



## Superintendent's Update



Mark Robinson  
Superintendent

As I write this article, I find myself reflecting on the incredible journey of my career in education, one that has been both deeply fulfilling and meaningful. After much consideration, I have made the difficult decision to retire as Superintendent of Buckeye Central Schools, effective July 31, 2025. This decision was not made lightly, as serving this district has been one of the greatest honors of my professional life. Buckeye

Central has been more than a workplace; it has been a community, a family, and a source of immense pride. While this transition is bittersweet, I am deeply grateful for the experiences I have had, the relationships I have built, and the progress we have made together.

For the past 45 years, I have dedicated my career to public education, with the last 11 years spent serving the students, staff, and families as Superintendent of Buckeye Central. Every day, I have been inspired by the dedication of our educators, the resilience of our students, and the unwavering support of our community. I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished together.

Our district's motto, "Where Students Come First," is more than a slogan—it is a guiding principle that has shaped every decision we make. I have witnessed firsthand the impact of our schools, the dedication of our staff, and the strength of a community committed to education. It has been a privilege to serve in this role and to be part of so many shared successes.

Of course, this transition brings mixed feelings. While I look forward to spending more time with my family, I will deeply miss the daily interactions with students, staff, and community members. The spirit of Buckeye Central—the passion, the camaraderie, and the shared commitment to excellence—has left an indelible mark on me. Though my time as superintendent is coming to an end, my connection to this district will remain strong, and my support for its success will never waiver.

I want to extend my sincere gratitude to everyone who has supported and trusted me throughout my tenure—our Board of Education members, our dedicated staff, our engaged families, and most importantly, our incredible students. Buckeye Central is in great hands, and I have no doubt that its future will be even brighter.

I am excited to see the next generation of leadership blossom, carrying forward the traditions and values that make this district so special. As Buckeye Central continues to grow and evolve, I will be cheering it on every step of the way, forever proud to be a part of this extraordinary community. Stay tuned for more information about the process for selecting our new superintendent and how you can get involved.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your superintendent. It has been an honor.

Mark Robinson  
Superintendent, Buckeye Central Schools

## Superintendent Search & Community Feedback

The Buckeye Central Local Schools Board of Education is partnering with the Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center (MOESC) in the search process for the new Superintendent. The Mid-Ohio Educational Service Center provides specialized academic and support services, including professional development, to 13 school districts and over 20,000 students in Crawford, Morrow, and Richland Counties. An online questionnaire has been placed on the district website and sent out via the district social media platforms, e.g. Facebook, Instagram, to the Buckeye Central community seeking feedback in the development of the Buckeye Central Local Schools Superintendent search profile. This feedback is critical in assisting the Board of Education to develop a profile of leadership qualities for the new superintendent. Stay tuned for on-going information about this important process.

## Treasurer's Update



Nancy Ackerman,  
Treasurer

At Buckeye Central, we are committed to transparency, accountability, and fiscal responsibility. As stewards of our district's finances, we take great care to ensure that taxpayer dollars are utilized efficiently and effectively. To maximize our resources, we continuously seek grants and alternative funding opportunities, allowing us

to offset costs and preserve local tax dollars while providing the best education possible for our students.

Over the past two years, our efforts have led to the successful acquisition of several state grants, which have enabled us to purchase and upgrade essential equipment, including:

### Three New Buses

Total Cost: \$315,729 | Grant Coverage: \$135,000

### Floor Scrubber

Total Cost: \$33,080 | Grant Coverage: \$24,810

### Tow-Behind Articulated Boom Lift

Total Cost: \$11,700 | Grant Coverage: \$8,775

As we move through the school year, we remain dedicated to responsible budget management—supporting student programs, maintaining our facilities, and investing in critical resources. We sincerely appreciate the ongoing support of our community in helping us maintain a strong financial foundation for student success.

If you have any questions regarding our budget or spending priorities, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Nancy Ackerman  
Treasurer, Buckeye Central Schools

## The Buckeye Central Endowment Fund

The Buckeye Central Endowment Fund (BCEF) is made possible through generous contributions from our community. These funds provide students with enrichment programs and opportunities that go beyond standard school programming, fostering creativity, engagement, and meaningful learning experiences. Our goal is to impact as many students as possible while strengthening community involvement in education.

