

Strongsville Schools Happenings

District Happenings

Google Apps for Education Student Gmail Accounts. By the end of August, Strongsville City Schools will open our *Google Apps for Education* Gmail accounts for students in grades K-12. We are excited to bring this technology to our students as a learning tool. Click the following hyperlinks to view the [elementary/middle school Gmail](#) and/or the [secondary Gmail](#) letters regarding the use of Gmail. Please review the letter and guidelines with your child to reinforce our review with students that will occur at school.

Curriculum Update. Students in grades K-5 will be using a new math program this year called *Go Math!* This program offers an engaging and interactive approach to learning math. One unique feature of this program is that it includes a write-in book so students can solve and practice problems right in their own workbook. There is also an online portion that allows parents and students to watch instructional videos on any lesson to help strengthen concepts and skills. Each student will receive a username and password in order to access online content such as personalized practice, homework and assessments. We are excited to bring *Go Math!* to our students and know that this adoption will provide a strong mathematics foundation for our elementary school students.

Food Services Update. Click [here](#) to view our *Cafeteria News* updates for 2015-16 from our Food Services department. You can also visit our Food Services [website](#) to find breakfast and lunch menus, payforit information, as well as additional food service related resources. For families that will be submitting free and reduced lunch applications, we are excited to announce that you can now apply electronically. If you complete the online application, determination and placement in the program is immediate. Visit the Food Services website for instructions and the link to complete the online application. Paper applications will still be accepted.

Team Strongsville Tailgate. Team Strongsville will be hosting its third annual tailgate event on Friday, August 28th. The family friendly event takes place from 5:00 - 6:45 pm in the high school parking lot next to Pat Catan Stadium. If you have never attended before, dozens of vendors from around the area will be on hand to ensure you, your family and friends will have a great time. There are bounce houses, games and lots of delicious treats all donated courtesy of Strongsville businesses and other local organizations. The tailgate is FREE, a great way to support the community, and a fun way to kick off the 2015 school/football season. Please join in the fun and stay to watch the mighty Mustangs take on the Avon Eagles! Click [here](#) to view the flyer promoting the Tailgate.

Partner with PTA. One of the things that makes our district so strong is our parent involvement through organizations such as PTA (Parent Teacher Association). We encourage parents to join PTA not only so they can be involved in their child's school, but also as another avenue of receiving valuable information about our schools. At monthly PTA meetings, principals give building reports, PTA representatives report information from Council PTA meetings including the Superintendent's report. However, you do not have to

attend these meetings to get this information. As a PTA member you can also receive meeting minutes via email. To join PTA, please visit your school's web page and click on the "For Families" tab and then "PTA". Or you can contact a representative from your child's building and request a paper membership form.

Alumni News

Congratulations to Strongsville alum **Lew Holder**. Lew attended The Ohio State University and earned his Bachelor of Arts in Film, Cinema and Video Production. Lew has won several awards in Motion Pictures and Film from the National Film Institute. Lew wrote and produced all 26 episodic promos for season 2 of Hollywood Exes for VH1 , and as a production intern he assisted for Discovery Network. Currently, Lew is a Post Production Director for The Ohio State University football program, shooting television games and events. Congratulations Lew! Strongsville is proud of your accomplishments and future endeavors.

School Construction Updates

High School At the high school we have completed phase I and phase II of the construction plan. This includes 66 classrooms, several restrooms and teacher work rooms. These areas received new windows, roof systems, new flooring, fresh paint and each classroom has a comprehensive technology package including wireless and a sound assist system. The staff and students were excited to see the updated rooms when school started on August 12th. Phase III and IV are currently under construction and the project is on schedule.

Middle School The third floor of the middle school instructional wing is taking shape. The interior wall framing is almost complete on the second floor with the mechanical systems to follow. Installation of the roof structure will begin by September 1st for the instructional wing and we will begin to see the outline of the final structure.

Mark your calendars for the next walk through of the new Middle School, scheduled October 23, 2015. Please come out to see your tax dollars at work and view our progress. Specific details about the event will be provided in future email updates and we hope to see you there.

Financial Update

As many of you have heard, the most recent State budget resulted in Strongsville City Schools losing over \$6 million in the next 3 years. During the August 16, 2015 Board of Education work session, Tony Podojil from the Alliance for High Quality Education presented about the potential benefits of joining their group, which currently includes 68 school districts. The major benefit of joining the Alliance is a shared consistent message to legislators. The School Board will decide if Strongsville City Schools will join the Alliance. Superintendent Ryba and Members of the Board of Education have said that they will continue to fight for additional state funding to help ensure a quality education for our students.

Upcoming Community Events

Preschool/Youth Program Expo at the Rec Center

On August 22 from 10 am- 1 pm, parents are invited to see the wide selection of preschool and youth enrichment classes offered by the Ehrnfelt Recreation Center. Rec staff and local vendors will be on hand to show what's available and answer questions about which programs may be right for your kids. Admission is free. Click [here](#) to see additional details.

Minecraft Challenge at the Library

Children in grades 4 and up are invited to compete in a Minecraft challenge and/or to practice playing the game on August 24th from 7 to 8 pm. There will be prizes! Register by calling (440) 238-5530 or cuyahogalibrary.org

Strongsville Farmers Market

Check out the Strongsville Farmers Market! Shop for fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables, plus honey, jellies, flowers, baked goods, and more. The market runs Thursdays from August 6 to October 1 from 2:00—6:00 p.m. in the Ehrnfelt Recreation Center Parking Lot, 18100 Royalton Road.

Share Your School News!

Great things are happening every day in the Strongsville City School District, and we want to know about them. Click here to submit your *school* news through our [publicity form](#).