



lancaster city schools news



December 4, 2025

Teaching the Importance of Giving

As you may already be aware if you have a student in your home, Lancaster City Schools has been busy preparing for a month of charitable giving this holiday season. It's become somewhat of tradition for us in the past few years -

encouraging schools and the students and faculty within them to come up with ways to give their time, talent and treasure to the most vulnerable in our community. Sometimes those individuals may be fellow students and their families and other times, complete strangers. Regardless, promoting a culture of social philanthropy benefits everyone involved, not the least whom are those doing the giving.



Social philanthropy is vital to the success of any community. It allows people, in this case students, to come together and support causes that are important to them - promoting a feeling of comradery while encouraging empathy and a call of duty. This sense of community is essential because it can lead to students working together to create positive change in the world. Meanwhile, those in need can feel some relief from the stress of their everyday lives.

Social philanthropy also encourages active citizenship. When students are involved in philanthropy, they learn about the importance of civic engagement and giving back to their community.

Finally, social philanthropy teaches essential life skills. Students participate

in charity and learn how to work together for a common cause. They also learn how to communicate and collaborate with others. These are skills that will be valuable to them throughout their lives.

"Studies have shown that children who regularly engage in charitable activities report higher levels of self-worth and optimism," said Superintendent Nathan Hale. "When children see the positive impact of their actions, they feel a sense of accomplishment and pride, plus they discover first-hand that their efforts can make a difference in the world."

Thank you to our families and our faculty who lead by example when it comes to charitable acts. You set an example for all students and your impact resonates throughout our community.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Holiday Break

- LAST DAY of Class: Dec. 19
- FIRST DAY of Class: Jan. 5

School Happenings



BRIDGES PROGRAM

The LCS Bridges Program has monthly family engagement events. During the month of November, the families joined their children at school for a VIP turkey pancake breakfast! This is a favorite event for families each year!

Then, Basketball Parker Jones came back to the LCS Bridges Program for the third year in row to present to students. His presentation is motivational, focusing on "being kind and doing the right thing."



THOMAS EWING

Students and faculty at Thomas Ewing hosted a celebrated Veterans Day event that was appreciated by everyone involved.

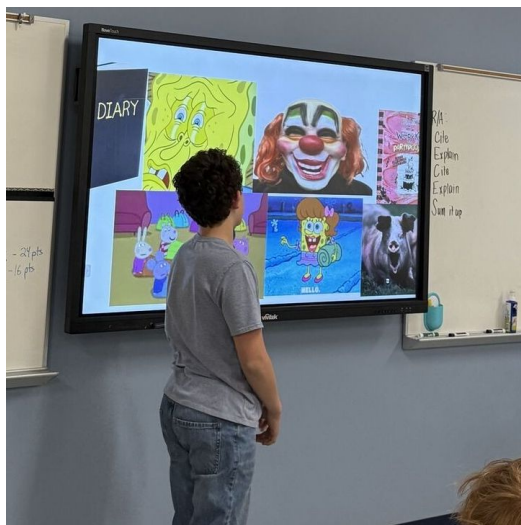
The choirs sang a tribute to the armed forces, students recited works they had written and a performance of TAPS by students closed the ceremony. Veterans in attendance were honored and thanked, making for a memorable event.



GORSUCH WEST

A huge shout-out to Mr. Will Foose, the wonderful driver for Bus 38!

To reward students for their outstanding behavior Mr. Foose personally threw them a pizza party! This is a fantastic example of a community member going above and beyond to recognize our kids' hard work and great character.



GENERAL SHERMAN

Ms. Collis' and Mr. Thompson's 7th grade Language Arts students recently completed an independent reading project. Each student selected a book that was interesting to them—either from the school library or the classroom collection—and created projects about their chosen books.

We are incredibly grateful for dedicated drivers like Mr. Fooce and thank him for his positive reinforcement of our ideals and principles.

They chose books based on their personal interests, had the freedom to select from nine different creative project options, wrote about their reading experience, and many students chose to present their projects to the class.



