THE SPENCERVILLE
BEARCAT
A PUBLICATION OF THE SPENCERVILLE SCHOOL SYSTEM
BACK TO SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 2026

Twenty Years Down. Many More to Go.

There is always a special feeling that comes with the beginning of a new school year. Hallways that have been quiet throughout the summer once again fill with the excitement of students reconnecting with friends, teachers putting the finishing touches on their classrooms, and staff preparing for another year of learning and growth.

This year also marks the completion of a three-year capital improvement initiative that has addressed significant maintenance and improvement needs throughout our campus. While many of these projects occurred behind the scenes or over multiple summers, together they represent more than $6 million in planned maintenance, replacement, and improvements to facilities that serve our students and community every day.

When our K-12 building opened twenty years ago, it was built to serve generations of Bearcats. Like any home or business, however, a school requires ongoing maintenance and periodic upgrades to remain safe, functional, and efficient. Taking care of these needs as they arise helps extend the useful life of our facilities, protect the community's investment, and provide an appropriate learning environment for our students and staff. (-Continued on page 2-)

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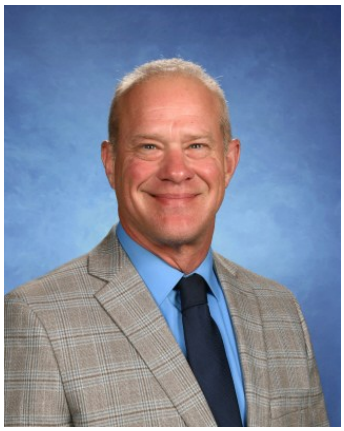
www.SpencervilleBearcats.com
Find us on Facebook and Instagram!



The cornerstone of this effort has been the completion of a three-phase restoration of our K-12 building. Over the past three summers, crews have repaired and replaced deteriorating brick, completed extensive tuckpointing, cleaned the exterior, and applied a protective water seal that will help preserve the building for years to come.

Over the past three years, students have also benefited from new classroom furniture throughout the district, updated high school science labs, new Chromebook computers in grades K-8, upgraded technology infrastructure, enhanced security systems, improvements to geothermal and mechanical systems, resurfaced parking lots and walking paths, new elementary and middle school playground equipment, renovations at Memorial Stadium, softball field drainage improvements, replacement gym bleacher seating, and the conversion of our former shelter house into much-needed storage space. Some of these improvements are immediately noticeable, while others quietly support the day-to-day operation of our schools. Together, they represent an effort to maintain our facilities and equipment so they can continue serving students well into the future.

While we are proud of what has been accomplished over the past three years, the greatest strength of Spencerville Local Schools has never been our facilities—it is our people. Outstanding teachers, dedicated support staff, engaged families, and exceptional students are what make this district special. Our responsibility is to provide them with safe, functional, and well-maintained spaces in which to learn and work.

As we look ahead to the new school year, our community will also have an opportunity this fall to vote on the renewal of the district's existing 1% income tax. We will provide additional factual information about the renewal in our October Annual Update.

On behalf of our Board of Education and the entire Spencerville Schools family, welcome back to another school year. We look forward to the opportunities ahead and thank our community for its continued support of our students and our schools.

Go Bearcats!
Brian Woods
Superintendent, Spencerville Local Schools

Spencerville Athletic Department

2500 Wisher Dr. Spencerville OH 45887
Phone: 419-647-4111
Website: https://www.spencervillebearcats.com/athletics
Greg Ekis, Athletic Director – ekisg@svbearcats.org

Dear Bearcat Program Supporter,

We are in the process of organizing our 2025-2026 Bearcats Fall/Winter Sports Programs. We thank you for your support in the past and hope to include your ad again this year. These programs are an advertising opportunity for you and a keepsake for the fall/winter sport athletes, and we want to give both you and the athletes the opportunity to enjoy. We will run the same ad for you again that we ran in last year's program, unless you request changes. Programs will be sold at every high school football game and boys' and girls' basketball game during the 2026-2027 season.

If you would like your company name and logo to appear on our new LED scores table during all high school volleyball and both girls' and boys' basketball games, please include your intentions in an email to me with your logo. We have 8 home volleyball games, 12 home boys' basketball games, and 12 home girls' basketball games. Ads rotate on the table every 5-10 seconds and will continue through the entire game. Games are also streamed live to viewers who purchase NFHS, in which ads can be seen through this livestream.

Ad prices are as follows for the program:

$60 for 1/8 page ad
$80 for ¼ page ad
$105 for ½ page ad
$150 for a full page ad

The ad price is below for the LED Scores Table:

All games- $350.00

Please confirm your intention to purchase the ad by emailing ekisg@svbearcats.org. I will confirm your ad was received. If you plan to change your ad, let me know by August 7. Please make payments by August 7 if possible. Again, thank you for your continued support of Spencerville Bearcat Athletics!

