



COVINGTON CONNECTION

The Newsletter Linking The Covington Schools,
Home & Community



Gene Gooding, Superintendent

www.covington.k12.oh.us

April 2022

COVINGTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Read Across America Week

by Josh Long

We would like to thank everyone who participated in our Read Across America Week. Our students and staff certainly had a wonderful time throughout the week with different activities at school. We would also like to thank everyone who was able to come to our Family Literacy Night. It was an amazing night and our staff truly enjoyed seeing all of our families who were able to attend.



Covington Jr/Sr High News

by Josh Meyer

It is difficult to believe that the winter months are behind us and that the students and staff are starting the fourth nine weeks of school! One thing to keep in mind for our student-athletes is that academic eligibility for the fall sports season is based on grades during the fourth nine weeks. Therefore, it is important that everyone's focus remains on maintaining a high level of performance in the classroom.

Thank you to Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Langston, and the cast and crew of the Covington HS Drama Club for putting on two outstanding performances of "Murder at the Goon Show" on March 18 and 19. Thank you to Mrs. Moore and our music students for the wonderful

concert on March 22.

A reminder to all of our students that they need to be checking their email daily and bringing their Chromebooks to school charged and ready to use.

I appreciate the efforts of our parents, students, and community members to provide a wonderful number of opportunities for our students. The Covington community is very supportive of all of the concerts, plays, academics, and athletics that our students participate in. It has been a combined effort to get this far in the school year, and the staff of Covington Jr/Sr High School is grateful to work with your children!

New School Website Now Available

by Jim Sagona

If you visit our school district website, www.covington.k12.oh.us, you will find it has a brand new look and feel. Because parents, students, and community members who visit the site are often using a smartphone or tablet computer, it has been redesigned with a mobile-first approach.

It will continue to be updated with current information for parents, and to recognize our students' many successes. We believe it is a great way to share the outstanding things that are happening in our schools, and to highlight how special our community is. The website features up-to-date calendars of events for each of our schools and quick links for parents and students to some of our most-requested resources. Parents can log in to view their student's grades, check out this month's lunch menus, or catch up on the school newsletters and announcements.

We encourage you to visit the site to see the new look and discover all of the wonderful activities in our classrooms, on stage, and on the athletic fields. We will continue to make revisions and seek to make it a useful hub for parents, students, staff, alumni, and our community.

Counseling Department Update

by Laura Ayres

The 3rd quarter just ended, and the Counseling Department has been very busy. It's hard to believe, but we are already thinking about next year. Mrs. Crawford and I were very busy during the month of March, talking to students in grades 7-12 about picking courses for next year, talking about graduation requirements, and working with students on updating and/or creating their graduation plans. Each student in grades 8-11 will be meeting with their school counselor individually to talk about graduation requirements, what classes and tests they still need to take, which graduation seals they are planning on getting, plans after high school, and so much more. Parents are welcome to attend these meetings. If you would like to attend your child's meeting, please reach out to Mrs. Ayres or Mrs. Crawford.

Another event that took place in March was Career Day. Members of the Freshmen Class attended the Career Day event that was sponsored by the Troy Area Chamber of Commerce. Students completed a survey prior to the event where they selected career fields that they were interested in. They were then matched with local businesses based on their answers to the survey. On the day of the event, the students listened to a welcome speech from the owner of Purebred Coffee in Troy. The students then attended three different sessions based on their career interests. The sessions were designed for students to meet with professionals in small groups so they could build relationships and connections that might lead to future employment, internships, mentorships, or job shadow opportunities. The students all really enjoyed the day and made meaningful connections.

CES Spring Book Fair by Josh Long

The Spring Book Fair will be held May 9th thru May 13th for students only. Again this year, the book fair will be located in the hallway across from the library. We will have cases of books, posters, and some other small items for purchase. Students in kindergarten thru sixth grade will visit the fair during their scheduled library day. Mrs. Reck will send home more information with the students soon.

BPA News by Heidi Anderson

We had a fun and successful two days at the BPA state competition in Columbus with the other 18 regions in our state. This was our first time as a club competing and attending the state competition in person.

Out of the 20 competing members in our club, 15 of them were in the top 10 in the state. We have two students who qualified for nationals. (nationals will take place May 4-8 in Dallas). Prior to our state competition we had two students already compete and qualify to attend nationals in a virtual competition.

Results from the state contest:

- Economic Research Team (NATIONAL QUALIFIERS) 3rd Place - Bryson Hite, Jacob Tipps, Chase Vanderhorst, Drew Gessner
- Integrated Office Applications Top 10 - Claire Fraley
- Administrative Support Team Top 10 - Garret and Gavin Fraley, Caleb Miller, Kody Nelson
- Small Business Management Team Top 10 - Ayden Rench and Tyler Alexander

- Interview Skills 2nd Place (NATIONAL QUALIFIER) - Reagan Lemp
- Prepared Speech Top 10 - Whitney Welch
- Presentation Management Individual Top 10 - Kara Stephan
- Health Leadership/Special Topics 2nd Place (NATIONAL QUALIFIER) - Jenna Belmaggio

VIRTUAL - These students competed in two rounds to attend the national competition

- Virtual Branding Team- Gavin Fraley and Christian Jarvis

COMPETED AT STATE LEVEL:

- Fundamental Accounting - Cam Kirker
- Fundamental Word Processing - Hayden Barker
- Basic Office Systems and Procedures - Lauren King
- Podcast Production Team - Cam Haines and Asher Long

VOTING DELEGATES - Thank you to our two students who were voting delegates for our state officer choices - Summer Anderson and Connor Humphrey

These students were so professional and absolutely amazing at the conference! They definitely represented Covington High School, their families, and the community in the absolute best manner.

