

ROSS *Reflections*

Ross Local School District
www.rossrams.com

Winter
2024
Edition

A MESSAGE *from the* *Superintendent* CHAD KONKLE

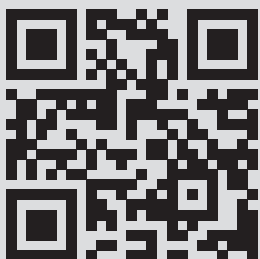


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HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

Ross Local School District is seeking qualified candidates in a few positions. If you are passionate about working with children and would like to be a part of a collaborative and professional community, please see all openings on our website by scanning the QR code below or visiting <https://bit.ly/RLSDjobs>.



Greetings and Happy New Year! On behalf of the students and staff of Ross Local Schools, we sincerely hope you had a wonderful holiday season.

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of our District's top accomplishments during this past year.

The 2022-2023 Ohio State Test results were released in the Fall, and I'm thrilled to report the Ross Local School District earned a 5-star rating. Furthermore, we were the only school district in Butler County to receive the 5-star rating!

We also excelled in the Performance Index category, a calculation that measures student performance on the Ohio State tests. Ross High School finished FIRST among Butler County high schools (grades 9-12) and Ross Middle School finished FIRST among Butler County middle schools (grades 6-8). Morgan Elementary finished FIRST and Elda Elementary finished SECOND among elementary schools (K-3). Ross Intermediate School finished FIRST of any school building in Butler County with two tested grade levels. Furthermore, Morgan, Elda, and RIS are the only three buildings classified as elementary and including any grades K-5 that achieved 5-star ratings in achievement.

These are remarkable rankings! We are thriving academically which speaks volumes about our staff, students, and families who work so hard to continue to maintain our standard of education. Our goal is to continue to challenge and grow each student every day.

We appreciate that this community is passionate about their schools. Thank you for all you do to help our students!

Superintendent, Dr. Chad Konkle



FIVE STARS!



Ohio School Report Cards

The only 5-star rated school district in Butler County.

DISTRICT NEWS

Stay up to date as events and stories are happening in the Ross Local School District by visiting our website, under the "About Us" tab, and and selecting 'District News' at www.rossrams.com.

Be sure to find us on social media as well: Facebook: Ross Local School District, Instagram: RossLocalSchoolDistrict, X/Twitter: @Ross_Local

The Ross Local School District recently submitted the first of two required filings of the 5-year forecast to the Ohio Department of Education. The 5-year forecast is required by law to be submitted each year in November & May. The November version was approved by the Board of Education at the November 16, 2023, regular meeting. The forecast is a long-range financial planning tool that analyzes three previous years of actual financial data along with 5 years of projections including the current fiscal year (FY24). The forecast takes into consideration numerous assumptions including future revenue projections from our primary sources of funding including property tax revenue, income tax revenue, and state foundation aid. The forecast also utilizes assumptions on expenditures including salary and benefit increases, building and facility costs along with other purchased services.

From a revenue standpoint, we've mentioned previously that we are projected to receive an increase in state funding from the recently passed biennium budget and are also projecting an increase in property tax revenue from the real estate reappraisal for 2023. On the expense side, the forecast includes the projected savings from the change in health insurance plans as well as the salary increases from the recently approved Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Ross Education Association.

The full 5-year forecast is available on the Ohio Department of Education website at www.education.ohio.gov under "Topics" then "Finance & Funding". You can also view the presentation associated with the forecast on the Ross Rams website at <https://www.rossrams.com/financial-update-home>.