Please make checks payable to the ***Spencerville Athletic Department***.

Spencerville Athletic Dept.
c/o Greg Ekis, Athletic Director
2500 Wisher Dr.
Spencerville, OH 45887

Thanks again!
Greg Ekis

Spencerville Schools

OFFICE POLICIES

2026/2027

Is your student going to be absent from school?

- Please call or email your building secretary either the **night before or morning** of their absence. **Personal text, social media outlets, or Dojo messages will not be accepted.**

  If a call is not received, someone will contact you to confirm the absence. If we are **unable to reach you** a notification email will be sent as required by the Missing Children's Act.

- A phone call or note is required to excuse your student's absence. If we send your student home from school due to illness it is automatically excused. There are some circumstances where a doctor's note will be required at the discretion of the administration.

- **High School and Middle School Athletes** must be at school **by 8:15am** on the day of a game or practice to be eligible to play in the game or practice. After 8:15am the athlete is required to provide a doctor's note in order to play/practice. Should the athlete need to leave after 8:15am due to an emergency situation, doctor's appointment, funeral, etc., and returns to school before the end of the school day, the athlete will be required to provide a doctor's note, or appropriate documentation for non-medical (determined by principal, athletic director, HS/MS secretary) to the office in order to participate.

Is your student arriving late to school?

- Please call or email your building secretary either the night before or morning of the day they will be late. If a call is not received, someone will contact you to confirm the absence.
- Upon arrival after 7:45am HS/MS students will need to sign in with their building secretary in the school office. Elementary students -Upon arrival after 8:45am the student will need to be accompanied to the office to be signed in and receive a pass for their teacher.
- A written note or phone call is required for arriving late or the absence will be unexcused.

Is your student leaving school early?

- Please call the office, email, or send a note stating the time they are leaving either prior to or morning of the day they will be dismissed early. **The office must be notified by the parent/guardian before the student is dismissed early from school.**
- A written note, email, or phone call is required for leaving early or the absence will be unexcused.

Is your student changing their normal bus schedule?

- Elementary students - In the event you wish to pick up your student at the end of the day, please send a note (include student's first & last name) or call the office at least one hour in advance. Preparation to load busses takes place at 3:00pm
- Please call the office or send a note stating your request to change your student's bussing schedule. **Daily changes will not be accommodated.** When updating your transportation form in FinalForms mid-school year, please also contact your building secretary.
- Please keep bus changes to a minimum, if possible. Some students upset easily with last minute bus changes.

Thank you!

AUGUST 31ST

SCAN ME

TO ORDER SCHOOL PICTURES!

Lange Photographics, Inc.

Volunteer/Chaperone Background Checks

Spencerville Local Schools will be providing an extra layer of security for our students by **requiring all volunteers and chaperones to pass a local background check before working with students.**

All part-time and full-time school employees must undergo a complete BCI/FBI background check before beginning work, but up until this time, there was no requirement for volunteers.

Continuing with the 2026-27 school year, all volunteers and chaperones are required to pass a local background check, which will be completed by the Spencerville Police Department. Once an individual has been approved as a volunteer or chaperone, they will remain on the list to be approved for the following school year.

Background check forms are available in the school office and may be completed and returned at any time.

Spencerville Local Schools

Welcomes you to our 5th Annual

Monday, August 31, 2026
12:00pm to 2:00pm
4:00pm to 6:30pm

- Visit Your Student's Classroom
- Meet the Teachers and Administration
- School Pictures
- Schedule Pick-up
- View Homeroom Lists (K-5)
- Fee Payment
- Meet with Guidance Counselors
- ProgressBook InfoSessions
- Food Service (lunch money, applications)
- Bring Your School Supplies
- Complete Your FinalForms
- Donated School Supplies (while supplies last)
- Find Your Locker
- Tour the K-12 Building
- Transportation
- Student Organization Information
- Clinic (Bring medications, meet the nurse)
- Immunizations available through Allen County Health Department
- Register with West Ohio Health Partners for Vision and Dental Screenings
- Refreshments and Prizes
- Boy / Girl Scouts
- Lifewise Academy
- SAFY
- Local Vendors/Businesses ...and more!!!

You won't want to miss this opportunity to get connected with our school and community!

Lange | LIMA LIBRARY | girl scouts of western ohio | LIFEWISE ACADEMY | SYAA

Get Ready for the 5th Annual Back-to-School Fair at Spencerville Schools!

Dear Students, Families, Community members, and Staff,

We are excited to announce our annual **Back-to-School Fair**, a wonderful opportunity to kick off the new school year with enthusiasm and community spirit! Mark your calendars for **Monday, August 31st** from **12:00-2:00 pm and 4:00-6:30 pm.**

What students and families can expect:

Pick Up Schedules: Students can **pick up their schedules** and pay school fees.

Meet Your Teachers: Take this chance to find your classrooms, meet your new teachers, and get to know the staff who will support your learning journey this year.