This year, the BCEF has proudly awarded grants to staff to support the following initiatives:

### Bri Clady

Everything Blocks  
for Kindergarten  
\$185

### Elementary PTO

Forces and  
Motion Assembly  
\$1,295

### Kim Selvey

High School Crew  
Activities  
\$500

### Joe Wiles

High School  
Games, Button  
Maker & Supplies  
\$485

### Marianne Williamson

Outdoor Learning Lab  
Fall Maintenance &  
Community BBQ Grill  
\$1,000

### Holly Keller

Educator Wellness  
Book Study  
& Curriculum  
Development  
\$462

### Stephanie Kantzer

Thiossane Institute  
African Dance Assembly &  
Workshops (K-6)  
\$2,800

### Christa Swanger

Crawford Chargers Special  
Olympics Assembly  
\$400

### Total awards granted to date: \$7,127

Remaining funds available this school year: \$4,699  
Educators are encouraged to apply for funding to bring extraordinary, engaging learning opportunities to Buckeye Central students.

Community members who wish to contribute to the Buckeye Central Endowment Fund can do so by contacting the Community Foundation for Crawford County at [www.cfcrawford.org](http://www.cfcrawford.org).

## Teen Leadership Mentors Teach Financial Literacy to Elementary Students

High school students from Buckeye Central's Teen Leadership program are making a difference by mentoring elementary students through Junior Achievement. This program empowers young learners with financial literacy, covering topics like wants vs. needs through engaging lessons.



## Health Partners of Western Ohio Brings Vision Care to Students

Health Partners of Western Ohio recently provided a vision clinic for our students, offering essential eye care services. A total of 43 students, ranging from kindergarten to 12th grade, were seen during the clinic, and seven students received glasses to support their vision needs.

In addition to the vision clinic, Health Partners also hosted a dental clinic earlier this year, ensuring our students have access to comprehensive healthcare. For families seeking medical and dental services, Health Partners operates a clinic in the Tiffin Community Health Center, offering a range of healthcare resources right in our community.

We appreciate Health Partners' dedication to student health and well-being!

## Staff BoomWhacker Performance – Watch the Video!

The Buckeye Central Elementary staff brought holiday cheer with a unique and festive performance of “We Wish You a Merry Christmas”—played one note at a time using BoomWhackers!

It's safe to say our staff knows how to make the season bright and add a little extra fun to the holidays. Scan the QR code to check out their performance.



## Holiday Movie-Themed Cupcake Wars & Holiday Celebration Meal

Students in the Family and Consumer Science class recently put their creativity and baking skills to the test in a festive Holiday Movie-Themed Cupcake Wars competition!

Each group drew a holiday movie and was challenged to design a themed display, including beautifully decorated cupcakes, a custom cake stand crafted by Mrs. Betts in the STEAM lab, and a coordinating poster board.

Teachers and staff served as judges, evaluating the displays on creativity, presentation, and overall execution.

Congratulations to Dakota Krohn and Avery Knapp, whose Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer display took the top prize!



## Preschool Fun in the Snow

Bitty Bucks embraced the winter wonderland with an afternoon full of sledding, snow angels, and snowball fun! The fluffy snow brought endless smiles and plenty of laughter.

What a perfect way to enjoy the season and **ALL** that snow!



# National Honor Society Induction & Alumni Hall of Fame

In November, Buckeye Central High School hosted an inspiring evening, bringing together the National Honor Society (NHS) induction and the Alumni Hall of Fame ceremony. This special event highlighted the outstanding achievements of our students and honored the lasting legacy of our distinguished alumni.

## Congratulations to Our Newest NHS Members

Olivia Bishop, Isabel Brenneman, Kellen Burger, Lucas Cianflone, Ella Collene, Sophia Martin, Savannah Pace, Ava Presler, and Conner West. These students exemplify the core values of NHS—scholarship, leadership, service, and character—representing the very best of Buckeye Central.



## 2024 Alumni Hall of Fame Inductee



We proudly welcomed Christine Standard (McCarthy), Class of 1983, into the Alumni Hall of Fame. Christine's journey as a U.S. Army veteran, entrepreneur, and dedicated

community leader serves as an inspiration to us all.

The evening was a true celebration of pride, connection, and excellence—a powerful reminder of what it means to be part of the Buckeye Central community.

## BC Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame Nominations Open!

Do you know a Buckeye Central graduate who has made a lasting impact through their achievements, leadership, or service? Now is your chance to honor them by submitting a nomination for the Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame!

This prestigious award recognizes outstanding alumni whose accomplishments and contributions inspire others and bring pride to the Buckeye Central community.

