

A PEEK INTO PBIS the new way of improving the school

writer **peyton johnson**

designer **ava mejia**

photo credits **brigitte sindeldecker**

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support, also known as PBIS, has entered the high school. The state-wide program was created to increase positive reinforcement in student and staff behavior in and out of the classroom, as well as encourage students to behave better in order to get awards and acknowledge those who do more to better the culture of the school.

The first goal of the PBIS program is to increase positive reinforcement in and out of the classroom. When students or staff are seen doing something remarkable, helpful or good for the culture of the school, they are rewarded with orange and blue papers that are entered into the drawing in the main office.

“Orange cards are for teachers, so we give them to each other. We just started this (blue cards) at the end of last school year for kids; we put the grade, name and tell them the why,” English teacher and PBIS committee

member Kelly Cable said.

A big goal of PBIS is to bring the students and staff together to increase the culture to get it as it was before. The staff is able to come together to reward each other and the students who are making strides in the right direction.

“The committee is broken up into two teams: school wide expectation and Pioneer Pride Ticket. I joined the ticket one because I am about the culture more, and I want to build a positive culture. I have worked here since the second year the school was open, and I have seen the culture shift. I want to help people see that we can get back to that,” Cable said.

It is important for the classroom expectations to fit the environment of the room they are in, and that is where PBIS comes in with a list of general expectations in and out of the classroom in order to maintain a good school culture.

“The key is making them (expectations) general enough that they work for all students and all spaces and specific enough to make sure the students understand them,” Principal Ellie Ellis said.

At the school, it is important to have a comfortable and respectful atmosphere so that they can perform better and have a safe space to go to. When school is fun for students, it allows it to go by quicker, and it becomes more enjoyable and an all around better environment.

“If we can create an atmosphere where kids come and actually like being here and it goes by quickly, they are learning and have a sense of belonging. That’s the biggest thing is that we want this to be a safe space for everybody because sometimes this is the only safe space for kids,” Ellis said.

The school brought in PBIS to improve the overall culture of the

school and to reward those who do the right thing. According to the Ohio Department of Education, PBIS is a statewide program that employs positive discipline by reducing in-school referrals and suspensions to increase in class learning time for students.

“Probably consistency, common language, holding each other accountable and celebrating the positive,” Cable said.

At the high school, students always see those who get in trouble for not doing the right thing, or those who report incidents, but they never see students or staff get rewarded for the good they are doing for the school. With PBIS, the school is able to reward those who do the right thing and meet the expectations of “Be Respectful, Be responsible, Be Ready to Learn”.

“As a student, I’m sure you see people get in trouble if they do something wrong, but you never see people getting praised if they do the right thing. That’s the idea behind all of this, to encourage kids to do the right thing all the time,” Ellis said.



HALLWAY EXPECTATIONS

BE RESPECTFUL
Be considerate, kind, and safe
Use appropriate language and volume
Stay to the right and keep moving

BE RESPONSIBLE
Go directly to your destination
Have a pass during class time
Be a Leader: See something, say something

BE READY TO LEARN
Be on time
Respect other classes in session



CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

BE RESPECTFUL
Be considerate, kind, and safe
Be an active listener

BE RESPONSIBLE
Be on time and prepared
Follow classroom expectations
Be a Leader: See something, say something

BE READY TO LEARN
Put phones in designated area
Be on task
Ask questions and engage

FRIDAY NIGHTS A football season in review

writer wesley shroff
designer madeline riley
photo credits ava mejia

With the football season going into week 8, the boys, led by Ohio University commit, Levi Davis, and senior running back, Lucas Fickel, are 7-0 including a 42-24 win over rival Olentangy.

Following that win against Tangy, was another beatdown, on the rivaling Berlin Bears 31-7, and the most recent win, 45-7, over Dublin Coffman for the Homecoming game.

Last season ended with a tough loss in the second round of the OHSAA playoffs to Upper Arlington.

As of now, the boys are ranked first in Columbus according to MaxPreps

and fourth in the state. The boys are again fed by second year Head Coach Wesley Schroeder who discussed the strong teams in the conference.

“Upper Arlington will be the best team we will see this year; they are a lot back on offense and are very well coached. They make you beat them because they will not make many mistakes and will take advantage of any mistake that you make,” Schroeder said.

