

# Strongsville Schools Happenings

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We hope everyone had a happy Fourth of July. Although school is not in session, there is much going on at Strongsville Schools over the summer break and we wanted to share some updates with you:

## District Happenings

### **Congrats to our New Strongsville Grads**

Congratulations to the Strongsville High School Class of 2015! The class celebrated Strongsville High School's 117<sup>th</sup> commencement ceremony May 31, 2015 at Cleveland State University's Wolstein Center. The 533 graduates were welcomed by Strongsville High School Principal Mark Smithberger and Senior Class Administrator Stephen Breckner. The class of 2015 is listed for viewing [here](#).

## District Leadership Changes

**Cameron M. Ryba** is our new Superintendent as of July 1. Mr. Ryba has experience in all facets of K-12 education. Before coming to Strongsville, Ryba was a fourth grade teacher and later a High School Principal. Upon arrival at Strongsville in 2003, he was an Assistant Principal at Albion Middle School as well as Principal at both Muraski Elementary and Center Middle School. Most recently, Ryba was the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Staff Development.

**Jennifer Pelko** is now the new Assistant Superintendent. Mrs. Pelko was previously the Principal of Center Middle School. Mrs. Pelko's primary role is to work with principals, curriculum, special education, as well as the Superintendent to ensure that the needs of all students are being met. Additionally, she will oversee matters dealing with human resources, labor relations, and professional development.

**George Anagnostou** was named the new District Treasurer. Anagnostou has 12 years of experience in government accounting. For the past six years, Anagnostou served as the Executive Director of Budgets and Grants for the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. In that role, Anagnostou developed and managed a \$732 million general fund budget and prepared the Five Year Forecast.

**Andy Jalwan** was named the new Strongsville High School Athletic Director. Mr. Jalwan was previously the Athletic Director for St. Vincent-St. Mary High School. Jalwan was with St. Vincent-St. Mary for seven years and has a total of 13 years experience in education. He grew up in University Heights and is a graduate of University School. Mr. Jalwan received his Master's Degree in Sports Management from the University of Akron and currently resides in Stow with his wife.

## School Construction Updates

The next phase of High School construction is underway and coming along! New roofing is almost complete in the 600 wing and exterior window replacements are ongoing. In all, the high school will have 66 renovated classrooms completed by mid-August in the 600, 700, and 800 wings of the building. The classrooms will be wireless and have interactive projectors and sound amplification systems. Construction

continues on the Middle School and the project is on budget and on schedule for the Fall, 2016 opening. For more information about the district construction plan please visit our update [page](#).

Mark your calendars for the next walk through of the new middle school. Community members are invited to walk through on October 23, 2015. Details regarding this event will be provided in future email updates.

## State Budget Update-Strongsville Loses \$2.8 Million Over Two Years

Governor Kasich exercised his line-item veto authority and eliminated the hold harmless clause from the new biennium state budget. This decision means Strongsville will lose \$2.8 million in the next two years. The House and Senate versions of the budget bill had provisions that districts like Strongsville would not lose state funding.

"We're very disappointed. We were cautiously optimistic that we were going to be held harmless after the work that was done in the House and the Senate," said Superintendent Cameron M. Ryba. The final state budget will reduce funding in 2016-2017 for 100 of the wealthier school districts in Ohio.

Members of the Strongsville Board of Education testified before the state legislature this spring to make the case for Strongsville. The District will now have to make tough decisions about how to balance the district budget while losing nearly \$3 million over the next two years.

## Registration for New Students

Need to register a new student? If so, please visit our home page at [www.strongnet.org](http://www.strongnet.org) and select "Enroll a Student" from the shortcuts menu on the right hand side.

## Upcoming Community Events

### Strongsville Library Summer Events

There are a variety of events going on at the Strongsville Library throughout the summer for all ages, from Microsoft Word 'how to' classes to summer camps to toddler storytimes and safety first classes. Visit the events calendar [here](#) and select the Strongsville branch from the box on the left.

### Free Summer Concerts

The Strongsville Community Band will be performing free concerts on the Commons this summer. All shows start at 7:30 pm (unless otherwise noted) and are open to everyone, click [here](#) for the full schedule.

### Strongsville's Annual Homecoming Celebration

The Strongsville homecoming celebration begins with the annual parade on July 15 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. The parade steps off at 6:30 pm on Progress Drive and will head south on Pearl Road to the City Commons where there will be entertainment, rides, food, and games. The festival runs July 15-18 and ends with a fireworks show on July 18 at 10:00 p.m.

## Share Your News!

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