Let's celebrate the remarkable legacy of BC graduates—nominate someone today!

Nomination Deadline:  
April 15, 2025  
Submit a nomination here:



## Edgar René Concert Inspires and Engages Students

Nearly 300 students from Buckeye Central, Marion Pleasant, Seneca East, and Willard gathered for an unforgettable Spanish concert with Puerto Rican singer Edgar René. Known for his engaging school performances, Edgar performed his own songs, popular Spanish hits, and even some English tunes, along with playing the piano.

This year, his message encouraged students to embrace speaking a new language without fear of making mistakes.

He made the experience interactive by inviting students on stage for a tongue twister challenge, social media post, and dance performances, including La Bachata and Salsa. Students also joined his Barruca Band, playing instruments and dancing along.

After the concert, Edgar took time to sign autographs and take photos, leaving students with great memories of a lively and inspiring event!

## Process Art & Family Night: The Beauty in the Journey

At Bitty Bucks, we celebrate student-led creativity through process art—where the focus is on exploration, not just the final product. Teachers design hands-on activities inspired by students' interests to spark curiosity and engagement.

At our recent Games & Frames Family Night, families experienced this firsthand by participating in a weaving activity using fabrics, ribbons, and more—creating together in a meaningful way.

Why Process Art Matters:

- Encourages creativity & decision-making
- Builds language & collaboration skills
- Engages senses & strengthens fine motor skills
- Fosters problem-solving & cognitive growth
- Supports emotional expression & confidence

Process art is about exploring, learning, and growing—one creative journey at a time!



## 8th Grade N10 Volleyball Tournament Champions!

The Buckeye Central 8th Grade Volleyball Team showcased their dominance at the N10 Volleyball Tournament on October 8 at Buckeye Central, finishing their season undefeated with an impressive 17-0 record. In the semifinal match, they faced Upper Sandusky, securing a decisive victory with scores of 25-15 and 25-13. Advancing to the championship game, they took on Mohawk and claimed the title with a 25-21, 25-15 win. Congratulations to these talented athletes on an outstanding season and a well-earned championship victory! Way to go, Bucks!



## Coach Loy Earns 200th Career Win

A huge congratulations to Coach Phil Loy on achieving his 200th career win as a varsity basketball coach in a thrilling matchup against Lucas this January! Throughout his coaching career, Coach Loy has been a cornerstone of Buckeye Central athletics, leading both boys' and girls' basketball teams with passion, dedication, and unwavering commitment. For the past two seasons, he has guided our girls' basketball team, inspiring athletes both on and off the court.

Congratulations Coach Loy on your outstanding achievement!



## STEAM Class Builds Tiny Drummers

Our 5th graders took on an exciting STEAM challenge with Mrs. Caudill and Mrs. Hartsel—building and programming tiny drummers! Using Hummingbird robotic kits from BirdBrain Technologies LLC, they designed and coded their drumming robots to keep perfect time to Rockin’ Robin at 176 beats per minute.



By combining servo motors, sensors, and precise coding with events, conditionals, and timing blocks, these young engineers brought their robotic drummers to life, perfectly synchronized to the beat.

## 7th grade Science Class Exploring Physics

Mrs. Williamson’s 7th grade science class is taking learning to new (and snowy!) heights at the Outdoor Learning Lab! Using everyday materials, students designed and built sleds, testing their creations on the snow-covered hills.

Along the way, they explored physics concepts like friction, momentum, mass, acceleration, and speed—all while fine-tuning their engineering skills. Oh, and they’re also mastering the art of dressing for freezing weather! Great work, future engineers!



## Kindergarten STEAM Class Bringing Snowmen Inside!

Our kindergarten STEAM students became little scientists as they explored an exciting hands-on experiment! They created a special baking soda “dough” to build their own snowmen and then observed a fascinating chemical reaction using vinegar to make them melt.

As part of their learning, students compared how these indoor snowmen melted differently from those made of real snow outside. In addition to exploring science, they practiced teamwork by working in pairs to build a snowman together. They discussed their roles, shared responsibilities, and collaborated to bring their creations to life. It was a fun and educational experience that blended science, observation, and communication skills!



## 7th & 8th Grade Science Outdoor Learning Lab Maintenance Day

8th graders took their learning beyond the classroom during their Outdoor Learning Lab Maintenance Day, a key part of their autumn problem-based learning unit. Throughout the day, students worked hands-on to clear invasive species from the detention pond, refresh furniture at the pavilion and in the woods, maintain trails, and clean signs and birdhouses.

