, and 45 and all of their corresponding radio stations. We will also post the delays and cancellations on the school district Facebook page. In addition, I will send a “One Call Now” message to any district resident who has signed up to receive notifications. If you need information on how to sign up for the “One Call Now” messages, please contact either school office.

As with every year, I hope that we have a very mild winter that will allow us to stay in school as often as possible!

Communication

I encourage every district parent to contact their child’s teacher, bus driver, coach, or principal with any questions or concerns. Please do not hesitate to initiate regular communication with our staff members. When it comes to the education of our students (and your children), no issue is too small to address. We want your son or daughter to have a fantastic school year, and if we can do anything to help you, or support you, please do not hesitate to ask.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions for me, please feel free to contact me at 937-473-2249 or goodingg@covingtonk12.org. I enjoy hearing from parents and community members, and appreciate any feedback regarding the operations of our school district.

Thank you again to everyone for helping us get the school year off to such a great start!



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.
