

Inside this issue:

FAA National Convention District Report Card Sweet Sounds at Park Winter Sports Schedule Calendar Highlights NHS Inductees 50 Years on "Chain-Gang" Congratulations, Tax Payers

From Superintendent Dr. Zack Howard

As we bid farewell to the fall season, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the dedication and hard work exhibited by our student athletes, coaches, and supporters. The past few months have been filled with thrilling victories, heartwarming moments, and unforgettable memories that will be cherished for years to come. We're also incredibly grateful for the new field house at the entrance of the stadium. For those that made it out to a game, we sincerely hope that you enjoyed the facility and we'd like to thank all of the volunteers that helped make its reveal this season a success.

Our fall sports teams have showcased their skills and sportsmanship on the field, court, and of course, representing Mount Gilead Exempted Village Schools with pride and integrity. From the exhilarating football games under the Friday night lights with our marching band and cheerleaders to the intense volleyball matches and cross country races, our athletes have demonstrated perseverance, teamwork, and a commitment to excellence.

For me, one fall moment epitomizes our students' grit when they wear the purple and white with pride. By now, most know our Boys and Girls Cross Country Teams gualified for State. Our boys did fantastic and brought home the second State Champion title in three year. But, how our Girls team even got there is a remarkable story. In the Regional Meet, we were tied with Northmor to send the 5th and final team to the State Meet after our first 5 runners crossed the finish line. So, the tie breaker rule would come into effect. The 6th place finisher for each team would settle the dispute and that is where Ava Baker (12th Grade) comes into the picture. She finished in a time of 23:42.37 just one position ahead of (you guessed it) Northmor's 6th place runner who was immediately behind her with a time of 23:46.82. This serves as a reminder that the team is bigger than the individual. When our Indians needed Ava- she came through in a very big way! What you may not realize is that Ava has battled back from an injury sustained last winter that makes this accomplishment that much sweeter.

As we turn our attention to the winter season, I am filled with anticipation and excitement for what lies ahead. Our winter sports teams are gearing up for their respective seasons, ready to showcase their talents and compete at the highest level.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to our coaches, athletic staff, parents, and community members for their unwavering support and dedication to our student athletes. Your commitment and encouragement play a vital role in the success of our athletic programs, and I am grateful for all that you do.

With Gratitude

Dr. **Vac**k Howard MGEVS Superintendent



Ava Baker (12) records time that breaks a tie during Regionals race, advancing the Girls Cross Country team to State!

SMALL TOWN



New Fieldhouse Transforms, Energizes Campus

We're excited to introduce our newly completed Field House - a fantastic upgrade for Mount Gilead Athletics!

Thanks to the support of our Board of Education, teams, and community, this space is ready to enhance game days, practices, and events for all.

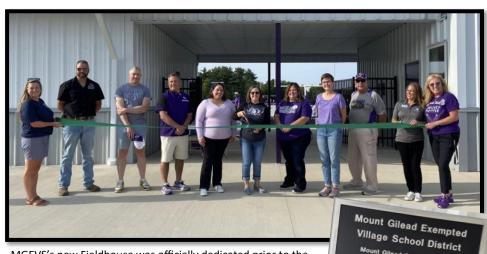
Highlights of the New Facility Starting on the west side, our expanded restrooms offer more stalls and easier navigation, eliminating long lines. Moving east, our modernized concession stand now features digital menu boards and TVs streaming live games, keeping fans engaged. Nearby, our ticket booth includes four windows and a temperature-controlled room with a screen for game viewing, making it comfortable for volunteers, even in cooler weather. Finally, our spacious, multipurpose locker rooms provide flexible space for team practices, small events, and classes.

Come See the New Field House!

This Field House reflects the dedication of our community. We invite you to visit, enjoy the new amenities, and consider volunteering at concessions or ticketing.

Thank you again to our Board of Education, our teams, and each of you for your support in bringing this project to life.





Stadi

MGEVS's new Fieldhouse was officially dedicated prior to the start of the first home football game of 2024 on August 16th. Pictured (I-r) are: Mindy Groves, Morrow County Chamber of Commerce; BOE President Mike Sayers; BOE Member Matt

Griffith; MG Superintendent Zack Howard; BOE Member Vanessa Gingrich; MG Treasurer Tina Gabler; BOE member Amanda Staley; BOE member Brandie Salisbury; former BOE member Virgil Staley; and Darlene Rogers and Erin Kelty with the Morrow County Chamber of Commerce.

Photos courtesy of the HS students in Rob Colliers CTE Droning classes.

FieldSource Keeps MG's New Field Looking Top Notch

As we wrap up another exciting Fall season, I (Athletic Director, Jack Bault) want to extend a heartfelt "thank-you" to FieldSource for their outstanding work in maintaining our football field. Thanks to their expertise, our field stands out not only for its visual appeal, but also as one of the safest playing surfaces in the area.

This year, FieldSource took special care to ensure that every detail, from the freshly marked lines to the vibrant Indian head at the center of the field. It reflects the pride we all have in our school and community. The attention to detail in painting and maintaining the field contributes to a safe, high-quality environment where our athletes can compete with confidence.

Their commitment to excellence doesn't go unnoticed by our students, families, and fans, who can see and feel the difference. FieldSource's dedication helps create a memorable game day experience for everyone who steps onto or into our stadium.



Aerial Drone Photography courtesy of the HS students in Rob Colliers CTE Droning classes.



Class of 2024 Grad Follow Up Survey

This is a heads up to all parents and graduates of the Class of 2024 that we will be sending out an important survey link later this Fall. The state requires school districts to reach out to our recent grads to find out the status of their Employment, Enlistment or Education post-High School. Last Spring we collected student cell phone numbers so that we can text the survey link to them. We will also email it to family members to fill out as well. The information we get back from graduates is reflected on our State Report Card data, so the more students that participate in the survey, the better our data. If you have questions, please contact Emily Ross or EMIS Coordinator Jodi VanHouten.