Treasurer, Mr. Steve Castator

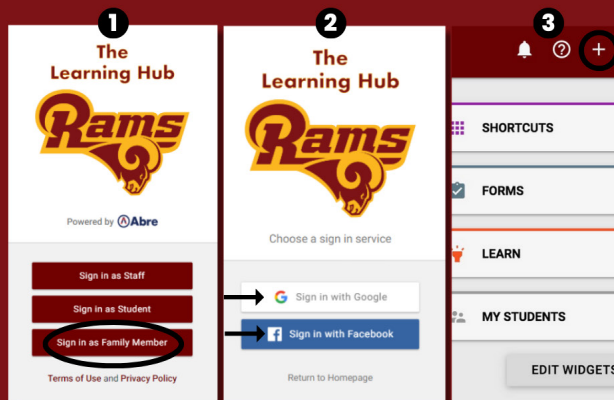
		Actual			Forecasted				
		Fiscal Year 2021	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Fiscal Year 2024	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2026	Fiscal Year 2027	Fiscal Year 2028
2.080	Total Revenues	27,394,394	29,429,823	29,034,177	29,933,293	31,432,205	31,596,567	31,774,774	31,958,931
5.050	Total Expenditures	28,555,878	27,993,627	29,028,560	29,606,907	30,648,388	31,551,393	32,970,305	34,465,205
6.010	Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources over (under) Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	(1,161,484)	1,436,196	5,617	326,386	783,817	45,175	(1,195,531)	(2,506,275)
7.010	Cash Balance July 1 - Excluding Proposed Renewal/Replacement and New Levies	4,581,313	3,419,829	4,856,025	4,861,642	5,188,028	5,971,845	6,017,020	4,821,488
7.020	Cash Balance June 30	3,419,829	4,856,025	4,861,642	5,188,028	5,971,845	6,017,020	4,821,488	2,315,214
	Encumbrances	558,792	833,722	481,454	550,000	550,000	550,000	550,000	550,000
11.300	Cumulative Balance of Replacement/Renewal Levies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15.010	Unreserved Fund Balance June 30	2,861,037	4,022,303	4,380,188	4,638,028	5,421,845	5,467,020	4,271,488	1,765,214



ABRE SIGN UP INSTRUCTIONS

SIGN UP TODAY!

- 1 Go to rossrams.abre.io
- 2 Sign in with Google or Facebook
- 3 Connect your child's information using the 10-digit code
- 4 View your child's grades, schedule, assessments, and more!



IMPORTANT INFO FOR PARENTS

We've recently partnered with Abre which is a tool that allows the District to streamline student data across all schools. A new feature we're adding is Abre360 which offers families one-stop access to their student's basic profile, historical assessment data, any plans (IEP, 504, WEP), and ProgressBook data. Your child came home with a unique access code shortly after break. Please use that code and the info in this photo to gain access. If you have any questions, please email Stacy Partin at stacy.partin@rossrams.com.

CURRICULUM



The Ross Local School District has much to be proud of from the first semester of this school year. First and foremost, the Rams led the way once again on the 2022-2023 State Report Card as the only district in Butler County to earn five stars, a testament to the students, families, and staff of RLSD. While we're certainly proud of that, our staff has been hard at work since, using the data from last year's report card to make appropriate instructional changes in their classrooms now.

School Overall Rating	Achievement Performance Index	Gap Closing	Progress	Early Literacy	Graduation Rate
Elda Elementary ★★★★★	★★★★★ 102.75	★★★★★	Not Rated	★★★★☆	Not Rated
Morgan Elementary ★★★★★	★★★★★ 106.80	★★★★★	Not Rated	★★★★★	Not Rated
Ross Intermediate ★★★★★	★★★★★ 101.61	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	Not Rated	Not Rated
Ross Middle School ★★★★★	★★★★★ 91.97	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	Not Rated	Not Rated
Ross High School ★★★★★	★★★★★ 92.99	★★★★★	★★★★☆	Not Rated	★★★★★

At the September and October professional learning days, staff analyzed data to make instructional decisions. At the November professional learning day, staff reviewed Value-Added data that shows how much students in their classes grew through the 2022-2023 school year. This data analysis is integral in the growth of our teachers and students. To learn more about the data received from state testing, please visit <https://bit.ly/Ohiotesting> (case sensitive).

On each professional learning day, our K-3 teachers have been immersed in learning around the most current reading research and the instructional strategies that will benefit the growth of our students the most. They view student data and calibrate on how to meet each student's specific needs. Every day they commit to helping students build a strong literacy foundation that will be a benefit in all content areas for years to come. Our elementary staff is the best around!

ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OHIO REPORT CARD HIGHLIGHTS

#3 ELDA ELEMENTARY Nearly 10 point improvement in Performance Index from '21-22. 5.5 point increase in Early Literacy component from '21-22.	#1 MORGAN ELEMENTARY Nearly 5 point improvement in Performance Index from '21-22. 10.1 point increase in Early Literacy component from '21-22.	#5 ROSS INTERMEDIATE Nearly 1.5 point improvement in Performance Index from '21-22. 62.4% of students earned accomplished or advanced scores across all tests.	#4 ROSS MIDDLE SCHOOL In 5 of 7 tested areas, evidence shows that students met or exceeded growth expectations over the course of school year.	#1 ROSS HIGH SCHOOL In 6 of 6 tested areas, evidence shows that students met or exceeded growth expectations over the course of the school year. RHS increased the 5-year graduation rate to 97.9%.
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Rankings are based on grand-bands as compared to schools in Butler County.

Our school counselors and the curriculum department continue to invest in student and staff wellness as well. In October, we hosted our first Ross Local School District Family Wellness Night, during which over a dozen organizations came together to offer resources and information for our families regarding all domains of wellness. We look forward to hosting a similar event this spring, so stay tuned for more information to come. RLSD also continues to improve partnerships with local and regional organizations to provide our families and staff with appropriate wellness resources. You can check out more in the Fall edition of our Rams C.A.R.E. newsletter: <https://www.smores.com/u4jvr>

Around the District

ROSS HIGH SCHOOL

Competing on a national stage is nothing new for our students at Ross High School!

Ross High School/Butler Tech FCCLA traveled to Birmingham, Alabama November 10-12, 2023 to attend the National Fall Leadership Conference and compete in the FCCLA LifeSmarts Knowledge Bowl competition. More than 80 teams started the competition and we are proud to announce that Ross/Butler Tech placed top 16 in the nation! This has earned them the right to compete at the FCCLA National Leadership Conference in Seattle, Washington this summer.

Ramblings Team 3201 will be hitting the road as well. After hosting the FLL Ramblings Tournament in November, they are now setting their sights on their first tournament of the year in late February in Pittsburgh. They'll return home to compete at Xavier University in early April with the ultimate goal of reaching the World Championship in Houston later this spring.

Good luck to all of our Rams competing across the country!

RHS Principal - Mr. Martin



ROSS MIDDLE SCHOOL

Welcome to 2024! We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday break and is excited for the second semester of school! Our RMS R.A.M.S. have had a great fall!

The first semester was filled with highlights and fantastic achievements and we would love to share a few! In October, Ross Middle School inducted 53 new members into their National Junior Honor Society bringing total membership to well over 70 seventh and eighth graders! Membership into this organization requires that students show characteristics in Scholarship with a minimum grade point average of 3.3, Leadership in areas inside or outside of school, Character, and Service in their community.

Each month, RMS honored numerous students as Regal Rams. Students who received this award are nominated by staff members for displaying outstanding character on a daily basis. In addition, our quarterly P.I.E. Awards once again highlighted some fantastic achievements. P.I.E. (Progress In Education) students are ones nominated by staff and who made improvements in the areas of grades, behavior and effort. Each award recipient gets to attend a breakfast awards ceremony, receives a certificate, and gets an actual pie which they can enjoy with their family as they celebrate their success. We look forward to honoring many more students in the second semester!

Congratulations to our 7th grade volleyball team who finished 1st place in SWBL, going undefeated in league play! The RMS 8th grade football team went undefeated and finished the season 7-0 winning the Southwestern Division of the SWBL! The 6th grade football team won the Super Bowl and won back-to-back championships! 8th grade volleyball also finished in 2nd place in the SWBL and handed Bellbrook their first set loss all season. Great job everyone!



