



# Superintendent's Report

Submitted by Nick Verhoff

May 25, 2023

## Congratulations, Class of 2023!

Last Sunday, Columbus Grove Schools held its 145<sup>th</sup> commencement. The Class of 2023 at Columbus Grove concluded their high school careers with a number of accolades, including:

- Our Marching Band, led by eight of our seniors, earned back-to-back trips to OMEA state competition for the first time in over 5 years.
- The boys' Cross-Country team that lost a good deal of outstanding runners from the prior year's class, followed up with a 6<sup>th</sup> place finish at the state XC meet this past fall.
- Our Football team reached the state semi-final last fall as well. This senior group is collectively is one of the winningest classes in school history.
- An impressive group of 20 seniors attended Apollo Career Center and earned many credentials and awards.
- Our Girls' soccer team repeated as PCL champions.
- A third consecutive regional appearance by our girls' b-ball team – a first in school history.
- The wrestling team won the district's first ever NWC wrestling title.
- Both track teams, which include a number of school record breaking graduates, are competing for state qualification.
- Our senior laden Baseball team reached the 20-win mark last week, marking just the third time this benchmark has been met in over 40 years.

Interestingly, the Class of 2023 at Columbus Grove had another interesting characteristic: almost half of this year's seniors were the youngest children in their families. We wish these graduates the best in their future endeavors! Here is a roster of the Class of 2023, along with their immediate plans after high school:

- Blake Bendele plans to enter the workforce at Brookhill.
- Emma Bills plans to attend Tiffin University and major in Chemistry.
- Anden Blankemeyer plans to attend The Ohio State University, Lima.
- Megan Bogart plans to attend Rhodes State College and major in nursing
- Dillon Bryan is currently employed at Allen County Engineers.
- Logan Bryan plans to attend Ohio Northern University and major in Civil Engineering.
- Brandon Buescher plans to attend Bowling Green State University.
- Daedre Campbell plans to attend Apollo Adult Education center for Massage therapy.
- Nathan Cartwright plans to enter the workforce.
- Sage Clement plans to attend Bowling Green State University and major in Business.
- Madison Clymer plans to attend Rhodes State College and major in Nursing.
- Makenzie Coleman plans to attend Apollo Adult Education center for Massage therapy.
- Trenton Daniels plans to enter the workforce.
- Carys Donaldson plans to attend The Ohio State University, Lima and major in Biology with a pre-med track.
- Mitchell Ellerbrock plans to enter the workforce.
- Brynn Fortman plans to attend the University of Findlay and major in Primary Education and Special Education.
- Nicholas Gannon plans to enter the workforce and work for Crown Equipment.
- Kalyn Garmatter plans to attend Rhodes State College and major in Nursing.
- Noah Goecke plans to enter the workforce.
- Antonio Gray plans to enter the workforce.
- Dylan Halker plans to attend The Ohio State University, Lima and major in Biology.
- Maddox Halker plans to enter the workforce and work for Halker Drywall.
- Shep Halker has accepted a position through the GROB apprentice program.

- Brock Hoffman plans to enter the workforce and work for Halker Drywall.
- Caitlynn Jay plans to attend Rhodes State College and major in Nursing.
- Hadassah Jones plans to attend Owen Community College and major in Business Administration and Management.
- Jared Kahle plans to attend The Ohio State University, Lima and major in Computer Science & Engineering.
- Ellie Keehn plans to attend The Ohio State University and major in English.
- Tadd Koch plans to attend the University of Findlay and major in Integrated Mathematics.
- Trent Koch plans to attend Rhodes State College and major in Construction Management.
- Hunter Kuhbander plans to enter the workforce.
- Gwen Langhals plans to attend Bowling Green State University and major in Marketing.
- Jevin Langhals plans to attend Bowling Green State University and major in Business.
- Lawson Maag plans to attend The Ohio State University and major in Criminal Justice.
- Levi Maag plans to attend Rhodes State College and study Mathematics to become an Accountant.
- Jaelyn Mangas plans to attend The Ohio State University, Lima and major in Early Childhood Education.
- Chadd Martin plans to enter the workforce and work for the Village of Columbus Grove.
- Trenton Mata plans to enter the workforce.
- Ainsley McCluer plans to attend Findlay University and major in Business Marketing.
- Lucas Mertz plans to attend Hondros College for Real Estate.
- Ilana Messer plans to attend Youngstown State University and major in Medical Lab Science.
- Andrew Morman completed a work study through B-K Tools and plans to use those skills to enter the workforce.
- Dilynn Nartker plans to enter the workforce and work at Schimmoeller Construction.
- Hannah Nunn plans to attend Kent State University and major in Psychology.
- Gage Parker plans to attend Bowling Green State University and major in Art.
- Isabella Ramos plans to attend Rhodes State College and major in Veterinary Technician.
- Brenton Renner plans to attend the Ohio Fire Academy and become a Firefighter/EMT.
- Isaac Ricker plans to attend The Ohio State University and major in Mechanical Engineering.
- William Ridinger plans to enter the workforce.