Back to School Forms

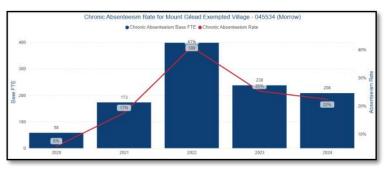
Thank you to all our families that filled out the back to school online paperwork through the Enrollment Portal. Over 70% have been completed. I know there has been some confusion about the links posted on the District website. For returning students you want the link that says Mandatory Student Forms, that is where you enter your Snapcode. The New Student Enrollment link is only for students who are not yet enrolled in Mt Gilead or who are coming back from another district or school. You don't have a snapcode for that link. Neither of these are connected to the Parent Portal, it has a different login. We in the district office load the information from the Enrollment portal into PowerSchool after it has been approved. If you need help, either with these forms or the Parent Portal, please contact Emily Ross (eross@mgschools.org) or EMIS Coordinator Jodi VanHouten (jvanhouten@mgschools.org).

Mount Gilead Exempted Village Schools Bools & Budens & Ball * Familie* PES \$CHOOL MARK AFERINE ELEMENTANT MOONT GILEAD MEDILEECHOOL MOONT GILEAD HEDDE SCHOOL Tel-AVERSE CLEMENT ANT MOONT GILEAD MEDILEECHOOL MOONT GILEAD HEDDE SCHOOL MOONT GILEAD HEDDE SCHOOL Tel-AVERSE CLEMENT ANT MOONT GILEAD MEDILEECHOOL MOONT GILEAD HEDDE SCHOOL MOONT GILEAD HEDDE SCHOOL Tel-AVERSE CLEMENT MOONT GILEAD MEDILEECHOOL MOONT GILEAD HEDDE SCHOOL MOONT GILEAD HEDDE SCHOOL Student Earollnent 2024-25 Mandatory Food Service Transportation Athletics Music Student Earollnent Student Forms Food Service Food Service Food Service Music Other Departments Faculty & Staff Employment Go Contact Us Contact Us

www.MGSchools.org

Attendance Matters!

We want your child in school as much as possible. Did you know that missing just two days each month can add up to over 10% of the school year? This level of absence is called Chronic Absenteeism. This has become a challenge for many schools across the state, especially since COVID.



At Mt. Gilead, we've made it a priority to improve attendance. Over the past two years, our efforts have paid off, and we've reduced chronic absenteeism by almost 20%! However, we're still working to return to pre-pandemic attendance levels. The state goal for chronic absenteeism is 16%, which would mean having fewer than 150 students missing 10% or more of the school year. Currently, 169 students are at this level, but we're still early in the school year, so there's time to improve. If you're not sure about your student's attendance rate, check their report card, it is in the information at the top right.

How Families Can Help

Families play a big role in supporting good attendance. Here's how you can help:

- Schedule appointments outside of school hours whenever possible.
- Plan family vacations during school breaks to avoid missing school days.
- Keep students home only when they're really sick like if they have a fever over 101°F, or are vomiting or have diarrhea.
- Reach out for help if you're facing challenges with transportation or other barriers to attendance.

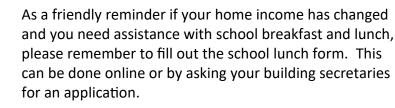
Our team, including your school's Dean of Students and the Student Assistance Program, may reach out to help address any issues. Together, we can support your child's attendance and success!

In the Kitchen(s) with the Director of Food and Nutrition

This fall in the cafeteria we have tried something new for the students. Along with all the options already offered, we added one more for the students to pick from. On a daily basis district-wide, the students who are buying a lunch in the elementary cafeteria have the option to choose from 2 deli sandwiches, peanut butter and jelly, an entrée salad and of course the menued item for the day.

In the Middle school we offer deli sandwiches, peanut butter and jelly sandwich, 2 types of entrée salad, a variety of pizza's daily and the menued option. And finally in the high school the same options are offered as in the middle school with an additional option of a grilled item (hamburgers, chicken sandwiches, boneless wings, etc).

In October we added a new concept and option for the students. It has been well received at the elementary and middle school level. So, you are asking what is the new option... Munchables! Munchables are just like Lunchables[©]. We have offered turkey and cheese, ham and cheese, pizza and nacho and cheese Munchables. So if your student(s) haven't bought a school lunch yet this year, but they love Lunchables[©], why not let them try the school Munchables?







Dan Hershner Recognized for 50 years of Dedicated "Chain Gang" Service

If anyone has been to a Mount Gilead Football game in the last 50 years, you could have looked over at the visitor sideline and seen Mr. Dan Hershner. Dan has worked the chaingang for MG for the last 50 years.

Dan has been an essential part of our Football games and within the community. Mr. Hershner's presence on the sidelines has been more than just a role; it's been a constant reminder of what it means to be devoted. Dan has provided support that goes far beyond the duties of the game-day crew. He truly embodies the heart and spirit of the Mount Gilead community.



Dan Hershner accepts a plaque from MGEVS Superintendent Zack Howard, right, for more than 50 years of service to the district running the "Chain Gang" for Mount Gilead Football while Athletic Director Jack Bault looks on.

PTO Fall Enrichment Brings Fun Activities, Smiles

The Park Avenue PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) has kicked off the 2024-2025 school year with several events.

In October, Jim "Basketball" Jones visited the elementary kids and taught them about kindness, inclusion, and tolerance. Several students even learned how to spin a basketball using parts of their bodies!

Our third annual Football Tailgate party was held before the varsity homecoming football game with football-themed games, face painting, and hot dogs.

Planning for the Santa Shop is currently in process. On December 16 and 17, vendors from the community will set up in the Park Avenue gymnasium and students will be able to shop during the school day for Christmas gifts for family and friends.

Upon returning from Christmas break, a family movie night at the Capitol Theater is being planned.

Interested in learning about future events and volunteering? Park Avenue PTO meets the 2nd Monday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Park Avenue Library. Stay up-to-date by following them on Facebook at Park Avenue PTO (Parent Teacher Organization).



Student Stories a Top-Read For Park Ave. Students

Duke Davis, fifth grader at Park Avenue Elementary, is one the many student authors who have their work published

and made available for reading or checkout from the school library. Duke started sharing his graphic novels with Mrs. Heffelfinger last year. She teamed up with a parent volunteer to digitize the book and create a laminated book for the school library.

"Before I could get the first one digitized and laminated, Duke had brought another couple books down in the following weeks. I knew I needed to make

this project a priority when other students started asking me when the next "Blue Juice" book would be ready to read!", shared Mrs. Heffelfinger, librarian and teacher at Park Avenue. "Once students saw that their writing could be part of the library and they could be published authors, more students started to bring their work in too."