Congratulations to our BPA students.



Buccaneers to Orlando! **by Jessica Moore**

On March 1st, the CHS concert band and select choir members traveled via charter bus to Orlando, Florida. Their purpose? To perform in the Universal Studios "STARS" program!

After a long bus ride, the students and parents enjoyed a private group breakfast before going to Volcano Bay water park. The next morning, the students were made "Honorary Cast Members" as part of Universal Studios youth programs. After a brief warm up and tuning session, the concert band and choir gave a stellar performance on the Music City Stage inside Universal Orlando! The group's program featured a mix of patriotic songs, movie themes, programmatic music, and ballads, and was extremely well received by the lunchtime crowd that had gathered to listen. The best surprise was seeing the group of parent supporters who had made their way down.

The students spent the remaining days traveling around the Universal theme parks, having new experiences, forming connections, and making memories that will last a lifetime. Through this opportunity, our students truly experienced the words of Mark Twain: *"Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all of one's lifetime."*

We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to showcase our students' talents and allow them to grow as musicians and responsible citizens. Thanks especially to various community organizations that contributed to the trip, specifically Fields of Grace Church, Glacier View Coffee, and The Covington Music Boosters.



Covington-UVCC FFA Chapter **by Jessica Helsinger**

This year the Covington-UVCC FFA Chapter had three FFA members compete in the Public Speaking Career Development Event. They competed at the Miami County contest and had to earn a spot to compete at the District 5 Ohio FFA level.

Elizabeth Coblentz, a freshman, competed in the FFA Creed Speaking contest. This includes reciting the FFA creed and answering questions. Elizabeth placed 5th in the county contest.

Kara Stephan, a sophomore, competed in the Beginning Prepared category. This includes writing a 3-5 minute speech and answering judges' questions. Kara's speech entitled "Stereotypes in Agriculture" was about the changing demographics in the agriculture industry. Kara placed 4th in the county contest.

Lainee McMaken, a junior, competed in the Advanced Prepared category. This includes writing a 5-7 minute speech and answering judges' questions. Kara's speech entitled "How to become an Advocate for Agriculture 101" was about the steps one can take to speak up and become an advocate. Lainee placed 2nd in the county contest and 6th in the district contest.

Kori Moore, a sophomore, competed in the Beginning Prepared category. This includes writing a 3-5 minute speech and answering judges' questions. Kori's speech entitled "Grow through It" was about how those with disabilities can be helped through the agriculture industry. Kori won the county contest and placed 3rd in the district.

Mic Barhorst, a junior, competed in the Extemporaneous category. Contestants draw three topics from a hat and select one, then they write a 4-6 minute speech in thirty minutes. Mic won the county contest and placed 6th overall in the Extemporaneous contest.

FFA works to develop Premier Leadership, Personal Growth, and Career Success in its members. All FFA members have developed themselves in all three of these areas through this contest.



A Message from Superintendent Gene Gooding

Outstanding Performances!

I would like to congratulate Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Langston, Mrs. Robinson, and the CHS Drama Club students for their outstanding performance of "Murder at the Goon Show." The students performed the comedy/murder mystery on March 18th and 19th. Both shows were well done, funny, and extremely entertaining. It is always difficult to perform in front of such a large audience, but our students made it look easy. Congratulations again to the CHS Drama Club members and their advisors for putting on such a fantastic show!

On March 22nd, the CHS Concert Band, CHS Concert Choir, and 8th Grade Choir held their Spring Concert. The event was very well attended and everyone who witnessed the show was extremely impressed with our talented musicians. Mrs. Moore runs an excellent secondary music program, and the students do an outstanding job! Congratulations again to all of our junior high and high school Band and Choir members!

On March 31st, the students in first, second, and third grade held their annual Spring Concert. This year's program was titled "When We Go Camping." The students were outstanding and made their families and friends very proud. The fifth and sixth grade Music Club also performed during the event and did a fantastic job! Thank you to all of the elementary students who participated and thank you to Mrs. Moeller for leading the elementary music program in such a caring and professional manner!

The spring season is full of fantastic events and opportunities for our students. During this final grading period we will induct students into the National Honor Society, we will have more musical performances, we will host our annual Art Show, and much more. I encourage every district resident to attend as many of these events as possible to support our students. Every event that occurs in our district is included on the calendar located on the main district web page. Please visit www.covington.k12.oh.us to find this very informative calendar.

Final Grading Period

Amazingly, there are only six week remaining in the 2021-2022 school year! This year has flown by, and the students have been working extremely hard in the classroom since last August.

The spring season brings much better weather and an increase in outdoor opportunities for our students. While this is certainly welcome, many students find it more difficult to stay focused on their academic assignments during the fourth quarter. To prevent a drop in grades, I ask each parent and family member to help us in our efforts to encourage our students to remain focused in the classroom and "finish strong." To help with this goal, I encourage every parent to stay in close contact with your child's teachers during the remainder of the school year. Please feel free to email or call our staff members with any questions or concerns that you may have, or to discuss your child's progress. It is certainly true that students succeed at a much higher level if the teachers, parents, and students all work together to accomplish the same goals!

Thank you and Go Buccs!



THANKS FOR ASKING!

I have a question about the Covington Schools or a suggestion for improving the schools.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Mail your questions or suggestions to: Mr. Gene Gooding, Covington EVSD, 807 Chestnut St., Suite B, Covington, OH 45318
