



Superintendent's Report

Submitted by Nick Verhoff

January 12, 2023

School Board Approves 2022-2023 School Calendar

At the December 21 meeting, the Columbus Grove Board of Education approved the 2023-2024 school calendar. The main purpose for approving this schedule so far in advance is that county schools have more time to collaborate with one another for transportation purposes. Most schools in the county transport resident students to other schools that house ESC units. Secondly, parents of seniors have ample time to plan accordingly for graduation parties. Like last school year, this year's commencement exercises will take place on the Sunday of the weekend BEFORE Memorial Day weekend. This year's commencement will take place at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 21. To view next year's school schedule, go to <https://cg.noacsc.org/> and click on "Calendars" on the left column of the homepage. If you have any questions regarding the school calendar, please contact my office at 659-4301.

Lifewise Program's Enrollment Continues to Grow

Now in its second year, all CG students in 1st – 6th grades have the opportunity to participate in Lifewise, which is a Released Time Religious Instruction (RTRI) program that allows students to attend off-site non-denominational Bible-based classes with an emphasis on character education. These classes take place during either a student's academic assist or specials period in the basement of the St. John's United Methodist Church. Former CG teacher Carla Wyant serves as the teacher for these classes. There are now over 140 students enrolled in this program. If parents would like their child to participate in this program, they can contact the elementary office (659-2631) for more information. If you have any questions, please contact directors Dave and Kristy Nusbaum at columbusgroveoh@lifewiseacademy.com.

National Mentoring Month-Thank You Kids Hope Mentors!

January marks National Mentoring Month and we would like to thank our Kids Hope mentors at Columbus Grove. Under the wonderful leadership of Jackie Brinkman, Kids Hope is now in its ninth year at Columbus Grove! We want to say thank you to the following individuals who give an hour a week to come into our building to mentor one of our students: Deb and Jack Myers, Jackie and Roger Brinkman, Brent Stechschulte, Bruce Remlinger, Geoff Eubanks, Elaine Kiene, Julie Shafer, Libby Oswald, Joy Halker, Lynn Bryan, Diane Miller, Mike Ebling, Becky Fuerst, Breann Bogart, Shelley Shafer, Bethany Moore, Terrie Smith, Holly Zarse, Cindy Hizer, and Kevin Schumacher.

January is School Board Appreciation Month!

January is also designated as School Board Appreciation Month in Ohio. School board members exemplify local citizen control and decision-making in education. They volunteer hundreds of hours and an immeasurable amount of energy to ensure that our schools are providing the best education possible for the children of our community. For all are their dedication, we are taking this opportunity to show them our appreciation during School Board Recognition Month.

School board members are citizens whose decisions affect our children —what they learn, who will teach them and what kinds of facilities house their classrooms. These are men and women elected to establish the policies that provide the framework for our public schools.

They represent you, and they take this responsibility seriously by attending lengthy —sometimes challenging —meetings, conferences and institutes where they broaden their knowledge about education; during numerous conversations about the schools; and sessions before the Ohio General Assembly.

Our school board is one of more than 700 such boards across the state. These boards enable us to have local control of public schools, meaning that decisions on school programming are made by local, elected representatives who understand the community's unique problems, values, culture and circumstances. With the advice and counsel of the educational professionals they hire, our school board has an impact on virtually every aspect of our schools.

Too often, we neglect to recognize the dedication and hard work of these men and women who represent us. The staff and students of our school district are asking all local citizens to take a moment to tell a school board member "thanks for caring about our children's education."

So, thank you to the dedicated individuals who make it possible for local citizens to have a say about education in our communities. We salute the public servants of Columbus Grove Schools whose dedication and civic responsibility make local control of public schools in our community possible. We applaud them for their vision and voice to help shape a better tomorrow.

Brad Brubaker (27 years)
Brian Jones (15 years)
Darrick Oswald (2 year)
Ned Stechschulte (16 years)
Derek Vance (3 years)

Not too Late to Purchase a Big Money Ticket!

In lieu of the annual Reverse Raffle, the CG Athletic Boosters are conducting a Big Money ticket drawing this winter! Here's how it works:

- Tickets are \$40 apiece (only 300 will be sold).
- At the 1/6, 1/14, 1/17, 1/20, 1/21, and 2/11 home boys' basketball games, there will be a drawing for \$100, \$300, and \$500 winners.
- At the 2/17 boys' basketball game versus Allen East, there will be a drawing for \$500, \$500, and \$1,000 winners.
- Ticket purchasers need not be present to win.
- At the end of the drawing each night, winning tickets will go back in the drawing for the chance to win again!

We have a limited number of tickets left! To purchase tickets, you can contact high school secretary Kristal Pingle at 659-2156. Tickets will also be sold at the home boys' basketball games until supplies last. Thank you in advance for your support and good luck in the drawings!

Boys Basketball Pre-Sale Tickets – 1/13

Pre-sale tickets for Friday's Boys Basketball game at Lincolnview can be purchased online at <https://lincolnviewathletics.com/event-tickets> ; Pricing for pre-sale tickets are as follows: Adults \$6 and students \$4 plus processing fees. All tickets at the door are \$8 cash.

Bulldog Bites:

With the winter sports season in full swing, our wrestling teams are having an excellent season. Congratulations to the CG wrestling team as they finished first at the Milton Union Invite!

- Placing 5th for the Bulldogs were Dawson Birchnaugh, Conner Amstutz, and Grant Eversole

- Placing fourth were Ty Meyer and Corbin Garberson
- Placing third were Colin Sautter, Boat Thompson, Zane Stechschulte, Logan Mershman, Layton Blankemeyer, and Brady Fuerst
- Placing second were Nick Goecke, Evan Pitts, Gavin Schroeder
- Placing first were Ethan Beam, Levi Schroeder, Wyatt Watt, Landen Schroeder, Kyle Lathrop, and Loudoun Auchmuty

Congratulations to the girls wrestling team as well, as Gabby Bogart finished fifth and Lily Montgomery finished third at the Fostoria Invite.

Congratulations go to the junior high wrestling team for finishing seventh at the Wapak Invite.

- Placing 6th for the Bulldogs were Brody Wild and Landon Flores.
- Placing 5th was Brody McCluer
- Placing 4th were Griffin Zarse and Caiden Squillante
- Placing 2nd were Alex Meyer and Trenton Wynkoop

Upcoming Events

Thursday, January 12th

Boys Freshman Basketball @ Lincolnview – 5:00 p.m.

Boys JH Basketball @ Fort Jennings – 5:00 p.m.

Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Lincolnview – 6:00 p.m.

Friday, January 13th

Boys JV & Varsity Basketball @ Lincolnview – 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 14th

JH Wrestling @ Ayersville Inv. – 9:30 a.m.

Varsity Wrestling @ Sielenski Invitational – 10:00 a.m.

Girls JV & Varsity Basketball vs. Miller City – 1:00 p.m.

Boys JV & Varsity Basketball vs. Kalida – 6:00 p.m.

Monday, January 16th

No School – MLK Jr. Day

Girls JV & Varsity Basketball vs. Fort Jennings – 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 17th

Boys JH Basketball vs. Bluffton – 5:00 p.m.

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

Boys JV & Varsity Basketball vs. Bath – 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 18th

Girls Freshman Basketball @ Carey – 5:30 p.m.