



SPRING 2025 ISSUE

Buckeye Brief

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER OF THE
BUCKEYE CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOLS

Superintendent's Update



Mark Robinson
Superintendent

With the closing of the school year in the rearview mirror, I want to take a moment to reflect on the many student accomplishments we celebrated this spring and also on the spirit that makes Buckeye Central such a special place.

Our students had a full and meaningful second half of the year. The Quiz Bowl team proudly represented us on the national stage in Chicago. The spring

musical, concert and Art Show showcased the creativity and talent of our young thespians, musicians and artists. On the fields and track, our athletes gave their all, breaking individual school records in softball, track and competing with heart and determination. And in true Buckeye Central fashion, our students gave back to the school community through community service projects in New Washington and Bloomville. These are just a few examples of how our students continue to grow into thoughtful, capable, and caring individuals.

These successes are a testament to what we can achieve when students, families, staff, and the community work together. That collaboration has always defined the Buckeye Central way.

As I enter my final months as superintendent, I've found myself reflecting on what a true honor it has been to serve this district. I began my career in education in the early 1980s as an Industrial Arts teacher, long before cell phones, social media, and other technologies were in place. Even personal computers were just beginning to become a part of everyday classroom life. Today, we're introducing students to artificial intelligence and hands-on engineering in our STEAM labs. The world has changed dramatically, but the heart of education remains the same: it's about relationships, trust, and helping young people grow.

I've been fortunate to be a member of a team at Buckeye Central that has prioritized student-centered improvements. Together, we've added an auxiliary gymnasium, built a preschool to support our youngest learners, created a STEAM lab, renovated the Learning Resource Center, upgraded athletic facilities, and constructed a new bus garage. These enhancements were only possible through careful planning, responsible financial management, and a shared commitment to doing what's best for students.

Our preschool program has helped increase enrollment and better prepare children for kindergarten. The STEAM lab is opening doors to future careers. But most importantly, these initiatives reflect what is possible when a district unites around a common purpose and a shared vision for the future.

I am deeply grateful for the friendships and partnerships formed here, and for the trust this community has placed in me over the past 11 years.

As I prepare to step aside, I do so with utmost confidence in the path ahead. Mrs. Barb Green, our current middle school principal, will officially step into the superintendent's role August 1. Barb brings with her a wealth of curriculum and instructional expertise, a deep commitment to student success, and a collaborative leadership style that inspires trust and respect. I have every confidence that she will lead Buckeye Central with the same care and dedication that has defined her career.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve this wonderful, student-centered district. It has truly been a privilege of my lifetime. I look forward to cheering on Buckeye Central in new ways - always proud of who we are, who we will become, and what we accomplish, together!

With deep appreciation,
Mark A. Robinson
Superintendent
Buckeye Central Local Schools

Treasurer's Update



Nancy Ackerman,
Treasurer

At Buckeye Central, sound fiscal management is at the core of every decision we make. As responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars, our team is dedicated to using resources wisely, efficiently, and transparently. From securing grant funding to exploring cost-saving strategies, we are committed to delivering high-quality educational experiences while upholding financial integrity.

We are closely monitoring developments in the state budget process that could have a significant impact on school funding across Ohio. Of particular interest are proposals that may change property tax structures and public utility revenue, especially related to solar and pipeline projects. These changes could impact the revenue sources that support our schools and, in turn, affect the opportunities we can offer our students.

We are also paying attention to a proposed cap on the amount of fund that school districts can carry over from one fiscal year to the next. This restriction would limit local control, reduce our ability to plan responsibly for the future, and could encourage short-term spending rather than long-term financial stewardship.

We maintain regular communication with our local legislators to ensure that the needs of Buckeye Central and the voices of the families we serve are heard. We are advocating for policies that protect our fair share of funding and allow us to continue offering strong academic programs, safe learning environments, and meaningful extracurricular opportunities.

We are grateful for your continued support and trust as we work to maintain a stable financial foundation for student success. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions about our budget or financial planning efforts.

