



Superintendent's Report

Submitted by Nick Verhoff

October 26, 2023

Banner Weekend for the Bulldogs!

Last weekend was full of opportunities for our high school students to compete at a high level and they did not disappoint! It started last Friday evening when the undefeated Bluffton Pirate football team came to Clymer Stadium in a quest for a perfect regular season and NWC championship. The Pirates defense had not been scored on in seven weeks, so the Bulldogs faced quite a challenge. After four hard-fought quarters of football, the Bulldogs emerged with a 14-7 victory, winning the outright NWC title and earning a #1 seed in the football playoffs! This was the football team's sixteenth NWC football title in school history, tying them with Delphos Jefferson with the most all time NWC football titles. The Bulldogs will host Lakota tomorrow night at Clymer Stadium. Game time is 7:00 p.m.

On Saturday morning, we hosted the District Cross Country meet, with over 40 teams in attendance. Both of our XC teams advanced to Regionals which will take place this Saturday at Tiffin. In the girls' race, the Lady Bulldogs finished in 3rd place and three runners ran personal records (PRs): Grace Morman, Jade Siefker, and Breanne Fuerst. The girls will run at 11:45 a.m. this Saturday.

On the boys' side, the CGXC team won its sixth straight District Title in convincing fashion, beating 2nd place New Bremen 24-58. The boys placed five runners in the top 10, with five of the seven runners reaching a new PR. Senior Luke Ellerbrock moved up the record board again to tie Jake Graham for 3rd place all time with a race-winning time of 15:45. This time is just three seconds off Mondo Tijerina's school record of 15:42, set in 1988. The boys run at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday.

Then to finish out the weekend, the Bulldog Marching Band traveled to Maumee High School Saturday evening and put on a spectacular performance, earning a SUPERIOR rating! This superior rating punches their ticket to the OMEA State Band Competition at Piqua High School on November 5. This marks the third consecutive year for the Bulldog Marching Band qualifying for state competition.

Congratulations to our many students, coaches, and directors on a phenomenal weekend of accomplishments! We wish you the best of luck as you continue your seasons in the upcoming weeks!

Unsung Heroes from Last Friday Night

If you were in attendance at last Friday's game versus Bluffton, you probably remember public address announcer Nick Gilgenbach stating during the second quarter that there was a water issue under Clymer Stadium and the water needed to be turned off. Unfortunately, we had a water main break in the room beside the concession stand. This was not ideal, considering the fact that we had our largest crowd at Clymer Stadium in a fair number of years!

I want to say a huge thanks to Head of Maintenance Jared Zimmerly, maintenance workers Mike Morman and Ryan Ricker, and Village Administrator Jeff Vance for their quick work in getting this problem fixed. Jeff was already at the game and drove to the village's maintenance building, finding the correct coupling to fix the issue. As a result of their quick work, the water was restored by the middle of the fourth quarter! Seeing how we were hosting the District Cross Country meet the next morning, their work was greatly appreciated! Thanks, gentlemen!

Fall Fun Week Celebrated

Our Guidance Department organized numerous activities for students and staff to celebrate the last week of October. Today, staff and students were encouraged to dress up in their Halloween costumes for the day. Additionally, K-2 students participated in a coloring contest, students in grades 3-12 created projects promoting good mental health and positive life choices, and the high school conducted a pumpkin decorating contest. Thank you, Guidance Department, for putting together these fun events for our students!

Leo Club Hosts Activity to Benefit Putnam County Cancer Assistance Program (CAP)

Last week, the Leo Club hosted a fundraiser in which high school staff and students played bingo to raise money for the Putnam County Cancer Assistance Program (CAP). CAP helps any Putnam County resident who has a cancer diagnosis and is receiving treatment. Students and staff were able to purchase bingo cards for \$1 and bingo numbers were called each day of the week. Many thanks go to our Leo Club members and Advisor Kim Birnesser for hosting a fun activity for the school while benefiting a very worthwhile program in Putnam County.

Reminder for Fans Purchasing Tickets for Post Season Tournaments

Bulldog fans are reminded that all upcoming tournament events for our fall teams will accept cash at the gate, but tickets are cheaper if purchased online through the OHSAA website. Passes issued by the Columbus Grove athletic department will not work for OHSAA-sponsored tournament events. Please note that ticket prices for tournament games are set by the Ohio High School Athletic Association, not the Columbus Grove Athletic Department.

Substitute Kitchen Workers and Cafeteria Monitors Wanted

If you are interested in serving as a substitute kitchen worker or cafeteria monitor, please contact the school. Kitchen worker applicants must be available weekdays with a fair amount of availability. Food service background preferred but not required (use of commercial cooking equipment and be able to prepare bulk food). Interested applicants can contact Food Service Director Kristen Hertel at cg_hertel@cg.noacsc.org. Those interested in serving as a cafeteria monitor should contact the superintendent's office at 419-659-2369 or cg_verhoff@cg.noacsc.org.

Reminder: No School Tomorrow

Remember that there will be no school tomorrow for the first quarter break. This break will also give kids a day off after trick-or-treating this evening. To see the 2023-24 school year calendar in its entirety, go to <http://cg.noacsc.org/> and click on "Calendars" in the left-hand column.

Bulldog Bites

- While Luke Ellerbrock has put together a stellar senior season in Cross Country, fellow senior Evan "Beans" Pitts has compiled a sensational final season as well. At last week's district meet, Evan ran a 16:16, placing him seventh all-time on CG's XC record board. To even earn a spot on this top 15 record board is quite a feat, based on our team's phenomenal success over the decades. Congratulations, Evan, as you and Luke make a tremendous pair!
- While Luke and Evan are having outstanding senior years, the rest of the team is peaking at the right time as well. Last Saturday, the overall five-man team time record from 2012 was broken by this year's five-man team of Luke Ellerbrock, Evan Pitts, Levi Bryan, Caiden Squillante, and Bryce Bonifas. Congratulations, men!

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, October 26th

Board of Education Technology Subcommittee Meeting- 4:15 p.m. in the Superintendent's conference room

Tap on Wood Dancers, Parade and Costume Contest @ Memorial Park - 6:00 p.m.

Trick or Treat – 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Friday, October 27th

No School Quarter Break

Varsity Football vs. Lakota (Tournament) – 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 28th

Cross Country – Regional Meet @ Tiffin – 10:00 a.m.