

THE QUAKER QUARTERLY

NEW PHILADELPHIA
CITY SCHOOLS

Summer 2026



Dear Quaker Community,

If you've ever stood in a school hallway just before the first bell rings, you know the feeling. There is a quiet anticipation. A sense that something meaningful is about to begin. Students finding their way. Teachers preparing to make an impact. That feeling is what I will carry with me.

As I prepare to leave New Philadelphia City Schools, I find myself reflecting on what truly defines this district. It is the steady belief that every student matters and the shared responsibility to help each one succeed.

Some of my favorite moments are the ones that happen every day. A student gaining confidence after finally understanding a concept. A classroom filled with curiosity and conversation. A performance, a competition, or a project that brings out the very best in our students.

Our staff makes those moments possible. They create environments where students are supported, challenged, and encouraged to grow. Their work is thoughtful, consistent, and centered on what is best for kids.

What also sets New Philadelphia apart is the way this community shows up. There is a strong sense of pride here. You see it in traditions, in celebrations, and in the way students represent the Quakers both inside and outside the classroom. Families stay engaged. Local partners invest their time and support. Those connections expand opportunities for students and reinforce what we all value: preparing young people for success in school and in life.

As I move on, I do so with confidence in the district's direction. There is a clear focus on creating meaningful learning experiences, maintaining safe and welcoming schools, and ensuring students are prepared for the future through a variety of pathways.

I am also grateful to know that strong leadership will continue this work. As we welcome a new superintendent and treasurer, I am confident they will build on this foundation alongside a dedicated team.

Before I close, I encourage you to keep reading this newsletter. You will see exactly what I mean when I talk about the great things happening here. From East and West Elementary achieving 5-Star Status for the 2024-2025 school year, to West Elementary

being recognized as a Hall of Fame School by OAESA, these accomplishments reflect the dedication of our students, staff, and community.

As I say goodbye, I want to leave you with this: Continue to support one another. Continue to show up for your schools. Continue to believe in the power of education to shape lives and strengthen our community.

Thank you to our students, for inspiring me every day with your resilience, kindness, and potential. Thank you to our staff, for your unwavering commitment to excellence and to each other. And thank you to our families and community, for your trust, your partnership, and your belief in what we do.

New Philadelphia will always hold a special place in my heart. The lessons I've learned here, the relationships I've built, and the memories we've created together will stay with me forever. It has truly been an honor to be part of your story.

Sincerely,
Amy Wentworth
Superintendent

West Elementary Reaches Hall of Fame Status

West Elementary received well-deserved recognition at the recent Board of Education meeting as Mark Jones, Associate Executive Director of the Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators (OAESA), presented the school with a certificate honoring its selection as a 2025 Hall of Fame School! Surrounded by proud staff members and celebrated by the Board, West Elementary continues to shine as a model of excellence and will be recognized again this June at the OAESA Conference.



Update from the Treasurer



At New Philadelphia City Schools, we understand that property taxes are a real concern for many families, seniors, farmers and homeowners. Rising costs have made it harder for many people to balance household budgets, and we agree that Ohio needs meaningful conversations about property tax relief and long-term solutions.

At the same time, completely eliminating property taxes without another funding plan in place could have serious consequences for schools and local communities. Property taxes help support public schools, police and fire departments, libraries, parks and important services for seniors and individuals with disabilities. Without this funding, communities across Ohio could face major cuts to services families rely on every day.

For schools, property taxes help pay for classrooms, transportation, technology, student programs and safe learning environments. Removing this funding source without a replacement plan could lead to fewer educational opportunities for students and place additional financial pressure on local communities through other taxes or reduced services.

We recognize that many Ohio homeowners and farmers are carrying a larger share of the tax burden than in previous decades and we understand the frustration many families are feeling. According to research shared by the Buckeye Association of School Administrators, homeowners and farmers now pay nearly 70 percent of school property taxes compared to 47 percent in 1991. We believe taxpayers deserve relief, and we support thoughtful ideas and solutions that can provide that relief while also protecting the schools, safety services and community resources families count on every day.

New Philadelphia City Schools remains committed to being transparent, using taxpayer dollars wisely and keeping our community informed. We will continue working to support students while also advocating for thoughtful solutions that strengthen both our schools and our community.

Julie Erwin, CPA
Treasurer

New Philadelphia Welcomes Dr. Carole Sutton as New Superintendent

New Philadelphia City Schools is excited to welcome Dr. Carole Sutton as our next superintendent beginning Aug. 1, 2026.

Dr. Sutton brings more than 20 years of experience in education, but even more importantly, she brings a genuine passion for students, staff and building strong school communities. From teacher to principal to district leadership, she has spent her career helping schools grow and creating opportunities for students to succeed, and we can't wait for her to join the Quaker family.



