



SPRING 2023 ISSUE

Buckeye Brief

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER OF THE
BUCKEYE CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOLS

Superintendent's Update



Mark Robinson, Superintendent

We have reached the finish line of another school year. What a wonderful year it has been! The last couple weeks of school always bring a frenzy of activity, from field trips, concerts, academic awards programs, and sports tournaments to end-of-the-year ceremonies and graduation. No matter how long I've been in education, seeing the joy and pride on the faces of our students as they experience these traditional school activities never gets old.

As I sat down to write this, I took a moment to reflect on this school year. Last fall, the Ohio Department of Education released school report cards. Based upon our 2021-2022 scores, we received a total of twenty stars, highest in the County. In the areas of Progress and Early Literacy, Buckeye Central achieved three stars, indicating we met all state standards in these areas, four stars in Achievement indicating that we exceeded state standards, and five stars in the categories of Gap Closing and Graduation, which means we significantly exceeded state standards. Our Performance Index Score of 94.4 placed us at 119 out

of 607 schools in Ohio, ranking us in the top 20%. Over the past several weeks, the students have taken the 2022-2023 state tests and we're expecting even more success! Over the winter, we opened our newly renovated Learning & Resource Center, and earlier this spring, we introduced to you our first School Resource Officer, demonstrating our commitment to safety and security for all students and staff. Additionally, we were selected as an ODE Purple Star School designating our commitment to our military students, families, and veterans. These are just a few of this year's highlights. There were plenty of other successes in the fine arts, athletics, and where students participated in hands-on learning and real-world application of classroom teachings.

Thank you to our staff, students, families, and community for another great year of learning and growth. I hope everyone has a happy and healthy summer, and we can't wait to see you in August!

Mark Robinson
Superintendent

Project-Based Learning Activities Include Making Musical Instruments

Students learn to do — and make — many things in school. A flute isn't one item you would typically think of, however!



That's just what students in Mrs. Biglin's class recently made though.

This project-based learning activity allowed students to practice many skills, including reading, following step-by-step instructions, measuring, and writing.

They enjoyed playing their musical instruments once they were done and wrapped up their project by writing a how-to guide for others wishing to make their own instrument.

Students Gain New Appreciation for STEM Through Cedar Point Field Trip

On Thursday, May 11, Buckeye Central's fourth grade students had the adventure of a lifetime as they experienced Cedar Point with their classmates and teachers. The field trip was a culmination of the K-4 STEAM program.

Their day started by listening to speakers talk about the "behind the scenes" parts of Cedar Point. This includes engineering jobs, the planning process for new developments and rides, and how the coasters work. They were provided a hot lunch and were then given the chance to explore the park. Lots of fun was had by all and the students did a great job representing the district.



Edgar Allen Poe-Inspired Poetry Slam

Creative writing students hosted a Tell-Tale Poetry Slam, inspired by the work of Edgar Allen Poe, on March 23.

The event included writers, teachers, and parents from Buckeye Central and Colonel Crawford High School. Writers rotated between five stations that encouraged their creativity. At the stations, students worked on double-voice poems, paint chip poems, blackout poems, and worked collaboratively to write a story and develop a murder mystery based on an object in a bag.

Decorations and snacks were also available and followed the theme of Poe's suspenseful short stories, such as dirt pudding with tombstones. What a fun way for our students to put the skills they've learned this year into practice!



After School Art Takes Off

After School Art launched this year and was a booming success! Students in grades 1-8 had the opportunity to further their art skills by completing projects they aren't able to do during regular class time.

Mrs. Niedermeier (K-8 art teacher) and Miss Kalb (high school art teacher) led three projects, including clay hearts that were fired and glazed, Easter eggs that were wet felted, and canvas designs.

Students and staff alike are looking forward to continuing the program at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year.



Elementary Students Try Out LRC

Our youngest learners are excited to have the chance to check out books at the newly opened Learning & Resource Center (LRC). The center is available for scheduled morning activities, after-school programs, daily study and reading, College Credit Plus (CCP) coursework, student and teacher projects, and more.



Artists in the Making

Buckeye Central's high school Art Club students recently visited the Mansfield Art Center, where they toured the gallery and learned a new art form — glass blowing!

Ohio artists, whose works the students have been studying throughout the year, were on display. Students enjoyed seeing the artwork in person and even took time to make sketches of their favorite pieces. Then, they visited the hot shop where they created glass-blown flowers.

Buckeye Central is thankful to be able to offer experiences such as this to its students.



Camp Wilson Leaves Lasting Impression on Sixth Graders

The annual sixth-grade trip to Camp Wilson is in the books! From the time students boarded the bus to the long, sleepy road home, memories were made that will last a lifetime.

Team building activities, pioneer life, survival skills, and canoeing brought new challenges and opportunities. One of the highlights of the trip for students was building a shelter out of the materials available. The challenge? Creating a structure that students could fit in!

Another lesson students learned was the importance of eating together and sharing about your day. All meals were served family style, so students also saw firsthand the value of not wasting food. Gaga Ball and 9 Square also provided countless hours of entertainment.