Bring Your School Supplies: Don't forget to **bring your school supplies** so you're ready for the first day of school.

Find Your Lockers: Students will have the opportunity to **find their lockers** and get settled in.

School Pictures: Students can get their **school pictures taken** before school starts! Don't miss this opportunity to capture your first day of the new school year.

School Supplies: Donations will be available with essential school supplies to ensure you're ready for the first day of school, for those who may have a need.

Vaccine Clinic: For the first time, we will be partnering with the Health Department to offer a **Vaccine Clinic**. You can register through the link on our Facebook page and through your Final Forms email. If you have any questions, please contact our School Nurse, **Christy Erickson**.

Counselor and Social Worker Support: We will be offering access to our school counselor and our school social worker, both of whom will be available to answer questions and provide support to students and families as we transition into the new school year.

Information Booths: Gather valuable information about school programs, clubs, and extracurricular activities. Learn how you can get involved!

Local Organizations: Local organizations will be available with information, including: **SYAA**, **Lifewise**, **Boy/Girl Scouts**, **Local Spencerville Library.**

By Design Merchandise: By Design will be set up with a **wide variety of Bearcat items for purchase**, so be sure to check out their offerings!

Bounce House: Get ready for fun! We have a **Bounce House** coming from **Bounce Off Inflatables**. It's sure to be a hit with the kids!

Food Trucks: This year, the line-up for our food trucks includes:

Poppie's Ice Tropical Shaved Ice

Fork in the Road

Taco Movil Lima

Tom's Hotdogs

Sun-E-Side Up

Urban Escape Farm Coffee Truck

Come hungry and enjoy a variety of delicious options!

Free Ice Cream: Students will once again receive **free ice cream**! Don't miss out on this sweet treat!

Door Prizes: There will be **door prizes** drawn during the first week of school for students who have attended the fair! Don't miss your chance to win!

Counselor's Corner: This year, we are excited to introduce a place where local counseling agencies will be available with information and resources to support students and families.

Bearcat Care Closet: We are also proud to continue the Bearcat Care Closet, sponsored by our very own student Jack Waggamon and family, which will provide hygiene items available for any students or families with this need.

Federal Programs: Title 1, Special Education, and English Language Learners informational meetings will be held in room 503 (main hallway). There will be two 30-minute sessions offered to learn more about these programs, 1:30 and 5:30.

Why should students and families attend our Back-to-school event?

The Back to School Fair is not just about preparing for the academic year; it's about building our school community. We encourage all families to come out, engage with teachers and staff, and meet other families. This event is a fantastic way to start the year off right!

We want to thank all of our sponsors who will be graciously supporting our event this year, with donations, prizes, and monetary donations for supplies. All of our sponsors will be displayed in the school cafeteria.

If you have any questions or would like to donate to this event, please contact Brooke Zerbe at Spencerville Schools @ 419-647-4111, ext. 3121

We look forward to seeing everyone there! Let's make this school year the best one yet!

From the desk of the

High School Principal

Mr. Scott Gephart

Welcome Back, Bearcat Families!

I hope everyone had the opportunity to relax, recharge, and enjoy some quality time over the summer. We are excited to welcome our students back and look forward to another outstanding school year filled with opportunities for learning, growth, and success.

Our Back-to-School Fair will be held on Monday, August 31, from 12:00–2:00 p.m. and 4:00–6:30 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity for students and families to become familiar with the school before the first day of classes.

During the fair, you will be able to:

· Walk through your student's schedule and meet their teachers.

· Learn about the many clubs, organizations, and extracurricular opportunities available at the high school.

· Meet with our school nurse, if needed.

· Have your student's school picture taken by Lange Photography.

· Visit with representatives from our cafeteria, transportation, and technology departments to ask questions and receive important information.

As we begin the school year, I also want to emphasize the importance of regular attendance. Being present and arriving on time each day has a significant impact on student achievement. While an occasional absence may not seem significant, they quickly add up. A student who misses just two days each month loses approximately 117 hours of instruction during the school year—equivalent to nearly one and a half years of learning over the course of their K-12 education.

The high school day begins promptly at 7:45 a.m. and ends at 2:45 p.m. School doors open for students at 7:20 a.m.

If your student will be absent, please notify our high school secretary, Brittany Wireman, by calling 419-647-4111, ext. 3200, or by emailing wiremanb@svbearcats.org.

If your student is not feeling well and you are unsure whether they should attend school, our school nurse, Mrs. Christy Erickson, is available to help you make that decision. We understand that students may text home saying they don't feel well or want to leave early. As a reminder, student cell phones are not to be used during the school day. Before coming to pick up your student, we ask that you please contact the school so we can assess the situation and determine the best course of action. Please remember that students may only miss a limited number of instructional hours—whether excused or unexcused—before an attendance intervention is required.