Guys with Phila Ties

Laughter, leadership and community spirit were on full display as the Guys with Phila Ties program brought together current third graders and returning alumni for an unforgettable day at South Elementary! From exciting games and mentorship moments to rolling up their sleeves alongside community leaders, coaches and student-athletes for a schoolwide cleanup project, these young Quaker gentlemen are learning firsthand what it means to lead, serve and make a difference.



Seal of Biliteracy Recipients

Congratulations to the following students who earned the Ohio Seal of Biliteracy in Spanish, a remarkable achievement that celebrates years of dedication, perseverance and hard work in mastering two languages! This prestigious honor highlights their ability to communicate across cultures and opens the door to exciting opportunities for the future.

Kaleb Masters	Ella Incarnato
Franklin Sica Sica	Khourey Taylor
Jessica Hernandez Mendoza	Anna Wherley
Damian Chambers	Sammy Brito Ceto
Oscar Alexander	Corbin Showalter
Jessical Cael Mejia	



Hats Off to the Class of 2026!

Congratulations to the New Philadelphia High School Class of 2026! Your hard work, perseverance and Quaker pride have brought you to this incredible milestone, and we could not be more proud of all 183 of you. As you begin the next chapter of your journey, know that you will always be part of the Quaker family. We wish you success, happiness and endless opportunities in the future ahead.



Photo: Xavier's Photography

Ray A. Kroc Youth Achievement Award

NPHS is proud to celebrate Gavin Kail and Olivia Eick as the recipients of this year's Ray A. Kroc Youth Achievement Award! Honored during a recent annual awards banquet, Gavin earned this special recognition through his incredible leadership, character and dedication. Olivia was awarded for her leadership, service and involvement in QT Dance, Student Council, Drama, Show Choir, volunteer work and the National Junior Honor Society. Both students exhibit strong character and a positive influence on others. Congratulations Gavin and Olivia!



South Elementary Volunteer Luncheon

On May 13, South Elementary hosted a Volunteer Luncheon to honor the many parents and family members who generously gave their time and talents throughout the school year. These volunteers played an important role in supporting students, teachers, and classrooms in countless ways, helping make South Elementary a welcoming and successful learning community.

During the luncheon, volunteers had the opportunity to enjoy lunch alongside the students and teachers they served throughout the year. The event was a special time to celebrate the meaningful relationships built between volunteers, staff, and students and to recognize the positive impact these individuals have made on our school community.

South Elementary is incredibly grateful for the dedication, kindness, and support of our volunteers. Their willingness to give their time helps create enriching experiences for our students each and every day. Thank you to all of our volunteers for making a difference at South Elementary!



Check out South Elementary's year in review!

East and West Elementary Achieve 5-Star Status for 2024-2025

Celebration banners are flying high at East Elementary and West Elementary after both schools earned a remarkable 5-star rating on the latest Ohio Department of Education and Workforce state report card! This outstanding achievement reflects the hard work, dedication and passion of the incredible students and staff who continue to make excellence a tradition at New Philadelphia City Schools.



First Grade Hatches

Learning came to life in a big way for York Elementary first graders as students explored the fascinating world of oviparous animals through hands-on science activities packed with creativity and discovery! From matching animals to the eggs they lay and building playdough nests to testing the strength of eggshells with stacks of books, students wrapped up the exciting unit by witnessing the unforgettable moment baby chicks hatched right in their classroom.



Best Day Ever!

Adventure, imagination and excitement filled the day as York Elementary kindergarten students explored the Akron Children's Museum during a fun-filled hands-on learning trip! From splashing at the water table to building giant creations and practicing social skills through play, students made unforgettable memories, with one kindergartner declaring, "This was the best day ever!"



A Recipe for Success

Behind every breakfast tray and lunch line at New Philadelphia City Schools is a team serving up far more than meals. Delivering more than 331,000 breakfasts and lunches to students across the district, the dedicated team of 22 members, led by Wendy Carter, works behind the scenes each day to prepare fresh, nutritious meals that keep Quaker students energized, focused and ready to learn.

From transporting nearly 10,000 pounds of food each week to elementary buildings to offering fresh salads, deli sandwiches, wraps and warm meals at Welty and NPHS, this team does it all with heart and pride. Thanks to the district's continued participation in the Community Eligibility Provision program, all students will once again have access to free breakfast and lunch next school year, ensuring every Quaker has access to healthy, high-quality meals served with kindness and care.