#RossRams

We also would love to give a special shout out to RMS 7th grader Ava Bush! She won the SWBL championship this year. Ava also set the RMS Cross Country school record this season, which she matched at the Ohio state meet where she earned a bronze medal. Ava finished with the fastest time among Ohio 7th graders and qualified for the National Cross-Country meet in Louisville. At the Middle School XC National Championships, Ava placed 13th overall. She ran against over 200 middle school runners from all over the nation and finished 2nd among all 6th & 7th grade runners in the USA! Ava became Ross Middle School's first Cross Country All American! Way to go Ava!

These are just a few examples of all the wonderful things going on at RMS during the first semester. Each day we get to see our Respectful Accountable Motivated Service oriented RMS R.A.M.S strive to be their best. We cannot wait to see what the rest of the 2023-24 school year has in store!

RMS Principal - Mr. Saylor



ROSS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

We have had a fantastic first semester here at RIS! Our students have gotten to experience their first RIS Rally, have a few Kona Ice days, recognize the sacrifice of our Veterans and celebrate acts of kindness here at RIS. RIS was proud to raise over \$2000 for Honor Flights to contribute to the RLSD drive to send Veterans to Washington, DC.

It's important that as our 4th and 5th grade students are transitioning from traditional elementary school and into middle school, that they have extra-curricular opportunities to explore their interests and develop their skills. We have club/activities in full swing that include the RAMS Club (kindness), RAMS on the Record (newspaper), Garden Club, BroBots, Student Council, RIS Ensemble and Chess Club! Thank you to our wonderful staff for their extra time and energy to coordinate and run these groups, giving our kids extra-curricular opportunities.

RIS continues to celebrate our students' success with weekly RAMS Cards, RAMS of the Month, and "POP" Awards. Recognizing student achievement is the primary goal at RIS and we have LOTS of kids doing great things! Be sure to follow us on social media to see those frequent opportunities for student recognition.

Thanks to the District and our wonderful PTO, we are in the process of expanding our playground! New 4-square areas, activity lines and basketball poles have already been installed. The new swings will be here soon! We're excited to give our students the opportunity to exert some energy throughout the day so they can have some fun while better able to focus when in class.

RIS Principal - Mr. Rettinger



Around the District



ELDA ELEMENTARY

The first Trimester has been an absolute blast at Elda Elementary! Our students continue to show growth in many different aspects of their learning and social-emotional development. We will continue to celebrate these moments with both our staff and students within the classroom and building-wide incentives, like our Breakfast of Champions, smart beads we give to kids in their classrooms and High Five Awards (given to students who demonstrate any of our Elda Values).

We had a number of events that I want to showcase from the first Trimester. The Veterans Day Assembly was awesome with almost 70 special guest Veterans in attendance, and we always love supporting the Honor Flight initiative! Veterans, thank you for your service! The Season of Giving was in full effect at our annual Winter Wonderland, where students had the opportunity to shop for family and friends while developing their sense of autonomy and skill for gift-giving (you're welcome parents and grandparents). Our kids love this event every year and it's a nice way to show them that giving can be much more than receiving. Breakfast with Santa was a huge hit! We appreciate the high school student volunteers that helped with the Reindeer Games in the gym and craft making with the families.

Of course we had our Christmas parties and our 12 days of Staff Live and Give! Staff participated in Live Days, where we spoiled them and on Give Days the teachers gave back to the students or each other. We hope you had the happiest of holidays and that you found time to relax with family and friends over break. We are looking forward to the second half of the school year and all of the growth that our students will make. As always, Go Rams!

Elda Elementary Principal - Mr. Hull



MORGAN ELEMENTARY

Morgan is so proud of our students and staff as Morgan Elementary School continues to be the top performing school in Butler County on the state report card. Morgan finished with the top performance index score and was the only school to receive a 5 in all rated areas of performance. Morgan also made the list of "Greater Cincinnati's best elementary schools"! November was a busy month at Morgan! Students filled over 200 bags of personal care items for Veterans at the Dayton VA and Cincinnati VA Hospitals. It was a great opportunity to serve the heroes who have served us. The local Blue Star Chapter took the bags to veterans on Giving Tuesday. We also were able to contribute and raise over \$4000 as a school district for Honor Flight, which will send seven veterans to Washington D.C. to tour the memorials.