We are committed to making this another exceptional year at Spencerville High School. We are fortunate to have outstanding students, supportive families, dedicated staff, and a community that truly cares about our Bearcats. Working together through open communication and strong partnerships gives our students the best opportunity to succeed.

If you ever have questions, concerns, or simply need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at gepharts@svbearcats.org or 419-647-4111, ext. 3203.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you and your family at the Back-to-School Fair and to a fantastic school year ahead!

Go Bearcats!

Graduating Class of 2027

Important information from Jostens

Jostens is your school's official supplier of caps & gowns, graduation announcements, senior apparel, letter jackets and senior class rings. Your senior will be receiving an ordering kit with everything you need to complete your graduation order. Ordering early and before the deadline will ensure that you get everything you need at a significant savings in price. **Multiple payment plans available to fit any budget making celebrating graduation easier than ever!!**

Best Value **CLASS OF 2027 MASCOT PACKAGE** – the easiest way to order the items parents need and students want at a reasonable price.

NOTICE Due to staffing shortages, the **best way** to order is **ONLINE** under your home school at jostens.com. We can also accept orders by mail, phone or left in the high school office.

CLASS MEETING: *Oct 1st*

ORDER DEADLINE: *OCT 16th*

PAYMENT PLANS: ***SEE ONLINE OR CUSTOM FLYER IN PACKET***

DELIVERY: *Gowns & paper products delivered at school in the **spring**. Final payment required to pick up items.*

Looking for a graduation gift? Design your custom class ring and order online by the promo deadline to save money

QUESTIONS: 937-552-9904
robert.eldridge@jostens.com

SPENCERVILLE SCHOOLS FALL SPORTS SCHEDULE 2026

HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

Thursday, August 6, 2026	**Kenton (Scrimmage)**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Monday, August 10, 2026	Minster (Scrimmage)	Away	5:00 PM
Thursday, August 20, 2026	Paulding (Scrimmage)	Away	5:00 PM
Tuesday, August 25, 2026	Lima Sr	Away	5:30 PM
Thursday, August 27, 2026	**Pandora**	**Home**	**5:30 PM**
Saturday, August 29, 2026	Tri Match (Waynesfield/Ada)	Away	10:00 AM
Tuesday, September 1, 2026	**Delphos St John's**	**Home**	**5:30 PM**
Tuesday, September 8, 2026	Temple Cristian	Away	5:30 PM
Thursday, September 10, 2026	**Columbus Grove**	**Home**	**5:30 PM**
Saturday, September 12, 2026	Arlington	Away	10:00 AM
Monday, September 14, 2026	**Van Wert**	**Home**	**5:30 PM**
Thursday, September 17, 2026	Lincolnview	Away	5:30 PM
Saturday, September 19, 2026	Elgin Classic	Away	10:00 AM
Tuesday, September 22, 2026	**Crestview**	**Home**	**5:30 PM**
Thursday, September 24, 2026	Jefferson	Away	5:30 PM
Monday, September 28, 2026	**Perry**	**Home**	**5:30 PM**
Tuesday, September 29, 2026	**Allen East**	**Home**	**5:30 PM**
Thursday, October 1, 2026	Bluffton	Away	5:30 PM
Tuesday, October 6, 2026	LCC	Away	5:30 PM
Thursday, October 8, 2026	**Wayne Trace**	**Home**	**5:30 PM**
Monday, October 12, 2026	Bath	Away	5:30 PM
Thursday, October 15, 2026	St. Marys	Away	5:00 PM

Varsity Girls Soccer

Thursday, August 6, 2026	**Elida (Scrimmage)**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Tuesday, August 11, 2026	Lima Sr (Scrimmage)	Away	6:00 PM
Thursday, August 13, 2026	**Celina (Scrimmage)**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Tuesday, August 18, 2026	**Calvary Christian**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Thursday, August 20, 2026	**Ada**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Tuesday, August 25, 2026	Shawnee	Away	5:00 PM
Saturday, August 29, 2026	Miller City	Away	11:00 AM
Tuesday, September 1, 2026	**Bluffton**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Thursday, September 3, 2026	Ottoville	Away	5:00 PM
Tuesday, September 8, 2026	Columbus Grove	Away	5:00 PM
Thursday, September 10, 2026	Delphos St John's	Away	5:00 PM
Tuesday, September 15, 2026	Kalida	Away	6:00 PM
Tuesday, September 22, 2026	Botkins	Away	7:00 PM
Thursday, September 24, 2026	**Coldwater**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Monday, September 28, 2026	**Jefferson**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Thursday, October 1, 2026	Crestview	Away	5:00 PM
Tuesday, October 6, 2026	**LCC**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Saturday, October 10, 2026	Fort Jennings	Away	11:00 AM
Tuesday, October 13, 2026	**Allen East**	**Home**	**7:00 PM**
Thursday, October 15, 2026	**Anna**	**Home**	**7:00 PM**

