

STRONGSVILLE CITY SCHOOLS DISTRICT HAPPENINGS

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

February 11th - Parent/Teacher Conferences

February 15th - There will be no school due to President's Day

February 22nd - Demolition to Begin at Annex and former Publications Buildings

February 24th - [K-5 Go Math! Program Technology Parent Meeting](#)

February 25th - Middle School Transition Parent Meetings

- Middle School administrators and guidance counselors will be on hand to meet with parents to discuss all things middle school; courses, scheduling, and questions. The meetings will be held at the Strongsville High School Auditorium at 6:00 p.m. for incoming 6th graders and 7:00 p.m. for incoming 7th graders.

BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATES

Last night at the Board of Education meeting, the Board Facilities Development Committee (BFDC) represented by Ken Evans and Dave Harbart, presented their 30-year district facilities plan. Based on a 12-month review process and analysis of district facilities and related data, the BFDC provided the Board with a vision for the future of our district facilities, focusing on our elementary school buildings. Please click [here](#) to view the full presentation and the results of all the hard work put in by this dedicated group of Strongsville citizens.

DISTRICT UPDATES

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Please join us for our final parent/teacher conference night of the 2015-16 school year on Thursday, February 11th. Listed below are the conference times for each level.

- High School from 3:20 p.m. to 6:20 p.m.
- Middle Schools from 4:05 p.m. to 7:05 p.m.
- Elementary Schools from 4:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.
- Preschool from 3:45 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Entrance Criteria for Honors Classes at the Middle School

In May 2015, we established two transition committees, Grades K-5 and Grades 6-8, comprised of teachers and administrators to provide recommendations as to what education would look like and how it would be structured within this new grade alignment. One major discussion in the grades 6-8 committee was to address honors courses for 6th graders, as well as entrance criteria for these courses. The committee and our district are committed to providing every child with the opportunity to access rigorous content at an appropriately challenging level. After much research and discussion on the topic of entrance criteria, the committee recommended and was

approved to institute the following honors entrance criteria. Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade parents will have the opportunity to self-select their child's honors placement for Language Arts, Science, and/or Social Studies. For Honors Mathematics, students will be required to meet established criteria for placement based on the district's administered assessments. To assist parents in their decision, an individualized letter will be sent to all current 5th and 6th grade parents detailing the Strongsville City Schools recommended/required scores for placement in honors courses, their child's score, and their child's teacher recommendation for placement. Not only does this plan align with procedures in place at our high school for honors coursework, but it gives our students the opportunity in middle school to challenge themselves and find the best coursework to match their educational needs and goals.

K-5 *Go Math!* Program Technology Parent Meeting

If you are interested in learning more about the technology component of your K-5 child's *Go Math!* program and how you can utilize it at home, please attend this parent informational meeting. Please click [here](#) to view the flyer and RSVP for the February 24th meeting at 5:00 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. Although not necessary, you are welcome to bring a laptop or Chromebook to the meeting and your child's login information for *Go Math!*

Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) Intent Forms Still Being Accepted

As it was shared in last week's update, the district has reached the cap of 125 students for the FDK program for 2016-17 and will not be accepting any additional deposits at this time. However, parents that would still like to have their child(ren) attend FDK can submit an intent form and be placed on the waiting list, in the order received. Click [here](#) to access the intent form and additional information on the kindergarten registration process. To submit your intent form, you can email it to devangelista@scsmustangs.org or mail or drop it off at the address listed on the form. Should we enroll enough students that would warrant an additional section of FDK, parents on the waitlist will be contacted in order of receipt of their intent form.

"Excellence in Athletics" Campaign

As a district, we believe in the impact and importance that athletics plays in the lives of so many of our students. As we look to provide updated learning environments, as well as relevant and meaningful resources to our students in the classroom, we must also provide the vision and direction for expecting the same for our athletic facilities. With two lead gifts totaling over \$500,000, our "Excellence in Athletics" campaign is in full swing. We are asking that you partner with us in improving our athletic fields with synthetic turf. Turf is more durable, costs less to maintain, and will provide more opportunities for competition for our athletics and Marching Mustangs. With the goal of installing new synthetic turf fields at Strongsville Middle School and Pat Catan Stadium for Fall 2016, we have until March 2016 to raise the necessary funds. Tax deductible donations can be made online by clicking [here](#). Also checkout our webpage at

www.strongnet.org/excellence! Thank you for your consideration in partnering with us on this important project.

Check out Strongsville City Schools on Social Media

Follow SCS on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#)

ALUMNI UPDATES

Congratulations to Strongsville alumna **Danielle Pecenka Cullen**. Danielle practices law in the Compliance unit of WWR and she earned a BA in Psychology from The Ohio State University and a JD from Capital University Law School. A member of the Ohio and Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Associations, Danielle is licensed in Ohio and is admitted to practice before the US District Court. Danielle is a pro hac litigation attorney working with outside counsel throughout US Federal Courts and also an active leader in the firm's attorney mentoring program. Danielle graduated from Strongsville High School where she was a member of The National Honor Society, Ski Club, SHS flag line, as well as flute musician for the wind ensemble and The Strongsville Marching Band.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Have a community event to share? Email spetrie@scsmustangs.org and we will try to include the event in a future edition of the Strongsville Schools Happenings!

Check out Bhelwala Indian Street Food!

Located at 15036 Pearl Road in Strongsville in the Sherwin Williams Plaza. Show your student ID and receive 20% off a roll, bowl, or salad. View the flyer [here](#).

Strongsville Heinen's Winter Festivals

Visit the Strongsville Heinen's for their free Sunday tasting festivals! The events are on February 14, February 21, and February 28. Click [here](#) to view the flyer for more information.

Kids Garage Sale

On February 6 at the Ehrnfelt Recreation Center come and shop more than 50 tables of toys, clothes, small furniture, and accessories. Early bird shopping starts at 9 a.m. for \$3 admission or shop free from 10 a.m. to noon.