Sincerely,
Nancy Ackerman
Treasurer
Buckeye Central Local Schools

Barb Green Selected to Lead Buckeye Central



A familiar face will be stepping into a new leadership role at Buckeye Central this August. Barb Green, who has served as the middle school principal for the past year, will officially become the district's superintendent on August 1.

With over 25 years of experience in education, Barb brings a wealth of knowledge and a deep commitment to student achievement. Her career has included roles as a classroom teacher, assistant principal, and principal. She joined Buckeye Central in August 2024, following nearly a decade of leadership at Shelby City Schools, where she served as both assistant principal and principal of the middle school.

Barb's leadership has consistently focused on building strong school communities, utilizing data to drive instruction, and creating systems that support the success of every student. She holds a superintendent license as well as master's degrees in educational administration and curriculum development.

The Buckeye Central community looks forward to her continued leadership and the positive momentum she will bring to the district in this new role.

Congratulations, Class of 2025

On May 18, Buckeye Central Local Schools proudly hosted the 2025 Commencement Ceremony, celebrating the accomplishments of 48 graduating seniors.

At a Glance

Number of
Graduates
48

Next Steps

32	15	1
will attend college	plan to enter the workforce	is joining the military

Honors Diplomas Awarded

More than half of the Class of 2025 earned honors diplomas, a remarkable testament to their dedication and academic excellence.

20 Academic **4 Career-Tech** **1 Art**

Valedictorian
Isaac Parsons

Salutatorian
Elizabeth Krebs

Retiree Gratitude

Thank you to our retirees for their service to Buckeye Central.

Mark Robinson

11 years
Superintendent

Amy Wilde

18 years
Elementary School
Teacher

Cindy Ross

21 years
Intervention Specialist

Kelly McCarthy

11 years
Middle School
Math Teacher

Deb Moore

9 years
Intervention Specialist



Left to right: Amy Wilde, Kelly McCarthy, Mark Robinson, Deb Moore, Cindy Ross

Quiz Bowl Team Makes Their Mark at Nationals

Buckeye Central's high school Quiz Bowl team proudly competed in the Small School National Championship Tournament in Chicago, finishing 18th out of 88 top teams nationwide.

These students represented Buckeye Central with pride, focus, and teamwork. Well done!



The Class of 2025 has made a lasting impact on our school community, excelling in academics, extracurricular activities, and leadership. Their accomplishments reflect the values we cherish at Buckeye Central — grit, effort, and a passion for learning.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our dedicated staff, supportive families, and the entire community for helping guide these students to this significant achievement. We wish each graduate the very best on the journey ahead.



Celebrating Growth and Transformation at Bitty Bucks Preschool Graduation

On May 15, Bitty Bucks Preschool proudly celebrated a milestone as 33 of our youngest learners graduated and officially took their next big step into kindergarten. This marks the fifth graduating class since the program's founding in 2021.

The graduation theme, "Without Change, There Would Be No Butterflies," captured the spirit of the day. As the ceremony concluded, the preschoolers surprised the audience with a heartwarming performance. Wearing butterfly wings, they sang a song about the transformation from caterpillar to butterfly.

It was a joyful and emotional tribute to growth, resilience, and new beginnings. Congratulations to our Bitty Bucks Class of 2025!



Bitty Bucks Preschool Staff Attend NAEYC Conference

In April, Bitty Bucks Preschool staff attended the 2025 NAEYC Conference, focusing on nature-based and hands-on learning, which are central to the school's philosophy. They explored strategies to engage young learners through art, music, sign language, literacy, and other creative approaches that support diverse learning styles. Staff are now planning to incorporate these ideas into their classrooms this fall.



Bitty Bucks Write a Book

Mrs. Meyers and Miss Miller's preschool class recently reached an exciting milestone: they wrote and illustrated their own class book.

Over several weeks, students explored the entire bookmaking process, from brainstorming to the final draft. Guided by their curiosity, they chose zoo and safari animals as the theme and added a creative twist with rhyming text. Collaboration was key as students shared animal facts, helped with drawings, and created rhymes together. The project highlighted teamwork, creativity, and student-led learning.

The class celebrated with a publishing party and proudly read their finished book together for the first time.