While applying their knowledge of life science and beneficial traits, they also gained valuable practical skills. A highlight of the experience was working alongside community volunteers, reinforcing the importance of teamwork and stewardship in a park that remains open to the public year-round.



## Art with Mr. Martin

Mr. Jason Martin’s art room is a hub of creativity! From foundational skills in Art 1 to advanced projects in Art 3 and 4, students explore painting, 3D construction, and art analysis.

His passion is contagious, guiding students through Pop Art, half-and-half portraits, and hands-on challenges that foster growth, critical thinking, and a love for the arts.





## Marching Band Brings Music and Fun to Preschoolers

In October, the school’s marching band made a special visit to the preschool for an exciting end-of-day jam session. The band performed and danced to a lively set of songs, filling the room with energy and excitement. The preschoolers had a fantastic time dancing along, making it a memorable experience for everyone involved!



## Band Students Shine at OMEA Honor Band

Four of our talented band students—Zane Baxter, Millie Ebert, Bella Light, and Carter Rannells—were selected from over 200 applicants to perform in the Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) District 2 Jr. High Honor Band. The event, held on Jan. 18 at Tiffin Middle School, featured rehearsals with guest conductor Mrs. Meeks and culminated in a fantastic concert. This prestigious opportunity allowed students to refine their skills, explore new music, and connect with fellow musicians. Congratulations to all!



## High School Concert Choir Performs National Anthem at BCHS Volleyball Games

Our talented High School Concert Choir has had the honor of performing the National Anthem at two sporting events so far this year. They took the stage at the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) Sectional Finals on October 16 at Buckeye Central High School.



## Quiz Bowl Team Makes History

Our high school quiz bowl team recently achieved an incredible milestone, winning the North Central Ohio ESC tournament with a flawless 5-0 record! This marks the first time Buckeye Central has ever taken home the title, and we couldn’t be more proud of their hard work and dedication.

Congratulations to the entire team on this historic achievement. Way to represent Buckeye Central with pride and excellence!

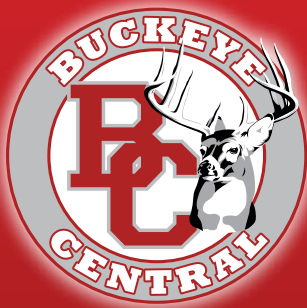
## 4th Grade DARE Graduates

Congratulations to our 4th Grade DARE Graduates!

Our 4th graders completed the DARE program, learning valuable lessons about decision-making, responsibility, and making positive choices.

We’re so proud of these students for their dedication and commitment to becoming strong leaders and role models in our BC community!





## Buckeye Central Local School District

938 South Kibler St.  
New Washington, OH 44854

Phone: 419-492-2864

www.buckeye-central.org



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## Important Dates

- March 14** - Staff PD Day - No School for Students
- March 19** - Late Start Day
- April 18** - Good Friday - No School
- April 21** - No School
- May 16** - Seniors Last Day
- May 18** - Graduation
- May 22** - K-11 Students Last Day - Early Release 1:20 p.m.
- May 23** - Teachers Last Day

## Spring State Testing Dates

- Junior ACT:** March 11 (Makeup 3/25)
- Biliteracy Seal Assessment:** AAPPL, March 20 & 21 (Makeups 3/27 & 28)
- Agriculture Related Web Exams:** March 31 & April 1 (Makeups 4/2 & 3)
- ELA 3-8 + Sophomores taking ELA II:** April 15-16 (Makeups completed by 4/25)
- Math 3-8 + Algebra & Geometry Students:** April 23-24 (Makeups completed by 5/9)
- 5th Science, 8th Science, & Biology:** April 29-30 (Makeups completed by 5/9)
- US History:** May 1 (Makeups completed by 5/9)

## District Growth Assessments

- Elementary:** iReady, April 28-May 9
- Middle School:** iReady, April 28-May 16
- High School:** NWEA MAP, May 9-16

**BE IN THE KNOW!**

Save time! Is the proper school number saved in your phone?

**Buckeye Central Schools**

- Bitty Bucks Preschool  
419-492-3275
- Elementary School  
419-492-1022
- Middle School  
419-492-1035
- High School  
419-492-2266
- Board Office  
419-492-2864

CONTACT US HERE