There is a display with student work at the entrance of the library. Mrs. Heffelfinger has a stack of Blue Juice books to digitize and get barcodes on so other students can check them out too. Literacy is part of our schoolwide focus for excellence. The library is proud to be a showcase for the fantastic writing created by our K-5 students!



National Honor Society Inducts 15 New Members

On Friday, November 1st, students were "tapped" by current members to be inducted into MGHS's chapter of the National Honor Society. The new members were selected based on their demonstrated excellence in scholarship, leadership, service, and character—four core pillars that define the organization. Current members of were tasked with tapping the new inductees, symbolizing the transfer of responsibility and the beginning of their journey in upholding the values of the society. Following the tapping process, the group went to Morrow Lanes to celebrate.

The new inductees include: Alyssa Anton, Brooklyn Davis, Cole Fricke, Nolan Hershner, Owen Hershner, Cassady Irwin, Shalynn Irwin, Abby Leonhard, Trace Mullen, Kendall Neal, Brogan Pfleiderer, Danielle Pohlkotte, Erick Robson,

Gauge Shipman, and Camryn Travis. They joined current members: Ava Baker, Will Baker, Joey Baldwin, Addie Bartlett, Natalie Jagger, Jillian Jones, Olivia Long, Kimberly Staley, Ryan Swalley, Natalie Waugh, Faith White, and Savannah Wilt.

The NHS chapter at MGHS continues to be an integral part of the school's culture, promoting initiatives that support both the academic and personal growth of its members. Students who are selected for NHS membership are expected to continue to demonstrate excellence in all aspects of their school life, including contributing to community service projects and serving as role models to their peers.



The NHS Induction Ceremony will take place at 7 PM on Monday, December 9th.



MG's National Honor Society will sponsor a blood donation drive on: **Tuesday, January 24 from 12:30-6:30** Mount Gilead Church of Christ **Schedule your appointment today at <u>RedCrossBlood.org</u>**



Congratulations to the Mount Gilead School Community!! Effective January 1st, 2025 the Bond Issue for the Mount Gilead Exempted Village School District will officially be paid off! This is the bond issue that was used for the renovation of the Park Avenue Elementary, the Middle School and the High School in the early 2000's. This levy will roll off of your taxes and you will see a reduction. To see the effect of this reduction, visit the Morrow County Auditor's website at – <u>https://auditor.co.morrow.oh.us/</u>

Search for your property and here is an example of what you will see -

Levies								
2024 Gene	eral Elec	tion o	n 11/5/	2024 Ba	allot Entries			
				Contraction of the second	y only. These cost estimates should be considered neither an endorsement peneficial and help you make an informed decision come Election Day.	t nor an oppos	sition to any p	articular
Please note: 2	023 propert	y values	were used	for these c	alculations.			
Jurisdiction	Use	Years	Millage	Туре	Description	Current	Proposed	Change
Morrow County	Hospital	0	2.5	Removal	Removal	\$44.58	\$0.00	-\$ <mark>44.</mark> 58
Morrow County	OSU Extension	5	0.5	Renewal	Programs & Services	\$11.92	\$11.92	\$0.00
Morrow County	EMS	5	1	Renewal	Ambulance	\$26.70	\$26.70	\$0.00
Morrow County	EMS	5	2	Renewal	Ambulance	\$47.67	\$47.67	\$0.00
Mt Gilead EVSD	Bond	0	0	Removal	Bond	\$194.11	\$0.00	-\$194.11

The last item is the School Bond Removal. This particular homeowner will save \$194.11 per year on their real estate taxes. As noted every homeowner's savings will be different.

Thank you for all your support of this Bond Issue. Again, **Congratulations to the Mount Gilead School Community!!**

Tina Gabler,

Treasurer, MGEVS



Attention Alumni: If your class is having a reunion and you'd like to spread the word, or if you've already met and would like to share information or pictures, please contact *The Communicator* Editor Kelly Hand at <u>khand@mgschools.org</u> or (419) 947-9517 x 2218

Visit mgschools.org/students/alumni to see current alumni news!

MG Schools "Exceeds State Standards" in latest ODE Report

Ohio School Report Cards are required by law to provide parents, caregivers, community members, educators and policymakers information about district and school performance — to celebrate successes and identify areas for improvement. The information provides transparent reporting to drive local conversations on continuous improvement and identify schools that need intensive supports. The report cards establish high expectations for the education community while showing progress toward equitable outcomes for all Ohio students.

Report cards are only one part of Ohio's education story. To get a more complete picture, it is essential to visit schools, talk to educators, parents and students, and review school or district websites. Many great things are happening every day in Ohio's schools!



Overall Rating: Districts and schools receive an overall rating of 1 to 5 stars in half-star increments. The overall rating is comprised of five rated components. The college, Career, Workforce and Military Readiness Component is report only and does not contribute to the overall rating of the 2024 Ohio School Report Cards

Achievement

The component represents whether student performance on state tests met established thresholds and how well students performed on tests overall.

Progress

This component looks closely at the growth of all students are making based on their past performances.

Gap Closing

The Gap Closing Component is a measure of the reduction in educational gaps for student groups.

