



COVINGTON CONNECTION

The Newsletter Linking The Covington Schools,
Home & Community



Dr. Joseph Hoelzle, Superintendent

www.covington.k12.oh.us

March 2025

COVINGTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Highlights from the Elementary

By Josh Long, Elementary Principal

CES Spring Concert

It's that time of year again! Presenting: "Squirm", our Spring Program for grades 1-3 will be taking place March 26 at 6:30pm! Join us and witness a fun and educational story about some of the creepy crawly critters and why they play an important role in the ecosystem of this planet! Through some catchy songs and fun dialogue come see the hard work of our talented students! We ask students in grades 1-3 to show up ready to go by 6:15 in the cafeteria. We are so excited to see you there!

Storm Science Assembly

Recently our students had the opportunity to watch an assembly called Storm Science. This assembly was an excellent mix of science, storm safety, and fun. There were some awesome storm simulations and an important message for the students about being prepared in the event of severe weather. A big thank you to our BEST organization for bringing in a great assembly.



Kindergarten Registration

Covington Elementary School is in the process of conducting our 2025-2026 kindergarten registration. Any child who will be five on or before August 1, 2025, is eligible to attend kindergarten. Registration may be completed now on our district website. Once you have completed online registration, your child will be scheduled for **kindergarten screenings, which will be held April 30 & May 1.**

Concert Band Rated "Superior"

By Jessica Moore, Music Teacher

On March 7, the Covington High School Concert Band performed at OMEA District Large Group Contest at Versailles High School. The band earned STRAIGHT "superior" ratings - one of only three bands in our area to do so. For this concert the band performed three pieces: Blue Sky Horizon by Randall Standridge, Bunker Hill by Karl L. King (arranged by James Swearingen), and Apex Predator by Michael Oare.

Blue Sky Horizon is a hopeful and reflective piece, Bunker Hill a lively march, and Apex Predator a mysterious and frightening fight for survival. The group was evaluated on tone, technique, and interpretation. The band also participated in a sight reading portion of the contest where they were presented with a new piece of music and performed it shortly after.

The ratings received last Friday qualify the Concert Band to move to OMEA State Large Group Contest on April 25th. When moving on to state, the band is required to change one of their pieces, so students have a few short weeks to learn a whole new piece as well as refine details on the other two that are still being performed on the program.

CHS Winter News

By Bridgit Kerber, HS Principal

CHS has had a sensational winter season! Despite being held hostage by Mother Nature, our students have still found time for athletic excellence and academic achievement, and our school community has much to celebrate heading into spring!

We celebrated the end of our first semester and second quarter with our traditional Crew day, in which students from all grades and crews participated in games to build team spirit across grade levels. We also showered our Principal's List and Honor Roll students with love by providing the quarterly donuts before school. These activities foster a sense of belonging and shared goals amongst the student body.

Because we are now past the midpoint of the year, parent teacher conferences were held to start working on any needed interventions for those students who are struggling in classes. If any parent missed the chance to catch up with their student's teachers, it isn't too late to reach out and have those conversations. Helping students value homework at home with dedicated times and places to complete work further supports the skills that we are providing at school.

A few future activities to keep in mind are the Drama Club's production of "Prom Night Fright" on March 14th and 15th, which is sure to delight the community with a few surprises. Following that awesome event is our annual Spaghetti Supper on March 18th, which raises funds for the Covington Schools Scholarship Fund.

Don't forget to come to the school to get your pancakes on Pancake Day in the cafeteria on March 22nd, sponsored by the Covington Tomorrow Club (formerly Noon Optimist Club) who supports youth activities in many different ways in the community.

Finally, as we wrap up this quarter, our many high school clubs are working with a local organization to raise funds for those many hundreds of families in North Carolina who are still struggling to get back on their feet after the devastating flooding they experienced. We want our Buccaneers to be service minded, and a little competition never hurts in providing some motivation. How fortunate our students are to live in a community that reaches out its hands and hearts to those in need. Go Buccs!

COVINGTON HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS



PROM NIGHT FRIGHT

March 14th & 15th, 2025 at 7:00pm
in the Covington K-8 Building

OUR AWESOME CAST



TICKETS: \$11 FOR ADULTS - \$8 FOR SENIORS AND STUDENTS

Annual Spaghetti Supper

By Laura Ayres and Nicole Crawford



The annual Covington High School Spaghetti Supper will be held on March 18 2025 from 4:30-6:30pm. On the evening of the event, the meal will be served in the K-8 cafeteria with seating in the new gym. All proceeds from the dinner will benefit the Covington Schools Scholarship Fund. Each dinner will include Italian spaghetti with meat sauce, homemade coleslaw, garlic toast, dessert and drinks. Live music will be provided by members of the Covington music department throughout the event.

