

COMMUNITY *Update* From Superintendent Mike Molnar

Comet Nation,

In this week's update, I'm excited to give you a glance into the great work our Instructional Coaches do daily in our district. As you will see in their updates below, our coaches support our staff and work hard to provide new and exciting opportunities for our Comets in the classroom. Their work not only supports our teachers and Comets but can be a resource and support to you as a parent or guardian. Learn more about our Technology Innovation Specialists and Literacy Coaches below, and stay tuned for an update from our Math Instructional Coach, Maureen Wolfe, in next week's update.

TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION SPECIALISTS UPDATE

Our Technology Innovation Specialists, Beth Schwartz and Amanda Sears, have been busy around our district taking students on virtual field trips, collaborating with teachers for personalized lessons, and teaching AI introductions to elementary students. As if that were not enough, they also have been helping students record podcasts, leading Computer Science Clubs for grades 3-8, and are often spotted helping out in the NEW Makerspace at Steele. They will even have the opportunity to present at The Ohio Educational Technology Conference, February 13th through the 15th, on tech integration and supporting the needs of teachers. What a great honor!

Our staff has also greatly benefited from their Tech Professional Development meetings periodically throughout the school year. We are so blessed to have Beth and Amanda in our district!



LITERACY COACH UPDATE



Our Literacy Coaches, Breanna Carden and Natalie Hostutler, have also been busy throughout the district supporting teachers, students, and their families with the best ways to implement literacy in the classroom and at home. Whether collaborating with teachers on personalized lessons, screening and benchmarking students through Acadience and MAP testing, or supporting the implementation of the CKLA in grades K-5 and a curriculum adoption review for grades 6-12, these coaches stay very busy!

They provide professional development on reading interventions, best instructional practices, and vocabulary for our staff and have been pivotal in the development of the Amherst Literacy Committee, which works with teachers to implement the Science of Reading districtwide. Again, we are totally blessed to have these two fantastic ladies in our district!

THE COMET JOURNALISM CLUB

One of the other projects Mrs. Sears, Mrs. Schwartz, and Mrs. Hostutler have co-piloted is our new Comet Journalism Club at Steele, which was started this fall and is open to all Steele Students grades 9-12, meeting monthly in the Steele Creative Learning Center. The club puts together The Comet Connection, an interactive publication that is produced quarterly and includes a culmination of podcasting, graphic design, and photography. It will be displayed within Steele and sent to all student emails. Scan the QR code to read the first edition of The Comet Connection today.



ECOLEAUGE COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE FOR SECOND HARVEST

Did you know that nearly 30% of Lorain County is facing food insecurity? We can make a difference in seeing that percentage decrease by participating in the Steele EcoLeague Clubs annual Food Drive during the entire month of February! See a list of suggested donations below. Food & hygiene items may be dropped off at one of the 40 local businesses participating. Scan the QR code for more information.

- CANNED BEANS, TUNA, VEGETABLES & FRUIT
- DRIED HERBS AND SPICES
- CEREALS
- PEANUT BUTTER
- OLIVE OIL
- TEA & COFFEE
- TRAIL MIX
- PASTAS & GRAINS
- BABY FORMULA
- TOOTHPASTE
- DEODORANT
- SANITARY NAPKINS
- DIAPERS
- COMBS & BRUSHES
- HAND SANITIZERS
- SOAPS



1,000TH CAREER POINT EARNED BY TWO OF OUR VERY OWN LADY COMETS

I want to end my update by congratulating basketball players Kristen Kelley and Kayla Ferancy on scoring their 1,000th Career Points! It was awesome to be able to witness both of them reach this great accomplishment that takes a lot of hard work and determination. The Amherst Athletic Department is so proud of these young ladies! We are thankful for their leadership in the Girls Basketball program and they are thankful for their amazing and supportive teammates. Join me in celebrating them today!

