Northmont Today

Published by the Northmont City School District Volume 51/2 Fall, 2025

Upcoming Dates:

Board of Education Meeting
Monday, October 27 - 6pm
Northwood Elementary

College & Career Week
Northmont High School
October 27-30

Halloween - Beggar's Night
Friday, October 31 6-8pm

Daylight Saving Time Ends
Sunday, November 2

Election Day
Tuesday, November 4

Community Breakfast
Friday, November 7 - 7:45am
Northmoor Elementary

Community Breakfast
Tuesday, November 11 - 8am
Northwood Elementary

Board of Education Meeting
Monday, November 17 - 6pm
Northmont High School

Professional Development
No Classes PK-12
November 24-25

Schools Closed
November 26-28
Thanksgiving Break

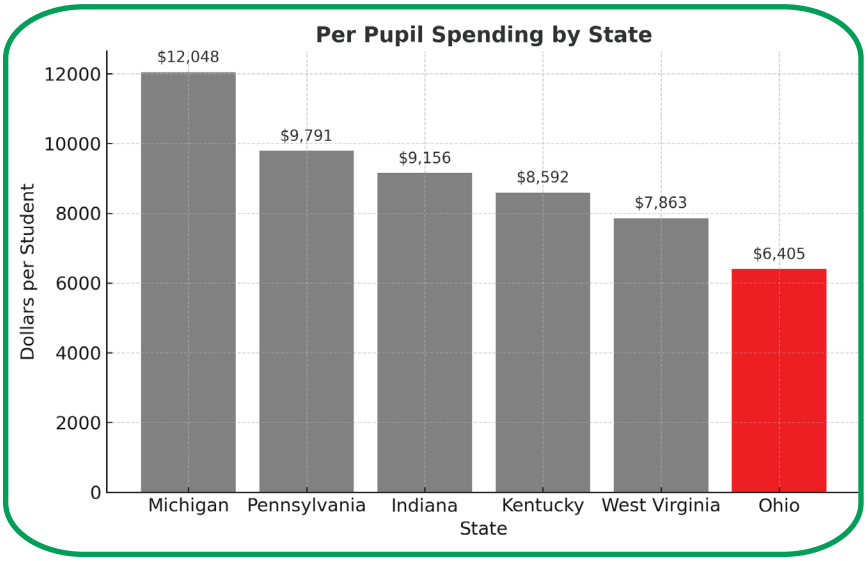
Ohio Trails Neighboring States by Thousands in School Funding - Superintendent Tony Thomas

In the last edition of Northmont Today, I shared details about the latest two-year state budget, which cut funding for Northmont by $1.5 million over the next two years. This month, I'd like to take a broader view by comparing Ohio to our neighboring states—and the results are troubling.

For years, Ohio policymakers have failed to adequately fund public education. The Ohio Supreme Court has ruled multiple times that our school funding system is unconstitutional, yet little meaningful progress has been made. The Supreme Court has no enforcement mechanism over the lawmakers.

Ohio now ranks dead last in state education funding compared to our surrounding states—and the gap is significant. According to the Ohio Education Policy Institute:

Michigan: $12,048 per pupil
Pennsylvania: $9,791
Indiana: $9,156
Kentucky: $8,592
West Virginia: $7,863
Ohio: $6,405



(continued on page 2)

Educator Spotlight



Northmont High School DECA Advisor Eric Wagner has been recognized in DECA, Inc.'s Advisor Best Practice Spotlight for his leadership in financial literacy education.

Through a 15-year partnership with CODE Credit Union, Wagner oversees the school's student-run credit union, where students gain real-world experience in banking, customer service, and leadership. From interviewing with CODE representatives to managing teller transactions and marketing, students are prepared for future success in college and careers. The program benefits the entire student body, offering hands-on financial literacy opportunities and a supportive place to learn money management.

"CODE provides us so much more than just a credit union," Wagner said. "This partnership has been a game-changer for our students and community."

GREEN PRIDE

. . . throughout the community

DID YOU KNOW?

The Northmont Preschool has moved to 1150 W. National in the space adjacent to the YMCA that was vacated by Sinclair Community College.

DON'T FORGET!
Students whose parents are engaged in their education are often more successful. How can you get involved?

****Join PTO***
****Volunteer***
****Donate***

Ohio Trails Neighboring States by Thousands in School Funding - continued...

This funding shortfall places a heavy burden on local property taxpayers. Ohio's overreliance on property taxes is a direct result of inadequate state support. Lawmakers have been aware of this for decades, but have yet to implement the necessary changes to make Ohio competitive and reduce property taxes.

We urge you to contact your state representatives and senators. Encourage them to support property owners and reduce our dependence on local taxes. Several nonpartisan groups have proposed viable solutions, but their recommendations have largely been ignored by the current General Assembly.

