



# COVINGTON CONNECTION

The Newsletter Linking The Covington Schools,  
Home & Community



Gene Gooding, Superintendent

[www.covington.k12.oh.us](http://www.covington.k12.oh.us)

March 2021

COVINGTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

## **CES Kindergarten Registration** by Josh Long

We are now accepting kindergarten enrollments for the 2021-2022 school year. If your child will be five years old prior to August 1, 2021, you may start the registration process. Simply go to our website and follow the three step process under kindergarten registration.

We look forward to meeting all of our new kindergarteners during our screening days on June 2nd and 3rd. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Benson at (937) 473-2252.

## **Principal's Breakfast**

Our second quarter came to an end during January and we were able to treat our honor roll students in grades three through six to breakfast. We had over 130 students that earned breakfast this quarter. Please encourage your student to make this a goal next quarter.



## **Optimist Club Oratorical Contest** by Bridgit Kerber

The Covington Noon Optimist club is sponsoring its annual Oratorical Contest for grades 7-10 on Tuesday, March 9th at 6pm in the Covington High School commons. Each contestant will be permitted to bring two guests to maintain social distancing. This year's speeches will be written around the national topic of "Healing the World with Optimism," and will be judged by a local panel of Optimist Club members, advocates for youth, and experts in public speaking. Speakers have the opportunity to workshop their speeches with high school language arts teachers Amber Edwards and Morgan Schmitz prior to the contest, where they can get practice speaking and advice from teachers and peers during the drafting process. These coaching opportunities increase student confidence, and prepare them not just for the contest itself, but for the future. The top three speakers are eligible to earn a medal and a monetary prize from the Noon Optimist club, and could continue on to the regional contest, held in early April. Good luck to all the contestants!

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**CHS Drama Club Presents**  
**Wagon Wheels a-Rollin**  
**by Tim Kelly**  
**by Stephanie Robinson**

Woe falls upon Chuck Wagon's wagon train, stranded in the notorious Whistling Skull Rock outside the tiny town of Vinegar Bottle, famed for its "I'm O.K. You're O.K. Corral" and crawling with villains and bandits! This fast-paced spoof of the Old West is filled with a goofy stable of hilarious characters: our trailblazin' hero, Chuck Wagon; our sweet heroine, Candy Cane; and the villainous crooked card dealer, Smiling Slade Clagget. The wagon train gets robbed by the mysterious outlaw known as "The Snake," but Chuck is accused of being the bandit through a crazy plot twist. Proving his innocence isn't easy... but it is a hoot! Who can forget the host of other characters that add extra spice to this wild romp? There's Wild Bill Hiccup, the Hamm sisters (Virginia and Glazed), fascinating Señorita Juanita and Clagget's evil ally, Sue Flay. Toss in an election for the town mayor, an old Spanish land grant and you never know what can happen! (Pioneer Drama Service, 1992)

This year's cast has returning seniors: Jessicah Besecker, Abby Fraley, Allie Garman, Katie Hembree, Sydney Hogue, Grant Humphrey, Andy Hutchinson, David Robinson, Morgan Willoughby, and Destina Wills, juniors: Holly Beasley, Chris Monnin, Ayden Rench, Yelena Weaver, and newcomer sophomores: Summer Anderson, Mic Barhorst, Meadow Byers, Emma Elson, Nora Hand, Haley Hargrave, Lorelei Nutter, Ayden Reynolds, Libby Shaffer, and Madison Supinger, freshmen: Sarah Hutton, Connor Humphrey, Audrey Pickering, Kila Stephan, Audrey Tobe, and Grayson Wills. The play is Friday, March, 19th and Saturday, March 20th. Start time for Wagon Wheels a- Rollin is 7:00pm both evenings (Doors open at 6:45pm). Tickets will be presale only to cast and crew members' families, \$7 per ticket. Westward Ho the Wagons!

**March 2021**  
**Josh Meyer, 7-12 Principal**

Congratulations to the students, parents and staff at Covington Jr/Sr High School! All of us have combined our efforts to make it past the halfway point of the school year. There have been a few struggles along the way, but I feel that every day the students at the "Best 7-12 School in Ohio" perform at a high level, and I feel that we are on a path toward a greater sense of normalcy. I would like to thank our students, parents, and community members for all of their support during these unprecedented times. This support is reflected in how well our students have responded to this challenging school year. As we continue to move forward, we encourage parents to be vigilant in monitoring student grades through ProgressBook. Let's make sure our students continue their great start and finish the 2020/2021 school year strong!

Congratulations to our varsity wrestling team for winning the prestigious Lima Central Catholic Invitational in late January. Congratulations to the Buccs and continued success in the post-season!

Any student interested in the College Credit Plus program may access the information found on the school website at: <https://www.covington.k12.oh.us/hs/Content2/ccp-instructions> If you have yet to complete the steps to enroll in the CCP program please contact Ms. Brackman in the HS office for more information.

Thank you to all of the parents that "attended" the virtual Parent/Teacher Conference night on February 11. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact your child's teacher directly.

Lastly, as we finish up the winter and head toward spring, our students will begin Ohio state standardized testing and start preparing for the end of course of 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.
- 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.

Thank you for everything that you do to make our school the "Best 7-12 School in Ohio". Go Buccs!