Upper Arlington—who lost in the semifinal to Liberty in 2024—are 6-1 this season. Senior offensive lineman, Remley Bowen, a Davidson University commit, said he thought it was the best team as well.

“In terms of skill, our best opponent all around is Upper Arlington. Their

roster from top down is solid, and it should be a good game week 8,” Bowen said. Week 8 is the OCC matchup against Upper Arlington.

As of now, the boys are 7-0 and their next matchup is against Upper Arlington on Friday, Oct. 10th.



Senior MC W. prepares for the play to start at the game against Hilliard Bradley on Sept. 26th.

NEW COURSES

A look into new classes at the high school

writer peyton johnson
designer madeline riley
photo credits madeline riley

As the school year begins, students get to see the new classes in action. This year the high school introduced two new classes: Sports and Entertainment Management and Child Development.

Business Teacher Chrystal Shanahan is in charge of the Sports and Entertainment Management class, and for Child Development is Family Consumer Science Teacher Brandie Painter.

Child Development is a class where students receive resources to help them in the future with jobs and even life skills. It shows them how to take care of themselves and others and helps them learn responsibility.

“The main purpose honestly with

any family consumer science class is to provide resources for different career paths and basically just simple life skills,” Painter said.

In order for students to perform well in Child Development, they need to show that they can be responsible for themselves and children. There are many ways that students can receive their final grade for this class depending on the student’s time and

skills.

“They should prove to me they know how to take care of a baby. So whether it’s shadowing a childcare professional, babysitting a child under 10 for free and then interviewing the parents or they can also create a children’s book,” Painter said.

Sports and Entertainment Management is also a new class.

“The purpose of Sports and Entertainment Management is for students to learn about the business behind the scenes of their favorite sports teams,” Shanahan said.

In order to be caught up and do well in the class students should have a business class under their belt before beginning the class.

“I would say to be sure to take Business Foundations to get a general understanding of business,” Shanahan said.

New Courses

- Sports and Entertainment Management
- Child Development
- Digital Media Management & Communications

INTRODUCING ELLIS

personality profile on the school's new principal

writer kate purlee

designer ava mejia

photo credits taylor guzek

Ellie Ellis isn't just the principal at Olentangy Orange High School; she brings energy, passion and a whole lot of heart into everything she does.

"She genuinely cares about the wellbeing of both students and staff," Building Secretary Brigitte Sindeldecker said.

Whether she's leading students and staff or spending time outdoors with her family, she's always all in. Her path to becoming principal wasn't exactly planned, but through hard work and unexpected opportunities, she's found her place at the high school.

"I essentially never really thought I wanted to be a head principal. Now that I am, I love it," Ellis said.

Now, she's focused on making school a place where students feel supported involved and connected.

In addition to her strong leadership and positive attitude at school, Ellis brings the same energy and passion to her life outside of work. Growing up, she played sports through middle and high school and was recruited to play softball at the University of Dayton.

Outside of school, Ellis enjoys time with her family and attending her son's t-ball games. She also loves being outdoors—hiking, backpacking, biking and staying active.

Some of her other hobbies include playing guitar, solving puzzles and running. Ellis used to participate in triathlons and even recently ran a quarter marathon with former principal Monica

Asher. Whether she's leading a school, exploring nature or cheering on her son, Ellis brings purpose and enthusiasm to everything she does.

She earned her principal license and master's degree from the University of Dayton. Before joining the high school, Ellis had 15 years of teaching experience.

She began her career student-

math teaching role in the Olentangy district. But before starting, she was offered an assistant principal position at the high school, where she remained until last year.

"And then I really just fell in love with Orange," Ellis said.

When Asher accepted a job at Westerville Central Office, Ellis stepped into the role of head principal.

"Since she was an assistant principal, it was a very smooth transition," Sindeldecker said.

Her knowledge of the school's culture and strong relationships with students and staff helped her step into the new role with confidence.

"Every day, I know I made the right decision," Ellis said.

At the high school, the focus is on making school a place where students feel in control, connected and supported. One key area is empowering students to make decisions and drive their education.

"We want our students to be making decisions and driving their education," Ellis said.

Another goal is helping students find where they belong. With a variety of classes and opportunities, there's something for everyone. Ellis also hopes to build a stronger sense of community during the school day.