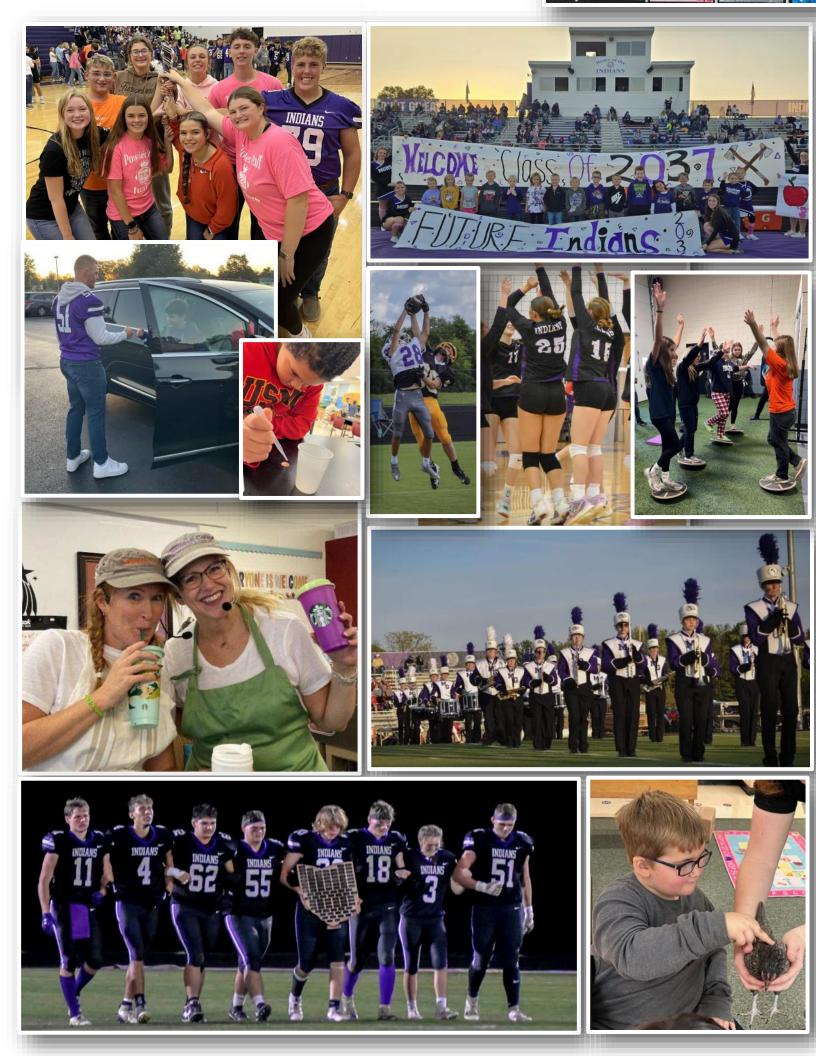
Graduation

The Graduation Component is a measure of the four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate and the fiveyear adjusted cohort graduation rate.

Early Literacy

The Early Literacy Component is a measure of reading improvement and proficiency for students in kindergarten through third grade.

	Overall Rating	Achievement	Progress	Gap Closing	Graduation Rate	Early Literacy
Mt Gilead High School	4	4	5	3	3	Data not Applicable
Mt Gilead Middle School	4.5	3	5	5	Data not Applicable	Data not Applicable
Park Avenue Elementary School	3	2	3	3	Data not Applicable	1





Special thanks to Abby Leonhard Photography, Sue Stevens and Melanie Snyder for capturing these special moments.

Middle School gets Hands-On History Lessons in Gettysburg, DC

A group of 103 students and adults took learning on the road leaving early on the morning of October 29 and returning late on November 1st on trip to Gettysburg and Washington, D.C.

The adventure began with a visit to the Gettysburg National Battlefield, where a knowledgeable tour guide led the group through some of the site's most significant landmarks, offering insights into the pivotal moments of the Civil War. Afterward, the group traveled on to the nation's capital, where they explored iconic monuments including the Martin Luther King Jr., Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Thomas Jefferson Memorials. Day 2 was filled with history and inspiration as the group toured Capitol Hill, making stops at the U.S. Supreme Court and the Library of Congress before heading to the Capitol Building itself. In the afternoon, they visited the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and the National Cathedral, before concluding their day with stops at the World War II, Vietnam, Lincoln, and Korean War Memorials.

On Day 3, the group headed to Ford's Theatre, where they explored the historic site before visiting the National Museum of American History. In the afternoon, they returned to Arlington National Cemetery, where selected military children were honored by laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The group also paid tribute

at memorials dedicated to the Kennedys, the Challenger and Columbia space missions, Audie Murphy, and Joe Louis. A final stop at the National Archives provided a glimpse into the nation's founding documents, before the day ended with an evening of entertainment at Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament.

The group visited the Marine Corps Museum before heading back home, enriched by the powerful history and experiences of their journey. This remarkable trip was made possible by Prodigy Student Travel, with special thanks to MG's own Jim Anderson for organizing the experience.











Sweet Sound Added to 5th Grade Curriculum

Park Avenue Elementary is taking music to a high note with an exciting new offering for fifth-grade students. Elementary music teacher Abby Stepp and middle and high school band director Ross Runyan, are giving students the opportunity to learn to play the flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trumpet, or percussion. In the past, this option was only available to middle and high school students.

This year, the new band option showed overwhelming response with 25 eligible fifth-graders enrolling in the program.

The group is using the Essential Elements book to learn how to read music notes and rhythms as well as learning individual instrument technique.

A 5th Grade instrumental music concert is scheduled for May 18th at 2 pm with the Middle School Concert Band.





Winter Weather Reminders

In the event our schools need to close or delay because of inclement weather, power outages, water supply issues, etc., please look for messages from the following: OneCall (text, email and/or Phone Call) ; online at www.MGSchools.org; Facebook; and Class DoJo (Elementary and Middle School Only). Local news stations will also be notified.

To get connected with One Call (all buildings) or Class DoJo (PAE and MGMS only) contact the secretary at your child's school building: *Please note, if school is closed, the offices will be closed as well!*



Park Avenue Elementary: (419) 946-5736 Mount Gilead Middle School: (419) 947-9517 Mount Gilead High School: (419) 947-6065

If school is on a two-hour delay, a quick, grab-and-go breakfast will be available to all of our students. Regular rates apply.

There will be NO BEFORE SCHOOL CARE (Chief's Club) on delay or closure days.

FFA Members Experience 97th National Convention

This year, 9 students from Mount Gilead's FFA chapter made their way to Indianapolis, Indiana, joining more that 70,000 other members and guests at the 97th National FFA Convention. The convention, held from October 23rd to 26th, brought together thousands of FFA members from across the country for four days of leadership development, hands-on learning, and unforgettable experiences.

From inspiring keynote addresses to unique industry tours, the event offered something for everyone. This year's theme was "Engage", and the students were ready to explore all the possibilities that FFA and agriculture have to offer.

The 97th National FFA Convention was a once-in-a-lifetime experience for these 9 students. They gained valuable insights into the future of agriculture, met fellow FFA members from across the country, and, most importantly, they returned home with a renewed passion for leadership, service, and agriculture.

One of the highlights of the opening session was the keynote address by Kevin Wanzer, a renowned speaker and humorist. Kevin's talk focused on leadership, resilience, and the importance of embracing both challenges and opportunities. He encouraged the students to pursue their dreams with confidence and to always stay true to themselves. His message resonated with many, and the students left the session energized and motivated for the days ahead.