Also, the community scholarship fund drive is underway. Many individuals and organizations have continuously been supportive of this cause throughout the years. Donations to the scholarship fund should be sent to Laura Ayres at Covington High School, 807 Chestnut St., Suite A, Covington, Ohio 45318, through March 21, 2025. For more information, call 937-473-2856, Opt 1.

The community's continued support is greatly appreciated!

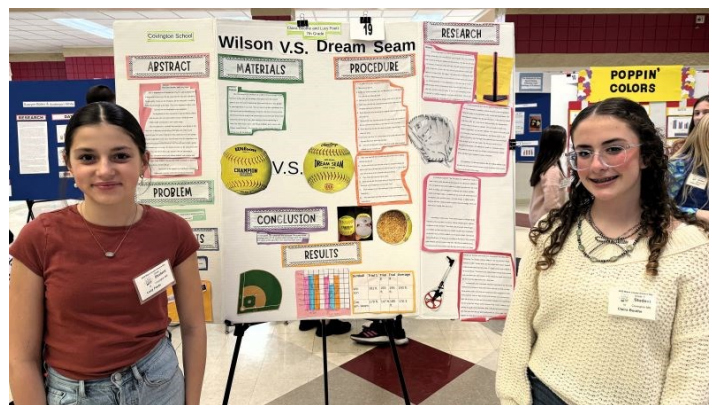
Middle School Students Superior in Science Fair Events

By Mike Treon, MS Principal

Covington Middle School science students presented their projects during the Covington Science Day on Wednesday, January 29th. 44 projects were judged by volunteers from Wright Patterson Air Force Base with 13 of those projects receiving a Superior rating. Lucy Foutz and Clairra Boothe were awarded “Best in Show” and each received a Chick-fil-A gift card for their project that compared the differences between two brands of softballs. Each group that earned a Superior Rating was invited to compete at the county science day.

Nine student groups from Covington Middle School attended the Miami County Science Day competition on Thursday, February 13th at Tippecanoe High School with four groups earning another Superior Rating qualifying them for the regional science fair! Tessa Lyons and Natalie Parke’s project about calf nutrition and weight gain received two additional awards on top of their superior rating - Cargill’s “Animal Science” Award worth \$50 each and Abbott Nutrition’s “One Team, One Voice, One Goal” Award that included a scientific kit and honorary medallion. Other student groups who also earned a “Superior”: Alva Hess & Brayden Lasater, Lucy Foutz & Clairra Boothe, and Bri Pfoutz.

Last weekend, eighth grade Bri Pfoutz brought her engineering design project to Edison Community College for the regional Upper Miami Valley Science Days event. There she proudly represented herself as a Buccaneer, earning an Excellent rating. Way to go, Bri!



Middle School Winter Highlights

By Mike Treon, MS Principal

Middle School students have been busy since we returned from winter break. MAP testing showed the continued growth of our students thus far this year in math, science, and reading. We celebrated the end of the 2nd quarter with Kona Ice and Crew Day. Students wore their “Crew” shirts and participated in a kickball tournament with the Green team besting the Staff after a hard fought final game. The highly anticipated PrideBuccs drawings for basketballs, volleyballs, candy, and art supplies occurred with students turning in their tickets from the past nine weeks to be entered into the drawing.

Covington Science Day was a huge success with forty-four projects from seventy-seven students being presented. Of those projects, thirteen received a “Superior” rating and an invite to compete at Miami County. Nine groups continued on to the county competition with four of them earning another “Superior” rating. One group event went on to compete at the Regional event last weekend at Edison.

Our Scholarship Club hosted their annual induction of 21 new members who have shown great academic excellence while in seventh or eighth grade.

Our winter sports teams’ seasons have wrapped up with the TRC tournaments in girls & boys basketball and wrestling. Spring sports practices are now starting! Looking ahead towards the end of the school year, our students are excited about upcoming field trips and events such as the 8th grade Washington DC Trip in May and the MS Dance Party in April.

Winter Athletics Recap

By Ashley Naff, Athletic Director

The student-athletes in the winter programs have had an outstanding winter season! The varsity boys' basketball team finished their season with a 6-17 overall record. Brogen Angle earned Second Team All-Conference honors and District 9 Coaches Team honors, and Tanner Palsgrove and Brant Angle earned Honorable Mention All-Conference. Brogen Angle was also chosen to play in the District 9 Senior All-Star game.

The varsity girls' basketball team finished their team as Three Rivers Conference Champions with a 21-3 overall record and a perfect 14-0 conference record. The Lady Buccs had five players receiving All-Conference honors this season. Maggie Anderson was named TRC Girls' Basketball Player of the Year, Avery Koffer earned First Team All-Conference honors, Gabrielle Hartwig earned Second Team All-Conference honors, and Delaney Murphy and Emalyn Johnson earned Honorable Mention All-Conference honors. Maggie Anderson was also named to the District 9 Coach Team, the District 9 Senior All-Star game, and First Team All-Southwest District. Gabrielle Hartwig is also playing in the District 9 Senior All-Star game, and Avery Koffer was named Honorable Mention All-Southwest District.