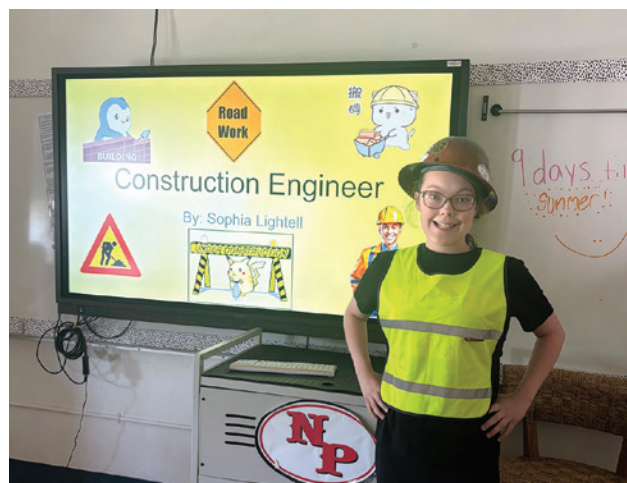
A Spirit of Resilience

New Philadelphia High School sophomore Israel Jimenez-Pascual was honored with the prestigious Overcoming Obstacles Award, recognizing students who achieve excellence while persevering through life's challenges. Surrounded by proud teachers at the annual banquet, Israel was celebrated for his determination, positive attitude and outstanding effort, proving that resilience and hard work can inspire an entire school community.



The Giver Comes Alive

Students in Mrs. Collins' class brought "The Giver" to life in an exciting and creative way as they stepped into the roles of Jonas and his classmates through interactive presentations and lively debates! From defending their assigned careers to sharpening their public speaking skills, these Quakers turned literature into a hands-on experience filled with critical thinking, collaboration and confidence.



Champions Among Us

Championship season was alive and well at New Philadelphia City Schools as the Boys Basketball Team, Boys Bowling Team, Boys Track Team and Baseball Team all captured OCC Championships this year in an unforgettable showcase of Quaker excellence! Through grit, teamwork and determination, these student-athletes brought home titles, created lasting memories and made the entire New Philadelphia community proud with an incredible year of success.



Sink or Float?

Physics made a splash at NPHS as AP and CP Physics students launched their handmade cardboard boats into the pool, testing buoyancy, teamwork and creativity in an unforgettable hands-on challenge! With water balloons flying from Mr. McClelland's class and a few boats sinking in spectacular fashion, the day was packed with laughter, learning and excitement, all made possible thanks to generous support from the Quaker Foundation.



A Round of Applause for Our Retirees

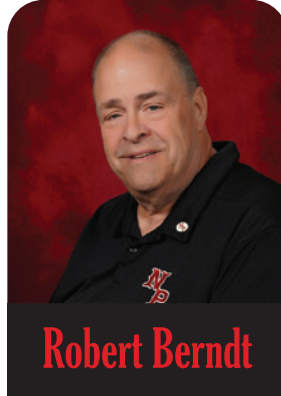
Congratulations to all of the New Philadelphia City Schools retirees on your well-deserved retirement! Thank you for the lasting impact you have made on our students, staff and community through your years of dedication, compassion and service. Your influence extends far beyond the classroom, leaving a lasting impression on every student whose life you touched along the way. We wish you happiness, relaxation and many exciting new adventures in this next chapter. Thank you for representing the true spirit of Quaker pride.



Christina Morris



Elizabeth Vogt



Robert Berndt



Tracy Walker



Mary Newman



Sherri Norman



Marcia Shamel



Nancy Cooke



Debra Cope

Preschoolers Explore Possibilities

Future doctors, police officers and community heroes came to life at the Dome as New Philadelphia Preschool students explored exciting careers through hands-on learning and unforgettable special guests! From chatting with a doctor to hearing the flashing lights and roaring sirens of Officer DeMattio's police cruiser, our young learners were all smiles as they discovered the amazing people who help our community shine.





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Important Back-To-School Dates

August 17-19

Teacher In Service Days: No School

September 7

Labor Day: No School

October 16

Teacher In Service Day: No School

Welty Earns Purple Star Honor

Welty Middle School is shining bright after earning the prestigious Purple Star designation, recognizing the school's outstanding commitment to supporting military-connected students and families! From hosting a heartfelt Veterans Day breakfast and honoring veterans at a special basketball game to writing more than 450 letters to active-duty service members, Welty students and staff have gone above and beyond to show gratitude, service and Quaker pride.



Supporting Military Families

Quakers in Concert

Music filled the air at Tuscora Park as the NPHS choirs delivered an incredible performance that had the crowd smiling, cheering and celebrating a night to remember! From powerful vocals to unforgettable harmonies, our talented Quaker students showcased their passion and hard work in a concert that truly hit all the right notes.

