



# Superintendent's Report

Submitted by Nick Verhoff

May 3, 2018

## **Columbus Grove Loses Dear Friend and Supporter**

Columbus Grove lost a wonderful advocate and supporter of both its community and school district last week with the passing of Gene Ricker. Gene's outgoing nature and volunteerism were critical in making many wonderful events happen in our community. Gene and his wife, Sharon, volunteered for over 20 years giving thousands of hours of their time helping supervise the concession stands for the Columbus Grove Athletic Boosters. They could also be seen at many extra-curricular events in support of our students. Gene was a wonderful community supporter as well, as he and his wife owned two small businesses in our town from the 1970's through the 1990's. Many people growing up in the 1970's and 80's still remember Ricker's Party Shop being the hub that we all went to after practices and games to call our parents for a ride home.

Gene's love for his hometown and school district was easily recognized in both his words and actions. His family's unending supportive role in many school and community events helped continue to make Columbus Grove a wonderful place to live and raise a family. Our community and school district was truly blessed to have had Gene Ricker in it. Our hearts and prayers go out the Ricker family.

## **Freshman High School of Business Class Visits BGSU**

Last Thursday, sixteen freshman High School of Business Economics students took a trip to Bowling Green State University to participate in the fifth annual "Hatch" program. The "Hatch" is a real life Shark Tank, where college students work with a mentor to build and pitch their ideas to potential investors. While watching the show was certainly one of the highlights of the night, it was not the only activity the students participated in. They also received a campus tour, sat in on a college honors course in Advertising, and listened to previous "Hatch" winners. The students also had the opportunity to make signs and be on TV as the "Hatch" put on a preview show similar to ESPN's College Gameday. Thanks Mr. Schafer for overseeing the planning of this event.

## **Columbus Grove Football Jerseys for Sale**

The Home and Away Football jerseys are currently for sale to help offset the cost of the purchase of new jerseys for the 2018 season. These keepsakes are only \$20 per jersey. If interested, please contact coach Schafer at [cg\\_schafer@cg.noacsc.org](mailto:cg_schafer@cg.noacsc.org). Deadline to purchase jerseys is Friday, May 11.

## **Ohio Representative Jim Hoops Meets with Government Classes**

Ohio Representative Jim Hoops met with Mrs. Birnesser's Government classes here at Columbus Grove School last Thursday before their visit to the Ohio Statehouse on Friday. Unable to be in Columbus on Friday, Representative Hoops met with the students here beforehand and discussed how he became a politician and his duties as an Ohio Representative.

During their visit to the statehouse, tour guides explained the working government offices and the formation of Ohio democracy. The students were able to sit in seats of the Ohio Representative Hall and witness a mock case by high school students connected with a YMCA program. They walked through the atrium to see where President Abraham Lincoln gave a speech about free states and slave states and learned why this area was once known as "pigeon run." The students also viewed the Rotunda and stood where President Abraham Lincoln's body lay in state on the way to his home state of Illinois for burial. Many thanks to Representative Jim Hoops for taking time to visit our school and Mrs. Birnesser for organizing such an educational experience.

## **School and Lunch Fees Due**

Believe it or not, there are just 15 school days left of the 2017-18 school year after today! One of the housekeeping items that need to be taken care of is the collection of unpaid school fees and overdue lunch charges. If your child has either of these fees outstanding, you will be getting a notice soon. We greatly appreciate your attention to this matter!

### **PAX Good Behavior Methods Succeeding**

Many elementary teachers have continued using PAX teaching techniques at CG this year and are seeing positive results. The goal is to establish a classroom with a positive attitude and focus on practicing self-control. PAX methods provide a nonthreatening approach encouraging students to understand what is expected of them in relationships and while learning. PAX observations are made by school resource officer Larry Archer twice each quarter. In our first year of PAX, the average spleem count in September 2016 was 23 per student, per hour. The average count in September 2017 was 12. Through the first three quarters this year, the average number was reduced to 8 spleems per student, per hour. The teachers are definitely seeing the students have more self-control, focus, and are staying on task, which is resulting in more learning time and less time managing behavior. Kudos teachers and students!

### **Did You Know**

The students at Columbus Grove Schools are involved in a wide variety of organizations in addition to extra-curricular activities and academic classes. Below are the membership numbers for these various groups.

Book Club	19
Bulldog Press	16
Jr. High Chorus	23
H.S. Chorus	66
Dinner Theater	70
FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)	30
Intramural Basketball Association	53
Habitudes (Leadership Group)	30
Leo Club	93
Musical	48
National Honor Society	66
Quiz Bowl	29
Jr. High Student Council	16
H.S. Student Council	27

### **Salt Fundraiser Ends Tomorrow**

The Columbus Grove Girls' Basketball Team is having its fifth Annual Water Softener Salt Fundraiser. We will be accepting orders through Friday, May 4th. We are selling yellow 40 lb. bags of salt for \$6.00 and green (w/iron out) 40 lb. bags of salt for \$7.00 (minimum order of 5 bags). This price will include delivery to your home and placed in your designated area (garage, basement, utility room, etc.). **Orders must be turned in by tomorrow (May 4) along with your payment for the full amount of your order. Due to the large volume of potential bags ordered, we will use three Delivery Dates: 6/22, 6/23, 6/24.** The purpose of the fundraiser is to raise funds for the team

campus our girls will be attending this summer. **Your financial support is truly appreciated and we thank you for the opportunity to serve you.** Orders may be turned into the High School Office or a Girls' Basketball Player. If you have any questions, please contact Coach Brian Schroeder at [cg\\_bschroeder@cg.noacsc.org](mailto:cg_bschroeder@cg.noacsc.org) or 419-202-0016. Thanks again for your support!

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

V. Baseball vs. Ada, 5:00 p.m.  
V. Softball vs. Ada, 5:00 p.m.  
JV Softball @ Paulding, 5:00 p.m.  
Jr. High Softball @ Allen East, 5:00 p.m.

#### **Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>**

Jr. High Track @ Ada (NWC), 4:15 p.m.  
V. Baseball @ Leipsic, 5:00 p.m.

#### **Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>**

Jr. High Softball @ Spencerville, 5:00 p.m.

#### **Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>**

H.S. Track @ Spencerville (NWC), 4:30 p.m.  
V. Baseball vs. Ottoville, 5:00 p.m.

#### **Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup>**

JV Baseball @ Crestview, 5:00 p.m.  
Athletic Boosters Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

#### **Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup>**

V. Softball vs. Spencerville, 5:00 p.m.  
V. Baseball vs. Spencerville, 5:00 p.m.

#### **Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>**

HJ.S. Track @ Spencerville (NWC), 10:00 a.m.  
V. Softball @ Leipsic, 11:00 a.m.