JH Volleyball

Tuesday, August 25, 2026	St. Marys	Away	5:30 PM
Thursday, August 27, 2026	Wapakneta	Away	5:30 PM
Tuesday, September 1, 2026	**Lima West**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Thursday, September 3, 2026	**Delphos St. John's**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Tuesday, September 8, 2026	**Allen East**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Thursday, September 10, 2026	**New Bremen**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Tuesday, September 15, 2026	Lincolnview	Away	5:00 PM
Saturday, September 19, 2026	Perry	Away	10:00 AM
Monday, September 21, 2026	Bluffton	Away	5:00 PM
Saturday, September 26, 2026	**Parkway**	**Home**	**10:00 AM**
Thursday, October 1, 2026	**LCC**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Monday, October 5, 2026	**Columbus Grove**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Thursday, October 8, 2026	Delphos Jefferson	Away	5:00 PM
Saturday, October 10, 2026	**NWC Tournament**	**Home**	**10:00 AM**
Monday, October 12, 2026	New Knoxville	Away	5:00 PM
Thursday, October 15, 2026	Crestview	Away	5:00 PM
Saturday, October 17, 2026	**NWC Tournament**	**Home**	**10:00 AM**

JH Football

Thursday, August 13, 2026	**Waynesfield-Goshen**	**Home**	**7:30 PM**
Tuesday, August 18, 2026	**Troy Christian**	**Home**	**7:30 PM**
Thursday, August 27,2026	Bluffton	Away	5:00 PM
Thursday, September 3, 2026	LCC	Away	5:00 PM
Thursday, September 10, 2026	**Allen East**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Thursday, September 17, 2026	Fort Loramie	Away	5:00 PM
Thursday, September 24, 2026	**Crestview**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Thursday, October 1, 2026	**Columbus Grove**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Thursday, October 8, 2026	Jefferson	Away	5:00 PM

VARSITY FOOTBALL

Saturday, August 8, 2026	Shawnee (Scrimmage)	Away	10:00 AM
Friday, August 14, 2026	**Perry/ Hicksville (Scrimmage)**	**Home**	**6:00 PM**
Friday, August 21,2026	**Anna**	**Home**	**7:00 PM**
Friday, August 28, 2026	Wayne Trace	Away	7:00 PM
Friday, September 4, 2026	Riverside	Away	7:00 PM
Friday, September 11, 2026	**Crestview**	**Home**	**7:00 PM**
Friday, September 18, 2026	**Columbus Grove (Sr Parent Nigh**	**Home**	**7:00 PM**
Friday, September 25, 2026	Bluffton	Away	7:00 PM
Friday October 2, 2026	Fort Loramie	Away	7:00 PM
Friday October 9, 2026	**Allen East (Homecoming)**	**Home**	**7:00 PM**
Friday October 16, 2026	**LCC (Sr. Night)**	**Home**	**7:00 PM**
Thursday October 22, 2026	Jefferson	Away	7:00 PM

JV Football

Friday, August 7, 2026	Shawnee (Scrimmage)	Away	7:00 PM
Friday, August 14, 2026	**Perry/ Hicksville (Scrimmage)**	**Home**	**7:00 PM**
Saturday, August 22,2026	Anna	Away	10:00 AM
Saturday, August 29,2026	**Wayne Trace**	**Home**	**10:00 AM**
Saturday, September 5,2026	**Riverside**	**Home**	**10:00 AM**
Saturday, September 12,2026	Crestview	Away	10:00 AM
Saturday, September 19,2026	Columbus Grove	Away	10:00 AM
Saturday, September 26,2026	**Bluffton**	**Home**	**10:00 AM**
Saturday, October 3, 2026	**Fort Loramie**	**Home**	10:00 AM
Saturday, October 10, 2026	Allen East	Away	10:00 AM
Saturday, October 17, 2026	LCC	Away	10:00 AM

Varsity Cross County

Saturday, August 29, 2026	Delphos St. Johns	Away	9:00 AM
Saturday, September 5, 2026	Columbus Grove	Away	8:30 AM
Tuesday, September 8, 2026	**Spencerville**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Saturday, September 12, 2026	**Spencerville**	**Home**	**9:00 AM**
Saturday, September 19, 2026	Ottawa Glandorf	Away	9:00 AM
Saturday, September 26, 2026	Crestview	Away	9:00 AM
Tuesday, September 29, 2026	Bath	Away	5:00 PM
Saturday, October 3, 2026	Botkins	Away	10:00 AM
Tuesday October 6, 2026	Faurot Park	Away	4:30 PM
Saturday, October 10, 2026	Anna	Away	10:00 AM
Saturday, October 17, 2026	Crestview (NWC)	Away	9:00 AM