Spanish Club Hosts Fiesta

Buckeye Central's Spanish Club recently learned about a facet of the culture they haven't yet explored - food! Each student chose a Spanish-speaking country, then found a recipe they felt comfortable tackling.

On April 5, they prepared their dish and shared it with their friends during a fiesta at lunch. A few of the nearly 20 dishes they tried include empanadas (Chile), arroz con habichuela and pinchos (Puerto Rico), croquetas (Cuba), la tortilla espanola and albondigas con tomate (Spain), and tacos (Mexico). Some students tried making desserts such as flan (Mexico), bunelos (Ecuador), cocada (Panama), pan de coco (Honduras), pan de banano (Guatemala), Tres leches (Costa Rica), and horchata (El Salvador) as well.

Well done, Spanish Club, for stepping out of your comfort zone!



Famous Ohioan Extravaganza

Fourth grade students in Mrs. Christian and Mrs. Schafer's writing class recently teamed up to learn more about famous Ohioans. They researched someone to create a biographical report and Google slide presentation which they presented to other elementary classes and their families.

Then, in STEAM with Mrs. Caudill, students created a monument of their person. They even used Hummingbird kits to code lighting and movement to make their monument more realistic. It was a great learning project that challenged their problem-solving skills.



Middle School Hosts Discover U Day

To wrap up the school year, Buckeye Middle School hosted Discover U Day. This is a fun way for teachers and community members to teach lessons on things they are passionate about, and for students to learn a new skill or dive deeper into something they too are passionate about.

This year's topics included health and wellness, yo-yos, henna, police and fire careers, origami, and information on the local park district.

A highlight of the day was Mrs. Williamson and Mrs. McCarthy's Therapy Dog University where they discussed how to train dogs in obedience and the secret to making healthy treats for our four-legged friends. Students enjoyed visits with several therapy dogs, including Goldendoodles Chompers, Miss Teal and Honey, and baby Golden Retriever, Markley. Everyone left with wagging tails and smiles.



Ag Students Earn Credentials

Buckeye Central's agricultural program students have been working on a variety of industry-recognized credentials this school year. These credentials better prepare students for future work. Congratulations to the following students:

Agribusiness & Production Systems Certification

Logan Hanes (senior)
Kenny Utz (senior)
Kennedy Deppen (senior)

Elanco Fundamentals of Animal Science Certification

Brynn Spencer (junior)
Maddy Martin (sophomore)
Bailey Niese (sophomore)
Cailey Schnieder (sophomore)
Brooke Wolfenbarger (sophomore)
Violet Auck (freshman)
Cade Daniel (freshman)
Clayton Fredritz (freshman)
Paityn Hafner (freshman)
Sarah Martin (freshman)
Alex Moyer (freshman)
Dakota Schick (freshman)
Aleyse Siefert (freshman)

Center for Financial Responsibility Personal Financial Literacy Certification

Sydney Beamer (senior)

Express Employment Professionals Career Preparedness Certification

Sydney Beamer (senior)
Kennedy Deppen (senior)

HBAA Residential Construction Skills Certification

Logan Hanes (senior)
Kenny Utz (senior)

EETC Small Engine Tech Certification

James Forman (freshman)
Mason Clay (sophomore)
Matthew Heefner (sophomore)
Lincoln Milligan (sophomore)

Southwest Airlines Professional Communications Certification

Kennedy Deppen (senior)

Esports Team Goes to State

The BC Overwatch Esports team made up of Jacob Roberts (Captain), Syrus Wagner, Parker West, Conner West, Maison Clabaugh, Brenden Hager and Coach Jared VanEerten, was runner-up in the regional tournament held at Ohio Northern University this spring. They advanced to the state tournament at Akron University on May 20-21.



Staff Member Receives Outstanding Educator Award

Congratulations to Lisa Biglin for being selected for the 2022-2023 Educator Award from the Region 7 State Support Team. She was recognized for her accomplishments in the "students with disabilities" category.

Nominees were chosen based on their students' outstanding characteristics and performance in academic subjects, arts, extracurricular activities, sports, community involvement, community service, independent living skills, transition skills, employment, social skills, and perseverance.

Biglin was nominated by Christal McCoy for going above and beyond to collaborate with parents, service providers, and others to plan instruction and to create learning opportunities for her students.



Immunization (Shot) Record Reminder

All incoming preschool, seventh grade and twelfth grade students have immunization (shot) requirements for the 2023-2024 school year. If students haven't already received their latest immunizations, now is the time!

Updated shot records must be received by the school nurse by the first day of the 2023-2024 school year. Not sure where to go? The Crawford County Health Department regularly hosts free clinics. Visit the Buckeye Central website at buckeye-central.org to learn more or call 419-562-5871 with questions.

Buckeye Central Learns About Heart Health Through Physical Education Challenge



What's the best part about physical education classes? Learning how to stay active and care for our bodies throughout our lives. This spring, students in grades K-6 took on a special contest — jumping rope for the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge. They worked toward grade-level goals, learned specialty jumps, and competed to see who could jump the longest, all while collecting donations for the nonprofit, which is composed of

more than 35 million volunteers and supporters dedicated to improving heart health.

