



## **OLENTANGY SCHOOLS<sup>SM</sup>**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **OLENTANGY CONTINUES TO ADDRESS GROWTH, OPENING SEVENTEENTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Olentangy Schools will host a grand opening ceremony and celebration for the district's seventeenth elementary school, Peachblow Crossing Elementary School, on Sunday, August 11 beginning at 1:00 pm.

"The opportunity to open Peachblow Crossing is a gift, and I am grateful and proud of the work of our Olentangy staff, partners, and community that has led to this day," shared principal Katie Grijak. "There is so much joy and excitement. This school is an essential addition to our district and this growing segment of Berlin Township. Our staff are eager to open the doors and welcome our students and community to Peachblow Crossing Elementary!"

The approximate \$31.6 million project was made possible by voter approval in the spring of 2020 responding to the exponential growth in the Olentangy school district and Delaware County. The bond issue portion of the ballot request has funded the construction of Shale Meadows Elementary School (opened in fall 2021), Berlin Middle School (opened fall 2023), and Peachblow Crossing Elementary School. The school is at the intersection of Peachblow and Piatt Roads in Berlin Township on land donated by Evans Farm.

The district's failed March 2024 levy requested the bonds to construct five additional buildings, which included three elementary schools. Peachblow Crossing will open at 96% capacity with over 600 students, and the district expects the school enrollment to surpass building capacity by the 2026-27 school year. The district will continue to address classroom space and ratio challenges with continued redistricting processes and modular classrooms. Modular classrooms have been added at Indian Springs Elementary for the 2024-25 school year.

The event will take place outside the school, with Olentangy transportation shuttling guests to the front of Peachblow Crossing Elementary once they park at Arrowhead Elementary (2385 Hollenback Road, Lewis Center, OH 43035). The event will begin with a program and ceremonial ribbon cutting, followed by tours of the 83,000-square-foot building, food trucks, and activities for students and families.

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