

Strongsville City Schools

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

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www.strongnet.org

May 13, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Please take a moment to read the district updates below.

Sixty Seconds with the Superintendent - Whitney Elementary Field Day

The end of the school year always brings with it a flurry of activities. Field Day is a student-favorite event at the elementary schools. This week we check in at Whitney Elementary for their Field Day activities. Click [here](#) to view this episode.

Interruption of Phone & Internet Service for Strongsville City Schools (5/27 - 6/3)

Please make special note that phone and internet service will be unavailable throughout the school district from Friday, May 27 through Friday, June 3. The interruption in service is due to moving our servers and network operations to the new Strongsville Middle School. Emergency phone numbers will be posted soon on our district website and also shared in next Friday's "District Happenings" e-newsletter.

Special Education Funding Meeting Notice

The public is invited to participate in a May 17 meeting to discuss the use of special education funds within the Strongsville District. The primary topic will be the federally funded Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B. A discussion will be directed toward the use of the federally funded Early Childhood Special Education fund.

The District's Director of Special Education will lead the presentation and participants will have an opportunity to provide input for the continued use of those funds. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 17 at the Strongsville City Schools Administrative Offices (18199 Cook Avenue, Strongsville, Ohio) in Room 15, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

New Start Time for Strongsville Middle School

The new Strongsville Middle School will start a few minutes earlier beginning next academic year (Fall, 2016). Strongsville Middle School days will begin at 7:55am and end at 3:00pm. This is an increase of 20 minutes from our current schedule. Class periods at the middle school will also increase from 39 to 42 minutes providing more instructional time for staff and students.

Revisions to the Strongsville City Schools Academic Calendars

At Strongsville's Board of Education meeting earlier this week, the Board approved two revisions to the [2016-17](#) and [2017-18](#) academic calendars as detailed below:

- Beginning in 2016-17, the district will move to a trimester reporting structure in grades K-5, and remain with a quarterly reporting structure in grades 6-12. Preschool reporting will remain consistent with their current structure.
- Excluding the last day of school, we will have two early release days in each academic calendar with the first Early Release Day in October and the second in March.

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Strongsville City Schools Technology Department Update

Strongsville City Schools are proud to support learning utilizing 21st century technology. By giving our students access to the learning tools they will need to be college and career ready, we hope to empower them to be better communicators, contributors, and citizens. Our goal of increasing Chromebooks in the district will allow students to access digital content, conduct research, and share their creative and academic efforts.

To help meet these goals, we've surveyed our parents, staff, and other districts; we've gathered vendor quotes; and analyzed costs to come to a tentative agreement to purchase additional Chromebooks for our elementary, middle and high school to increase and balance the number of devices in each building to a student-Chromebook ratio of 79%. Additionally, all 9th graders will be given a Chromebook to pilot a 1:1 Device Initiative beginning in the 2016-17 school year to use at school and home.

Strongsville High School Campus Closed During Summer (5/23 - 8/19)

Please make special note that Strongsville High School and its surrounding parking lots and public areas will be closed to the general public this summer. Individuals will not be permitted on the high school property from Monday, May 23 through Friday, August 19 due to the continued construction and renovation project. SHS personnel offices will be temporarily moved to Kinsner Elementary School during this time period. The work being completed this summer includes:

- Upgrades to the main entrance and office area
- Repaving of the main driveway loop and all parking lots
- Redesign of the cafeteria and kitchen area
- Upgrades to the main gym floor and sound system

This is part of an overall Strongsville City Schools facilities construction and renovation project being paid for by an \$81 million bond issue passed by Strongsville residents in November, 2012.

Reminder...Revised Release Times for the Last Day of School

We have had to make changes to the previously shared release times for our last day of school; Friday, May 20. Due to the fact that our last day of school does not coincide with other schools we transport, we will not have the buses to transport all students for our typical last day dismissal times. Please make special note of the following revised release times for each school on Friday, May 20:

Elementary Schools

AM Kindergarten	11:10am
PM Kindergarten	12:25 pm - 2:30pm (<i>altered start and end time</i>)
Full Day Kindergarten	2:30pm
Grades 1-6	2:30pm

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Middle Schools

Grades 7-8 2:00pm

High School

Grades 9-12 11:10am

** Polaris Students, Non-Public School Students, and Out-of-District Placement Students will remain on their regular dismissal schedule.*

If I can be of any assistance, please contact me at any time at 440.572.7010 or email cryba@scsmustangs.org.

Go Mustangs!



Cameron M. Ryba
Superintendent