



COVINGTON CONNECTION

The Newsletter Linking The Covington Schools,
Home & Community



Gene Gooding, Superintendent

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October 2021

COVINGTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Covington JH/HS News

by Josh Meyer

It is hard to believe that we are already into the month of October! This school year seems to be going quickly. Our staff and students are working hard daily to continue the tradition of excellence at Covington and making Covington Jr/Sr High School the best 7-12 school in the state of Ohio.

The beginning of the school year is a hectic time for our students and staff. We have been busy reinforcing Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) through our "Pride Buccs" program and recognizing students for displaying positive behaviors in and around school. We have spent time during the first several weeks of school reteaching expected behaviors in specific areas of the school. Weekly, we recognize one student in each grade 7-12 for practicing these expected positive behaviors. Congratulations to our students for making the most of this opportunity. I'd like to thank our student leaders for their dedication to positive behaviors and for taking these behavior expectations seriously.

Congratulations to all of our students who have had a successful fall. We have had great success in athletics, various clubs and student groups, and academics. The way that our students have performed during the first couple months of the school year proves that Covington Jr/Sr High School is the BEST 7-12 school in Ohio. I know that with their work ethic and desire there are many great accomplishments to come!

Lastly, I would like to thank the community for the support they have shown during the start of the school year. Our daily routines and procedures have almost returned to normal, and the one thing that always remains the same is the commitment of our staff to providing an excellent education while ensuring the safety of our students.

CES Student Council News

by Lauren Bell

The Student Council elections were held at the beginning of September. One representative from each 3rd and 4th grade class was elected, along with two representatives from each fifth and sixth grade classroom. Congratulations to the following representatives:

3rd Grade: Hannah Detrick, Journey Holthaus, Ivy Long

4th Grade: Lucy Foutz, Riley Copeland, Claira Boothe

5th Grade: Madelyn Batdorf, Gabriel Brown, Jonny King, Emma Havenar, Cooper Turner, Madelynn Wright

6th Grade: Veronica Swartz, Cody Rohr, Caylor Eastman, MacKenzie Gear, Aubrey Hoying, Isaiah Mumford

Student Council members will be running for officer positions during their upcoming meeting. Congratulations to all!!!

CES Fall Book Fair by Michelle Reck

We were excited to bring the Fall Book Fair to our school the week of October 4 through 8. All students visited the Book Fair during their regularly scheduled library class.

As always, I would like to thank you for your support of the Book Fair, as all purchases benefit our school. If you have any questions you may e-mail me at reckm@covingtonk12.org or telephone at 937-473-2252.

PTO NEWS by Josh Long

Our PTO has been busy since the beginning of the school year. They purchased Kona Ice for all of our students that attended our open house and then they had their annual Walk-a-Thon on Friday, September 24. Thank you to all of our PTO members that helped plan these activities and to all of our volunteer parents and grandparents that came in to help.

Hope Squad by Nicole Crawford

Hope Squad is gearing up for our second year at Covington High School. Hope Squad is a 9-12th grade peer-to-peer suicide prevention program. The eleven members are nominated by their classmates as trustworthy peers and trained by myself and Mrs. Moore. The program is designed to reduce youth suicide through education, training, and peer intervention. Along with prevention, an emphasis on reducing mental health stigma is an important mission of the group.

Each member is trained in QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) by a certified trainer, for students who are dealing with a mental health crisis. Along with QPR, Hope Squad includes an entire curriculum that is presented throughout the year that includes: connectedness, self-care, mental health challenges, peer advocacy, and understanding grief. These tools may extend beyond high school and be applied to almost any part of their lives.

We are excited to continue where we left off and are looking forward to this year!

PrideBuccs Crew News by Bridgit Kerber

We're off to another positive start this year in our PrideBuccs program, formerly called PBIS. Students in grades K-12 were able to visit the PrideBuccs Prizewagon for the first time last week to redeem their first 5 weeks of PrideBuccs, and it was astonishing to see how many students had several full cards to spend. The prizewagon this year is being maintained and manned by an amazing team of teachers and high school student volunteers during lunches and intervention times. The staff members on the Tier I team who manage the prizes are Meghan Gehret, Karol Hogue, Rachel Larson, and Kate Shaffer. They use data collected from student surveys and interviews to find out what motivates our students, and make sure to keep the wagon stocked with those "most wanted" items. It's clear that they are doing a great job at this, because students were lined up to claim their prizes.

In Crew News, the Tier I team gathered all their forces to be sure to get every new Buccaneer including new staff, students in 1st-12th grades, and new Kindergarten Crew members their Crew shirts so that they could participate in the first Crew day during Homecoming spirit week on October 8th. Other Crew competitions and days will be coming up this year, and students will be able to earn prizes for their Crews by participating. It is always so exciting to see who your crew is, and to wear the Crew shirts with pride! Parents, be sure to ask your child, what Crew are YOU?

