



# Superintendent's Report

Submitted by Nick Verhoff

April 27, 2023

## Happy Administrative Professionals Day!

Yesterday marked the celebration of Administrative Professionals Day. At Columbus Grove Schools, we are incredibly fortunate to have the services of our secretaries who do a phenomenal job of keeping our day-to-day operations running smoothly. Our five secretaries, Deb Barto (Elementary), Kristal Pingle (High School), Kim Smith (Guidance), Jill Maag (EMIS/Athletic Department), and Cari Fuerst (Superintendent) are great resources and lifesavers for the staff at CGLS. Their customer service is second to none and we are lucky to have them serving our district. Thank you, ladies, for all you do for Columbus Grove Schools!

## 61st Annual Band Calendar Sale Underway

You can now order your 2023-2024 band calendar by either filling out the form on the back of the March or April page of your current band calendar or you can print off an order form from the school district's website (<http://cg.noacsc.org/>). Calendars are \$10 each and come with one free listing. Addition listings are still just 0.25 cents each. Listing types include (B) birthday, (A) Anniversary, (E) Meeting, (S) Military Service, (M) Memory, or (N) Band Member Birthday. Payment is required at the time of the order (due by June 1). Checks should be made payable to "CG Band Boosters" and can be dropped off at the high school or mailed to 201 W. Cross St. 45830. Many thanks for your support and to our businesses for supporting this successful fundraiser.

## Early Dismissal for the Last Day of School

At the April Board of Education meeting, it was announced that the district would have a 1:00 p.m. early dismissal on Thursday, May 25, the last day of school for students. This year's commencement will take place on Sunday, May 21, in the high school gym at 2:00 p.m. It will also be livestreamed as well, allowing family and friends who cannot make the commencement in person to watch it on their electronic device. More information regarding this service will be coming in the next few weeks.

## Attention Parents: Food Service Point of Sale System Changing

For the last 15 years we have been using Meals Plus in our cafeteria for our point of sale system. Meals Plus was recently acquired by another company, LINQ, and as part of that acquisition the Meals Plus product is being phased out. Knowing that we would have to make a transition to a new product, we explored a few options for going forward and we are happy to announce we have selected PaySchools; a Canton, Ohio based company, for our next point of sale system.

The transition to the new system will take place this Monday, May 1. Remind messages/communications regarding this change were sent out to parents over the last week. Your students should see no changes when they go through the line - they will use their same PINs, and they can still bring checks or cash in to add money to their accounts. All of their current balances will transfer over to the new system as well.

There will be a couple of changes to the online portion of the system for those of you that have used that in the past. There is a new online portal which you can register for here: <https://www.payschoolscentral.com/>. This will be the one-stop location to check student balances, set up alerts, see transaction history, transfer money between students, or deposit money via a credit card or bank account. Please note: like before, depositing money online does incur a nominal fee.

One feature that was not available with the new systems we evaluated was the "Family Account" which allowed all students grouped together as a family to pull from the same pool of money.

When we transition to PaySchools, money that is currently in a Meals Plus family account will be split evenly between the students when the balance is transferred.

In addition, parents can soon apply for free and reduced lunches directly in the online portal for the 23-24 school year. Verification and status determination will be done immediately upon submission. If you have any questions about the transition to PaySchools please contact Mr. Mike Keehn, Technology Coordinator at [cg\\_keehn@cg.noacsc.org](mailto:cg_keehn@cg.noacsc.org) or Ms. Kristen Hertel, Cafeteria Manager at [cg\\_hertel@cg.noacsc.org](mailto:cg_hertel@cg.noacsc.org).

### **PaySchools FAQs**

#### ***Does my student need to know any new numbers?***

No, the student PINs will all stay the same - the process of going through the lunch line will be exactly the same as it is now.

#### ***Where do I go to check my student balance?***

Sign up for an account at <https://www.payschoolcentral.com> or use the PaySchool Central app on your smartphone to connect to your student accounts, check balances, sign up for reminders, and more.

