



Superintendent's Report

Submitted by Nick Verhoff

March 6, 2025

Columbus Grove Girls' Basketball Team Advances to First-Ever OHSAA State Tournament!

The Columbus Grove Girls' Basketball team has made history by securing their first-ever trip to the OHSAA state tournament! In the regional semifinals, the Bulldogs showcased their determination and skill with a decisive victory over Margaretta. Building on this momentum, they faced Patrick Henry in the regional finals, where their relentless effort earned them a hard-fought win, clinching their spot in the state semi-finals.

Reflecting on the team's journey, Head Coach Brian Schroeder remarked, "This group has shown incredible resilience and teamwork throughout the season. Their dedication to each other and the game has been truly inspiring."

The team's remarkable journey has been marked by resilience, teamwork, and an unwavering commitment to excellence. As they prepare to compete on the state's biggest stage, let's come together as a community to celebrate their achievements and support them in the upcoming games. Congratulations to our Bulldogs! The Lady Bulldogs tipoff tomorrow night at 6 p.m. at the Elida Fieldhouse against Minster.



Pandora-Gilboa to Host Annual Putnam County Arts Festival

The 12th annual Putnam County Arts Festival will take place at Pandora-Gilboa High School this Sunday. This festival is a celebration of both visual and performing arts from students throughout Putnam County. Columbus Grove students in grades 6-12 will have artwork on display in the cafeteria and the gallery will begin at 1:00 p.m. The All-County Choir and Band will perform in the high school gymnasium at 2:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend. A special thank you goes out to our art and music teachers, Sarah Hoehne, Sarah Ricker, Kristen Verhoff, and Jason Lozer for all your efforts in organizing this event for our students!

Celebrating National School Breakfast Week & Right to Read Week at CG Schools

Columbus Grove Schools is excited to celebrate National School Breakfast Week and Right to Read Week 2025! This year's theme, "Clue in to...", highlights the importance of starting each day with a healthy breakfast while promoting the joy of reading.

Studies continue to show that eating a nutritious breakfast fuels student for success by improving concentration, increasing energy, and boosting overall academic performance. We are proud to support our students by offering balanced breakfast options that help them start their day strong!

Monday: Secret Identity Day – Wear a hat, sunglasses, and crazy socks.

Tuesday: Pajama Day – No problems to solve when you're cozy in your pajamas.

Wednesday: Mystery Teacher Day – Dress like a teacher and see if we can guess who you are!

Thursday: Who is Who? – Match outfits with a friend or two.

Friday: Mystery Solved – Brighten the day in your best neon clothes!

We'd like to extend a big thank you to our CG Student Nutrition Department and High School of Business classes for organizing this fun-filled week of learning, spirit, and healthy habits.

CGHS Music Department Presents *The Pajama Game* in Two Weeks

On Friday, March 21, and Saturday, March 22, Columbus Grove High School will present its 58th annual High School Musical. This year's production will be *The Pajama Game*. The cast will feature Holden Hartzog, Daisy Stechschulte, Noah Strahm, Laney Auchmuty, Bryn Casper, Ethan McDougale, and Evan Verhoff, as well as a fantastic cast of talented CGHS students. Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased in the Columbus Grove High School Office. Tickets are \$12.00 for reserved seating and \$8.00 for general seating. Tickets will also be available at the door. The performances will be held in the Columbus Grove Auditorium with the curtain opening at 7:00 p.m. both nights. Please come out and support the talented students of Columbus Grove! We can't wait to see you at the show!



Front Row: Holden Hartzog, Daisy Stechschulte
Back Row: Bryn Casper, Ethan McDougale, Noah Strahm, Laney Auchmuty, Evan Verhoff

Congratulations to Ned Stechschulte for 20 Years of Board Member Service!

Columbus Grove Schools proudly recognizes Ned Stechschulte for his 20 years of dedicated service as a member of the Columbus Grove Board of Education. A 1991 graduate and lifelong resident of Columbus Grove, Ned's leadership has played a vital role in shaping the success of our district.

During his tenure, Ned has served multiple times as Board President and helped guide the district through significant advancements, including:

- The expansion of on-campus College Credit Plus (CCP) courses
- The creation of the Columbus Grove Digital Academy
- Multiple state and national recognitions for academic excellence, including the 2024 National Blue-Ribbon Award for CG Elementary and back-to-back 5-star district ratings from ODEW
- Continued athletic excellence across multiple programs
- Major facility improvements, including the new school building project and the construction of the Bulldog Athletic Facility
- Maintaining strong financial stewardship, ensuring that Columbus Grove Schools has not had to request additional operating dollars from the community in the past 20 years

Ned's unwavering commitment to Columbus Grove Schools has helped build on the district's fine tradition of excellence, making it one of the most successful rural districts in Ohio. Ned will be honored next week by the Ohio School Board Association at the Spring Conference at Leipsic High School. Congratulations, Ned, and thank you for your dedication to our students, staff, and community!

Bulldog Bites

The Lady Bulldog Basketball Team claimed its first regional title last Saturday, qualifying for the state tournament. The Bulldogs have now won eight district basketball titles in school history. Six of these titles have occurred during Head Coach Brian Schroeder's 12-year tenure. The Lady Bulldogs also set the school record for wins (25), eclipsing the previous record of 23 wins, which happened in both the 2016 and 2017 seasons.

2025-2026 Kindergarten Registration Now Open

Kindergarten registration for the 2025-2026 school year is now open. If your child will turn 5 years old before September 30, 2025, they are eligible for kindergarten. You can register on our website (cg.noacsc.org) by clicking the link in the Parents/Student/Community tab or you may contact the school at 419-695-2631 and we will walk you through the registration process. At the beginning of March, a letter will be sent informing you of your date and time for screening. The dates for screening will be April 10 and 11. Documents needed are a birth certificate, immunization records and/or Kindergarten boosters, parent ID, proof of residency (if new to the district and no other siblings attend CG schools) and custody papers if applicable.

Bulldog Bucks Raffle Tickets for Sale!

Have you purchased your Bulldog Bucks raffle ticket yet? If not, you are missing out on a chance to win \$5,000, \$10,000, or \$50,000! The Columbus Grove Athletic Boosters, in conjunction with the Columbus Grove Volunteer Fire Department and Columbus Grove Lions Club, are selling only 800 tickets for this raffle. The drawing for the three lucky winners will take place on Saturday, June 14 at 10:00 p.m. at the June Jubilee, before the fireworks display. You need not be present to win. Tickets can be purchased in the high school office this year for \$100 apiece. You may also purchase tickets from members of the various groups sponsoring this raffle. All proceeds will go to these groups sponsoring the raffle. Thank you in advance for your support of these important groups that do so much for the community of Columbus Grove!

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!

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!

Upcoming Events

Friday, March 7th

Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Minster (State Semi-Finals) @ Elida – 6:00 p.m.

Friday, March 14th

End of Third Quarter

Friday, March 21st

No school Quarter Break

HS Musical – 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 22nd

HS Musical – 7:00 p.m.