



# Northridge Local School District Newsletter

## Northridge Preschool Registration



Northridge Local School District is proud to offer a district-operated preschool. We have openings in both morning and afternoon classes. Registration will be available on the district website starting March 8, 2021. The preschool will be located in the new elementary building on the main campus. For more information, contact Michelle McJessy at 740-967-6631.



## Northridge Kindergarten Registration



Kindergarten registration and information will be available on the district website on April 6, 2021. If you have questions, please contact Principal Jill Beaver at 740-924-2691 or email her at [jbeaver@northridgevikings.org](mailto:jbeaver@northridgevikings.org).

## Moving Forward with Our Mission

### A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

I hope this message finds you healthy and doing well. Throughout this challenging year, we have continued moving forward with our mission of empowering all students to reach their fullest potential. The mission of the district has been put to the test this past year and seen additional challenges this winter. The timing of the snowstorms have caused more school closings than normal. With all these challenges, students, parents, and staff alike have had multiple opportunities to put our Viking Values into action.

As I think about our Viking Values, here are some thoughts that come to mind about how our Northridge community has continued to put them into action, even during these challenging times:

**TRUST:** We want to thank our parents and community for trusting that we are working to make the best operational decisions possible for our students during this time.

**LEADERSHIP:** When faced with multiple challenges, our students have risen to the occasion and taking an active role in leading by example and generating solutions for the greater good.

**COMMUNICATION:** We want to thank the parents who participated in our virtual conferences, even on snow days.

**COLLABORATION:** For the past ten months we have had an active group of administrators and teachers who have served on our Covid Operations Restart Task Force. Their ongoing collaboration has supported our district operations during these unusual times.

**ACCOUNTABILITY:** This is truly a team effort among teachers, students, guidance staff, and parents. We know how challenging this has been for parents and appreciate all your efforts in helping your child stay accountable for their school work.

**INTEGRITY:** Simply put, it's doing what is right even when no one is looking. Our Digital Academy students have demonstrated a great deal of integrity while working remotely to complete their studies.

**RESPECT:** The amount of respect exhibited by our students during this time has been nothing short of amazing, as they have followed the numerous expectations and ever-changing procedures.

As we plan for the great things to come, it is important to reflect on our mission, and to recognize the Viking Values in action every day among our staff, students, and parents. ☺

~Scott Schmidt, Superintendent



Superintendent  
Scott Schmidt



## Progress Report on Modern Learning Facility

### A MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT

We are happy to report that the new elementary building remains on schedule and on budget. The new building, which will serve students preschool through grade five, will have four classrooms per grade level, as well as small group spaces and dedicated spaces for music, art, physical education, a library, and technology. You can see from the pictures that a lot of progress has been made over the past 12 months.



**School Board President Doug Hart and Clay Keith from Robertson Construction**



Please watch for information about the community dedication ceremony as we prepare to open the new building in August of 2021.



In addition to the new elementary building, thanks to the permanent improvement levy, there are several modern learning facility projects taking place at the middle school and high school as well. The main parking lot has been expanded and repaved and more lighting has been added for safety. The middle school underground drain lines were repaired, and a special lining process will extend their use for another 50 years. This summer the middle and high school will both receive updated doors and entryways to enhance security as well as a new security camera system. Both offices will also receive an update and remodel to better serve the needs of our parents and students. ☺

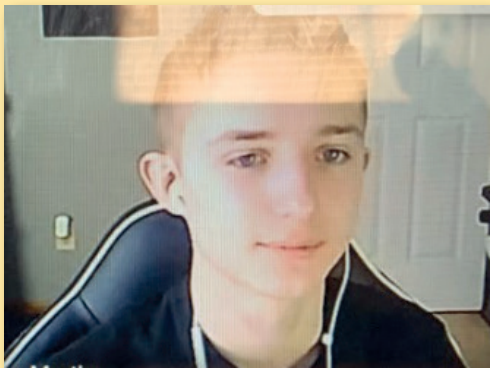


NORTH RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## High School Peer Tutors Help Younger Vikings

### A MESSAGE FROM NORTHRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

We currently have 10 high school peer tutors working with fourth and fifth grade students on their reading. The high school peer tutors are responsible for working on fluency with students through poetry that is provided by Instructional Coach Aubrey Cardwell. Students then prepare their own comprehension questions with books that they have chosen with their younger student at the student's tested reading level. They then fill out a form after each session that communicates how their student does and where they plan on focusing next time.



**Junior, Tyler Martin, works with a student on a virtual meeting.**

Mrs. Cardwell states, "They all do so well with this and it's awesome to see their insights." Junior Tyler Martin has enjoyed the experience, "It has been great to work with the younger students, it has been rewarding." Tyler is exploring the possibility of choosing education as a career some day. The high school peer tutors receive service hours for varying purposes. Many of the peer tutors are giving their time on their at-home learning days.

Fourth and fifth grade students have seen benefits from the virtual tutoring program. Every single student improved on their I-Ready, the school's diagnostic tool for reading and math. The average was 29 points but some grew as high as 58 points. "The peer tutors do a wonderful job of coming prepared to each session and have really helped students summarize skills. "Tyler has very quickly developed a positive rapport with his students," Mrs. Cardwell stated.