#### ***Will we still get Remind alerts about our balance if we signed up for those?***

Balance alerts will no longer go out through Remind. All balance alerts will be generated by the new system at <https://www.payschoolcentral.com>. Just sign up there and you can manage which alerts you'd like to receive.

#### ***Why can't we use a family account anymore?***

All of the systems we evaluated did not have this functionality. On the plus side, however, the online management of your student accounts is much easier and allows you to transfer money between students.

#### ***Can I still send one check or cash payment for all of my students since I can't use a family account?***

You can still send one check or amount of cash, just write on the check memo line or envelope that you'd like to split the amount between accounts. You can also use the online system to transfer money between your students.

### **Attention Graduating Seniors (and Parents)!**

Please see below for important end-of-year information regarding graduation and other related events.

- The area Council of Churches is sponsoring the Baccalaureate Service for all graduating seniors on Sunday, May 21, 2023 at 12:30 p.m. in the high school gymnasium. All seniors will be receiving an invitation in the mail. Please RSVP to the church, or in the high school office.
- Seniors should clean their lockers out by Friday, May 12. Seniors will not be released from class to clean out their lockers. This should be completed at the end of the day on Thursday, or before the start of the school day on Friday. We will check senior lockers after school on Friday, May 12. Seniors still needing to attend to their lockers will be asked to take care of this after graduation rehearsal on Friday, May 19. Students are responsible to turn in their textbooks to the appropriate teachers in order to not be charged for a book fee.
- All technology should be returned to Technology Coordinator Mr. Keehn.
- Graduation rehearsal is scheduled for Friday, May 19, at 9:00 a.m. (this counts as school day for seniors, so they must attend). Please report to the High School Gym by 8:30 a.m. Students must attend the rehearsal on Friday morning in order to participate in the commencement ceremony. The student dress code is in effect for rehearsal.
- The Graduation Ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, May 21, at 2:00 p.m. Graduates are to report to the high school commons by 1:15 p.m. if they are not attending the Baccalaureate.
- Any graduate not planning to participate in the commencement should notify Mrs. Pingle in the high school office ASAP.
- Final transcripts should all be ordered electronically through Parchment by Friday, May 5. Seniors needing help with this should contact the guidance office.
- Important Upcoming Dates for Seniors:
  - **Monday, May 15** - Senior Class Trip to Cedar Point
  - **Tuesday, May 16** - 7:00 p.m. Senior Awards Night
  - **Wednesday, May 17** - Senior Exams (open campus)
  - **Friday, May 19** - 9:00 a.m. Graduation Rehearsal/class speaker rehearsal (after practice)
  - **Sunday, May 21** 12:30 p.m. – Baccalaureate (in HS gym) - 2:00 p.m. – Graduation Ceremony

## **Upcoming Events:**

### **Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**

JH Track @ Spencerville Relays – 4:30 p.m.

JH Baseball vs. Temple Christian (7<sup>th</sup> grade) – 5:00 p.m.

Varsity Baseball @ Lima Central Catholic – 5:00 p.m.

Varsity Softball @ Lima Central Catholic – 5:00 p.m.

### **Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>**

Varsity Baseball @ Allen East – 5:00 p.m.

Varsity Softball @ Allen East – 5:00 p.m.

### **Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>**

Varsity Track @ Pat Wagner Invitational @ Liberty Benton – 9:00 a.m.

JH Baseball @ Miller City – 12:00 p.m.

JH Baseball @ Miller City – 2:00 p.m.

### **Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>**

JV Baseball @ Lincolnview – 5:00 p.m.

Varsity Baseball vs. Bluffton – 5:00 p.m.

Varsity Softball vs. Bluffton – 5:00 p.m.

JH Baseball @ Napoleon – 5:30 p.m.

### **Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Varsity Track – Grove Quad – 4:30 p.m.

Varsity Baseball vs. Kalida – 5:00 p.m.

Varsity Softball vs. Kalida – 5:00 p.m.

### **Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

JH Track – PCL Championship @ CG – 4:30 p.m.

JH Baseball vs. Bath – 5:00 p.m.

JH Softball vs. Delphos Jefferson – 5:00 p.m.

JV Baseball vs. Pandora Gilboa – 5:00 p.m.