Another of Ellis' goals involves fostering connections among teachers. She's encouraging cross-department collaboration—for instance, bringing together selected teachers from each subject area to work and socialize.

"The sense of community that we have here is unlike anywhere else," Ellis said.



Principal Ellie Ellis smiles while monitoring fourth period lunch.

teaching at Centerville High School in Centerville, Ohio, where she was later hired as a math teacher. In her 11th year, she became a principal designate—"The assistant to the assistant," as Ellis described it.

She then moved to Columbus to be closer to family. After applying for both teaching and administrative positions, she was interviewed for a

HOMECOMING WEEK a night out in Hawaii

designer anniston powell
photo credits anniston powell
and ava carter



Students dancing around having a good time



Mia H, Stella S, Sydney W and Ava C

FUN FACTS ABOUT HOMECOMING

The first homecoming was held in 1911 at the University of Missouri

Homecoming queen and king started in the 1930's

Mums, the flower, are primarily connected with homecoming

The University of Illinois declares they have the longest running homecoming tradition

SOURCE: 10 FUN FACTS ABOUT HOMECOMING

TRADITIONS

1. Pick out dress/suit
3. Take pictures!
5. Go to homecoming dance

2. Get ready with friends
4. Go out to dinner
6. The after party

MOST POPULAR DRESS COLORS

01.	02.	03.	04.
RED	BLUE	PURPLE	GREEN

MULTIMEDIA behind-the-scenes of first period journalism

writer riley colvert
designer anniston powell
photo credits anniston powell

In the fast-paced world of Multimedia Journalism, teamwork is essential to producing good content.

Several groups ensure that this happens: Orange Media, Frontier, News Prep and Orange Sports Live. Each group plays a crucial role in keeping the journalism website up to date.

Orange Media, which posts for the journalism website, and Frontier, which posts on a bi-monthly parent newsletter, meet regularly to brainstorm and assign stories for the quarter.

MULTI-MEDIA
BEHIND THE SCENES

Designers & Writers

The designers and writers hard at work bringing new creative ideas into the classroom

News Prep

Olivia F. and Lila S. prep for the news next period

DESIGN BY:
ANNISTON POWELL

“When we come up with story ideas, we write a bunch of ideas for multiple categories. It really helps the process of picking a story,” sophomore Kate Purlee said

Orange Sports Live focuses on delivering the latest sports updates and creating designs for gameday posts.

“I really enjoy creating designs, it’s one of my favorite parts of OSL,” sophomore Ajay Tiwari said.

This ever-changing yet harmonious collaboration is what makes Multimedia a unique and exciting environment.

SENIOR PARKING

online sign-ups are good in theory

writer paisley lowe
designer eleanor winland
photo credits eleanor winland

Anyone can pull into the high school parking lot and look around to see all these decorative parking spots and wonder, “why are they painted”? It’s a perk for seniors, who painted them on Aug. 18-19.

The process to pick seniors’ parking spots to paint moved online this year, and although it was a good idea in theory, the school’s execution with the website was done poorly, and far too many hiccups ended up happening.

First of all, the website opened before 7:20 a.m. on Aug. 16, which was the time they said it would open. Some people did hop on the website 10-20 minutes early to be ahead in

line. Logging in early was the only opportunity to get the spot seniors wanted. This isn’t fair for the people who followed exactly what was said by getting on the site at 7:20 a.m. and didn’t have a close spot.

The map on the website was very confusing and hard to follow. Nothing on the map was labeled, and everything looked backwards. There were a few students who picked a spot towards the back, thinking it was close to the school, but when they arrived, they quickly realized it was in the back.

Another issue with the experience of painting was that the supply list was not explained. This was difficult because there were seniors who had to run back and forth to the store if they didn’t have enough supplies to finish, or even start their spot. The base coats



The different parking spots made by students.

needed about five gallons to cover it all, or they had to mix with water, which not every senior knew about. This was also very expensive for most seniors and their families.

For the future, the school should continue picking parking spots online but improve the process to fix the issues that occurred this year.

