



Superintendent's Report

Submitted by Nick Verhoff

September 15, 2016

Bless a Bulldog in Full Swing

This year marks the third full year that our Bless a Bulldog program is in place for students at CG Elementary. This program provides meals on the weekends for our needy students. Thank you so much for your generosity in providing help for these students. We now have enough in our fund balance to sponsor 50 students for the 2016-17 school year! The cost to sponsor a child is \$14 per month, \$31.50 per quarter, or \$126 for a year. Please consider contributing to this very worthy project. If you would like to donate to the Bless a Bulldog campaign, checks can be made out to Columbus Grove PIE, with "Bless a Bulldog" written in the memo line. Drop off your check at the school office or send your check to the school at 201 West Cross St. Please direct your mail to our elementary secretary, Mrs. Deb Barto. Thank you for your support of this project!

CG Band Kicks Off 2016 Competition Season

The CGHS Bulldog Marching Band began its competition season last Saturday at Troy High School. The Bulldogs took home 1st place in percussion and auxiliary and 2nd place in their class.

This year's theme is entitled "I Am." On Saturday, the Band will perform at 6:45 p.m. in Ottawa-Glandorf for their second competition. Our own "Eyes with Pride" Band Show will be held at Clymer Stadium on October 8th. In addition, the band will lead the football team onto the field at game time to play the national anthem and perform at halftime. Come on out to one of their competitions or a football game and enjoy the band's musical talents!

Northwest/West Central Ohio Public School Advocacy Network Speaks Out on ESSA

Last Thursday evening, I drove to Dayton to attend one of Ohio Department of Education's ten roundtable meetings they are conducting around the state to collect input regarding the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the federal government's reauthorization of 2001's No Child Left Behind Act. In ESSA, the federal government has left

much more flexibility to the states in terms of parameters they set for standards and assessments, accountability (i.e. State Report Card), educator effectiveness, and school improvement and student supports. Over 200 people were in attendance at Stivers High School in Dayton, along with a half dozen state Board of Education members, the state superintendent, and at least a half dozen state legislators. This was the third meeting out of 10 that have been scheduled for September.

A couple weeks ago, I wrote an editorial which expressed my concern and discontent with the state's ever-changing state report card. I explained the mixed messages these reports are sending to community members along with the unreasonable demands they are placing on school districts throughout the state. These ESSA meetings give educators hope that the Ohio Department of Education and state legislators are more willing to listen to the voices of practitioners so we can best meet the needs of the students of Ohio. I commend new state superintendent Paolo DeMaria and state legislators for attending these meetings and encouraging those in attendance to be very candid with their feedback. My hope is this collaborative process will lead to the change needed that will best prepare Ohio's young people for 21st century demands.

Potential School Usage of Former Presbyterian Church

A couple weeks ago, an article in the Vidette discussed the prospect of the school district using the old Presbyterian Church building and paying a fee for its use. Last week, I met with Mayor Ken Wright and Village Administrator Jeff Vance to discuss this topic further. During this meeting, I shared that at this time, the district could use the building possibly for some smaller concerts as well as a testing center for our Advanced Placement exams in the spring. We also discussed district payment for the usage of space and we all agreed that the district would pay a nominal fee whenever it used this building to help cover expenses for utilities during its time of use. This would be similar to when outside entities rent parts of the CG school building (gyms, commons). I wanted to share this information with our readers, as this was a question asked at our Key Communicators meeting last week.

Pathways Counseling Center at CG Again

Pathways Counseling Center in Ottawa will be working with Columbus Grove Local Schools to provide counseling services to students in grades 3 through 12. Stress can drain a child's energy and affect their ability to focus on the things that are important to them and their families. Often, if a child talks with someone about the things that cause them stress, they experience relief and renewed strength. When they become equipped to handle the challenges in their life, their happiness and health improve. Licensed professionals at Pathways are available to help by providing clinical services. Pathways also values parent participation in the counseling process and will work with school personnel to coordinate the services.

If you are interested in counseling services for your child, call the school office. Pathways will then contact you to schedule the first appointment. Most services will be conducted at school.

Don't Forget to Subscribe to the District Online Notification System

With the multiple fog delays that have already taken place this school year, I want to remind parents and students that they receive the latest information from the district through an online notification system. You can sign up with an email address, a cell phone, or both. All messages will come from the address OHIOALERTS.ORG. Once you have submitted the form, you will receive a confirmation message to each address.

Simply go to <http://ohioalerts.org/ColumbusGrove> to sign up for this notification system. This system is very efficient in getting the latest information regarding school delays and closings, as well as other district related information. This system is very efficient in keeping subscribers updated with news and announcements. We now have over 2,500 subscribers!

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Sept. 15th

Jr. High Football @ Spencerville, 5:00 p.m.
Jr. High Volleyball vs. Kalida, 5:00 p.m.
Freshman Volleyball vs. Paulding, 5:00 p.m.
V. Volleyball @ Delphos Jefferson, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 16th

V. Football @ Crestview, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 17th

JV Football vs. Crestview, 10:00 a.m.
Freshman Volleyball @ Wapakoneta, 10:00 a.m.
Jr. High Volleyball @ LCC, 10:00 a.m.
Band @ Ottawa Parade of Bands, 6:45 p.m.
H.S. Cross Country @ Chicago

Monday, Sept. 19th

Golf @ Van Wert Hickory Sticks Golf Club, 4:00 p.m.
V. Volleyball @ Ottoville, 5:30 p.m.
Jr. High Volleyball @ Ada, 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 20th

Golf, Home, Country Acres Golf Club, 4:00 p.m.
Gr. 7 Football @ Lima West, 5:00 p.m.
V. Volleyball vs. LCC 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 22nd

Golf (NWC) @ Hickory Sticks Golf Club
Jr. High Football vs. Allen East, 5:00 p.m.
V. Volleyball @ Lincolnview, 5:30 p.m.