At the 4th session on October 25th, many FFA members from around the US gathered to listen to the world's most renowned expert in livestock handling systems, Temple Grandin, an animal science professor at Colorado State University. She is known for her creation of the curved chute system for moving cattle, which shaped the animal agriculture industry. While speaking, she shared her perspective on visual thinking and encouraged hope for society.

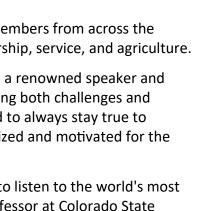
While cornfields and livestock are staples of agricultural education, the students quickly learned that agriculture is far more than what meets the eye. During their time in Indianapolis, they were introduced to various agricultural sectors—from sustainable farming and advanced technology to biofuels and food production. The convention emphasized that agriculture is an ever-evolving field with endless possibilities.

We're incredibly proud of our FFA members for representing our school at such an inspiring and impactful event. Here's to many more years of growth, leadership, and innovation in agriculture!

FFA is an intracurricular student organization for those interested in agriculture and leadership. It is one of the three components of agricultural education. Today, there are more than 1,027,200 FFA members, aged 12-21, in 9,235 chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.











FFA Students Compete in Job Interview Competition

Eight members of MG's FFA Chapter completed in four age group divisions of the Job Interview Competition with the goal to advance to the sub district contest.

In the 9th grade division Keaton Spires finished in 8th place, for the 10th grade division Cooper Nelson finished in 1st place, while Mackenzie Mosier and Brooke Jagger also competed, for 11th grade. It was Shalynn Irwin ending in 2nd place, while Abby Leonhard also completed the contest, Finally for 12th grade area Natalie Jagger was 2nd and Kimberly Staley finished in 4th. Keaton, Cooper, Shalynn and Natalie will move on to compete at River Valley on 10/30/24.

At River Valley, Cooper Nelson (center) Placed 8th in the 10th grade event. Shalynn Irwin (left)- Finished in 5th place in the 11th grade division. And Natalie Jagger (right) was able to finish in the 5th spot for the 12 grade division.



MG FFA Members (I to r): Cooper Nelson, Shalynn Irwin, Mackenzie Mosier, Natalie Jagger, Kimberly Staley, Brooke Jagger and Keaton Spires.



Order your 2025 Mizpah now by going to <u>www.yearbookordercenter.com</u> and searching for Mount Gilead High School. The yearbooks will be on sale for the early bird price starting at \$55 until January 31.

Forgot to order last year's Mizpah? There are a few copies left to be sold on a first come first serve basis. Bring \$60 in cash or check made out to Mount Gilead High School to Mrs. Gerber or email jgerber@mgschools.org to have a copy placed in the office for you to pick up.

Dear Members of the Class of 2025.....

The deadline to submit senior portraits for the 2025 Mount Gilead Yearbook is January 31, 2025!!!

Senior Portrait Requirements and Deadlines:

- Vertical (up and down) portraits only.
- You must be featured from the waist up. Full body length photos will not be accepted. You will need to crop the picture before submitting.
- No props or sunglasses in the picture: you must be the focus of the photo.
- No watermarks or photography company logos.
- Images must be at least 300dpi. Use the original image not a download from social media or a screen shot. These will be blurry when printed.
- Email photos to: jgerber@mgschools.org.
- Seniors can contact Mr. Lewis (tlewis@mgschools.org) if they would like to arrange a time for their senior picture to be taken by photography students.

NOTICE: Students who do not submit a senior photo or submit an unacceptable picture will have their Lifetouch portrait used instead.

Busy Fall helps Prepare HS Students for Next Steps

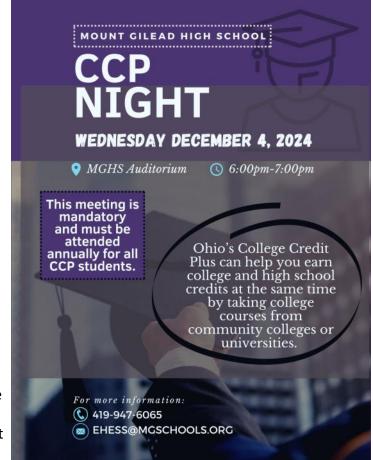
The High School Counselor's Office has had a busy and productive start to the school year. October is always a significant month for our college-seeking seniors as they prepare for priority application deadlines. This year's senior class has approximately 55% interested in continuing their education after high school, and we have 5 students currently considering the military pathway. We are very proud of the Class of 2025 and their determination to plan for their futures and finish high school strong.

On October 30th, we held our first College Planning Night. This event was designed for junior and senior families to help them navigate the often complex college planning process. We discussed the college search process, how to organize college options, when to apply, and the importance of scholarships. We hope to build on this event each year.

For families interested in College Credit Plus, **we will host a CCP Night on December 4, 2024, at 6 PM in the high school auditoria**. Attendance at this meeting is required each year for all of our CCP students. Please plan to attend to learn more about the benefits of taking college credit courses during high school and the opportunities available to your student.

Another important event the Counselor's Office is planning is **FAFSA Night on January 16, 2024, from 5 to 7 PM in the high school auditoria.** This event will delve deeper into paying for college and the importance of FAFSA, featuring representatives from local colleges. Help sessions will be available after the presentation to assist families in completing their FAFSA. If you are interested in completing the FAFSA with our help, please come prepared with an FSA ID.

We appreciate your continued support and involvement in your student's educational journey. Together, we can ensure that our students are well-prepared for their futures. If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Counselor's Office.



Chiefs Club Adopts Cow, Explores All Things Fall

The Chiefs Club Program at Park Avenue for grades Kindergarten-5th grade has started working on All Things Fall. We have done STEM activities with apples and pumpkins. In November we will begin our Book Club and Lego Club. These are just a few of the fun learning activities we do during Chiefs Club. Another amazing opportunity we have

going on this year is we adopted a cow, Peony, from a farm in Sugar Creek, Ohio. This December we will be learning about different Holiday Traditions Around the World. If you would like to be a special guest and share your holiday traditions with us you can send us an email and we can schedule a date for you to come in.

If you would like more information about Chiefs Club please reach out to Erin Whipple via email <u>chiefsclub@mgschools.org</u> or call 419.946.5736 ext 3264. You can follow us on Facebook @Chiefs Club SACC Program at Park Avenue or scan the QR code .



