

FALL 2023



Northridge Local School District Newsletter

A Season of Gratitude & Connection

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

As we approach a season of reflection and gratitude, I want to take a moment to express my sincere appreciation for our incredible Northridge family. I am genuinely grateful for the dedication and resilience shown by our students. Their enthusiasm for learning and ability to adapt to the ever-changing educational scene is truly commendable. Their hard work and determination have not gone unnoticed, and leading a district with such exceptional young minds makes me incredibly proud.



Superintendent
Dr. Kristine Michael

I'm also deeply thankful for the steadfast support we receive from our families and the broader community. Your active involvement in your children's education, whether it's assisting with homework, volunteering, or attending school events, is beyond valuable. The partnership you maintain with our teachers and staff significantly contributes to the success of our students. The collaborative spirit within the Northridge community creates a special environment for our children to learn and flourish. I eagerly anticipate continuing this journey with all of you and appreciate the strong bond that unites us in the Northridge family.

On another note, I want to extend a special mention of our recent Veteran's Day assembly. It was a heartfelt and meaningful event where we honored and expressed gratitude to the brave men and women who have served our country. The assembly provided an excellent opportunity for our students to learn about the importance of this day and express their appreciation for the sacrifices made by our veterans. Events like these highlight the values we hold dear in our Northridge community.

Wishing you a season filled with gratitude, meaningful connections, and the warmth of community.

Warm regards,
Dr. Kristine Michael

Thank You

We would like to give a HUGE shoutout to A'MAYS'ing Meats for donating anatomical parts to Miss Pfaff's Anatomy and Physiology classroom! Her students are able to see real hearts, view the different types of tissue that exist in organs, and even blow up a pair of real lungs. This donation helps better the education at Northridge. We couldn't do it without your support!





First Grade Enjoys Time with Reading Companion



Guess who wagged their way into our hearts for the second year in a row? It's none other than our favorite four-legged literary sensation - Hope the Reading Dog!



First grade students had the opportunity to practice their reading skills while Hope snuggled and listened to each story.



Hope's pawsome owner, Janine Shipley, read the class a heartwarming story about how Hope came to join her family on their farm.

Thank you, Mrs. Shipley and Hope for encouraging our first grade readers! ☺

Viking Stadium Groundbreaking

Past, present and future Vikings gathered for the groundbreaking ceremony of the new Vikings Stadium on August 15th. Led by the Northridge Marching Band and cheerleaders, the atmosphere was electric! District administrators, coaches, donors, boosters and student athletes all participated in the shovel ceremony and shared in the excitement to mark the start of this project. It was a wonderful opportunity to recognize all who have helped make the stadium *Dream Come Alive!*



NORTHBRIDGE VIKINGS STADIUM WORK BEGINS



In September heavy equipment moved into place for the first stage of the stadium construction project. By October, the fence around the track was removed and the process of removing and relocating dirt was under way. The base is now being prepped and according to officials, the project is on schedule for an anticipated completion in summer 2024.

Work continues on the Booster stadium campaign to reach the \$2 million goal. If you pledged to the campaign, but have not yet paid, please do so as soon as possible. Payments can be made by check to the Licking County Foundation - Northridge Athletic Boosters Facilities Fund, PO Box 4212, Newark Ohio 43058 or contact Brian Elder, 740.739.7020. ☺

THERE IS STILL TIME TO DONATE!

Don't miss this great opportunity to have your name or the name of your family included with the Donor Recognition at the stadium to commemorate your involvement in this incredible project for the students of Northridge.



Gretel Lloyd Awarded for Excellence in Education

The Excellence in Education Award was created by the Licking County Foundation in 1993 to promote excellence in public education and honor exemplary teachers in our county. Each year, 13 outstanding Licking County teachers are selected. Our very own teacher, Gretel Lloyd, was awarded the Excellence in Education Award for her dedication to Northridge Schools!

Mrs. Lloyd has been a dedicated member of the Northridge community having grown up in, graduated from, had her children graduate from, and taught at Northridge School District for over 20 years.

Mrs. Lloyd has made a HUGE impact on our schools including being instrumental in implementing data-driven initiatives that have resulted in significant improvements in achievement across grade levels as well as playing a pivotal role in creating a comprehensive and coherent math program that addresses the diverse needs of our students.

