



# Superintendent's Report

Submitted by Nick Verhoff

May 18, 2023

## Senior Signing Day Held for Class of 2023

Senior Signing Day for the Class of 2023 took place last Friday morning in the elementary gymnasium. This event, which 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 that will be employing our graduating seniors right after high school. Sixth grade teacher Tim Staley did a fine job serving as emcee for this event.

Special thanks go to graduating senior Hadassah Jones, who compiled the "walk-up" music for every senior. Also, we appreciate fellow 2023 graduate Ellie Keehn for putting together a Class of 2023 memory video that was shared at the end of the Signing Day. Finally, many thanks to our Guidance Department for their efforts in putting this wonderful event together, as this allowed our seniors to be recognized for their future contributions by their peers and faculty. Congratulations, Class of 2023! You will do great things in the future!

## Brick Orders Being Collected for CG Alumni Paver

Looking for a unique and timeless gift for a 2023 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.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Graders Host Career Fair

Last week, 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. Many thanks go to Guidance Counselor Mindy Losh and 8<sup>th</sup> grade ELA teacher Vicki Hermiller, who worked with these students over the past month on these projects. The students did an outstanding job with these projects!

## Senior Ainsley McCluer Contributes to the Workforce Partnership of Putnam County

The Workforce Partnership of Putnam County was created over the last year. Its primary purpose is to align strategies that will grow an adaptive workforce to meet current and emerging employment need in Putnam County. Karl Schimmoeller, Director of the Workforce Partnership of Putnam County, has a number of innovative ideas to help grow this partnership's footprint in the county. One such idea is to create short, informational videos regarding the numerous Putnam County businesses and corporations to provide prospective employees (including high school students) more insight to these companies. These videos are being produced with the help of Columbus Grove High School's - High School of Business program. Our students are doing an excellent job putting together these videos, which we hope to release within the next 12 months.

Additionally, the workforce partnership asked for assistance in creating a logo for this newly created group. Graduating senior Ainsley McCluer, who plans to attend the University of Findlay and major in business marketing and graphic design, compiled a number of mock-ups for the partnership committee to choose from. Many thanks to Ainsley for giving her time and talent!

### **Columbus Grove's 145<sup>th</sup> Commencement this Sunday**

Columbus Grove Local Schools will host its 145<sup>th</sup> annual commencement this Sunday at 2 p.m. in the high school gym. The annual baccalaureate service that is 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 prior to this service. Graduates not attending the baccalaureate should report to the high school commons by 1:15 p.m. There is no limit to the number of friends and family that may attend this year's commencement.

### **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 second 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 160 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!

### **Get your Tickets for CG Alumni Gatherings**

This year's Alumni Weekend has been scheduled for June 16 & 17. Alumni officers are planning for both the cocktail party on Friday night at the Grove Pool and the banquet on Saturday evening, which will take place at the American Legion. The Alumni Association will be honoring the classes that graduated in years ending with 3 and 8.

The Alumni Association is pleased to announce that they will honor Mr. Jim Kincaid and Mr. Collins Stackhouse (posthumously) for their positive impact on the lives of the students and CG Schools. For more information, please contact the Alumni Association at [cgalumni@cg.noacsc.org](mailto:cgalumni@cg.noacsc.org). Also, look for updates on their webpage found at <http://cg.noacsc.org/alumni-association> and follow them on Facebook.

### **Substitute Bus Drivers Wanted for the 2023-2024 School Year**

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 Schools, please contact the Superintendent's Office at 659-2639 for further information.

### **Upcoming Events:**

#### **Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>**

Varsity Track @ District Meet @ Ada – 4:00 p.m.

Varsity Baseball vs. TBA (Sectional Final) – 5:00 p.m.

#### **Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**

Varsity Track @ District Meet @ Ada – 10:00 a.m.

#### **Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**

Baccalaureate service – 12:30 p.m. – HS Gym

Commencement – 2:00 p.m. – HS Gym

#### **Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>**

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