Athletic Boosters Supports Athletes in All Sports, All Seasons

The mission of the Mt. Gilead Athletic Boosters is to promote continuous involvement, excitement, and pride among our students, parents, and community, in order to provide the resources necessary to support all athletes, coaches, and programs.

Congratulations to all of our fall season athletes! It was fun to watch you play your sports and we are proud to have you represent our community. And, speaking of



community, thank you to everyone who gathered on the square and traveled to watch the MGHS Cross Country Team run (and WIN) at the state meet!

We greatly appreciate the concessions volunteers, banner sponsors, popcorn sponsors, and everyone else who helped the MG Athletic Boosters throughout the fall season. Thank you to the MG School Board and Administration for the great new building! Please contact athleticboosters@mgschools.org if you are interested in purchasing a banner or sponsoring popcorn during an upcoming basketball or wrestling event.

We are excited for the 2024/2025 winter sports seasons and we know our athletes in Basketball, Bowling, Swimming, and Wrestling would love to see you at their events. Thank you for your continued support and best of luck to all of our student athletes!

Graduate Banners Available for Pickup

The High School office has several graduate banners leftover from the Class of 2023 and 2024 available for pickup. These are the photo banners that were hung throughout the Square.

Students or parents may visit the office between 8 AM and

2:30 PM to get their banner.





MGHS Theatre Troupe will present

A WRINKLE INTIME

Adapted by Morgan Gould, from the book by Madeleine L'Engle

One of literature's most enduring young heroines, Meg Murry, is back-braces, stubbornness and all. Once again, she's joining forces with Mrs. Whatsit, **Charles Wallace, Calvin** O'Keefe and more to battle the forces of evil so she can rescue her father, save humanity and find herself. In the end, we know two things for sure: 1. Love CAN overcome evil and 2. There IS such a thing as a tesseract.

November 15 @ 7 PM November 16 @ 7 PM November 17 @ 2 PM

> Tickets are \$5.00 at the door MGHS Auditoria



Congratulations to all of our High School Fall Sports Athletes who received All-KMAC honors!

Football:

Gauge Shipman, 1stTeam Shane Carpenter, 1st Team Cam Vickers, 1st Team Carson Trainer, 1st Team Cody Meimer, 2nd Team Carson Barnum, 2nd Team Eliot Jones, Honorable Mention Riley Cardwell, All Academic

Golf:

Briggs Leffler, Honorable Mention

Volleyball:

Olivia Long, Honorable Mention Olivia Long, All Academic

Boys XC:

Will Baker, Runner of the Year Owen Hershner, 1st Team Tommy Emberg, 1st Team Henry Bartlett, 1st Team Nolan Hershner, 1st Team Liam Stalnaker, 2nd Team Ethan Turner, 2nd Team Ryan Swalley, 2nd Team Will Baker, All Academic Andrew Gannon, 1st Place, Middle School Aiden McLain, Top 10, Middle School Landon Mosher, Top 10, Middle School HS League Champion Jake Hayes, Coach of the Year

Girls XC:

Kimberly Staley, 1st Team Gwen Hershner, 1st Team Haley Pfeifer, 1st Team Adriana Hershner, 2nd Team Ava Baker, All Academic Chloe Sergent, Top 10, Middle School Hayden Scales, Top 10, Middle School HS League Champion MS School Champion Jake Hayes, Girls HS Coach of the Year

First Bike to School Event held, Future Events Planned

On September 19th, MG families came together to celebrate health, safety, and school spirit during the Bike to School Day event led by School Resource Officer Mike Turner. It was a



beautiful early fall morning, with clear skies and mild temperatures—an ideal setting for students, parents, and staff to leave the car keys at home and hop on their bikes for a fun, active start to the school day.

His goal was not only to encourage cycling as a healthy alternative to driving but also to promote

the importance of bike safety and the role of community policing in creating strong, positive connections between law enforcement and students.

The event kicked off at 7:30 AM at the police station with donuts to fill everyone's bellies. With helmets on and bikes in hand, participants joined SRO Turner for a ride up Iberia Street then onto Park Avenue - a safe, pre-planned route designed for maximum visibility and safety. Parents, teachers, and even siblings joined in the fun, turning the ride into a community-wide event.

As the group rode through the streets, the positive energy was contagious. Many students took the opportunity to chat with Officer Turner, learning about bike safety tips and getting to know him outside the usual classroom or school office setting. SRO Turner emphasized the importance of wearing helmets, following traffic rules, and being aware of one's surroundings while riding—a message that resonated with both young and older cyclists.

Another Bike to School event is being planned for the Spring.



III Sports 2024: Growth, Grit and New Records

As the Fall Sports season wraps up, we want to share and Golf celebrate the accomplishments of our student-athletes at Mount Gilead High School and Mount Gilead Middle School. The dedication, teamwork, and perseverance they have shown throughout the season have represented the spirit of our school and community.

Cross Country

Our High School Boys and Girls Cross Country teams have set an incredible standard this season. Both teams captured KMAC League titles, qualified for Regionals and State, and represented us with pride at the State Cross Country Meet. The Boys Team made history by securing their second Division 3 State Championship! Senior Will Baker, a standout leader, broke numerous school records along the way and finished as the Division 3 Boys State Runner-Up. Junior Owen Hershner also earned All-Ohio honors for his exceptional performances.

These accomplishments reflect the hard work and discipline of our athletes, and coaches.

Our Middle School Cross Country teams were impressive as well, with the Girls team capturing the KMAC title and the Boys team finishing as runner-up. Andrew Gannon took home the individual title of Boys KMAC Champion, setting multiple records along the way. Their success speaks volumes about the state of the Mount Gilead **Cross Country!**

Volleyball

The High School Volleyball team showed progress this season, doubling their win total from last year. With full teams at Freshman, JV, and Varsity levels, they demonstrated the depth within our Volleyball program. Our Middle School Volleyball teams were competitive and showcased growth throughout the year, building a strong foundation for future seasons.

Football

Our High School Football team wrapped up a competitive season, finishing 4-6 and narrowly missing the playoffs. Although the record may not reflect it, many games were close, and the team displayed tremendous resilience and determination. They ended the season on a high note with a decisive 28-12 victory over rival Cardington. Meanwhile, the Middle School Football team proudly won the Morrow County battles, defeating both Northmor and Cardington in their final game.

