



Northridge Local School District Newsletter

Here We GO Again!

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

As the saying goes- "Time flies when you are having fun!" It seems like just last week we were celebrating our 2022 graduates at the Hartford Fairgrounds, but in reality, we just welcomed our new Kindergartners who will be the class of 2035! Northridge is a fun place not only for students to



learn, but for the staff to work. Our families appreciate the education our students receive, and there is a real sense of a strong, caring, and supportive community. It's important that we continue to review where we are and what's next for this great district. I am happy to report that we have received a 5-star rating (out of 5) for our efforts in academic gap closing; this means our students are exceeding expected benchmarks and timeframes in closing the achievement gap. We know that change is on the horizon, but for now, I can report that last year's graduating class and this year's kindergarten class are the same size. We are working closely with the various townships to monitor and plan for expected growth. The Athletic Facility Master Planning Committee is making long-term plans to meet the needs of our student-athletes and looks forward to partnering with the Boosters to complete the first phase of the public/private partnership. Over the past fourteen years, the Finance Committee has closely monitored and provided guidance concerning the school finances; their efforts have helped us maintain a positive cash balance and avoid the need to go back to the voters for new operating funds. Our Academic Excellence Committee is using feedback gathered from alumni to evaluate our current academic offerings and make sure our graduates have the highly sought-after skills necessary to compete after high school, whether it is entering the workforce or going on to additional schooling. It's an honor to be starting my sixth year as superintendent at Northridge schools, but make no mistake, the gains we have made are a team effort. I look forward to celebrating many more successes this year- *It's a Great Day to be a Viking!*



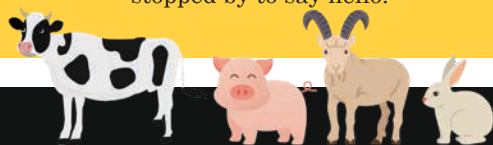
Superintendent
Scott Schmidt



The Viking horns are back! It's been 18 years since our football team had horns on their helmets. The 2022-2023 Vikings are ready to honor the past and "drop the anchor" in the present!



Many Northridge students participate in 4-H and FFA projects and show at the Hartford Fair. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication, and we are so impressed with the effort put forth by so many Vikings. The Northridge School board and administration staff enjoyed chatting with Viking families at the Hartford fair in the Northridge booth. Thank you to all who stopped by to say hello.





Summertime Success, Preparation & Celebration

Summer is still a busy time of year at Northridge. We are able to expand our learning opportunities outside of the classroom with camps, retreats, FFA and 4-H, as well as prepare the campus for the upcoming school year. We are so proud of the hard work our Viking students and staff put forth this summer. ☼



Our maintenance and grounds crew have been hard at work all summer preparing for the upcoming school year and athletic season! They continue to do an AMAZING job!

The Northridge High School Class of 1972 celebrated their 50th class reunion!

**Please contact the district office if you are planning a class reunion. We would love to help!



The Northridge band worked enthusiastically to improve their fundamentals and musical ability at summer band camp.



The Northridge Elementary teachers and staff smiled for a team photo at the outdoor amphitheater before welcoming students back to school!



Many high school teams hosted youth camps over the summer. We are so proud of our high school athletes and coaches for engaging the younger Vikings and building our programs. The future is BRIGHT for Northridge!

Viking Community Newsletter

Northridge PTO Helps Make Dreams Come True

The Northridge Vikings Parent Teacher Organization recently purchased a book vending machine for the Elementary school. The idea was brought to the PTO by elementary instructional coach, Ashley Ramsey, in hopes of building excitement around literacy, as well as a way to put more books in students' hands. "Four years ago I saw a photo of a book vending machine at another school," Ramsey said. "I dreamed about it at our school, and thanks to PTO our dream has come true!"

Every student will receive at least one token to use in the book vending machine throughout the year. The custom wrap on the machine compliments the theme of nature found throughout the elementary building.

Another great idea was introduced to the PTO by elementary principal, Jill Beaver. In hopes of building morale and excitement around education at a higher level, Beaver suggested the PTO expand the organization to the middle school. After reviewing and planning over the summer, the PTO has officially added grades 6-8 to the organization. We appreciate the PTO, all of our families and community who help make these dreams a reality! If you are interested in joining the PreK-8th grade PTO, email Northridgevikingspto@gmail.com for information. ☘



Keeping Our Promises

In May of 2019, the voters of the Northridge community supported a bond issue to build a new elementary building as well as a 0.5% earned income tax to fund ongoing permanent improvements and maintenance of our facilities. We just completed our first year in the new Northridge Elementary building. The excitement and pure joy of having a new building was present at the ribbon-cutting ceremony August 2021 did not fade throughout the year. It carried on right through the last days of school and the 5th grade clap out! The permanent improvement dollars are also being put to good use. The sanitary sewer lines at the middle school were relined and repaired, new heating and cooling equipment and controls were installed at the middle school and high school, and this summer, the high school received a new roof. During the campaign, we promised to demolish Homer Elementary as well as budget for the demolition of Alexandria Primary. Over the last two years, we have been open to feasible options for repurposing and renovating the Alexandria building. We made contacts with several organizations, and in the end, while there was a strong desire to create some type of community center using the building, there were no viable solid financial backers for such a project. The Board has approved the demolition of the Alexandria Building and will hold onto the land for future use or sale. Given the recent Intel announcement and expected growth, that land will be a valuable resource for the district. Commemorative bricks will be available once demolition begins. ☘



IMPORTANT DATES

October 6

PTO Meeting (Expanded PK-8!)
Elementary Media Center
3:30pm

October 7

Northridge Homecoming Football Game
Viking Stadium 7:00pm



October 8

Northridge High School Homecoming

October 16

Choir Concert
High School Auditorium
3:00pm



October 17

Board of Education Meeting
District Office
6:30pm

October 27

Academic Excellence Meeting
Elementary Media Center
7:30pm



More dates are available at www.northridge.k12.oh.us



NORTHRIDGE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
6097 JOHNSTOWN-UTICA ROAD
JOHNSTOWN, OH 43031

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FOOD DRIVE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 26-30
DROP OFF NON-PERISHIBLE FOOD ITEMS TO SCHOOLS TO SUPPORT THE NORTHRIDGE JOHNSTOWN FOOD BANK

Congrats to Our District Finance Team!

The Treasurer's office received its 9th clean audit report this spring. Understanding school funding and school accounting is no simple task and in order to receive a clean audit the treasurers' office must accurately account for all local, state and federal dollars collected and then ensure that every expenditure is properly tracked and accounted for. We received the Ohio Auditor of State Award for "excellence in financial reporting." Less than 8% of the entities that are audited qualify for this award. This is a tremendous accomplishment! Congratulations to Treasurer/CFO, Britt Lewis, and finance team, Matthew Lauvray, Marlene Roser, Kim Wigal, Rowena Kyle and Cathy McCormick, who contributed to this work! We appreciate the finance team and finance committee members for the energy and time they put into making financial decisions for our district. ☺



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Congratulations