Our PTO helped with a wonderful book fair from Literati and all the children enjoyed picking out books. It is so wonderful to see their love of reading instilled at such a young age. In December, the Student Council ran a canned food drive for the RAMM pantry to help families in the Morgan-Ross area. We also held our very first Donut Banquet with the theme of "Donut ya know how proud we are". Each teacher nominated two students from their class who stood out during the first trimester as making significant improvement, being a great leader, and/or working hard. Nominated students and their two special guests attended the Donut Banquet and enjoyed a wonderful donut buffet prepared by our cafeteria staff and were given their awards. It was another great opportunity to recognize the many positive achievements of our students and include their families in the celebration. Second trimester at Morgan is off to a great start with continued great expectations for our students.

Morgan Elementary Principal - Mr. Perry

Athletics



The 2023-2024 athletic season got off to a great start with fall athletics having another successful campaign. This is our first year in the Southwestern Buckeye League. Our division is made up of: Bellbrook, Edgewood, Franklin, Monroe, and Ross. While there are many successes worthy of celebration, special recognition should be given to the girls soccer program who won their 4th consecutive league title (3 in the SWOC, 1 in the SWBL)! After the fall season, Ross currently sits in 2nd place in the SWBL All-Sports standings behind Bellbrook.

The athletic department is grateful for its community partnerships that support our student-athletes. Special thanks to Westside Driving Academy for celebrating our student-athlete successes through the Athlete of the Week program. Additionally, the athletic department would like to thank Eli's for providing the press box food throughout the fall.

6 senior student-athletes participated in the early signing day and completed their letter of intent to continue their academic and athletic careers in college.



- **Peyten Banks- Cheerleading Mount Saint Joseph University**
- **Myah Boze- Track and Field Marshall University**
- **Maddie Davis- Girls Soccer Tiffin University**
- **Austin Farris-Baseball University of Rio Grande**
- **Jaice Neumaier-Soccer Siena Heights University**
- **Titus Ray- Wrestling Ohio Northern University**

The Ross Athletic Department was selected by the Southwest District Athletic Board to host a neutral-site division V regional semifinal football game between Purcell Marian and Valley View November 10th. This was an exciting opportunity for the department to showcase our game day operations and facilities worthy of hosting this caliber of game but also created additional revenue opportunities for the department and the athletic boosters through rental fees, concession sales, and parking fees.

Additionally, the athletic department has been selected to host the division IV boys sectional basketball tournament in late February. There will be eleven games played to determine which team will advance to the district finals! Hosting the neutral site football game and the sectional basketball tournament games are both firsts in school history.

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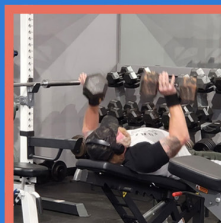
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Ross Band

Our marching band season went extremely well. We were blessed with excellent weather throughout which certainly helps a marching band perform at its best. We began contests at Tipp City and later went to Wilmington, Hamilton, The Ohio State University, Turpin, and ended up at State Finals in Piqua on Nov. 5. The band increased scores at each of these contests, earning First Place Band, Best Color Guard, and Best Percussion at many of them. In fact, our Percussion section earned Best Percussion at every single contest this year. We have never accomplished this before. The band earned a Superior rating at our second contest which enabled us to advance again to the State Finals.

This year marks the 38th consecutive appearance at State Finals for Ross. And we earned the top rating of Superior at finals. Overall, it was an outstanding marching season filled with a lot of learning, teamwork and fun times. I would like to thank our Ross Band Boosters who support us in all that we do. These folks provide needed funds, chaperoning duties, move instruments, drive trucks, and load trailers. We could not do what we do without this integral part of The Ross Band. Also, the staff for our band were a "dream team" of instructors. Mr. Morelock, Ms. Giuliano, Mr. Smith, Ms. Allen, Ms. Nace, Mr. VanVerth, and Ms. Cole all made the students their absolute best by bringing loads of positivity and creativity to a wonderful group of band students. Thank you to our Ross community for their unwavering support of our musical arts program.