Our Boys Golf team competed with a lone golfer this season, but we are excited to see the establishment of a Girls Golf team for the first time in school history! This marks an important milestone, and we look forward to building on this progress in future seasons.

Looking Ahead

As we move forward, the Winter Sports season is just around the corner, bringing new opportunities for competition and growth. We are deeply grateful for the support of our Mount Gilead community in cheering on our teams, attending games, and inspiring our athletes.

We also extend an invitation to those interested in volunteering for the upcoming season, whether helping with tickets, concessions, or working alongside the Mount Gilead Athletic Boosters. Your involvement is vital to our success and greatly appreciated. Please contact Mr. Bault, Athletic Director, or Jessica Trainer, Athletic Booster President.





2024 saw the addition of a Girl's Golf program to the list of extra-curricular activities available to high school students.

MG Celebrates Homecoming with Week-Long Events

The halls of Mount Gilead High School were buzzing with excitement during Spirit Week 2024, as students, teachers, and staff came together to show their school pride in a series of fun and creative events. From October 2nd to October 6th, each day featured a different theme, and the school's spirit was on full display as everyone participated in activities that brought the community closer together.

The community came together Friday night to celebrate one of the most anticipated events of the school year—Homecoming 2024. The excitement filled the air as students, alumni, and families gathered to cheer on the Mount Gilead Indians during the annual Homecoming football game on October 5th.

The Mount Gilead Indians gave it their all on the field during the Homecoming football game on October 5th, but unfortunately, the team faced a tough loss against a determined opponent. The final score didn't go in Mount Gilead's favor, but the spirit of the game was felt in every corner of the stadium.

This year's Homecoming King is Shane Carpenter a senior known for his leadership both on and off the field. He has been a standout athlete and has



already enrolled With his charming smile and dedicated spirit, Shane represents the very best of Mount Gilead High School.

The title of Homecoming Queen was awarded to Olivia Long a senior who is equally known for her academic excellence, volunteer work, and commitment to the school. Liv has served as a role model to her classmates, showing what it means to lead with grace, kindness, and strength. She has played a vital role in many school events and is a true embodiment of school pride.

In addition to the excitement surrounding the Homecoming Court, the week was filled with school spirit from start to finish. The Homecoming parade on Wednesday night brought together floats, marching bands, and community members, all celebrating the heart of Mount Gilead. The class floats, decorated with creative themes and school pride, added a fun and colorful touch to the festivities.

The Homecoming dance held Saturday was another opportunity for students to come together, celebrate their friendships, and cap off a day of unforgettable memories.



The 2024 Homecoming Court (I-r): Freshman Attendants Matthew Horton and Bailey Bault; Junior Attendants Hunter Lister and Briana Martinez; Senior Court Miguel Martinez, Kimberly Staley, King Shane Carpenter, Queen Olivia Long, Will Baker and Jillian Jones; and Sophomore Attendants Riley Thomas and Mackenzie Mosier

MOUNT GILEAD MIDDLE SCHOOL 2024-2025 WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

MR	2 BONZ	JANER BURGAN
	11/26 5:00 PM	East Knox*
	12/2 5:00 PM	@ Danville*
	12/5 5:00 PM	Centerburg*
0.0	12/9 5:00 PM	@ Northmor*
	12/12 5:00 PM	@ Fredericktown*
	12/14 10:00 AM	Loudonville*
	12/19 5:30 PM	Cardington*
	1/6 5:00 PM	@ East Knox*
	1/9 5:00 PM	Danville*
	1/11 10:00 AM	@ Ridgedale
1	1/13 5:00 PM	Northmor*
	1/16 5:00 PM	@ Centerburg*
	1/21 5:00 PM	Highland
	1/23 5:00 PM	Fredericktown*
	1/25 10:00 AM	@ Loudonville*
	1/30 5:00 PM	@ Cardington*
	MS Basketball co	ompetes in the Cherry St
	Gymnasium_ 1/5	Cherry St Mount Gilead

Gymnasium- 145 N Cherry St Mount Gilead * Indicates conference match-up



12/7 9:00	@ Centerburg
12/ TBD	@ North Union
12/14 10:00	@ Westfall
12/21 TBD	@ River Valley
1/4 9:00	@ Clyde
1/8 6:00	Home Meet
1/11 10:00	@ Highland
1/18 10:00	@ West Holmes
1/25 9:00	@ Mount Vernon
2/1 9:00	@ KMAC
All home wrestlin	ng meets will held be at
Mount Gile	ead High School.

MS	GIBLS	BASISETBALL
11	26 5.00 PM	n East Knox*

11/26 5:00 PM	@ East Knox"
12/2 5:00 PM	Danville*
12/5 5:00 PM	@ Centerburg*
12/9 5:00 PM	Northmor*
12/12 5:00 PM	Fredericktown*
12/14 10:00 AM	@ Loudonville*
12/19 5:00 PM	@ Cardington*
1/6 5:00 PM	East Knox*
1/9 5:00 PM	@ Danville*
1/11 10:00 AM	Ridgedale
1/13 5:00 PM	@ Northmor*
1/16 5:00 PM	Centerburg*
1/21 5:00 PM	@ Highland
1/23 5:00 PM	@ Fredericktown*
1/25 10:00 AM	Loudonville*
1/30 5:30 PM	Cardington*
MS Basketball c	competes in the Cherry St

Gymnasium- 145 N Cherry St Mount Gilead * Indicates conference match-up

Winter Season Passes Available (for home MS & HS Games)

Adult \$80 | Student \$50

Senior \$25 | Family \$220 (Family pass is for 2 adults and K-12 students living in same household)

Passes are available at the High School Office School Days: M-F, 8 AM to 2:45 PM Cash or Check only.

> The Jan



MOUNT GILEAD HIGH SCHOOL 2024-2025 WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

	XXX BY	SIE	TBALL
11/27 6:00	Highland	1/10 6:00	Cardington*
11/29 6:00	Bucyrus	1/14 6:00	Danville*
12/4 6:00	@ Ridgedale	1/17 6:00	Northmor*H
12/7 6:00	Crestline	1/21 6:00	@ Centerburg
12/11 6:00	@ Danville*	1/24 6:00	@ Loudonville*
12/14 6:00	@ Northmor*	1/28 6:00	Fredericktown*
12/18 6:00	Centerburg	1/31 6:00	East Knox*
12/21 6:00	Loudonville	2/4 6:00	@ Cardington*
12/28 6:00	@ Ridgemont	2/8 5:30	@ Col Crawford
1/4 6:00	@ Fredericktown*	2/11 6:00	@ Elgin
1/7 6:00	@ East Knox*	2/15 6:00	@ Lucas
All home JV and Varsity Boys Baskethall games will be at Mount			

All home JV and Varsity Boys Basketball games will be at Mount Gilead High School. JV plays first, Varsity plays after. * Indicates conference match-up.