Varsity Golf

Monday, August 3, 2026	The Oaks		4:30 PM
Tuesday, August 11, 2026	Bluffton Golf Club		4:15 PM
Monday, August 17, 2026	The Oaks		4:30 PM
Wednesday, August 19, 2026	Delphos Country Club		4:30 PM
Monday, August 24, 2026	Colonial		4:30 PM
Wednesday, September 2, 2026	Hickory Sticks		4:30 PM
Thursday, September 10, 2026	Columbus Grove		4:00 PM
Monday, September 14, 2026	The Oaks		4:30 PM
Thursday, September 17, 2026	Bluffton Golf Club NWC)		9:00 AM

Varsity Boys Soccer

Tuesday, August 18, 2026	Fort Jennings	Away	5:00 PM
Thursday, August 20, 2026	**Arlington**	**Home**	**7:00 PM**
Tuesday, August 25, 2026	Bluffton	Away	5:00 PM
Thursday, August 27, 2026	Kenton	Away	7:00 PM
Thursday, September 3, 2026	**Pike-Delta-York**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Tuesday, September 8, 2026	**Lincolnview**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Thursday, September 10, 2026	Temple Christian	Away	5:00 PM
Saturday, September 12, 2026	Benjamin Logan	Away	3:30 PM
Tuesday, September 15, 2026	**Celina**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Thursday, September 17, 2026	Jackson Center	Away	5:00 PM
Tuesday, September 22, 2026	Botkins	Away	5:00 PM
Thursday, September 24, 2026	**Fairlawn**	**Home**	**7:00 PM**
Tuesday, September 29, 2026	**St. Marys**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Tuesday, October 6, 2026	**Lima Central Catholic**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**
Thursday, October 8, 2026	Calvary Christain	Away	5:00 PM
Saturday, October 10, 2026	**Cory Rawson**	**Home**	**10:00 AM**
Thursday, October 15, 2026	**New Knoxville**	**Home**	**5:00 PM**

From the desk of the

Athletic Director

Mr. Greg Ekis

As the summer comes to a close, I would like to welcome everyone back for another exciting year of Spencerville Bearcat Athletics! The beginning of a new school year always brings renewed energy, optimism, and excitement, and our student-athletes have been working hard throughout the off-season to prepare for another outstanding fall season.

Our fall sports schedule gets underway quickly, and we hope you'll come out and support our Bearcats. Mark your calendars for these opening contests:

· August 3 – Golf Season Opens

· August 18 – Varsity Girls Soccer Season Opener

· August 18 – Varsity Boys Soccer Season Opener

· August 21 – Varsity Football Season Opener

· August 25 – Varsity Volleyball Season Opener

Whether it's on the football field, golf course, soccer pitch, or volleyball court, our athletes appreciate the incredible support they receive from our community. Your presence at games truly makes a difference.

As our athletic programs continue to grow, we are looking for community members who would like to become more involved behind the scenes. **We are currently in need of individuals interested in announcing games and operating scoreboards during athletic contests. No previous experience is necessary—we are happy to provide training.** If you've ever wanted to be part of the excitement while supporting our student-athletes, this is a great opportunity to get involved. Please contact the Athletic Office if you are interested in one of these roles.

Local businesses also play a vital role in the success of Bearcat Athletics. We offer a variety of advertising and sponsorship opportunities that provide excellent exposure while directly supporting our athletic programs and student-athletes. If you're interested in promoting your business, please reference the Athletic Program Advertising Sheet included with this newsletter (page 3). There are opportunities available for businesses of every size, and we greatly appreciate the partnerships that help make our programs successful.

Finally, I would like to thank our coaches, volunteers, parents, the Athletic Boosters, sponsors, and community members for everything you do to support Spencerville Athletics. Your time, generosity, and enthusiasm create an incredible experience for our student-athletes and help build a tradition of excellence that extends far beyond wins and losses.

We look forward to seeing everyone at our events this fall. Let's pack the stands, cheer loudly, and make this another memorable year for the Bearcats.

Go Bearcats!

Greg Ekis, Athletic Director - Spencerville Local Schools

Spencerville Local Schools
2026 / 2027 Town Stops

Middle School / High School

Butterfly
Charles and 1st
Oak and 4th (100 Oak Dr)

Cow
Veteran's Park (319 N Main St)

Giraffe
Main and 1st (311 S Main St)
Main and 3rd (111 S Main St)
Neidhart Park (SR 66)
Storage Units (SR 66)
Union St (125 E Union St)

Kangaroo
Mulberry and Elm (415 Mulberry St)
Methodist Church (4th St Side)
313 W North St
Main and Plum (19039 Plum St)

Turtle
Melford Village (Shelter House)
Broadway and Vine (413 S Broadway)
Village Park (2nd St Shelter House)

Elementary

Butterfly
Village Park (2nd St Shelter House)
Neidhart Park (SR 66)
Storage Units (SR 66)
Union St (125 E Union St)

Cow
Veteran's Park (319 N Main St)
Mulberry and Elm (410 Mulberry St)
Methodist Church (4th St Side)

Giraffe
Canal Center Daycare
Main and 1st (311 S Main St)
Main and 3rd (111 S Main St)

Kangaroo
Charles and 1st (425 W 1st St)
W 4th St Stop (325 W 4th St)
Oak and Birch (303 Oak Dr)
Main and Plum (19039 Plum St)

Turtle
Melford Village (Shelter House)
Broadway and Vine (409 S Broadway)
Broadway and 1st (219 S Broadway)

Hello from the Spencerville PTO!