PHONE POLICY

a controversial topic between students and teachers

writer wes shroff
designer eleanor winland
photo credit eleanor winland

Gov. Mike DeWine signed House Bill 250, Requiring each school district in Ohio to put a heavy restriction on cell phone use during school hours. The bill was sponsored by former Democrat Rep. Jessica Miranda, Republican Rep. Tracy Richardson and Republican Senator Andrew Brenner.

The law was intended to improve student focus during educational hours and decrease cyberbullying. The law does not require a total ban though; students who require a cell phone for health reasons are allowed to keep them at all times. The bill unanimously passed in the Ohio

House of Representatives and Senate in May 2025.

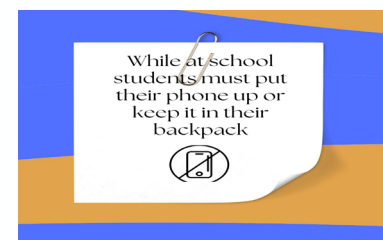
Although there are some positives to the rule, the negatives of it overrule them. Some positives of the rule would be that students will no longer be distracted at school by scrolling on social media and phone games. This can prevent academic dishonesty.

Some negatives of the rule include students feel more stressed when not having phones in an emergency situation, and teachers are less likely to use games such as Kahoot and Gimkit without phones, even though the law states that they can be used for instructional purposes.

Another negative to the rule is that students cannot contact their parents during class. If a student

forgets something at home during the school day or there is an emergency, they may need to contact their parents almost right away.

Although the phone rule is important to prevent academic dishonesty and distraction, students are unable to contact their parents immediately if needed or each other. In the end, the state should keep the rule, but make it more flexible and not mandatory for all students.



FOOTBALL THEMES & FALL RECIPES

designer madeline riley

Pumpkin Muffins

August

8/22 at Marysville
Theme: **Orange**

8/29 vs Westerville North
Theme: **Blackout**

September

9/5 vs Olentangy
Theme: **USA**

9/12 vs Gahana Lincoln
Theme: **Hawaiian**

9/12 at Berlin
Theme: **NEON**

9/26 at Hilliard Davidson
Theme: **Space**

October

10/3 vs Dublin Coffman
Theme: **Pinkout**

10/10 at Upper Arlington
Theme: **Camo**

10/17 vs Hilliard Bradley
Theme: **Country**

10/24 at Liberty
Theme: **Whiteout**

10/31 1st round
Theme: **Costume**

Ingredients:
 -1 and 2/3 cups all-purpose flour
 -1 teaspoon baking soda
 -1 and 1/4 teaspoons ground cinnamon
 -1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
 -1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
 -1/2 teaspoon salt
 -2 large eggs
 -3/4 cup granulated sugar
 -1/2 cup light or brown sugar
 -1/2 vegetable or canola oil
 -1 and 1/4 cups pumpkin puree
 -1/4 cup milk

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 375F. Grease a muffin pan or line with muffin liners.
2. In a large bowl whisk together flour, baking soda, cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg, and salt.
3. In a medium bowl, whisk together eggs, granulated sugar and brown sugar until combined. Add oil and whisk until combined. Add pumpkin and milk then whisk until combined. Pour the pumpkin mixture into the flour mixture and mix gently just until combined.
4. Divide batter evenly in a silicon muffin pan or a cupcake pan with paper liners. Bake for 16-22 minutes until a toothpick inserted into the center of the muffin comes out clean. Allow to cool for 5 minutes in the pan, and then transfer to a wire rack to cool.
5. The muffins stay moist for up to 5 days. Keep them in a fridge until you bring them to room temperature before serving.

SEPTEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

-Ethan Cuadill
 -Daniel Cepeda
 -Cowen Allender
 Nina Lorenz
 -Vivien Chen
 -Abir Sahai
 -Gideon Beal
 -Sofiya Zhukavets
 -Daphne Fleisher

PBIS STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

-Stella Albrecht
 -Meher Banta
 -Rui Chen
 -Sosi Chilewa
 -Jackson Clark
 -Makir Clifton
 -Tony Cruz
 -Louis Dorado
 -Kamille Dubose
 -Jonathon Goncalves
 -Devyn Hance
 -Austin Kent
 -Arianna King
 -Mouhib Mouffok
 -Dylan Myers
 -Divine Nwachukwu
 -Abyssal Teasley
 -Evan Thompson
 -John Wagaman