



Northridge Local School District Newsletter

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



SUPERINTENDENT'S

Message



Superintendent
Scott Schmidt

Northridge School District was full of love and energy this February. We are excited to highlight many of those events and accomplishments

in the winter newsletter. There is no doubt that the sense of pride for Northridge Schools in the community is strong. It has been great to welcome so many volunteers back into our buildings.

Speaking of volunteers, we are looking for a team to help us complete our Veterans Honor Wall. We have a solid list of names from the 1970s as well as the 2000s and beyond, but we need some help with the 1980s and 1990s. If you want to learn more about helping with this project, please call the office at (740) 967-6631 and talk with Tina Pickering. The community always supports our schools, and we want to teach our students the importance of honoring veterans with this special project.

It's impossible to highlight all the positive things happening throughout the district in one newsletter, so be sure to like our Facebook page "www.facebook.com/NorthridgeVikings" to keep up-to-date on the fantastic things our students are doing every day and help us celebrate our Northridge Vikings. ☺

~Scott Schmidt, Superintendent



CPR TRAINING



Northridge Boys Basketball Makes History

On Friday, February 10, 2023 the Northridge Vikings boys basketball team made history before a packed house defeating Johnstown. For the first time in school history, the Northridge Vikings claimed the Licking County League-Cardinal Division title.

Varsity Head Coach Bill Mallernee reminisced about coaching the same group of boys in middle school. "Every summer in mini camp, I would point to that wall and say, "there's not a number up there' (under league championships in the gymnasium). They've wanted it for a long time. It's not easy to win a title in this league, especially with the crossovers against the big schools."

And yet—THEY DID! The team and coaches performed the ritual of cutting down the net after claiming the league title with the Viking community celebrating in the stands.

We look forward to cheering on our Vikings boys basketball team as they head into playoffs in the coming weeks. Let's Go Vikings! ☺



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~Coach Bill Mallernee





FINANCIAL FEATURE

The most recent independent State of Ohio Auditor's report was just released and marks the tenth straight Auditor of the State "Clean Audit" for Northridge Local School District. I want to thank the Treasurer's office staff for all their hard work and appreciate all administrators and secretaries for their diligent work in following established accounting practices. It takes a whole team to earn this type of recognition.

Board President Geoff Wiggins commented, "One clean audit is noteworthy and something to be proud of; the fact that the State Auditor's Office has issued the award ten years in a row is quite the accomplishment."

This string of clean audits allows our community to be confident that the funds they supply to the district are accounted for and reports appropriately filed. The clean audit also indicates no findings for recovery or misuse of funds for the past ten years. The tenth straight clean audit is an essential indicator that the financial stewardship of Northridge Local Schools is in good standing. ☼

~Britt Lewis, CFO

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-  @NRVikings
-  nrvikings

Food Services Receive Stellar Reviews

The Northridge food services department recently finished an administrative review from the Ohio Department of Education. Not only did the entire department receive incredible reviews, they were even asked for advice to share with other districts across the state of Ohio. The food services staff enjoys serving Northridge students every day.

"When you have a student hug you or say something nice, it makes you feel appreciated and you know you are doing something right," said Joanne Roberts who has worked at Northridge for over 20 years.

Neda Haines also has over 20 years of experience serving the students of Northridge. She said "I started working in the cafeteria at Northridge because my kids had started school here. It was a great way to be involved with the school. I enjoy seeing and being around the kids each day. I have been able to see a lot of kids graduate, including my own."

Food Service Director Carley Lewis is excited by the significant increase in students taking advantage of the breakfast Northridge offers. "I know it helps them to have a great start to the day and be ready to learn. We have very special students here and I have been very lucky to have built relationships with a lot of them," said Lewis. "I am lucky enough to get to build relationships with staff members and I know we can count on each other when needed." ☼



"When you have a student hug you or say something nice, it makes you feel appreciated and you know you are doing something right."



Food Service Director Carley Lewis with the breakfast cart.

Award to Mr. Kerschner for Making a Difference

Congratulations to high school teacher, John Kerschner, who was nominated and selected for Coughlin's "You Make A Difference Award." This past November, students and parents nominated a total of 13 teachers for this award.

Mr. Kerschner was nominated in part because of his Industrial Craft and Engineering courses which allow students to put their math and science skills into practical use. Mr. Kerschner has developed a relationship with students that encourages them to work harder and think outside of the box. He has encouraged the exploration of projects that require creative thinking, hands-on skills, logical problem-solving and patience. Beyond that, students know that Mr. Kerschner believes in them and is there to support them.

We congratulate Mr. Kerschner and look forward to celebrating him along with the winners from each Licking County school district at a special award ceremony in March. ☼

Congrats, Mr. Kerschner!



Photo: Superintendent Scott Schmidt, Teacher John Kerschner and Principal Justin Grieger



Emergency Operating Levy on Ballot for May 2nd

On Tuesday, May 2nd, the district's Emergency Operating Levy will be on the ballot for voters to renew. The renewal is not a new tax. In addition, the district has not had to ask for any new operating taxes since 2009. This Emergency Operating Levy is a renewal that is presented to the community every five years. Successful passage would allow for continued collection of the Emergency Operating Levy.

