



Superintendent's Report

Submitted by Nick Verhoff

January 9, 2025

Visitation for Former Elementary Principal Jim Kincaid Today

We will host a visitation for the family of Jim Kincaid this evening, from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the school library. Jim was a revered elementary principal for Columbus Grove Schools from 1990 until his retirement at the end of the 2012 – 2013 school year. Jim's wife, Kim, and children Joe and Meredith will be at the school this evening to visit with community members.



January is School Board Appreciation Month!

Columbus Grove Local Schools is proud to celebrate School Board Appreciation Month this January. Our Board of Education serves as a vital link between the community and the classroom, establishing policies and making decisions that provide the framework for our district's success. Responsible for overseeing an annual budget of \$12 million, 740 students, and 90 employees, their leadership is instrumental in shaping the future of our schools and the education of our community's young people.

This past year has been marked by incredible achievements, including Columbus Grove Elementary being named a National Blue-Ribbon School, the district earning a 5-Star rating on the State Report Card (the only district in the county to earn this distinction), the creation of an elementary STEM classroom, expansion of College Credit Plus programming, and the addition of a General Science with Agriculture course at the high school. Our athletic and extracurricular programs have also excelled, with many earning state-level recognition.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our dedicated Board members for their service: Brian Jones (President), Ned Stechschulte (Vice President), Mindy Troyer, Kevin Schumacher, and Jon Diller. Their commitment to our students, staff, and community ensures that Columbus Grove Local Schools continues to thrive. Thank you for all you do!

School Board Approves 2025-2026 School Calendar

At its December 10 meeting, the Columbus Grove Board of Education approved the 2025-2026 school calendar. The main purpose of approving this schedule this far in advance is that county schools will have more time to collaborate for transportation purposes—most schools in the county transport resident students to other schools that house ESC units. Secondly, parents of seniors have ample time to plan for graduation parties. Like the previous three years, this year's commencement exercises will take place on the Sunday of the weekend BEFORE Memorial Day weekend. This year's commencement will take place at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 18. To view next year's school schedule, go to <https://cg.noacsc.org/> and click on "Calendars" on the left column of the homepage. If you have any questions regarding the school calendar, please contact my office at 659-4301.

Discover the Putnam County Resource Directory!

Looking for community events, educational opportunities, or local resources in Putnam County? The **Putnam County Resource Directory** is your one-stop shop for information and assistance! This user-friendly directory includes a wide range of resources, such as:

- Upcoming community events
- Educational opportunities
- Service directories
- Child care options
- Churches
- Clothing assistance
- And much more!

Whether you're seeking support or simply want to stay informed, the Putnam County Resource Directory has you covered. Explore it today at [Putnam County Resource Directory](#) and discover all the resources our community has to offer!

2024-25 School Closings Update

As of this past Monday, we now have used three calamity days for the 2024-25 school year, leaving us with two more school closings before having to make up additional calamity days. As we did last year, if we reach a sixth calamity day or beyond this school year, we will first refer to the board-approved 2024-25 school calendar to see if there are any scheduled days remaining that are designated to make up for in-person instruction. These pre-scheduled make-up days for in-person instruction are January 20 (MLK Day), February 17 (Presidents Day), and March 21 (Third quarter break). If we reach a sixth calamity day after these dates, we will make these days up via virtual school days of 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 process in the event it occurs. If you have any questions about this process, please contact Mr. Verhoff at 659-4301.

Discover Career Opportunities with PutnamCountyWorks.com!

Looking for a new job, career advancement, or opportunities close to home? Check out **PutnamCountyWorks.com**, your one-stop resource for connecting with employers and job openings in Putnam County. This easy-to-navigate website features a wide range of positions across industries, tools for building your resume, and resources to help you succeed in your job search.

PutnamCountyWorks.com is powered by the **Workforce Partnership of Putnam County**, a collaborative initiative dedicated to supporting local businesses, job seekers, and students. The partnership works to strengthen the community by connecting employers with a skilled workforce and offering valuable career development resources.

PutnamCountyWorks.com serves as a hub for job seekers, students and parents, educators, and employers. Whether you're a seasoned professional, just starting your career journey, or exploring options for the future, PutnamCountyWorks.com and the Workforce Partnership of Putnam County are here to help you succeed. Visit today and take the next step toward your future!

Winter Bulldog Sports Available Online

The CG Athletic Boosters, CG Athletic Department, and the Columbus Grove High School of Business present live stream and on-demand options to watch CG events. As what was done with football games at Clymer Stadium this past fall, all basketball games in the high school gym will be available to watch on any device including on a TV using Roku. This subscription-based service will be available to purchase before the event for a single purchase, monthly subscription, or annual subscription. An additional bonus is these online basketball games will have Z-Sports play-by-play accompany most games. While we do not want residents and fans to forego the live atmosphere of the game, this is a great alternative for those out of the area to support our students. The option of watching games later at your convenience is another added benefit. Visit <http://fan.hudl.com/cgbulldogs> to watch highlights and subscribe to this service.

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, January 9th

Boys JH Basketball @ Pandora-Gilboa – 5:00 p.m.

Girls JH Basketball vs. Pandora-Gilboa – 5:00 p.m.

Girls JV/Varsity Basketball @ Lima Central Catholic – 5:30 p.m.

Friday, January 10th

Boys JV/Varsity Basketball vs. Lima Central Catholic – 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 11th

Boys Varsity Wrestling @ Sielski Invitational Coldwater – 9:00 a.m.

Boys JH Wrestling @ Ayersville Invitational – 9:00 a.m.

Boys JH Basketball vs. Arlington – 10:00 a.m.

Girls JH Basketball @ Arlington – 10:00 a.m.

Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Delphos Jefferson – 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 16th

Boys JH Basketball @ Fort Jennings – 5:00 p.m.

Girls JH Basketball vs. Ottawa – 5:00 p.m.

Girls JV/Varsity Basketball vs. Lincolnview – 5:30 p.m.