



CLASS OF 2022 GRADUATES

For the first time in three years, Troy High School hosted a "typical" graduation.

More than 300 students from the THS Class of 2022 graduated at 10:30 a.m. May 28 at Hobart Arena in Troy.

Unlike the previous two graduations in which attendance was limited, there were no limits on the number of attendees per graduate this year.

In the class of 2022, 66 percent of students are planning to attend college, 32 percent are planning to enter the workforce and 2 percent are planning to join one of the branches of the armed forces. This year's senior class earned \$3,152,66 in scholarships. This only includes monies for the college/university the student is attending, not all offers. It also represents both four- and two-year scholarships.

"We were incredibly happy to be able to have the Class of 2022 graduate in Hobart Arena in front of all of their family and friends," Troy City Schools Superintendent Chris Piper said. "When you think about it, this class has been through an awful lot with the global pandemic, which started when they were sophomores. They have managed not only to persevere, but to excel through one of the most difficult times in the history of education in this country. All of us at the Troy City Schools are proud of their accomplishments and excited for their futures."

The commencement ceremony was live streamed and is now available on the WTHS youtube channel.

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Issue No. 11 | Spring 2022

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A NOTE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Chris Piper, Superintendent, Troy City Schools

Trojan Families:

It is hard to believe that in a matter of days, the 2021-22 school year will be coming to an end.

It truly does seem like just yesterday we were beginning a new school year, filled with hopes and dreams for the future, as well as ready to tackle the challenges of the present. We are so proud of how our students, as well as our teachers and staff members, have worked this year to try to fulfill all of those goals.

As we wrap up the school year, we would like to congratulate the Troy High School Class of 2022 on all of its accomplishments and wish each and every one of them the best of luck in the future, no matter what their future plans may entail. Needless to say, this has not been a typical high school experience for any of our graduates as they have had to endure challenges never before seen in the educational history of this country, but they have persevered and managed to make the most of their high school experience. They will always have a special place in our hearts.

Personally, I would like to thank all of our staff members who made this district a safe, enjoyable learning environment for our students on a daily basis. Much like the kids, our staff members have had to overcome seemingly endless obstacles over the course of the past two years. I am certain none of them will ever be forgotten by the students whose lives they have touched this school year.

As we move into the summer months, we will do so with an eye and doing everything we can to make sure we are ready for students to return for the 2022-23 school year. That will include maintenance on all nine of our school buildings and examining the curriculum we use to teach your children.

We hope all of you have a fun, safe and relaxing summer and we will look forward to seeing all of you again in the fall.

STUDENTS PLACE IN ORATORICAL CONTEST

A pair of Troy Junior High School students advanced to the district level of the annual Optimist Oratorical Speech competition.



Seventh grader Caroline Rohlfs won the local club competition, while eighth grader Julia Rose placed second and eighth grader Julia Dilbone placed third.

Rohlfs and Rose then moved on to the zone competition, where Rohlfs again placed first and Rose again placed second, earning both a trip to the regional competition. At regionals, Rohlfs yet again placed first and Rose was second, sending both on to the district competition.

At districts, the Troy orators faced the best competition in the state, including a number of high school students. Rohlfs placed seven in the state at regionals as the incredible journey came to an end for the two junior high students.

The topic for this year's competition was "Staying Optimistic in Challenging Times." All of the students who participated in the competition were sponsored by the Troy Noon Optimists.

15 STAFF MEMBERS RETIRING

The Troy Board of Education recently honored 15 staff members who either retired earlier in the school year or will be retiring at the end of the school year.

Those 15 retirees are: Kathleen Adkins, Izumi Allen, Tana Bowen, Paul "Dave" Deaton, Brenda Douglas, Deb Griffis, Lorraine Henn, Doyle Holfinger, Laura McConnell, Kathy McIntosh, Jackie Morris, Sharon Rawers, Mary Kay Rike, Tammy Starry and Julienne Thompson.

The Troy City Schools would like to personally thank each and every one of those dedicated staff members for their many years of service.

Additionally, the Troy City Schools offered an early retirement incentive for any employee with 10 or more years of service in the district. Six employees took advantage of this option, which will save the district's taxpayers \$750,000 over the next five years.

STUDENTS VISIT WASHINGTON, D.C.

More than 300 Troy Junior High School eighth graders and Troy High School freshmen recently made an educational trip to Washington, D.C.

Due to the global pandemic, this was the first time students from the district were able to make the trip in three years. This year's trip included both eighth graders and ninth graders who had missed the trip due to the pandemic.

Students visited all of the traditional Washington, D.C. sites, including the Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam War Memorial, Washington Monument and various Smithsonian Museums.

The eighth graders who did not make the trip to D.C. participated in a number of activities closer to home, including a field trip to the U.S. Air Force Museum and a walking tour of downtown Troy.

CLASS OF 2022 TOP STUDENTS

Troy High School Class of 2022 valedictorian Olive Stringer and salutation Morgan Kaiser were honored recently at the Miami County ESC's annual Excellence in Education Awards Dinner, honoring the county's top graduates.

Each student was asked to bring the teacher who had influenced them the most during their academic careers.

Stringer selected Troy Junior High School social studies teacher Lisa Stapleton, while Kaiser selected Troy Junior High School social studies teacher Justin Crews.

Stringer is a member of National Honor Society and has been involved in marching band, wind ensemble, indoor percussion, pep band, musical (pit), Math Club, Spanish Club, GSA Club, Book Club, Optimist Oratorical Contest, Voice of Democracy Contest, dance, Math Chat, Reading Buddies and is a blood donor. She will attend Ohio University for Wildlife and Conservation Biology, while minoring in Aviation Sciences. She's planning to specialize in herpetology and reptile rehabilitation.