- Storm Ritchie plans to enter the workforce.
- Hunter Rode plans to attend Miami University and major in Biochemistry.
- Lillian Salisbury plans to enter the workforce.
- Arin Sandlin plans to enter the workforce.
- Jaylen Sautter plans to attend The Ohio State University, Lima and major in Early Childhood Education.
- AJ Schafer plans to attend Indian Wesleyan University and major in Social Studies Education.
- Logan Schnipke plans to enter the workforce and work for Proctor and Gamble.
- Hanna Schroeder plans to attend The University of Cincinnati and major in Nutrition and Dietetics.
- Landen Schroeder plans to enter the workforce.
- Levi Schroeder plans to attend Bowling Green State University and major in Career Tech Workforce Education and Business Marketing.
- Taylor Schroeder plans to attend Ohio Northern University and major in Electrical Engineering.
- Hannah Shaffer plans to attend Kent State University and major in Fashion Design.
- Avery Smith plans to attend The Ohio State University, Lima and major in Early Childhood Education.
- Robert Smith plans to attend Ohio State University, Lima and major in Communications and Political Science.
- Micaela Sproul plans to enter the workforce.
- Hunter Sudlow plans to enter the workforce.
- Logan Vorhees plans to attend The Ohio State University Lima.
- Ethan Williams plans to enter the workforce.
- Kristen Williams plans to attend Rhodes State College and major in Nursing.
- Dalton Wurth plans to attend Ohio Northern University and major in Finance.
- Trenton Wynkoop plans to enter the workforce.

### **Baccalaureate Thanks**

Prior to commencement exercises last Sunday, Columbus Grove Council of Churches of hosted their annual baccalaureate. We had approximately 30 graduates and their families in attendance for this service. Those in attendance had the pleasure to hear a life applicable messages from guest speaker CG Teacher Abbie Norton and Bluffton's Campus Life Pastor Jeremy Basinger. We greatly appreciate the CG Council of Churches for putting this event together! We will continue to schedule the baccalaureate on the same day at commencement, based on the response from parents. The 2024 commencement date will be released later this summer.

## **Elementary Host Step Up Day for Students**

Yesterday, elementary students participated in a "Step Up Day" in order to get ready for next school year. Participating in this activity meant students spent 20-30 minutes with a teacher from the grade level they will go into for the 23-24 school year. Teachers shared expectations for the students for the new grade level and spent time answering questions students may have as they transition to a new grade level. This activity is especially key for our incoming fifth and seventh graders next year, as they will experience the most amount of change to their daily routine. Many thanks go to School Counselor Brenda Bruce for setting this activity up for our students.

## **Thank You Flag Crew!**

As we close out the school year, we would like to thank our dedicated crew of Bre Hoffman, Brody Wild, Dalton Hyman, and Maddox Lasley for putting up and taking down the American, Ohio, and Bulldog flags this school year. These Junior High students were very diligent and reliable in their flag duties every season of the school year. Great Job, Flag Crew!

## **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.

## **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 25<sup>th</sup>**

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

### **Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>**

Varsity Track @ Regional Meet @ Fostoria – 4:00 p.m.