Kindergartners Explore Their Community

Kindergartners in Mrs. Clady's, Mrs. Gosche's, and Mrs. Horning's classes recently completed a fun and educational unit on communities. Students learned about different types of homes and how where people live is often connected to nearby resources and jobs.

They created model homes to share with their classmates and visited local places, such as the bank, post office, and fire station. The trip ended with lunch and playtime at the community park.

In STEAM with Mrs. Caudill, students built a model town using cardboard, complete with roads, homes, and businesses, such as a hospital, grocery store, and ice cream shop. It was a creative, hands-on way to learn how communities work!



First Grade STEAM Fun

First-grade students have been exploring ramps, gravity, and different types of balls through hands-on experiments that reveal motion patterns such as straight lines, zig-zags, and loops. Beyond science, they are learning to slow down, collaborate, and share ideas while building essential skills like problem-solving, communication, and empathy. It is inspiring to see our youngest scientists use teamwork and creativity to enhance their learning.



Fourth-Grade Cedar Point STEAM Trip

On Thursday, May 8, 2025, fourth-grade students visited Cedar Point for their annual STEAM trip. Despite a cold, rainy start, students made the most of the day and had a great time.

The visit began with an Engineering Presentation by a designer of Cedar Point's newest roller coaster, Siren's Curse. Students learned about real-world engineering and design before enjoying a catered lunch and time in the park. While the weather stayed chilly, the rain cleared, and the fun continued.

This trip is a highlight of the STEAM program, and we thank the district for making it possible.



Hobby Day Ignites Curiosity and Career Exploration

Hobby Day was a hit at the elementary school, giving students a chance to explore new interests and imagine future careers. The event featured 11 engaging hobbies presented by nine guest speakers in short, hands-on sessions.

Students rotated through 10-minute presentations, discovering unique hobbies and the people behind them, including:

Fishing – Nathan Cass, Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Horse Racing – Megan Young

Boutique Creations – April Barker & Tabatha Lane

Maple Syrup Making – Kurt Weaver

Heavy Equipment – Jason Darling

Aviation – Pilot Tom Schultz

Hiking – Jackie Stockmaster

Taxidermy – Braeden Seifert, BC senior

Refereeing & Coaching – Karson Kimmel

Speakers shared how their hobbies began, their passion for them, and how they can lead to careers. Students left inspired to ask questions, try new things, and dream big.

The day concluded with an exciting hot air balloon demonstration, featuring cold inflation and a surprise flyover by Pilot Schultz!



Jump Rope and Heart Health Shine in PE

In March, Mrs. McCune's PE classes focused on jump rope skills, with goals like 50 consecutive jumps or three minutes nonstop. Students also took part in the Kids Heart Challenge, raising \$4,077.04 for the American Heart Association.

To close out the year, a professional jump rope team visited the school thanks to a grant from the endowment fund. Students learned new tricks and even saw teachers join in on the fun. It was a memorable way to end the school year.





EMS Professionals Share Real-World Experience with Students

To celebrate EMS Week, emergency medical professionals from the Life First Ambulance District visited Buckeye Central Local Schools to share their expertise with students from kindergarten through 12th grade.

Students participated in hands-on demonstrations, Q&A sessions, and discussions about EMS careers. They explored ambulances, learned how EMS teams respond to emergencies, and discovered simple steps they can take to help in critical situations.

The Life First team also invited families to their upcoming open house for a deeper look at emergency services. Buckeye Central is proud to support career readiness and community partnerships, and grateful to our EMS workers for their dedication and service.

Honoring Service at Home: Eighth Graders Tour New Washington

On May 7, Buckeye Central eighth graders explored New Washington on a walking tour highlighting local ties to American history and military service. Stops included Veterans' Memorial Park, the Dairy Bar, and Union Cemetery, deepening students' understanding of freedoms and rights.

At Veterans' Memorial Park, Marine veteran Dave Riedel shared the memorial's history and personal stories from his service, offering a moving reminder of the sacrifices behind our freedoms.



Buckeye Central Eighth Graders Explore Gettysburg and Washington, D.C.