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## COVINGTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

### 2021

August 9	Teacher Work Day/In-Service
August 10	Teacher Work Day/In-Service
August 20	Teacher Work Day/In-Service
August 23	Teacher Work Day/In-Service Open House
August 24	First Day of School for Grades K-12
September 6	Labor Day (No School)
October 28	End of First Quarter (47 days)
October 29	No School
November 11	Parent/Teacher Conferences 1:30-9:00 p.m. Early dismissal 1:00 p.m.
November 12	No School
November 24-26	Thanksgiving Break (No School)
November 29	School resumes
December 21	Early dismissal 1:00 p.m.
December 22	Winter Break (No School)

### 2022

January 3	School resumes
January 14	End of Second Quarter (43 days) End of First Semester (90 days)
January 17	Martin Luther King, Jr Day (No School)
February 17	Parent/Teacher Conferences 1:30-9:00 p.m. Early dismissal 1:00 p.m.
February 18	No School
February 21	Presidents' Day (No School)
March 18	No School
March 25	End of Third Quarter (46 days)
April 14-18	Easter Break (No School)
April 19	School resumes
May 27	Last Day of School for Students End of Fourth Quarter (42 days) End of Second Semester (88 days) Early dismissal 1:00 p.m. Teacher Work Day/In-Service 1:00-9:00 p.m.
May 29	Graduation Ceremony

Contingency Plan (as required by O.R.C. 3317.01B) make-up day(s) will be made up according to page 12 of the CEA Master Agreement, Article III, Section 8, Category E, Item 1. Also, the policy can be reviewed on-line at: [www.covington.k12.oh.us](http://www.covington.k12.oh.us)

\*Additional early dismissals will be reviewed at a later date.

Adopted: January 13, 2021

## Spring Testing News by Bridgit Kerber

The Ohio Department of Education has maintained its State testing requirements for students in grades 3-11. Spring testing will begin in April, and Covington is fortunate that we have been able to remain in session to prepare our students. Most tests will be administered over two day periods for grades 3-8, while high school end-of-course tests are usually administered in one sitting.

On testing days, it is important that students attend school, get plenty of sleep, eat a well-balanced breakfast, and come prepared to do their best. While the tests are not the most important determination of student achievement, they are a valuable source of data for teachers to plan instruction, so students should take the tests seriously. To avoid unnecessary testing stress, students should be encouraged at home to participate in some physical exercise and fun time with family and friends on testing days.

### **English Language Arts:**

April 7-8: Grades 3, 6 ELA  
April 8-9: Grade 7 ELA  
April 13: Grade 10 ELA  
April 14-15: Grades 4, 5 ELA  
April 15-16: Grades 8 ELA  
April 19-22 ELA Make-up testing

### **Science, Math, Social Studies:**

April 20: Grade 8 Science  
April 20-21: Grades 3, 6 Math  
April 21-22: Grade 7 Math  
April 22-23: Grades 4, 5 Math  
April 23: Grades 10 American History  
& Grade 11 Government  
April 28: Grades 9 & 10 Biology  
April 29: Grade 10 Math  
(Algebra or Geometry)  
April 29: Grade 9 Math  
(Algebra or Geometry)  
May 3-6: Science/Math/Social  
Studies/Make-up testing

Testing dates are subject to change by the administration to accommodate changes to the school schedule if necessary. The final testing schedule will be posted on the school website.

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## **A Message from Superintendent Gene Gooding Continuing Traditions**

The Coronavirus pandemic has certainly affected every one of us in enumerable ways. It has been the central issue in our community, our nation, and our world for almost a full year now. During this challenging time, the spirit that our students, staff members, and community members have shown has amazed me. It has been clear to me from the beginning that our school community is dedicated to keeping our school open and that they will make sacrifices to allow our students to participate in the sports and extra-curricular activities that they love.

Over the last few weeks, we have witnessed a decrease in the number of Miami County residents who have tested positive for COVID-19. I certainly hope that this trend will continue and that we will see a return to normalcy in the near future. In the meantime, while ensuring safety, and following the requirements of our local health authorities, we will continue with many of the longstanding traditions that help make our school and our community great.

The annual spaghetti supper will be held on March 10 and all of the money collected will go to the Covington Scholarship Fund. The Covington Noon Optimist's pancake breakfast will be held on March 20. The money collected from this

event will be used to benefit the youths of the Covington community. Unfortunately, both events will be pick-up only, but that will not stop our students from benefitting from the generosity of their friends and neighbors who participate in these great yearly events!

The CHS Drama Club will also perform "Wagon Wheels a-Rollin" on March 19 and 20. Unfortunately, the school play was one of the first events cancelled last spring, and our students are really looking forward to performing for their friends and families this year.

With everyone's cooperation, we were able to safely complete our fall and winter sports seasons. At the beginning of this school year, it seemed very unlikely that this would be possible. Thank you to everyone who helped provide our students with these great opportunities, and thank you in advance for your continued support as we begin the spring sports season. Our student athletes have certainly kept the Covington traditions alive by competing with class and representing our school district with Pride!

Finally, we are working closely with the Miami County Health Department to be able to safely operate our most important tradition- Graduation. If things continue in the direction that they are heading, we anticipate being able to hold an in-person graduation ceremony on May 30. The location and capacity limit for the ceremony

will be dictated by the state of the pandemic at that time.

In addition to these great events, we have been able to continue the tradition of excellent in-person instruction at CEVSD. While many school children around the state and nation have not been in school since last March, our students have been in school learning from their teachers since August 25. I cannot thank this community enough for supporting our efforts to keep our kids in the classrooms.

## **Continued Communication**

As we move into the last few months of school, it is very important to keep the lines of communication open. I encourage all parents to communicate with their child's teachers, coaches, bus drivers, and principals as often as necessary. Please feel free to reach out to the appropriate staff member with any questions or concerns that you may have via email or telephone.

In addition, please feel free to contact me with any concerns, questions, or suggestions regarding the operation of the school district. It is hard to believe, but it will soon be time to begin preparing for the 2021-2022 school year. I appreciate hearing from community members with ideas that will help us continue to provide our students with an excellent, well-rounded education that prepares them for future success!

Thank you and Go Buccs!

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## **THANKS FOR ASKING!**

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

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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