TALLMADGE

Tallmadge Elementary has started a K-Kids club in partnership with the Lancaster Kiwanis club. K-Kids is a student-led service organization for elementary school students. Twenty-five students in 5th grade attend weekly meetings to develop ways to help others. So far this school-year, the K-Kids have participated in projects such as: Trick-or-Treat for Unicef, Veteran's Day assembly, school food-drive, and coin drive. Each week, the club members pledge to make the world a better place.

The club elected their own officers who guide and lead their meetings. Pictured above are the club officers.



LANCASTER HIGH SCHOOL

Wellness Week at Lancaster High School was held November 17th - 21st. Students learned what it means to practice wellness and how consistent practice is important to overall health. During this week, a daily theme relating to the practice of wellness was promoted through activities during lunch periods. Activities included getting a free drink, the opportunity to practice yoga, petting animals, practicing positive self-talk, and getting information/fidgets to support mental health.

This week proved to be a success for students and staff!



MT PLEASANT

Students enjoyed a truly special assembly - a visit from national cartoonist Duane M. Abel and his motivational presentation *Draw Your Destiny!*

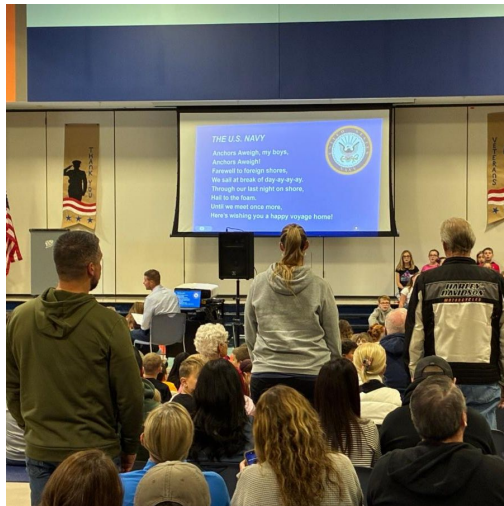
This enriching event was made possible through the dedication and hard work of our Mt Pleasant PTO, demonstrating their unwavering commitment to our school's core values: Learning, Caring, and Succeeding.

MEDILL

This month, Medill students enjoyed an engaging presentation and took home a valuable lesson centered on four powerful words: work, study, learn, and try.

Through these four words, renowned cartoonist Duane Abel delivered a compelling message encouraging goal setting, highlighting the power of literacy, and emphasizing the importance of education in achieving great things.

The assembly was entertaining and reinforced for our students the simple actions they can take every day to secure a bright future.



TARHE TRAILS

Tarhe Trails hosted a Veterans Day Assembly and related events last month. Superintendent Hale drove by and saw the Veterans Day signs. Special thanks to Mrs. Smith and Mr. B on the effort and to the students who are in the Music Club who gave a tremendous performance for our Veterans and families! It was an important and impactful day.



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What is Portrait of a Graduate?



PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE



LEARNING (KNOWLEDGE):

A Lancaster City Schools graduate is prepared to:

- Succeed in postsecondary education, military service, and/ or obtain gainful employment
- Work independently and collaboratively in a team environment
- Demonstrate competency in the core curriculum for the State of Ohio
- Think about information creatively and critically to solve problems



CARING (ATTITUDE):

A Lancaster City Schools graduate demonstrates:

- A high level of social, emotional and interpersonal skills
- Empathy and respect towards others
- Confidence in their abilities
- Pride in our community



SUCCEEDING (SKILLS):

A Lancaster City Schools Graduate demonstrates:

- Resilience, grit and a strong work ethic
- Effective leadership skills
- Ability and desire to meet individual goals
- Integrity, reliability, and a healthy lifestyle
- Effective and professional communication skills



Lancaster City Schools has been the place to be for learning, caring, and succeeding for the past several years. As part of our mission and vision for the district, we developed our Portrait of a Graduate. This program was integrated into our district to build bridges to life beyond school. Our students will be prepared to succeed in life after high school while showing a high level of social-emotional skills and effective and professional communication. With the strong community that unites Lancaster City Schools, we can work together to better prepare our students for success beyond school.

NEW LINKS BELOW! Quickly find the information you need.

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