



# Superintendent's Report

Submitted by Nick Verhoff

January 6, 2022

## Career Exploration at CG Schools

Students in grades 7-12 are given different opportunities throughout junior high and high school to explore careers. Students are introduced to the three E's - Employment, Enlistment and Enrollment. Each school year the guidance office has a UNOH speaker talk to our juniors about Winning Impressions. The speaker discusses proper first impressions at interviews and how to present themselves on their job shadow visit. One excellent opportunity offered to our juniors is the Junior Job Shadow Day. On December 10, all juniors attended job shadows across the state of Ohio. This year we had many unique careers toured such as engineering, publishing, firefighting, marketing and public relations, physical therapy and teaching. The guidance office and Mrs. Birnesser, junior Government teacher, helps the juniors coordinate their job shadows because they feel it is important to talk to adults about career opportunities and to work on how to present themselves in the workplace. At the conclusion of the job shadow, students are taught how to send a follow-up thank you letter.

Additionally, CGHS was also able to send 12 seniors and juniors to tour GROB Systems, Inc. to learn more about the company and their apprenticeship program. As the U.S. automotive industry shifts towards electric vehicles, GROB's product line is also rapidly changing to meet their customers' needs. GROB is now making equipment for electric motors and batteries for some of the top automotive companies. They are looking for students who have a strong willingness to learn and grow with them as they enter this exciting new era at GROB. GROB offers different outreach opportunities to our students and one was a facility tour. GROB is once again searching for their next class of apprentices. They are now accepting applications for the 2022 apprentice class online at [www.joingrob.com/apprentice](http://www.joingrob.com/apprentice).

GROB also offers a Saturday Apprenticeship Tour event which is open to the public, but prior online registration is required. We already have multiple students interested in a GROB apprenticeship after graduation. Once accepted, this will make five years in a row that at least one CGHS graduate has been accepted into the program, with multiple graduates accepted each of the last three years.

## Thank You 5-Angle Construction!

Last month, the Sentinel published a story on a project at the Leipsic Community Center. Volunteers had individually wrapped books to be given to students in grades K-5. Books were distributed to students so they matched each student's reading level. Columbus Grove Elementary students were beneficiaries of this program, as 5-Angle Construction sponsored the books for our school. Many thanks to 5-Angle for their generosity to our students!

## Updated List of Presentations at Boys' Basketball Games

As we have done in the past, we look forward to taking time to recognize the accomplishments of our student athletes over the past year. Please note that there are a few changes in dates for recognitions which were originally published on 12/16/21. Here is an updated schedule for upcoming recognitions:

January 14 vs. Lincolnview: 2021 State Champion Wrestler Jeff Meyer, 2021 Football- A.J. Schafer & Rece Verhoff, 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Ohio

January 29 vs. Continental: 2021 Boys' Cross-Country Team

February 11 vs. Delphos Jefferson - Senior Night

## Update on School Delays and Closings

As we enter the heart of winter, we are fortunate that we have not had a school closing to date. We do have five calamity days in total to use before we begin making these days up. As we did last year, if we reach a sixth calamity day or beyond, we will make these days virtual school days for instruction, with students completing their instruction and assignments online. One of the biggest benefits of using this approach is that it will eliminate school days getting added to the end of the school year, during a time when families have vacations already planned. Hopefully, we will not get to a sixth calamity day or beyond this school year, but we wanted to make you aware of this in the event it occurs. If you have any questions about this process, please contact Mr. Verhoff at 659-4301.

## Please Utilize the Remind Communication System

With the winter weather upon us, it is a good time to remind you of a quick and efficient way receive the latest information from the district through our Remind notification system, which replaced the Ohio Text Alert System last summer. You can sign up with an email address, a cell phone, or both. Students and Parents have been automatically added to the main district alert list as well as class groups for the teachers that will use Remind for classroom communication. For community members that are not staff, students, or parents, it is very easy to sign up with Remind to continue receiving alerts via one of three ways.

- Use the code @cgrovehs in the Remind App on your smartphone
- Text the message @cgrovehs to 81010
- Visit <https://www.remind.com/join/cgrovehs> on your computer

When asked what your role is, select "Parent." This system is very efficient in getting the latest information regarding school delays and closings, as well as other district related information. Please contact Technology Coordinator Mike Keehn at [cg\\_keehn@cg.noacsc.org](mailto:cg_keehn@cg.noacsc.org) if you have any questions.

## More Changes to COVID Guidelines

Given what is now known about COVID-19 and the Omicron variant, the CDC is shortening the recommended time for isolation from 10 days for people with COVID-19 to 5 days, if asymptomatic, followed by 5 days of wearing a mask when around others. The change is motivated by science demonstrating that the majority of SARS-CoV-2 transmission occurs early in the course of illness, generally in the 1-2 days prior to onset of symptoms and the 2-3 days after. Therefore, people who test positive should isolate for 5 days and, if asymptomatic at that time, they may leave isolation if they can continue to mask for 5 days to minimize the risk of infecting others. Please note: Eligibility to participate in mask to stay is contingent on the exposure being in the school setting or school-related activities. This does not apply to household exposures or exposures outside of the school setting or school-related activities.

Additionally, CDC is updating the recommended quarantine period for those exposed to COVID-19. For people who are unvaccinated or are more than six months out from their second mRNA dose (or more than 2 months after the J&J vaccine) and not yet boosted, CDC now recommends quarantine for 5 days followed by proper mask use for an additional 5 days. Individuals who have received their booster shot do not need to quarantine following an exposure, but should wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure. If symptoms occur, individuals should immediately quarantine until a negative test confirms symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19.

Columbus Grove Schools will follow these new measures for students and staff. Although the quarantine period for COVID positive and contact traced individuals has decreased to five days, we still strongly encourage families to keep students' home if they are symptomatic. Thank you again for your help as we work to keep our schools safe.

## **Substitute Bus Drivers Wanted**

Columbus Grove Local Schools is accepting applications for substitute bus drivers. This position has the potential of becoming a full-time bus driver in the future, if the applicant is interested. Substitute bus drivers are contacted to drive extracurricular and field trips and occasionally drive a regular morning or afternoon route. Certification requires the completion of attending a pre-service class, a written and driving test, CDL license, a medical physical exam, drug test, BMV check of driving record, and a background check. Cost for training will be fully reimbursed by the district for any individuals who serve as a substitute bus driver for Columbus Grove Local Schools. If you are interested in becoming a bus driver for Columbus Grove School, please contact the Superintendent's Office at 659-2639 for further information.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**

Boys Freshman Basketball @ Leipsic – 5:00 p.m.  
Boys JH Basketball vs. Pandora Gilboa – 5:00 p.m.  
Girls JH Basketball @ Pandora Gilboa – 5:00 p.m.  
Girls JV/Varsity Basketball vs. Leipsic – 6:00 p.m.

### **Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**

Boys JV/Varsity Basketball – 6:00 p.m.  
End of Second Quarter -

### **Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**

JH Wrestling @ Wapakoneta Invitational – 9:00 a.m.  
Varsity Wrestling @ Milton Union Invitational – 9:30 a.m.  
Girls Freshman Basketball @ Findlay – 1:00 p.m.

### **Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**

Boys Freshman Basketball @ Kalida – 5:00 p.m.  
Girls Freshman Basketball vs. Delphos Jefferson – 5:00 p.m.