The intermediate students ask every day if they will be seeing their tutor and are loving the opportunity to get to know high schoolers who they definitely look up to as role models. High school student peer tutors include Ava Young, Madison Aronhalt, Olivia Howard, Olivia Garee, Kora Garee, Addison Moore, Geneva Smith, Tyler Martin, Reilly Muth, and Hannah Oney. ☺





# Viking Community Newsletter

## Winter Athletes Recognized for Excellence

### A MESSAGE FROM THE ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

The Northridge Athletic Boosters supports the student-athletes of our district in a variety of ways behind the scenes including the purchase of uniforms, various equipment, and district-wide strategic planning for athletic facilities in cooperation with the administration and leadership. The Boosters are currently working on a plan for a capital campaign to support the renovation of the current stadium into a multi-sport and band stadium complex. Officers and school leadership recently visited Mount Vernon High School to tour the new fieldhouse and discuss capital campaign strategies. Information will be released this spring.

One of the biggest challenges of this year has been the lack of fundraising opportunities. The need to support the teams through uniform purchases and equipment has continued, in spite of no new income. With ongoing pandemic restrictions preventing the major annual fundraiser, the dinner auction, the Boosters plan to move the event to an online auction. Watch for auction information and a list of available items released soon.

In addition to this work, and much more highly visible, is the effort to recognize student-athlete excellence through the Athlete of the Week initiative, launched in the fall of 2019. Featured during the winter sports season so far has been basketball player Nic Minder, bowler Ashton Walters, the 7th grade girls middle school basketball team, wrestler Michael Fister, and high school swim relay team including Noah Fuller, Jackson Rahde, Logan Chalfant and Will Holt. Honorable mentions have gone to Winton Arter, Kenzie Hannahs, Ian Travis and Lyndsey Stocks. Athlete of the Week nominations are submitted each Monday afternoon by coaches, teachers, administrators and all current Athletic Booster members. In addition to weekly nominations for Athlete of the Week, the Booster officers are seeking parent representatives for each team who will provide updates for inclusion in social media as well as inform the Boosters of accomplishments or needs of the teams. To join Boosters or volunteer as a parent rep, please contact an officer (Andy Kalas, Curt Booher, Kate Isler, Teri Holder and Bob Crist), email [nrvikingsathleticboosters@gmail.com](mailto:nrvikingsathleticboosters@gmail.com) or send a message on Facebook (Northridge Athletic Boosters). ☺



## Reading is "SNOW" Much Fun for Title 1

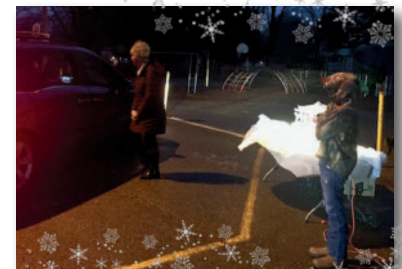
### A MESSAGE FROM NORTHRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

January 26th found Mrs. Beaver and Mrs. Peterman standing outside in the wind surrounded by twinkling lights and car loads of happy faces. It was Title 1's first ever Drive Thru Reading Night, and it was a success!

Title 1 is a federally funded program that gives students extra support in reading. Students are brought to the Reading Room for 30 minutes a day for extra reading support. They come by grade level in small groups. Students are given explicit instruction in phonics, fluency and comprehension. Students come during their Viking period so they do not miss any core instruction.

Usually we have a school-wide Literacy night, but this year that was not possible. A drive thru was a great option for our Title students to have some reading fun. Each student received a snowman treat bag filled with a new Sneezey the Snowman Book, a craft to make a snowman picture frame, hot chocolate mix and some popcorn for their own at-home reading night.

Judging from the smiles and the comments we received, this may very well become a yearly tradition! ☺



# 100 Days Smarter!



First Grade students recently celebrated the 100th day of school and presented their 100 Day Projects to the class. Mrs. Kibler even dressed up for the occasion!



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School District



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**March 8**

**Preschool  
Registration  
Begins**  
Link on  
District website

**March 15**

**School Board  
Meeting**  
Virtual Link on  
Facebook  
6:30p.m.

**April 8**

**Kindergarten  
Registration  
Begins**  
Link on  
District website

Dates and links are available at [www.northridge.k12.oh.us](http://www.northridge.k12.oh.us)

## PTO Donates Money for Outdoor Amphitheater

On Tuesday, January 19, 2021, at the Northridge Board of Education monthly meeting, held virtually, the Northridge Vikings Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) donated \$21,933.00 to the district for an outdoor amphitheater to be built on the grounds of the new elementary building. The amphitheater will be an outdoor learning space tucked behind the school surrounded by nature.

Superintendent Scott Schmidt expressed excitement saying, “A huge thank you to the PTO for their great work over the past many years to have some money set aside to make an impact for the new school.”

The Northridge Vikings PTO is a nonprofit organization that raises funds to support the educational needs of the teachers and students, kindergarten through fifth grade, in the Northridge School District.

Over the past few years, the organization has been saving to support the new school while still providing supplies, services, activities, and educational experiences each school year.

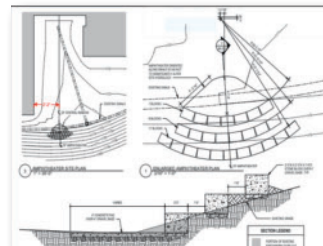
“We are grateful to our community and parents for their fundraising efforts and generosity over the years to make this a possibility,” said PTO President Amanda Moore. “We are excited to provide an outdoor gathering space for the students of the district to gather for learning opportunities such as guest speakers and presentations, as well as sharing work together outside connected to nature.” ☺



Space behind the new elementary building for the outdoor amphitheater



Example of what the outdoor amphitheater is expected to look like



Blueprint for construction of outdoor amphitheater



View of outdoor amphitheater from large window in Media Center