Throughout the challenge, students earned prizes from the American Heart Association as a thank you for their work. Buckeye Central created their own contests and incentives as part of the larger challenge. For example, the student who raised the most money won a new pair of tennis shoes, and the class that averaged the most per-student donation won an ice cream party.

Additionally, fifth and sixth graders held a change war. For three days, they collected coins in a bucket. The winning class received a choice of an ice cream or pizza party. Altogether, Buckeye Central raised \$4,681 this year!

Congratulations to this year's winners:

Top collector: Brook Schindler, \$429

Ice cream party: First grade, \$1,606 and a class average of \$54

Top fifth grade change war: Mrs. Steiger's class, \$443

Top sixth grade change war: Mrs. Kantzer's class, \$113

Art Students Finish the Year Strong



The Music Department wrapped up the year in typical fashion with a series of spring concerts. On April 30, the middle school - consisting of fifth through eighth grade bands and seventh and eighth-grade choir - performed their final concert of the year. Then, on May 7, the high school jazz band,

and show and concert choirs played and sang to a packed house with help from alumni and community members to create a more well-balanced ensemble.

Mrs. Niese, in partnership with the Music Boosters, hosted the annual Music Awards Assembly on May 16. More than 250 students, parents and family members were in attendance to see their child receive certificates, plaques, trophies, letters and other gifts celebrating their musical accomplishments this year.

The Wind Ensemble and Concert Choir ended the year with a performance at graduation on May 21, and the Marching Band helped recognize and honor our veterans in two Memorial Day parades.

Congratulations and best wishes to the four seniors who bid farewell to the Buckeye Central music program: Jayleen Spaulding, Elyse Pope, Sydney Beamer, and Donovan Reinhart.

Students Find Success in Land Judging Competition



Many of you may be wondering, what is a Land Judging competition? The program, sponsored by Future Farmers of America (FFA), develops a student's skills in determining soil characteristics and land capabilities for producing crops.

Buckeye Central's team traveled to Oklahoma May 1-5 to participate in the National Land Judging contest. They qualified by placing first in the county, first out of 21 schools at districts, and first out of 49 schools at the state contest. They joined 93 teams from 38 states at the national competition, where they placed 50th.

Congratulations to the team! Pictured from left to right are Logan Hanes, senior and two-time National Land Judging contest qualifier; Violet Auck, freshman; Maddy Martin, freshman; and Matthew Heefner, sophomore and two-time National Land Judging contest qualifier.

Buckeye Central Local Schools

2023-2024 School Calendar - (Final)

21 - Opening Convocation (Staff); Professional Learning, Collaboration 21 - Open House 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. 23 - 1st Day of School	August							September							4 - Labor Day (No School) 22- Teacher In-Service (No School - Students)
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
			1	2	3	4	5						1	2	
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
	27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
						7	8						19	20	

19 - End of 1st Quarter 20 - Staff Prof. Day/Records Day (No School - Students) 1st Qtr. (40 Student Days)	October							November							15 - Late Start Day 22 - P/T Conference Waiver Day (No School) 23, 24 Thanksgiving Break	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30				
						21	22						19	20		
21 - End of 2nd Qtr/1st Sem Early Release 1:20 p.m. Dec 22 - Jan 2 Winter Break (No School) 2nd Qtr (41 Student Days)	December							January							3 - Students Return 8 - Late Start Day 15 - MLK Day (No School)	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
					1	2			1	2	3	4	5	6		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27		
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31					
	31					15	15						20	20		
2 - Teacher Inservice (No School - Students) 19 - Presidents Day (No School) 20 - Late Start Day	February							March							14 - End of 3rd Quarter 15 - Staff Prof Dev/Records Day (No School - Students) 29 - Good Friday 31 - Easter 3rd Quarter -49 Student Days	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
					1	2	3					1	2			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
	25	26	27	28	29			24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
						19	20	31					19	20		
1 - P/T Conference Waiver Day (No School) 8 - No School (Eclipse) 29 - Late Start Day	April							May							16 - Seniors Last Day 19 - Graduation 23 - Students (K-11) Last Day Early Release 1:20 p.m. 24 - Teacher Workday 27 - Memorial Day 4th Quarter - 46 Student Days	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31			
						20	21						17	18		
													176	184		
Days - Students	June							July								
40	Qtr.	1	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
41	Qtr.	2							1		1	2	3	4	5	6
49	Qtr.	3	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
46	Qtr.	4	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
			23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
			30													
176 TOTAL																

Parent/Teacher Conference Dates; 2 Evenings - Sem. 1 & Sem. 2 determined by school...Elem. PK-4; MS 5-8; HS 9-12

All calendar dates are subject to change by the Board of Education

Board approved at March 16, 2023 regular meeting



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Seventh grade students took a much-deserved break after state testing wrapped up this spring.

They got some exercise while exploring in the Outdoor Learning Lab (OLL) and district-owned woods, including checking out a fallen American Birch Tree for which the Beech Trail in the OLL was named, and took an inside look at a tree that lived for nearly a century.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2023