Navigating your financial future, together

Walter Wilson (JR) CFP®, ChFC®
Financial Advisor

Contact Us

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513-253-0780



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& REED**
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SPECIAL SERVICES

Ross Local School District recently celebrated National Special Education Day on December 2, 2023, which is a day to commemorate the passage of federal legislation with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that protects the free and quality public education of ALL students. The law was first passed in 1975 and has since undergone many changes to ensure the protection of the education of children with disabilities and exceptionalities.

Ross Local School District is proud to provide special education services to 564 students (almost 20% of the student population), and proud to employ 80 staff members who provide special education services to our students on a daily basis.

One of those staff members, Rose Kappesser, Intervention Specialist and Transition Coordinator at Ross High School expresses her passion for special education and the power of inclusion because of IDEA by sharing, "As an educator, I get to see the transformative power of inclusion firsthand. Through inclusion, we are cultivating a rich learning environment and fostering a community where each student's unique potential is not only recognized but championed. It also helps students, regardless of background or ability, to feel valued and empowered.

We are so proud to serve the students of the Ross community. Meeting the unique educational needs of our students is our passion. We are so thankful we get to show up for them every day.

- Becky Morgan, RLSD Director of Special Services




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Student-to-student interactions within the inclusion setting create a foundation for lifelong success for all students by equipping them with the empathy and skills needed to thrive in our world. It is truly an honor to work with amazing students and staff who have built that sense of community and environment for all our students."

RLSD Director of Special Services, Becky Morgan, shares, "There aren't many words I could say to adequately express the appreciation I have for the hard work and dedication that our special education personnel put into the work they do for our students. We have an amazing team of teachers and staff who dedicate so much of their time and efforts into supporting and nurturing our students with unique needs. Through the efforts of our staff, our students come to school feeling valued, loved, understood, and empowered. Just as I couldn't say enough about my appreciation for staff, I can't say enough about our students. We are so proud to serve the students of the Ross community. Meeting the unique educational needs of our students is our passion. We are so thankful we get to show up for them every day."

To learn more about RLSD Special Services, please visit the Special Services page on our website under Departments.

Student Spotlight

MRS. KAPPESSER'S TRANSITION TO LIFE CLASS

In the world of education, hands-on experiences are invaluable. For students in my Transition to Life class, a field trip in the fall to Headlines, a local printing and design company, offered a unique opportunity to see their creativity come to life through designing Ross spirit wear. This excursion was not only an educational adventure but also an opportunity for our students to gain valuable skills and insights into the world of custom apparel production all thanks to Headlines, a booming local business that specializes in creating custom apparel for schools, sports teams, businesses, and various organizations.

The students began their graphic design journey at Headlines, where they learned how their initial sketches evolved into digital designs, emphasizing the importance of color, font, and layout. Moving on to the production phase, they were introduced to printing techniques like screen printing and sublimation. The pressing area revealed the meticulous process of transferring digital designs onto garments, ensuring durability and aesthetic appeal. This journey, from design conceptualization to the creation of spirit wear, proved both informative and fascinating.

But what set this field trip apart was the opportunity for our students to create their own shirts. With the assistance of Headline's experienced staff, the students were given the chance to personally hand make shirts they had chosen from a list of Headlines logos. This experience allowed them to see every aspect of shirt creation up close, from printing the design, laying the design, to precisely applying the heat for pressing. The excitement and satisfaction on their faces were unmistakable as they watched their shirts come to life in their own hands. The smiles were contagious as each student lifted the heat press and saw their chosen logo pressed onto the shirt they chose earlier.