From May 6–9, 40 Buckeye Central eighth graders traveled east to explore key sites in American history with visits to Gettysburg and Washington, D.C.

The journey began in Gettysburg, where students toured the historic battlefield and museum, and viewed the powerful cyclorama film that illustrates the turning point of the Civil War.

In Washington, D.C., the itinerary was packed with learning experiences. Highlights included stops at the Marine Corps Museum, Arlington National Cemetery, the Pentagon, Air Force Memorials, the White House, the Capitol, and the Supreme Court. Students also explored iconic monuments and memorials that bring the story of our nation to life.

Seventh Graders Connect with Preschoolers Through Shared Learning

This year, seventh-grade ELA teacher Ms. Frederick and her students partnered with Buckeye Central preschoolers during three special visits designed to build relationships and support learning.

Seventh graders became reading buddies and playmates, gaining insights into early childhood behavior and communication. Preschoolers, in turn, welcomed the chance to interact with new friends and role models.

The experience supported social-emotional growth for both age groups and reflected Buckeye Central's commitment to student-centered learning.



Student Designs and Sews Custom Prom Dress in Innovations Class

Buckeye Central High School student Asher Karl turned creativity into couture with her Innovations class project by designing and sewing her very own prom dress.

Using her skills in clothing alteration, Asher created a dress that was not only stylish but also a true reflection of her vision and hard work. The finished piece was thoughtfully designed and beautifully constructed, showcasing her attention to detail and strong problem-solving skills throughout the process.

Way to go, Asher — a perfect blend of fashion and innovation!



BC High School Students Step Up to Serve

On May 14, Buckeye Central High School students demonstrated their commitment to community service by contributing over 500 hours of work across 16 different locations. This annual service day reflects the district's mission to nurture, inspire, and empower students through meaningful, real-world experiences.

Students participated in a diverse range of service projects. In New Washington, they cleaned up the park, refreshed the town square, and helped prepare the community pool for summer. Others traveled to Bloomville, where they washed police vehicles and picked up roadside litter. Throughout the district, students assisted residents by raking leaves, trimming shrubs, spreading mulch, planting flowers, and washing windows.

This event provided students with the opportunity to develop responsibility, work collaboratively, and foster connections with their local community.



Spring Concert Highlights Student Talent and Collaboration

The High School Music Department filled the auditorium with music and school spirit during the annual Spring Concert on May 4, 2025. Students from the show choir, jazz band, concert choir, and concert band each performed selections that reflected their hard work and growth over the semester.



Student Council Wraps Up a Season of Service and Celebration

Buckeye Central's Student Council finished the year strong with a series of events that celebrated community, service, and appreciation.

Congratulations to graduating co-presidents Brady Flood and Isaac Parsons, this year's recipients of the Student Council scholarships. Their leadership and dedication have left a lasting impact on our school community.

In a heartwarming tradition, Student Council hosted the annual Senior Citizen Luncheon, bringing together students and local seniors for an afternoon of food, conversation, and games.

As part of Teacher Appreciation Week, Student Council also gave back to our staff by coordinating a special catered lunch from Red Beard Seasoning and coffee from High Voltage. It was a meaningful gesture to honor the educators who support and inspire our students every day.

Through service, leadership, and school spirit, Student Council continues to be a shining example of our Buckeye Central values.



Spanish Club Wraps Up a Vibrant Spring Season

Buckeye Central High School's Spanish Club finished the school year with a series of exciting cultural activities that brought learning to life and built connections within and beyond the classroom.

In April, students participated in the Spanish Club's Spring Food Event. Each student selected a recipe representing a Spanish-speaking country and prepared the dish to share with their classmates. The event was a flavorful celebration of culture and community as students exchanged dishes and stories with one another.

Four seniors—Brady Flood, Isaac Parsons, Maddy Martin, and Phoebe Durnwald—were recognized for their four-year commitment to Spanish and received the El Sombrero Award. This tradition honors students who have demonstrated sustained dedication to learning the language throughout high school.

¡Felicidades to all our Spanish students on a fantastic year!