Kaiser is a four-year varsity letter winner in basketball, a three-year varsity volleyball player and is involved in National Honor Society (Vice President), Student Government, Key Club (President), ASTRA Club (President), Senior Cabinet, Junior Cabinet (President), Culture Club and Latin Club. She will be attending The Ohio State University, majoring in Neuroscience with honors on the pre-med track.

Additionally, Amanda Goodwin has been named the Troy High School Upper Valley Career Center honor student. She has been a member of Archery Club, Key Club, Drama Club, the UVCC Honor Society and was a local officer for SkillsUSA. She has obtained her State Tested Nurse Aide Certification and her Medical Assistant Certification through the Upper Valley Career Center. She is currently working as a Certified Medical Assistant at Wilson Memorial Hospital in Sidney, and will be accepting a full-time position there after graduation.



DISTRICT TO RECONFIGURE FOREST AND KYLE SCHOOLS

Beginning this fall with the 2022-23 school year, the Troy City Schools will reconfigure Forest and Kyle Elementary schools.

All students in either of those schools entering grades K-2 in the fall of 2022 will attend Kyle Elementary School, while all students in either school zone in grades 3-5 this fall will attend Forest Elementary School.

There were a number of reasons for this decision, including: the ability to provide better educational outcomes for our students, providing more balanced class sizes at each grade level, the ability to provide better services to both our gifted and special needs students, more collaboration between teachers in the same grade level, which leads to better instruction and the fact it will allow the district to save money, which helps keep school taxes low.

Families who live in the Kyle or Forest districts, will not have to do anything extra in terms of registering their children for the 2022-23 school year. If a student is in second grade at Kyle this year and will be attending Forest in the fall, he or she will automatically be enrolled at Forest in the fall of 2022.

If a student lives one mile or more from the school they are attending, whether it be Forest or Kyle, he or she will be eligible for school bus transportation. The district will also provide a shuttle between both buildings before and after school. This will allow older siblings who walk younger siblings to school the opportunity to continue to do so. Students can then take the shuttle to the appropriate school.

FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL FORECAST

The Troy Board of Education recently approved the district's five-year financial forecast.

According to the Ohio Department of Education: "A forecast is somewhat like a painting of the future based upon a snapshot of today. That snapshot, however, will be adjusted and the further into the future the forecast extends, the more likely it is that the projections will deviate from actual experience. A variety of events will ultimately impact the latter years of the forecast, such as state budgets (adopted every two years), tax levies (new/renewal/ replacement), salary increases, or businesses moving in or out of the district. The five-year forecast is viewed as a key management tool and must be updated periodically. In Ohio, most school districts understand how they will manage their finances in the current year. The five-year forecast encourages district management teams to examine future years' projections and identify when challenges will arise. This then helps district management to be proactive in meeting those challenges."

For the fiscal year 2022, the district forecasts total revenues of \$51,940,579, with total expenditures of \$50,467,092, leaving the district with a cash balance of \$12,918,747. The district's actual cash balance for the fiscal year 2021 was \$11,445,260.

The forecast for fiscal year 2023 shows projected revenues of \$52,285,838 and projected expenditures of \$53,159,768. The forecast for fiscal year 2024 projects revenues of \$52,809,321 and expenditures of \$54,989,632. The forecast for fiscal year 2025 projects revenues of \$53,146,834 and expenditures of \$56,799,516. The forecast for fiscal year 2026, the final year of the five-year forecast, projects revenues of \$53,683,232 and expenditures of \$58,580,253. That would leave the district with a cash balance of \$1,314,803 by the end of fiscal year 2026.

Those numbers only tell a part of the story, however, Troy City Schools Treasurer Jeff Price said.

"These are just projections, a brief glimpse of the way things are at that point in time," Price said. "That's typical. The state of Ohio only budgets for two years at a time. The federal government only budgets for three months. There is no guarantee. We have to apply for those funds every year ... We project for the worst case scenario expense wise and a conservative scenario revenue wise. Those projections allow us to make the necessary changes, financially, that we need to make to keep the district running."

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS TAKING PLACE THIS SUMMER

The district has a number of capital improvement projects planned for this summer.

The biggest project facing the district is the partial air handler replacement project at Troy Junior High School. The total cost of the project is \$751,410, of which \$733,555.47 will be paid for through the federally-funded ESSER II grant the district received during the global pandemic.

Also this summer, the district will continue its roof replacement project at Troy High School. Last year, we replaced the section of the roof above the school cafeteria, auditorium and stage. This summer, the section of the roof above the main hallway from the library to the science room addition will be replaced at a total cost of \$329,000.



The total cost of the capital projects throughout the district this year, minus the projects paid for in part by ESSER II funding, will be \$670,168.92. These projects will be paid for by a 1.1-mil permanent improvement levy first passed in November of 1984 and most recently renewed in November of 2018. For fiscal year 2023, the levy will generate \$791,535.

"Our maintenance staff does an outstanding job maintaining our buildings throughout the year," Troy City Schools Superintendent Chris Piper said. "But when the average age of your buildings is 78 years old and you have several buildings that are more than a century old, there's only so much routine maintenance you are doing to be able to do before you have to undertake major projects such as these. We will continue to do everything necessary to make sure our buildings keep our students warm, safe and dry."

WHAT'S GOING ON WITH NEW SCHOOLS?

Many of you have asked if/when the Troy City Schools will bring another plan to voters to build new school buildings through a bond issue.

We know new buildings continue to be one of our greatest needs, as new buildings would not only provide better learning environments for students, but also make the district more efficient and more effective.

Currently, funding from the Ohio School Facilities Commission is not available, but we believe it will be soon. When it becomes available, state funding would pay for approximately 42 percent of the total cost for new buildings, should a bond issue pass.

When that funding becomes available, the Troy Board of Education will present a plan to voters.