



HUDSON EXPLORERS CONNECT

News and Updates from the Hudson City School District

FALL 2024

Hudson City Schools Receives 5-Star Ranking

Hudson is proud to be one of only 18 districts in the state to receive a Five Star Excellence rating in all five components on the Ohio Report Card, which was released in September. The five areas are: Achievement, Progress, Gap Closing, Graduation, and Early Literacy.

In addition, our Performance Index score of 106.9 earned us a ranking of #14 out of 607 public school districts. Hudson is ranked #1 among Summit County school districts. The index measures the level of achievement of every student, not just whether they score a proficient level on the state tests.



Hudson Boasts 26 National Merit Scholars

Hudson High School is proud to announce 26 seniors have been named to the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Nine seniors are National Merit-Semifinalists, meaning they are among the top 1% nationally to earn this prestigious honor, based on their junior PSAT scores. These academically talented high school seniors now have an opportunity to continue in the competition for scholarship money.

The other 17 seniors are Commended Scholars, who scored in the top 3-4% on the qualifying PSAT test. Although they are not eligible for a National Merit Scholarship, they can still become candidates for special scholarships provided by business and corporate sponsors.



NATIONAL MERIT-SEMIFINALISTS

L to R: Kyle Carroll, Sneha Upadhyayula, Luke Metoki, Gabriela Skomra, Evan Peterson, Jenny Liu, Frederick Li, Emma Zheng, Zhen Liu.



COMMENDED SCHOLARS

Back Row: Torianna Slotter, Genevieve Baylor, Kevin Zhao, Ryan Thompson, Luke Jenkins, Bruce Judson, Benjamin Hoffman, Ian Jung, Marie Chuparkoff.

Front Row: Katherine Benson, Aanya Patel, Hannah Lee, Anne Jeong, Katherine Thesling, Hannah Qin, Italia Kolar, Adeline Pelletier.

Harmony: Performing Arts Project Gets Underway

The *Harmony: Performing Arts Project* is moving ahead, as the district plans for the addition of a 5,000 square foot orchestra room at Hudson High School, as well as renovations to the band and choir rooms.

The project also involves a renovation of the auditorium to a state-of-the-art facility. This will include new seating, acoustic upgrades, new stage and house LED lighting, mid-house station, and more.

Harmony is a \$5.5 million project, and joint venture of public and private funds. The John and Alison Quagliata Foundation is a Harmony Founding Member for its generous \$1 million donation to the project.

Supporting this project means investing in dreams and creating a legacy of artistic excellence that will echo through the community for years to come.

You can learn more about the project, see additional renderings, and learn how to contribute on the district website: www.hudson.k12.oh.us.



SCAN TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HARMONY



New Distinguished Hall of Fame Class Inducted

The Hudson City Schools Foundation and the Hudson City School District welcomed six new inductees into the Distinguished Hall of Fame on September 13, 2024. The following were inducted:

- **Jen Ator:** Class of 2009, Writer, Fitness & Wellness Magazine Editor
- **Timothy Clepper:** Class of 1993, Businessman, Philanthropist
- **Dean Eschliman:** Hudson Music Educator, Retired in 1995
- **Roland Gamble:** Hudson Music Educator, Honored Posthumously
- **Dale Knobel:** Class of 1967, President of Denison University
- **Joe Spiccia:** Teacher, Coach, and Administrator



Next year, we will celebrate the 2025 Athletic Hall of Fame induction class. Nominations can be made at www.hudsonschoolsfoundation.com.

Alumni Band Returns at Parade of Bands

The Hudson Alumni Band is back!

On October 5th, 2024, during the Parade of Bands at Memorial Stadium, the Alumni Band took to the field to perform. Anita Looper, the oldest member of the alumni band from the Class of 1949, was recognized. Looper, 93, made the trip from Centerville, Ohio to perform with the band, and played her french horn. She told the crowd that music has contributed to the longevity of her life.



Eight bands from Northeast Ohio took part in the Parade of Bands. During the performance, our Hudson Swing Marching Band debuted their brand new uniforms!



Charlotte's Web Celebrated at Ellsworth Hill

It was a radiant day at Ellsworth Hill as second grade students celebrated Charlotte's Web Day. The school transformed into Zuckerman's Farm as students donned creative costumes of fan favorite Wilbur, Charlotte, Fern, Avery and even Templeton the rat!

The classic story is read by each second grade class. And, upon completion and thoughtful discussions, students are treated to the special day. Second graders enjoyed line dancing, crafting, and channeled their inner Wilbur by eating friendship slops! The fun-filled day wrapped up with students watching the movie.



8th Grade Visits Nation's Capital

In mid-October, the Class of 2029 visited Washington, D.C. for the annual 8th grade trip. Students visited Arlington National Cemetery, Smithsonian Museums, the White House, and the Capitol Building. They also got to see many prominent memorials, including World War 2, Vietnam, and Lincoln. It is a jam-packed three days!

The trip to the nation's capital is always an exciting time for our students, and we are grateful to be able to carry on the tradition.



UPCOMING EVENT

Monday, December 9th

ATTENTION SENIOR CITIZENS!

Join us for "Soup with the Sup" at the Evamere Administrative Offices on Monday, December 9th at 4:30 p.m. The event will feature an early dinner with soup, rolls, and dessert. Plus, enjoy a conversation with Superintendent Dana Addis.

Please RSVP to Jennifer Reece, reecej@hudson.k12.oh.us by December 2nd.



Jim "Basketball" Jones Entertains at East Woods

Inspirational Speaker Jim "Basketball" Jones entertained students at East Woods Intermediate in October, while spreading his message of kindness and being respectful. Jim used the interactive assemblies to teach students about developing their potential, while keeping them engaged with a variety of basketball tricks.

Jim has been performing motivational school assemblies for almost 30 years, and has written a series of children's books. We are grateful to Hudson Community First for bringing this amazing assembly to our district.



McDowell Early Learning Hosts Walkathon

The District's youngest Explorers took part in the Annual PTO Walkathon at McDowell Early Learning School in September. Parents and loved ones cheered as students walked around the school to visit various movement and problem solving stations with their class. Donations help fund PTO sponsored activities at McDowell, including Snuggle Up & Read, field trips, assemblies, and more. Thanks to our generous families and sponsors, more than \$10,000 was successfully raised!



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For questions regarding this newsletter, please contact reecej@hudson.k12.oh.us.

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