



Superintendent's Report

Submitted by Nick Verhoff

May 16, 2024

2024 Commencement Guidelines this Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Columbus Grove Local Schools will host its 146th annual commencement this Sunday, May 19, at 2 p.m. in the high school gym. The annual baccalaureate service, sponsored by the CG Council of Churches, will take place at 12:30 p.m. in the high school gym. Graduates and their families attending this baccalaureate service should arrive at the school approximately 10 minutes before this service. Graduates not attending the baccalaureate should report to the high school commons by 1:15 p.m.

Senior Signing Day Held for the Class of 2024

Senior Signing Day for the Class of 2024 took place last Friday afternoon in the elementary gymnasium. This event that started in 2019 is a spinoff of the traditional signing days we host when seniors announce where they will continue their athletic careers.

This signing day, which has both the entire junior and senior class in attendance, recognizes all seniors who have chosen their next steps after graduation, including college, career, or enlistment into the military. A brief background regarding each post-secondary institution that each senior is attending was provided before the students came out of the crowd to sign their letter of intent. The same was done for each business employing our graduating seniors right after high school. Retired teacher Tim Staley did another fine job serving as emcee for this event. Special thanks go to our Guidance Department for putting this event together for our graduates. Congratulations, Class of 2024! You will do great things in the future!

Signing Day Held for Lauren Fuerst

Last Thursday, the Columbus Grove Athletic Department hosted a signing day for one of its senior athletes. Lauren Fuerst officially signed her letter of intent to continue her athletic career at the collegiate level. Lauren capped off an excellent softball career at CGHS, earning 1st Team All NWC honors this past season. Lauren has chosen to continue her softball career at UNOH, where she will major in Ag Business. Lauren is the daughter of James and Cari Fuerst.

(Pictured with Lauren are her father, James, mother, Cari, and brothers Owen, Zach, and Wyatt)



Thank You, Kids Hope and LifeWise!

We want to thank two of our community-based programs, Kids Hope Mentoring and LifeWise, for their kindness to our staff last week. Cookies were baked for the entire staff from Kids Hope representatives on Thursday and LifeWise provided a pizza lunch for the staff on Friday. The Kids Hope mentoring program is nearing a decade of existence in our district, resulting in the mentoring of dozens of our students during this time. Every year, approximately 20 students receive weekly mentoring from these volunteers, creating tight bonds and quality relationships that last over many years. Jackie Brinkman has done a fabulous job serving as the coordinator of this program since its inception and this program remains a critical part of our student programming.

The LifeWise program is in its third year at Columbus Grove. LifeWise is a Released Time Religious Instruction (RTRI) program that allows students to attend off-site non-denominational Bible-based classes with an emphasis on character education. Over 180 students in grades 1-6 go to the basement of St. John's Methodist Church for instruction. We greatly appreciate the many volunteers who make this program a possibility for our students!

CG Alumni Gathering Just Over a Month Away!

This year's Alumni Weekend has been scheduled for June 14 & 15. Alumni officers are planning both a cocktail party on Friday night at the Grove Pool and the banquet on Saturday evening, which will take place at the American Legion. Classes that graduated in years ending with 4 and 9 will be honored at the banquet on June 15. The Alumni Association is pleased to announce that they will honor Mr. Jerry Hoersten and posthumously Mr. Delbert Pickens for their positive impact on the lives of the students and CG Schools. Please contact the Alumni Association at cgalumni@cg.noacsc.org. Also, look for updates on their webpage found at <http://cg.noacsc.org/alumni-association> and follow them on Facebook.

Brick Orders Being Collected for CG Alumni Paver

Looking for a unique and timeless gift for a 2024 CG graduate? Over 350 bricks have been purchased for the CG Alumni Paver Walk. Bricks are on sale for just \$50 for a 4" by 8" brick. These bricks will make a perfect gift to commemorate a CG alumnus, faculty member, student accomplishment, or historical event in our district's history! To order, just go to our website at <http://cg.noacsc.org> or you can get a hard copy of an order form at any of our district offices.

Summer Lunch Program Available for CG Students in Lima

A summer breakfast/lunch program for children ages 1-18 (no adults) will be served at the following Lima City Schools: Heritage Elementary, Independence Elementary, Liberty Arts, and Unity Elementary. This program will run from 11:00 a.m. through 12:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday, June 3 – July 25. Food truck locations include Truck #1 at Lincoln Park from 11:00 – 11:20, MLK Park from 11:30-11:50, and Faurot Park from 12:00 - 12:20. Truck #2 will be located at Lima West Apartments from 11:30-11:50 and Maplewood Apartments from 12:00 – 12:20. Meals must be eaten on-site and leftovers may be taken off-site. Columbus Grove students are eligible to participate. If you have questions, please call 419-996-3437.

8th Graders Host Career Fair

Yesterday, CG eighth-grade students held their annual Career Fair, as each student explored one career and summarized this profession on tri-fold poster boards. All staff members and students in grades 7-12 were invited to attend this fair, as the eighth graders (who dressed in apparel for their chosen profession) presented their profession to the visitors as they walked the aisles. The students did an outstanding job with these projects!

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 \$10,000, \$15,000, or \$50,000! The Columbus Grove Boosters, in conjunction with the Columbus Grove Volunteer Fire Department, Columbus Grove Band Boosters, and Columbus Grove Lions Club, are selling only 700 tickets for this raffle. The drawing for the three lucky winners will take place on Saturday, June 15 at 10:00 p.m. at the June Jubilee, prior to the fireworks display. You need not be present to win. You may 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!

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, May 19th

Commencement – 2:00 p.m. – HS. Gym

Tuesday, May 21st

Physicals for Grades 6-8 @ Grove Chiropractic – 3:00 p.m.

Board Meeting (Please note date change) – 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 23rd

Students Last Day – 1:00 p.m. Early Dismissal