Maggie Anderson scored her 1,000th point this season, and she finished her career with 1,330 points. Maggie also set the school record for Career Free Throw Percentage. As a team, the Lady Buccs set the following school records: Fewest Points Allowed in a Game, Consecutive Wins in a Season, and Lowest Defensive Average.

The wrestling team finished in 2nd place in the Three Rivers Conference. Brody Taylor, Isaiah Mumford, Caleb Ryman, Aveyen Meek, and Trenton Havenar were individual conference champions in their respective weight classes, earning First Team All-Conference honors.

Caleb Ryman was also voted TRC Co-Wrestler of the Year. The Buccaneers had five wrestlers advance to the District Tournament, and Caleb Ryman and Trenton Havenar qualified for the OHSAA State Tournament the weekend of March 7th-9th, with Brody Taylor qualifying as an alternate.

The competition cheerleaders finished 3rd at the State Competition in Traditional Cheer and 9th in Hip Hop. Brock Gessner also qualified for the OHSAA State Swimming meet in the 100 Butterfly and 100 Backstroke, and he finished 15th in the 100 Butterfly. We also had three student-athletes qualify for the State Indoor Track Meet – Preston King, Day'Lynn Garrett, and Elyza Long.

Congratulations on a great winter season!

A Message from the Superintendent

By Dr. Joseph Hoelzle

It is my hope that you enjoy this 2nd digital edition of the Covington Connection. This past winter, the school district has had many successes that will be highlighted in this publication.

Our students and staff have displayed excellence outside the classroom from student musical performances in concert and OMEA events to winter athletic competitions and achievements. We have also had middle school science fairs and field trips that extend learning outside of the classroom.

As we look forward to spring, I hope you enjoy this update and are proud of the many good things happening at Covington Schools.

The district is looking forward to the Stadium and Track Renovations that will be ready for this fall. Construction will begin near the end of Track season this spring and should be ready for our first home football game on August 29. By this first football game, we will have a new entry gate, new roof on the concession stand, new fencing, new press box, and a new track surface.

As always, if you would like to have a discussion with me, or have comments, concerns, or suggestions, please schedule an appointment to meet with me. My e-mail address is

hoelzlej@covingtonk12.org, or my office phone number is (937)-473-2249.

Spring Testing News

By Jim Sagona, Director of
Technology & K-12 Curriculum

From Tuesday, March 25th through Wednesday, April 30th, students in grades 3-11 will participate in state-mandated assessments in English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

High school students will also be taking required end-of-course exams. Please see the schedule below:

GRADE 3

English Language Arts

Tuesday, April 1st & Wednesday, April 2nd

Math

Tuesday, April 15th & Wednesday, April 16th

GRADE 4

English Language Arts

Tuesday, March 25th & Wednesday, March 26

Math

Wednesday, April 23 & Thursday, April 24

GRADE 5

English Language Arts

Tuesday, March 25 & Wednesday, March 26

Math

Wednesday, April 23 & Thursday, April 24

Science

Tuesday, April 29 & Wednesday, April 30

GRADE 6

English Language Arts

Tuesday, April 1 & Wednesday, April 2

Math

Tuesday, April 15 & Wednesday, April 16

GRADE 7

English Language Arts

Tuesday, April 8 & Wednesday, April 9

Math

Tuesday, April 29 & Wednesday, April 30

GRADE 8

English Language Arts

Tues & Wed, April 8 & 9

Science

Wednesday, April 16

Math

Tues & Wed, April 29 & 30

HIGH SCHOOL

English Language Arts II (Grade 10)

Tues & Wed, April 8 & 9

American History / Government

Tuesday, April 15

Biology

Wednesday, April 16

Algebra I / Geometry

Tues & Wed, April 29 & 30

On testing days, it is important that students attend school, arrive on time, get plenty of sleep, eat a nutritious breakfast, and come prepared to do their best. Try not to schedule any doctor, dentist, or any other appointments on test mornings.

While these assessments are one measure of student progress and help teachers plan instruction, we also value the many other ways students demonstrate their learning. We encourage students to take the tests seriously and do their best.

On testing days for grades 7-12, there will be a two-hour delay. However, students who are testing should arrive at the regular time (8:10 am). Students not testing may arrive two hours later. Grade 6 will follow the regular daily schedule on all testing days.

THANKS FOR ASKING!

I have a question about the Covington Schools or a suggestion for improving the schools.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Mail your questions or suggestions to: Dr. Joseph Hoelzle, Covington EVSD, 807 Chestnut St., Suite B, Covington, OH 45318