We hope everyone has had a relaxing and fun-filled summer and you are excited for the new school year! The PTO officers for the 2026-2027 school year are:

President: Jenifer Stegaman (419-771-2227; jenimh12@gmail.com)
Vice-President: Hannah Mason (567-712-4131; hannahmmason424@gmail.com)
Secretary: Priscilla Willrath (willrathp@svbearcats.org)
Treasurer: Andrea Tucker (anjtucker2012@gmail.com)

We are excited and looking forward to organizing various activities for students and families as well as providing support to the K-4 students and teachers. We can't do it alone! That's where you come in. We would love for you to become an active member of the PTO this year!

Our first meeting for the 2026-2027 school year is scheduled for Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 4 pm in room 202; all are invited to attend. Come meet other parents, get more involved with your child's school and help plan some awesome activities. Our meetings are scheduled for the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 4pm at the school; however, these times and locations are subject to change due to schedules and timing of activities. Reminders will be posted on the PTO Facebook page.

Some of the activities we are planning for this year include:

- K-4 Fall and Spring Field Trips
- Fall and Spring Scholastic Book Fairs
- National Reading Month
- Teacher Conference Meals and Teacher/Staff Appreciation Days
- Laps for Learning (our annual fundraiser)

We would like to expand our activities, but we require additional parent involvement and volunteers to facilitate these events. Volunteers are welcome throughout the year!

Spencerville-Jennings PTO is a non-profit organization, and we rely on the support of donations from parents, teachers and community members.

Box Tops for Education and Kroger Community Rewards are both easy ways to help support the PTO all year long. For Box Tops, just download the app, add Spencerville Jennings as your school and scan your receipts. Or connect your retailer accounts to earn for your school every time you purchase participating products without scanning receipts. For Kroger Rewards, visit, www.krogercommunityrewards.com, sign into your account and link your Kroger Plus Card to our organization (Spencerville-Jennings PTO, Inc. Org#: XB857). These are such simple ways to give back! Thank you, shoppers!

If you would like to be a part of the PTO or have suggestions; please reach out to us.

Facebook: Spencerville-Jennings PTO
Email: spencervillepto@yahoo.com
Spencerville School District Webpage: Departments, PTO

At the end of last year the 5th grade went to Ft. Amanda State Park for a field trip. They learned the history of the park and celebrated the U.S.A turning 250. The students participated in a fact scavenger hunt to learn facts and history. Mrs. Amy Hoback

Welcome Back Bearcats!

SCHEDULES & SCHOOL FEES

Students and parents may:

- Pick up schedules
- Pay school fees in the office or online through PaySchools Central
- View schedules through ProgressBook – Beginning August 17th

Beginning Monday, August 17 during the following **Office Hours** or at the Back-to-School Fair

August 17–21

August 24, 27 & 28

- 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- Closed 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Office Closed

- **August 25 & 26 for Staff Meetings**

BACK-TO-SCHOOL FAIR

Monday, August 31, 2026

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM

SCHOOL PICTURES DURING THE BACK-TO-SCHOOL FAIR

ALL BEARCAT FAMILIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Grades 1–12 - Wednesday, September 2, 2026

Kindergarten Girls Only - Thursday, September 3, 2026

Kindergarten Boys Only - Friday, September 4, 2026

All Students In Attendance - Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Online Payment System and Low Balance Notification

K12PaymentCenter.com is a secure, easy and convenient way to apply funds directly to your student's account.

Benefits of an Account

- Automated notifications via email and text when your student's meal account balance falls below an amount you determine.
- See your student's meal account balance any time
- See 120 days of meals and fees purchased and payments made, so you know exactly where your money is being spent
- Quick and easy payment system for your student's meals
- Deposit to multiple students' accounts with one single payment
- Recurring payments can be set for monthly or weekly deposits
- Step-by-step registration is easy and account management is simple and intuitive
- Secure payment processing
- Your information is confidential – we do not sell your information to anyone!
- Access online payments on facebook
- $1.95 fee per transaction for school meal payments
- Please note, since payments are securely cleared it could take up to 24 hours for students to access funds.

To create an account, go to www.spencervillebearcats.com and click Food Service. Go to K12PaymentCenter and click "Register Now". You will need your student's PIN or ID number, if you do not have this number you can find it on the student's schedule or you may obtain it from your student's school.