"Emergency Operating tax levy is a name of a funding mechanism; it doesn't mean we are in emergency status. This tax levy is a renewal that brings in a fixed dollar amount of \$2.1 million dollars a year," explained Superintendent Scott Schmidt. "I believe the community appreciates that the board kept this levy as a renewal, allowing the community an opportunity every five years to share their support and signify we are spending appropriately. The 5-year renewal window is a great way to have additional checks and balances with the community."

The district's five-year forecast, prepared by CFO Britt Lewis, was also reviewed in-depth by the community's Finance Committee; the forecast clearly indicates that this renewal is needed to maintain current instructional offerings. Funding acquired from this zero-tax increase renewal levy will support day-to-day operations that directly maintain students' classroom education, including teachers, textbooks, instructional programs, and educational needs.

"These are the funds we use to educate our students to make them successful," said Board Vice President Jayma Bammerlin. "It's really important." ☺

Positivity at the Middle School

A MESSAGE FROM NORTHRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

At the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year, NMS implemented Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports. PBIS is a method to teach students positive behavior strategies. We recognize that students can only meet behavior expectations if they know what the expectations are. We use common language to talk about appropriate behavior so throughout the day students understand what's expected of them. The focus of PBIS is prevention, not punishment.



Daily, students are given tickets by any staff member when they are demonstrating being Respectful, Accountable, and Safe or one of our Viking Values. To date, students have been recognized over 4,690 times for demonstrating desired behaviors. Monthly 3 student names from each grade are drawn from the accumulated tickets to spin the prize wheel. Students who spin the prize wheel will win items that have been donated from local businesses, gift cards or items from the PTO.

Quarterly, each teacher will nominate one student who has gone above and beyond to demonstrate being Respectful, Accountable, and Safe. A certificate will be hung on the "We are Northridge" Wall. The student and Mr. Smith will make a celebratory phone call home to share the great news. Student certificates and summary will remain posted for the year as an example of the great things being accomplished at Northridge MS. Through the first two quarters, 45 different students have been recognized.

Overall, staff and students have seen an increase of on-task behavior, a rise in grades, a decrease in missing assignments and an overall improvement of a collaborative and supportive environment. ☺

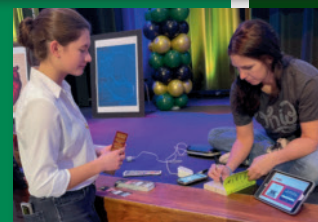
NHS Author Visit



Northridge High School hosted their FIRST EVER Author Visit on February 8th. Local author Mindy McGinnis is a best-selling young adult author and an Edgar Award winner. She presented to students in an all high school assembly on the life of a writer with a specific focus on research, inspiration and the process of writing. We even had friends from the Johnstown High School Book Club join us for the occasion.

Mindy McGinnis also offered breakout sessions throughout the day for students to join in a book club discussion about a few of her titles, as well as an opportunity for students to be a part of a writing workshop. Students enjoyed purchasing and having their books signed by the author.

Thank you to the Mary E. Babcock Foundation who financially supported the author visit through a grant proposal. Another very special thank you to all of our staff and students for getting involved and generating enthusiasm for our first ever author visit! ☺



Mark Your Calendar

March 2: STEM NIGHT

Elementary School
6:00pm

March 5: Band & Choir Concert

High School Auditoria
3:00pm/4:30pm

March 9: K/1st Music Performance

Elementary School
6:00pm

March 15: Finance Meeting

District Office
6:00pm

March 20: School Board Meeting

District Office
6:30pm

March 24-26: High School Musical

High School Auditoria
Friday 7:00pm
Saturday 7:00pm
Sunday 3:00pm

March 25: PTO Craft Show

Elementary School
9:00am-1:00pm



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

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New Stadium Surveyed & Staked

A MESSAGE FROM THE NORTHRIDGE ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

One more step toward becoming a reality, the land has been surveyed and staked for the stadium project. The Athletic Boosters are working hard to meet the \$2 million goal while the school financials should be in place in April. Biweekly meetings are being held for design and development discussions with a groundbreaking ceremony planned for late spring. We greatly appreciate all of the community support and look forward to a facility that will be used by all Northridge athletes, students and community members. Haven't made your donation to the project yet? Scan the QR code to donate today! ☺



The beginning phases have begun as Robertson Construction staked the area around the track for the new stadium.



For information call the district office at 740-967-6631

Northridge PRESCHOOL ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 6, 2023

First Come, First Considered!

VISIT WWW.NORTHRIDGE.K12.OH.US AND CLICK ON THE LINK: SPECIAL EDUCATION AND PRESCHOOL

Parents look for Peer Models Google form on the website.

Morning class: 8:40am to 11:30am
Afternoon class: 12:35pm to 3:20pm

**Only preschool children new to the program need to apply
**Peer Models must be potty trained and be 3.5 years old by August 1st.

Step Right Up To Kindergarten The Greatest Show On Earth!

DO YOU HAVE A CHILD WHO WILL BE ATTENDING KINDERGARTEN THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR?

PLEASE FILL OUT THE LINK BELOW TO STAY UPDATED ON UPCOMING REGISTRATION & SCREENING DATES.

***STUDENTS MUST BE 5 YEARS OLD BY AUGUST 1ST TO ATTEND KINDERGARTEN**

Link: <https://tinyurl.com/intent23-24>

