



Superintendent's Report

Submitted by Nick Verhoff

May 30, 2024

CG Track Team Returns Multiple Competitors to State Competition

Last week, several individuals from the Bulldog Track and Field squads punched their ticket for state competition at Welcome Stadium in Dayton this weekend. Qualifying for the Bulldogs include:

- Lauryn Auchmuty (Junior)- Pole Vault, 4x200 Relay, & 4x100 Relay
- Kendal Palte (Sophomore)- 300 Hurdles, 4x100 Relay, & 4x200 Relay
- Allison Thompson (Sophomore)- 4x100 Relay & 4x200 Relay
- Jade Roeder (Sophomore)- 4x100 Relay & 4x200 Relay
- Devanie Pingle (Sophomore)- 4x100 Relay & 4x200 Relay
- Layton Blankemeyer (Junior)- 300 Hurdles
- Trevon Baxter (Sophomore)- Pole Vault
- Luke Ellerbrock (Senior)- 3200 Meter

Congratulations, athletes, on your state qualification, and good luck at Welcome Stadium this week!

Thank You, CG Staff!

Last Friday, the district held its annual staff recognition awards for its staff members, recognizing years of service and staff who are retiring at the conclusion of the 2023-2024 school year. The following staff members were recognized for their years of service at Columbus Grove:

Five Years of Service

Abbie Norton (Health/PE) and Lisa Schroeder (Seventh Grade ELA)

10 Years of Service

Brad Calvelage (Elementary Principal)

15 Years of Service

Kelly Lepley (Kindergarten), Dave Douglas (Custodian), Mike Fanaff (Bus Driver), and Kristen Hertel (Director of Student Nutrition)

20 Years of Service

Elisa Clevenger (English), Kelly Martz (Fourth Grade), Kelly Rieman (Kindergarten), and Shara Roeder (Intervention Specialist)

25 Years of Service

Dave Bremer (Math), Dave Hassan (Science), and Brenda Marshall (Custodian)

30 Years of Service

Terry Schnipke (English/Athletic Director), Mike Morman (Maintenance), and Sue Ricker (Library Media Clerk)

The district also will say farewell to Library Media Clerk Sue Ricker, who served the district over the last 30 years as the high school secretary (21 years) and library media clerk (9 years). Columbus Grove School District's biggest strength over the years has been its people. We have been very fortunate to have so many excellent individuals serve our community and its young people for so many years. We are very appreciative of Sue's service to our district and wish her many happy and healthy years of retirement! We will introduce our new staff members in an August edition of this update.

Annual 100 Positives Coming Soon

Our annual edition of “100 Positives” will be released soon, highlighting the 2023-2024 school year at Columbus Grove Schools. You should receive this in your mailbox by mid/late-June. We hope you enjoy this latest edition, as it shows just a sample of the many accomplishments of our students and staff this past school year.

- The CG Digital Academy serviced fourteen students who took twenty-two courses.
- The 6th grade ELA “Reading Madness” winning team of 2024 consisted of Maxton Kelly, Aleeah Brooks, and Caden Parker.
- Senior Volleyball player Kaitlin Dipnarine received a PCL Scholastic honor for maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher throughout her 4-year athletic career.
- The boys’ cross-country team won the State Championship, the first in school history.
- The district received a \$4,800 Data Communications subsidy from the Ohio Department of Workforce to aid in the purchase of our internet connectivity.
- AJ Doseck was named 8th grade Language Arts student of the year.
- Top 6th grade Math students were Paige Lugibill and Rylan Palte.
- Gage Sautter earned 2nd PCL Team Honors and 1st Team NWC Honors for his work on the golf course.
- Five Columbus Grove Graduates were accepted into the GROB Apprenticeship program: Devin Barnt, Nathan Kamphaus, Logan Sanchez, Evan Sautter, and Taylor Schroeder who graduated in 2023.
- The school counseling office introduced and implemented YouScience in Grades 7-12. This program aligns students with in-demand careers.

CG Alumni Gathering Just Over Two Weeks Away!

This year’s Alumni Weekend has been scheduled for June 14 & 15. Alumni officers have coordinated a cocktail party on Friday night at the Grove Pool and the traditional 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.

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!

Substitute Bus Drivers Wanted for the 2024-2025 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.

Thank You, Readers!

Many thanks to everyone who took time to read these weekly updates over the past school year. I hope these articles continue to keep you informed of the many activities happening at Columbus Grove Local Schools. Thank you again for all your support of our school district. Without the support of our community, we could not achieve the level of success we have come to expect. This will be the last weekly superintendent report of the summer, but I will share school-related information periodically throughout the next few months. May all of you have a safe and enjoyable summer!