Covington-UVCC FFA by Jessica Helsinger

This fall the Covington-UVCC FFA had a successful CDE season with the Soil Judging contests. Here students work individually to evaluate a property based upon its land usage. There are two divisions, Urban and Rural, which check for home and farming purposes respectively. The Urban team competed at the district level in Shelby County this year. Team members included: Garrett Leistner, Mara Newhouse, Asher Long, Teylor Meyer, Elizabeth Coblentz, and Gabby Hartwig. The Urban Team placed 9th overall with team members Asher Long, Mara Newhouse, and Teylor Meyer leading the way. The Rural team included: Luke Brown, Megan Rose, and Michael Hagan. They placed 14th overall with Megan Rose earning 16th place as an individual.

Fort Rowdy Elementary Art Contest

by Lauren Gerlach

Students at Covington Elementary School grades Kindergarten through fifth grade submitted artwork for the Fort Rowdy Elementary Art Contest, which was held Labor Day weekend. The students created original artwork inspired by the pioneers and studied the pioneer era between the years 1770-1842. Students were judged by grade level and work was picked for first, second, and third place. The student artwork was promptly displayed at the Fort Rowdy Gathering Labor Day weekend.

Kindergarten Winners

First Place: Silas Taylor

Second Place: Eva Reck

Third Place: Lila Moore

First Grade Winners

First Place: Klint Peters

Second Place: Brantley Garber

Third Place: Olivia Sprankle

Second Grade Winners

First Place: Hudson Reck

Second Place: Gillian Snyder

Third Place: Kaitleigh Kisner

Third Grade Winners

First Place: Annabella Aselage

Second Place: Landen Yurkowski

Third Place: Darren Warner

Fourth Grade Winners

First Place: Zella Nickol

Second Place: Scarlett Laug

Third Place: Amiyah Staley

Fifth Grade Winners

First Place: Brielle Garber

Second Place: Alva Hess

Third Place: Cheyenne Zuhl



**A Message from
Superintendent
Gene Gooding**

Successful Start

It is hard to believe, but the first quarter of the school year ends on October 28th. I am always amazed at how quickly the year goes by, but this year seems to be moving faster than ever before. Thankfully, we have experienced excellent weather this fall, and I am hopeful that our good fortune will continue into the winter season!

It was fantastic to be able to hold a traditional Homecoming celebration this year. Mrs. Kerber and the CHS Student Council did an excellent job of preparing for this annual event and the students had a great time. The Pep Rally, the on field crowning of the King and Queen, the parade, the football game versus Lehman, and the dance were all huge successes!

The athletic teams have also had a fantastic fall season to this point. The junior high and high school cross country teams have won many individual and team awards, the varsity boys golf team qualified for the district tournament, and the rest of our teams are still in the thick of their seasons, with many awards and victories still on the horizon. This is our first year in the Three Rivers Conference and our cheerleaders,

football players, golfers, runners, and volleyball players are representing our school and our community with pride. I am truly grateful to the athletes and the coaches for the hard work and dedication they display while wearing the Black and White!

The Band of Bucc Pride is continuing their tradition of Success. On September 18th the Band competed in the prestigious Wilmington Invitational and earned Second Place! On October 16th, they will perform in the historic Horseshoe at OSU. They have had an outstanding fall and we wish them continued success moving forward. Great job Band of Bucc Pride!

The third and fourth grade students recently performed for their families and friends as part of the MUSE Machine Artists in Residence Program. This year, with the help of visiting artist Beth Wright, the students choreographed and performed dances to help them learn and retain reading skills and strategies. They did a fantastic job and made their teachers very proud! Thank you to the students, the third and fourth grade staff members, and everyone else who made this event such a huge success.

On September 24th the Covington Parent Teacher Organization held their annual walk-a-thon. Thankfully, the weather was beautiful and the students enjoyed a sunny, mild day to walk at the Smith Field track. It cannot be overstated how blessed we are at CEVSD to have such a supportive

and caring PTO. The education in our buildings is better every day because of the efforts of this fantastic organization. On behalf of every student and staff member, I would like to say thank you to the PTO for all that they do!

Parent Teacher Conferences

Our first round of parent teacher conferences will be held on November 11th from 1:30- 9:00. More information will be sent home soon to explain how to sign up for a conference with your child's teachers. I encourage every parent or guardian to take advantage of this opportunity to schedule an appointment with our staff members. Please keep in mind that if you cannot attend on this evening, you can always reach out to our staff via email or telephone. Our staff members are willing to meet with you at your convenience to discuss your son or daughter's educational progress.

Thank you to our community

This year has contained its challenges, but we have been able to provide our students with an exceptional in-person learning experience that supports their academic, emotional, and social needs. I am very grateful to the community for supporting us in our efforts to keep our kids in school, and for helping us provide our students with a comparatively normal school year. This community clearly values education, and I certainly appreciate the support for our students and staff members during this unusual time. Thank you to everyone who has helped get this school year off to such a fantastic 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
