



Superintendent's Report

Submitted by Nick Verhoff

December 12, 2024

2024 was a Great Year for Columbus Grove Schools!

As we conclude the 2024 calendar year, we have many things for which to be grateful. Here is just a small sample of achievements by the students and staff during 2024:

- Columbus Grove Elementary School was one of just 14 Ohio schools (out of 3,000) to be named a National Blue-Ribbon School.
- The Girls' Soccer Team earned its first-ever trip to the state semifinals this past fall.
- The CGHS Wrestling team followed up its first-ever NWC Championship in 2023 with a back-to-back NWC title in 2024.
- In March of 2024 Columbus Grove Staged its 57th annual HS Musical. A wonderful cast of students staged a production of "Seussical the Musical" to rave reviews from our community.
- The Girls' Basketball team won its fourth consecutive district title, extending its previous record of three.
- We began two new programs on our campus, including an Elementary STEM Program and a General Science with Agriculture focus at the high school level.
- The CG Marching Band not only qualified for the OMEA State Competition for the fourth consecutive year.
- On the 2024 State Report Card, Columbus Grove Schools was the only Putnam County School to earn an overall 5-Star rating. The district had the highest overall composite star rating in Putnam County as well.
- The Boys' Cross-Country team won the district's first-ever State Cross Country title this past fall.
- The Football team earned another birth to the Final Four of the State Playoffs, their fourth appearance in the last five years.

Reminder: CGHS Basketball Alumni Versus Alumni Game Tomorrow Night

Mark your calendars, as Boys' Basketball Coach Connor Kohls is coordinating a CG Alumni vs. Alumni basketball scrimmage for tomorrow night. Here are the details:

- No current players will participate, just alumni.
- Admission is \$3.
- Concession stands will be available, along with a 50/50 and basket raffle.

Come on out, enjoy seeing if our former Bulldogs still have it, and help raise some money for the basketball program. It should be entertaining, to say the least!

CG Elementary Students Reap the Benefits of Fundraiser Success

As a result of the very successful CG Elementary PIE fundraiser, the top 20 sellers of the local gift cards will head to Sky Zone on January 3rd. These students are Ellie Oswald, Kenzie Weisenburger, Wesley Morman, Dawson Reindel, Ellery Smith, Jocelyn Meyer, Brivana Woods, Edison Teders, Brey Stephens, Harper Nemire, Evelyn Neu, Brandon Burkhart, James Baker, Okley Heffner, Lincoln Heffner, Kaiden Kill, Cole Schroeder, Ruben Golden, Hunter Kaufman, and Caleb McClarren. The top selling class was Mr. Arthur's class and they will celebrate with a pizza party on Friday, December 13th. Kids who sold at least 10 gift cards got to vote on Mr. Calvelage's costume for a day. He will be dressed as a Monkey all day! There was a tie for the top sellers and they both received \$100.00, Congratulations Ellie Oswald and Kenzie Weisenbruger. We would like to Congratulation all of the students on a very successful fundraiser!

Career Exploration at CG Schools

CGHS will host its annual Job Shadow Day tomorrow. All juniors will attend job shadows across the state of Ohio. This year we have many unique careers toured such as engineering, publishing, cardiac nursing, marketing and public relations, accounting and teaching, to name just a few. The guidance office and Mrs. Birnesser, junior Government teacher, helps the juniors coordinate their job shadows because they feel it is important to talk to adults about career opportunities and to work on how to present themselves in the workplace. After the job shadow, students are taught how to send a follow-up thank you letter. Many thanks to School Counselor Mrs. Losh and Mrs. Birnesser for setting up these valuable career readiness opportunities for our students!

Bulldogs Celebrating Countdown of School before Christmas Break

Monday will mark the start of the countdown towards Christmas before the Christmas Break for CG students. The Guidance Department created a dress up theme for each school day leading up to the break. Many thanks to Brenda Bruce and Mindy Losh for sprucing up the days before the break!

- **Monday, December 16-** Merry Merry Morning – Wear your coziest pjs!
- **Tuesday, December 17-** Feelin’ Frosty or Rudolph Red – Show some candy cane spirit and wear white and/or red
- **Wednesday, December 18-** Holiday Hair, Don’t Care! Wear a holiday hair accessory; hat, headband, or spruce up your hair
- **Thursday, December 19-** Festive Flannel! Dress in your favorite flannel
- **Friday, December 20-** Sweater Weather – show off your ugliest Christmas sweater or holiday shirt

Discover Career Opportunities with PutnamCountyWorks.com!

Looking for a new job, career advancement, or opportunities close to home? Check out **PutnamCountyWorks.com**, your one-stop resource for connecting with employers and job openings in Putnam County. This easy-to-navigate website features a wide range of positions across industries, tools for building your resume, and resources to help you succeed in your job search.

PutnamCountyWorks.com is powered by the **Workforce Partnership of Putnam County**, a collaborative initiative dedicated to supporting local businesses, job seekers, and students. The partnership works to strengthen the community by connecting employers with a skilled workforce and offering valuable career development resources.

PutnamCountyWorks.com serves as a hub for job seekers, students and parents, educators, and employers. Whether you're a seasoned professional, just starting your career journey, or exploring options for the future, PutnamCountyWorks.com and the Workforce Partnership of Putnam County are here to help you succeed. Visit today and take the next step toward your future!

Boys’ Basketball Schedule Changes

Due to the deep playoff run of our football team, we have had to adjust the opening season schedule for the boys’ basketball team. The opening game of the 2024-25 basketball season will take place on Saturday, December 14 at Arlington. The original opening game versus Ottoville will be rescheduled for some time in January. We will let the community know once the date and time are finalized. Additionally, the season finale against Allen East originally scheduled for Friday, February 21 has been moved up to Monday, December 30. This change is due to OHSAA’s expansion of basketball divisions and the earlier-than-usual tournament start date.

Winter Bulldog Sports Available Online

The CG Athletic Boosters, CG Athletic Department, and the Columbus Grove High School of Business present live stream and on-demand options to watch CG events. As what was done with football games at Clymer Stadium this past fall, all basketball games in the high school gym will be available to watch on any device including on a TV using Roku. This subscription-based service will be available to purchase before the event for a single purchase, monthly subscription, or annual subscription. An additional bonus is these online basketball games will have Z-Sports play-by-play accompany most games. While we do not want residents and fans to forego the live atmosphere of the game, this is a great alternative for those out of the area to support our students. The option of watching games later at your convenience is another added benefit. Visit <http://fan.hudl.com/cgbulldogs> to watch highlights and subscribe to this service.

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, December 12th

Girls JH Basketball @ Lincolnview – 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 14th

Boys JH Wrestling @ Allen East – 9:00 a.m.

Boys Varsity Wrestling @ Lancer Invite – 9:00 a.m.

Girls JH Basketball @ Glandorf – 10:00 a.m.

Girls Varsity Wrestling @ Archbold – 10:00 a.m.

Girls JV & Varsity Wrestling vs. Carey – 12:00 p.m.

Boys JV & Varsity Basketball @ Arlington – 4:00 p.m.

Monday, December 16th

7-12 Band Concert – 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 17th

Boys JH Basketball @ Lima Central Catholic – 5:00 p.m.

Girls JH Basketball vs. Lima Central Catholic – 5:00 p.m.

Girls JV & Varsity Basketball @ Kalida – 6:00 p.m.