Other states have taken steps to reduce the burden on homeowners through state-funded Homestead Exemptions. In Michigan and Indiana, all homeowners qualify. In contrast, Ohio's Homestead Exemption—created in the 1970s—is mostly limited to senior citizens, with outdated income thresholds that exclude many who need relief. Ironically, legislation has been introduced that would put the burden to fund homestead exemptions on local government entities. This is not what other states do; instead, the state provides the revenue to help the property owner.

It's time for Ohio to reinvest in its people. Neighboring states have created responsible funding models that support schools, ease the tax burden on homeowners, and still attract business investment. Ohio can—and should—do the same.

Report Card Highlights





EXCELLENCE
. . . throughout the district

2025 Football Hall of Fame

Cameron Belton is a 2013 graduate of Northmont High School. As a three-year starting quarterback, Cameron amassed stats that have placed him all over the Northmont Football Record Book. He is #3 in career passing touchdowns, #1 in career completions with 444 completions, and #1 in career passing yards with 5770 yards. As a result of his statistical success, Cameron earned All GWOC recognition all three years.

Bryan Heyward is a 2019 graduate of Northmont. Bryan wreaked havoc on opposing offenses on a weekly basis while playing for the Thunderbolts. His accomplishments on the field led him to be chosen 1st Team All GWOC his junior and senior seasons. He was also selected to participate in the 2019 Ohio North South All Star game.

Jestin Jacobs is a 2019 graduate of Northmont. During his illustrious career, Jestin played safety, linebacker, and runningback for the Bolts. Jestin was selected 1st Team All GWOC both his junior and senior seasons and was selected 1st Team All Southwest District his senior season. Jestin was named an Adidas High School All American and played in the all star game in San Antonio, Texas. Jestin was the 5th ranked player in the state of Ohio by all the major recruiting websites.

Jason Schondelmyer is a 1991 graduate of Northmont. Jason played linebacker and tight end during his time at Northmont earning All GMVC and All Area awards his junior season. Jason, along with 10 other seniors, made the decision to play their senior season at a different school district, as Northmont had just failed a levy and were told that there would be no fall sports for his upcoming senior season. Jason played the game at a high level and that positively affected all his teammates. Immediately following graduation, Jason began coaching football at Northmont Middle School at the age of 19.

Mike Smith began coaching at Northmont in the fall of 1986 and was on the sideline in some sort of coaching capacity until the end of the 2016 season. Mike was an assistant coach under 4 Northmont Head Coaches and was always willing to accept whatever coaching assignment was given to him to help Northmont Football find success. He served as the Head Freshman Coach for 3 seasons. During his time coaching at Northmont, he helped guide the Bolts to GWOC Conference Championships for 7 consecutive years from 2002 to 2008.



Photo credit: Ron Nunnari, The Register-Herald

2025-26 School Board meetings and locations
All meetings begin at 6:00 p.m.

October 13 & 27
Northwood Elementary

November 17
High School

December 15
Middle School

January 12 & 26
Englewood Hills

February 9 & 23
Union Elementary

March 9 & 23
Northmoor Elementary

April 13 & 27
High School

May 18
Middle School

June 22
Administrative Offices

July 13
Administrative Offices

Northmont Board of Education
Northmont City School District
1150 W. National Road
Englewood, OH 45315

Information Line
937-832-5037 or
info@northmontschools.net

www.northmontschools.net
www.facebook.com/NorthmontCitySchools

Northmont Drama Club presents:

CAN'T STOP THE WROK

The students of Rockdale High run their own radio station. When the studio is sold, the students will stop at nothing to save it. In spite of the annoying adults, the WROK crew deals with skipping classes, a car accident, angry parents, shearing sheep, chatty cheerleaders, planning Homecoming, and a cranky chicken. Written by a local playwright, this play is a unique experience for everyone involved!

Thursday- Saturday, November 6-8 - 7:00 p.m.
Adults - $10, Seniors/Students - $5
Northmont Community Auditorium
www.onthestage.tickets/show/northmont-drama-club

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THOUGHTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT - MR. TONY THOMAS

Do You Believe in Miracles?

As a young boy, I remember hearing sports broadcaster Al Michaels exclaim, *"Do you believe in miracles?"* as the U.S. hockey team defeated the dominant Soviet Union during the 1980 Olympics.

In many ways, that same spirit of perseverance and triumph is reflected here at Northmont High School. Recently, our school ranked **15th out of 3,005 school buildings in Ohio**—placing us in the **top 1% statewide** for student growth.

This accomplishment is even more remarkable given the reality that Northmont continues to receive less state funding than many other districts. Yet, just like our community, we remain determined, resilient, and creative in finding ways to succeed.

We are deeply grateful to our dedicated staff for carrying on Northmont's tradition of excellence. Our shared goal is simple but powerful: to remain a source of pride for the community we are privileged to serve.

New to the District? Check out our website for important information:
www.northmontschools.net

Our Mission:

The mission of Northmont City Schools is to provide our students an exceptional education with diverse opportunities so they maximize their potential and are productive, responsible citizens.