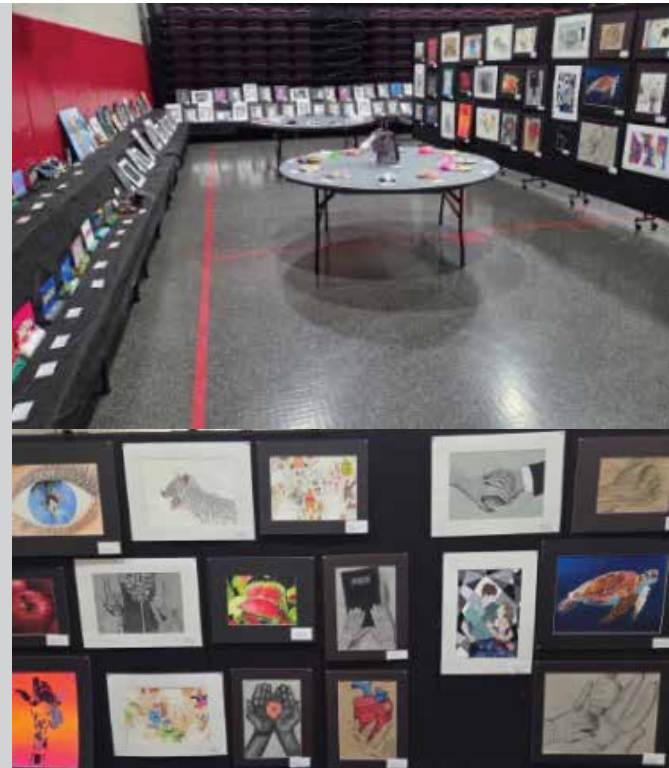
Listed left to right: Brady Flood, Isaac Parsons, Mrs. Selvey, Maddy Martin, and Phoebe Durnwald

Annual Art Show Celebrates Student Talent

Buckeye Central was filled with color and creativity earlier this month during the Annual Art Show. Congratulations to our Best of Category winners: Charly Milligan, Kolton Clay, Mara McDougal, Kellen Burger, Ella Daniel, Cailey Schneider, Asher Karl, Sophie Martin, and Samantha Hiler. Your work stood out and inspired.

We also celebrate our Award of Excellence honorees: Titus Beeson, Macy Deppen, Marrisona Martin, Asher Karl, Jamie Fields, Lucas Cianflone, Sam Utz, Macy Collene, and Zoey Hoskins. Great job on your innovative and expressive pieces.

Thank you to every student who contributed. Your imagination and hard work made the show a memorable experience for our entire school community. Keep creating boldly and sharing your vision with the world.



Spring Sports in Action



End-of-Year Fun Day Combines Learning and Play

Buckeye Central Elementary wrapped up the school year with a Fun Day that mixed active play and STEAM learning. Students in grades K–4, grouped in multi-age teams, took on KEVA plank challenges that encouraged creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving.

With only KEVA planks, students built towers, created summer-themed murals, designed ball tracks, and made mazes for Hexbug robots. These hands-on activities helped them explore key engineering concepts.

Special thanks to the Buckeye Central Endowment Fund for donating the KEVA planks and supporting engaging, innovative learning.



Middle School Field Day

Even though they had to move the festivities inside, middle schoolers had a blast doing relay races, dodgeball, kickball, volleyball & make your own ice cream sundaes!





Buckeye Central Local School District

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Important Back-to-School Dates at Buckeye Central

KINDERGARTEN PARENT MEETING

August 10
5:00–6:00 PM

5TH GRADE BOOTCAMP

August 11
Student Session: 5:00–6:30 PM
Parent Session: 6:30–8:00 PM

OPEN HOUSE FOR GRADES 1-4 & 6-12

August 12
6:00–7:30 PM

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

August 13
6:00–7:00 PM

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

August 19



State Test Scores in ProgressBook

This spring's state test scores will be posted by the end of June. To view your student's scores:

1. Log in to your parent access account for ProgressBook
2. Select "Assessment Scores"

If you do not have a parent access account in ProgressBook, please email Tammy Studer at tstuder@bcbucks.org