12/3 4:00	Northmor*
12/7	@ Holiday Baker Classic
12/9 4:00	@ East Knox*
12/17 4:00	Centerburg*
12/21 9:00	@ Redman Classic
1/7 4:00	@ Northmor*
1/3 4:00	@ Crestline*
1/9 4:00	Fredericktown*
1/13 4:00	@ Centerburg*
1/16 4:00	@ Fredericktown*
1/17 4:00	@ Cardington*
1/21 4:00	East Knox*
1/24	Cardington*
1/28 4:00	Crestline*
2/4 4:00	@ Gilead Christian
2/7 5:00	KMAC Tournament
2/11 4:00	Gilead Christian
Bowling cor	npetes at Morrow Lanes-
4205 Co Rd	132, Cardington, OH 43315



12/3 6:00	@ Kenton/Bellefontaine
12/7 10:00	@ Friendly House Invite
12/11 6:00	HOME MEET
12/14 9:00	@ Small School Invite
12/18 6:00	@ Pleasant
1/4 9:00	@ Harding/Wynford
1/8 TBD	@ Elgin
1/11 11:00	HOME MEET
1/14 5:30	@ Madison
1/18 TBD	@ NCOSL Meet
1/22 6:00	HOME MEET
1/25 6:00	@ Pleasant
1/28 6:00	@ Col Crawford/Galion
Swim com	petes at the Marion YMCA-
645 Barks	s Rd E, Marion, OH 43302

!S	GRLS	BASKETBALL
	Suble	Card Card

the second s	and the same same succession and the same	and the second s	Charles of the state of the sta	
11/23 6:00	Bucyrus	1/8 6:00	@ Danville*	
11/26 6:00	Lucas	1/11 6:00	@ Northmor*	
12/3 6:00	Danville*	1/15 6:00	Centerburg*	
12/6 6:00	Northmor*	1/18 6:00	Loudonville*	
12/10 6:00	@ Centerburg	1/22 6:00	@ Fredericktown*	
12/13 6:00	@ Loudonville*	1/25 6:00	@ East Knox*	
12/17 6:00	Fredericktown*	1/29 6:00	Cardington*	
12/20 6:00	East Knox*	2/1 6:00	Elgin	
12/28 2:00	@ Tree of Life	2/3 6:00	@ Ridgemont	
1/3 6:00	@ Cardington*	2/5 7:00	@ Crestline	
1/7 6:00	Delaware	2/8 1:00	@ Highland	
	Christian			
All home JV	All home JV and Varsity Boys Basketball games will be at Mount			

All home JV and Varsity Boys Basketball games will be at Mount Gilead High School. JV plays first, Varsity plays after. * Indicates conference match-up.

US WRESTLING

Date & Time	@ N. Union
TBD	
12/14 10:00	@ Kilted Klassic
12/23 9:00	@ Bishop Watterson
1/3-1/4 3:00	@ JC Gorman
1/8 6:00	HOME
1/11 10:00	@ Fredericktown Invite
1/24-1/25 3:00	@ Sally George
2/1 9:00	@ Canal Winchester
	Invite
2/5 6:00	HOME
2/15 9:00	@ KMAC
All home wrestling meets will held be at	
Mount Gilead High School.	
* Indicates conference match-up.	

Candidates will be inducted into the 2024 Hall of Fame on January 17, 2025.



MT GILEAD EV SCHOOLS

Park Avenue Elementary School Ally Schleichert, Principal Kara Strine, Assistant Principal 335 Park Avenue| Mt. Gilead, Ohio 43338 Phone: (419) 946-5736

Mount Gilead Middle School Clay Grube, Principal Jack Bault, Athletic Director 324 Park Avenue | Mt. Gilead, Ohio 43338 Phone: (419) 947-9517

Mount Gilead High School Robert McQuate, Principal Jack Bault, Athletic Director 338 Park Avenue | Mt. Gilead, Ohio 43338 Phone: (419) 947-6065

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www.MGSchools.org

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QUESTIONS? FEEDBACK?

Contact us at: MGEV Schools Attn: Communicator Editor 145 N. Cherry Street Mt. Gilead, OH 43338 - or email info@mgschools.org



November:

27-29: No School, Thanksgiving Break

December :

- 9: National Honor Society Induction Ceremony, 7 PM
- 11: 2-Hour Early Release for Professional Development
- 12: 1st Grade Holiday Concert, 6 PM
- 12: 3rd Grade Holiday Concert, 7 PM
- 12: HS Choir Concert, 7 PM
- 16: MS Band & Choir Winter Concert, 6 PM
- **16:** HS Band & Choir Winter Concert, 7:30 PM
- 23-31: No School, Winter Break

January:

- 1: No School, New Year's Day
- 16: End of 2nd Quarter and 1st Semester Classes
- 17: No School: Teacher Work Day
- **17:** High School Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
- 20: No School: MLK Jr. Day
- 29: 2-Hour Early Release for Professional Development
- 31: Senior Pictures due to Yearbook Staff

February:

13: 1-Hour Early Release for Parent-Teacher Conferences

17: No School - Presidents' Day

- **18:** 1-Hour Early Release for Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 22: Park Avenue Denim & Diamonds Dance, 6 PM

ORC 3321.01 states that a child who does not meet the age requirement for entering kindergarten may be evaluated for early admission upon referral by parent/guardian, educator, pediatrician or psychologist. Early entrance applications and forms are due by April 30, 2025. The forms are available during regular school hours at the MGEVS Board of Education Office.

Do you think you received this newsletter by mistake? *The Communicator* is designed for all taxpayers who reside within the Mount Gilead (Ohio) Exempted Village Schools district. However, there are postal routes that wander outside of our district. Since bulk mail is the most cost effective way to send this newsletter, and since the entire postal route has to be included, we have chosen to include those outlying routes. We hope that you will enjoy *The Communicator* anyway. If not, please pass it on to someone who may enjoy it or place in a recycling bin.