One of the most important takeaways from the trip was the development of various skills. The students not only acquired technical skills related to graphic design, printing, and pressing but also developed teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills. The collaborative nature of creating spirit wear designs fostered a sense of unity among the students, and they learned how to work together to bring their

ideas to life. They were also exposed to the importance of attention to detail, as even the smallest mistake in a design or print could affect the final product. In addition, they learned skills in entrepreneurship and marketing. Selling and creating the merchandise isn't the only benefit. Students are gaining financial literacy and mastering customer service. By using their creativity, critical thinking and project management skills, the students are becoming more prepared for life after high school.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Headlines for opening their doors to my class. The knowledge and skills our students acquired during this field trip are priceless. The experience not only expanded their horizons but also helped them gain confidence in their creative abilities and ignited their interest in potential career paths in the industry. Headlines staff helped create an experience for my students that they will never forget. They were gracious enough to supply the shirts the students made and kept, the embroidered Ross Rams hats the students took as a parting gift, and a wonderful lunch. More importantly, Headlines helped my students develop important skills that are vital to their future success as adults. I am confident that the knowledge they acquired during this trip will serve as a solid foundation for their future endeavors. Once again, a heartfelt thank you to Headlines for their hospitality and support in empowering our students to dream, create, and succeed.

RHS STUDENT, KAILYN MAY, TEACHES "EVERYBODY COUNTS" TO ELDA ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Ross High School Student, Kailyn May, visited Elda Elementary students last week to conduct her "Everybody Counts" lesson as a part of her membership in HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America).

Kailyn walked students through various activities that included learning their name in American Sign Language, simulating hearing impairment with ear plugs, and many more hands-on activities, all with the help of her family.

Kailyn shares, "I planned this activity to help students learn about kids with disabilities. Doing this early helps them later in life with communication skills with others who aren't exactly like them because no one is. This also leads into adulthood where they still have these skills and can use them with their peers and coworkers. One of my goals was to help kids understand that everyone is different and that is okay. Another goal was for the students to be more comfortable with their peers and work with them better in understanding them."



Introducing the Ross Community Foundation

Your one stop shop for local philanthropy



GIVE. GROW. GRANT.

In 2022 Ross residents Martha and Dana Mehl approached the Hamilton Community Foundation about creating a new foundation to serve the people of Ross. What started as a fact-finding mission turned into the reality of a new organization fairly quickly.

The newly created Ross Community Foundation became an affiliate of the Hamilton Community Foundation, meaning RCF would reap the benefits of collective investments, administrative functions, expertise in the field and the impeccable reputation of the Hamilton Community Foundation.

In less than a year, thanks to the incredible generosity of the community, the RCF volunteer board raised more than \$500,000, giving the Foundation a generous start AND the ability to make grants to local organizations serving the Ross communities.

But that was just a start! In order to make a lasting impact the Foundation continues to raise funds. Your investment in the Foundation today translates into an investment in your community forever.

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Staff Spotlight

SUNSHINE COMMITTEES THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT

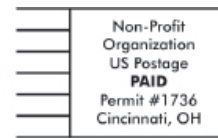
Ross Local School District teachers have Sunshine committees at each building that focus on staff camaraderie and encouragement throughout the year.

Jill Martin, Sunshine Committee chair at Elda Elementary shares, "The Elda Sunshine Committee provides encouragement and support to staff during difficult and celebratory times and builds a sense of community by providing opportunities for socialization and fun. We focus on improving the culture and morale of teachers. 'Teachers supporting teachers!' Our goal is to spread sunshine and joy and encourage our Elda family to have a positive day."

Amy Brossart, Sunshine Committee chair at Ross High School shares, "We celebrate birthdays, do staff member of the month (there are always 3 drawn at random from student/staff nominations) and provide general pick me ups when staff need it. Once a month we coordinate a potluck lunch. We organized holiday dress up days as well as a large potluck and a cookie exchange before break."

If you would like to contribute in any way to help our teacher-committees bring Sunshine to their staff members, please reach out on social media or via email by visiting our staff directory on our website.





ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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SOCIAL MEDIA



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PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

It is a top priority of the Ross Local School District to stay in touch with our community, communicating important information and highlights of our awesome students and staff. Social media is an efficient way of doing this, but we understand that not everyone is present there. We hope that this newsletter serves as an accessible path of communication from us to you. With that in mind, we are looking for any businesses or community members that are willing to partner with us in the efforts this newsletter accomplishes. If you might be interested in advertising your business in this newsletter, which will be released on a quarterly basis to approximately 6,000 households, please reach out via email to mandy.rice@rossrams.com.

We appreciate your support!