Congratulations, Mrs. Lloyd! We appreciate all that you do for the students of Northridge! ☺



Photo: Superintendent Kristine Michael, Gretel Lloyd and Principal Sean Smith



Viking Community Newsletter

Community Involvement at Annual Trunk or Treat

The annual Elementary Trunk or Treat on October 26th was loads of fun for everyone! The Northridge staff, bus drivers, PTO, Athletic Boosters, Vikings cheerleaders, sheriff's office, and many community organizations went above and beyond with costumes and decorated trunks! Even school board members (photo right) Kate Creager (red riding hood), Geoff Wiggins (the big bad wolf) and Jayma Bammerlin (grandmother) along with Superintendent Dr. Michael (woodsman) and their families participated in the theme of families and fairytales! Every child recieved a book to take home along with sweet treats. Thank you to all who participated in the event. The community involvement means so much to the district and the students! ☺



Media Center Makeover



Library Innovation Teacher, Kim Garee, gave the 6-12 library media center an extreme makeover this summer. "The Port," which is used by both middle and high school students, is filled with books, magazines, puzzles, technology, brain teasers, games, and more. It even has special spaces dedicated to specific genres. Mrs. Garee shared the updated media center with students by sending them on a FUN scavenger hunt using books and technology. We are excited for our media center's new look not only to inspire reading, but to host Mrs. Garee's partnerships with middle and high school teachers on research and information literacy lessons! ☺



Vikings Thank Veterans!

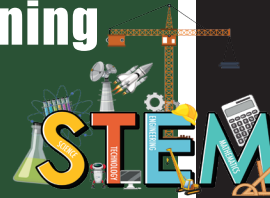


On Thursday, October 9th, the middle and high school collaborated and shared in recognizing and honoring our local Veterans. Students, staff, and the community had the privilege of sharing in the celebration of our annual Veteran's Day Program with music from our high school band and choir, and words shared and spoken by Veterans on our staff. Middle School Scouts led the Posting of the Colors, and 7th Grade student, William Clever led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. The National Honor Society volunteered time to greet each Veteran as they entered the program and served Veterans with refreshments from the support of Kroger, Mrs. Seder, and Mrs. Willeke. High School Entrepreneurship students made decorations and a special hand crafted ornament was given to every Veteran in attendance.



Thank you to all Veterans for your unwavering dedication and sacrifice in providing us with the freedoms we enjoy. ☺

Ohio STEM Learning Grant Awarded From Battelle



We are excited to announce that Middle School Technology teacher, Laura Roberts, received an Ohio STEM Learning Network Classroom Grant, funded by Battelle!

"Every student should have access to the kind of quality STEM education that drives opportunity for families and leads to new jobs in their local communities" said Kelly Gaier Evans, Director of the Ohio STEM Learning Network. "This program connects champions of STEM in local communities to a broad and deep network of STEM schools, STEM resources, and peer-educators."

With this grant, students at Northridge will get hands-on learning with Circuit Playgrounds, Neo-Pixels, and a Laser Engraver as they explore STEM Innovation through Computer Science and Maker Education. ☺



*Thank You,
Laura Roberts!*

Mark Your Calendar

Band Holiday Concert

December 5

High School Auditoria
6:00pm

Choir Holiday Concert

December 6

High School Auditoria
6:00pm

2nd/3rd Grade Music Program

December 7

Elementary School
6:00pm

PTO Secret Santa Shop

December 11-15

Elementary School
All Day

School Board Meeting

December 18

District Office
6:30pm

Winter Break

December 18-January 2

No School- Have a safe & happy holiday!



NORTHEDGE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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JOHNSTOWN, OH 43031

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COLUMBUS, OHIO
Permit No. 1213

Northridge LOVES our Substitute Teachers...
and we need more to add to our family!
We've recently increased our daily rate to
\$125/day!

Questions? → Please contact Amy Warren,
Director of Curriculum, at 740-967-6631 or
Awarren@northridgevikings.org



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10th Annual Clean Audit Award

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

I'm delighted to share the fantastic news that our school district has been honored with the 10th Annual Clean Audit Award, recognizing our commitment to sound financial practices and transparency. This achievement underscores our dedication to responsible fiscal management, ensuring that resources are utilized efficiently for the benefit of our students and community.

As we navigate the fall season, I also want to highlight the ongoing work on our 5-year forecast. This critical assessment helps us plan strategically for the future, considering various factors that impact our district's financial outlook. Your continued support is invaluable, and should you have any questions or seek more information about our financial processes, please feel free to reach out. Thank you for being an integral part of the Northridge family!



Congratulations to Mr. Lewis and his team for earning a Clean Audit Award for the 10th year in a row!

Warm regards,
Britt Lewis, CFO