If you have any questions, please contact, Abby Stemen, Food Service Director, stemena@svbearcats.org or 419-647-4111 Ext.3206.

VeriSign Secured VERIFY

SECURITY SCANNED TRUSTGUARD Passed

www.K12PaymentCenter.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

PaySchools Central

If you feel your student may qualify for the free/reduced meal program, you can apply for free/reduced meals through your PaySchools Central account.

****NOTE**: You are required to fill out a new form each school year for free and reduced. Applications are accepted starting in July for the 2026-27 school year your student. Applications are accepted all year.

Register with PaySchools Central by setting up an account at www.payschoolscentral.com or on Final Forms or the District website under Food Services Dept. On the website you will also find detailed instructions for signing up online and a paper version to sign up for free/reduced meals, as well.

We encourage ALL parents to sign up for PaySchools Central.

You can submit meal account funds, school fees and monitor meal accounts.

*If you are registering a kindergarten student, you will not be able to register for a PaySchools Central account or apply for a free/reduced application until the start of their school year.

For more information, contact Abby Stemen, Spencerville Food Service Director, stemena@svbearcats.org

LUNCH MENUS

K-12 LUNCH MENUS AVAILABLE HERE:

SEARCH FOR SPENCERVILLE SCHOOLS AND SELECT A MENU
TO VIEW DAILY BREAKFAST AND LUNCH OPTIONS.
TRACK NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION. AND
FILTER ITEMS BY SPECIFIC FOOD ALLERGENS.

My School MENUS

www.SpencervilleBearcats.com

Questions? Contact Abby Stemen at (419) 647-4111 x3206 or stemena@svbearcats.org

From the desk of the Middle School Principal

Mr. John Zerbe

Welcome Back, Bearcats!

Dear Spencerville Middle School Families,
I hope you have enjoyed a memorable summer. As we prepare to begin another school year at Spencerville Middle School, we are excited about the opportunities ahead and look forward to welcoming our students back into the building.
Our school looks outstanding thanks to the hard work of Mr. Stemen and the summer maintenance crew. Our teachers and staff have also been busy preparing classrooms, developing lessons, and getting everything ready for a successful start to the year. We cannot wait to see our students return and begin another year of learning, growth, and Bearcat PRIDE!

Important Dates
Back-to-School Fair
Monday, August 31
12:00–2:00 p.m. and 4:00–6:30 p.m.
School pictures will be taken during the fair, so please plan accordingly.

First Day of School
Wednesday, September 2

Bearcat PRIDE: Building a Positive School Culture
Bearcat PRIDE remains at the heart of our PBIS—or Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports—framework. Through PBIS, we establish clear expectations, recognize positive choices, and create a school environment where every student feels safe, supported, and ready to learn.
Our Bearcat PRIDE values are:

P – Personal Responsibility
Students are encouraged to take ownership of their actions, choices, and learning. Personal responsibility means arriving prepared, staying organized, making good decisions, and accepting accountability.

R – Respect
Respect is an essential part of our school community. We expect students to treat classmates, teachers, staff members, visitors, and school property with kindness and consideration.

I – Involved
We want every student to be an active participant in the classroom and the school community. Whether through academics, clubs, athletics, music, or other activities, involvement helps students develop confidence, connections, and school pride.

D – Determined
Determination means staying focused, working through challenges, and continuing to give your best effort—even when something is difficult.

E – Excellence
Excellence is not about being perfect. It is about setting high expectations, learning from mistakes, showing pride in your work, and continually striving to improve.
By working together to model and reinforce Bearcat PRIDE, we can continue building a positive culture in which every student can thrive personally, socially, and academically.

School Information and Reminders

Website and Student Handbook

Please visit www.spencervillebearcats.com for the complete student handbook, district information, calendars, announcements, and other important resources.

Homeroom

All students will report to homeroom at the beginning of the school day. Homeroom will be used for attendance, morning announcements, and important school updates. This time helps students begin the day informed, organized, and ready to learn.

Lockers and Backpacks

Students will be assigned lockers. Locks are optional; however, students who choose to use a lock must use a school-issued lock. School locks are available upon request.

Students may bring backpacks to school, but backpacks must remain in lockers during the school day. For safety and space considerations, backpacks may not be carried between classes.

Electronic Devices

Students are encouraged to leave personal electronic devices at home unless they are needed for an after-school activity. Any device brought to school must remain turned off and stored in the student's locker throughout the school day.

Arrival

School doors open at 7:20 a.m. Upon entering the building, students should report directly to breakfast or to their homeroom.

Water Bottles

Students may bring a water bottle to school. Only plain water is permitted in classrooms and throughout the school day.

Dress Code Reminders

Students are expected to wear clothing that is appropriate for a school setting and does not interfere with the learning environment. Important reminders include:

- Pajama pants, slippers, and sleepwear are not permitted except on designated spirit days.
- Hats and hoods may not be worn inside the building.
- Clothing may not display inappropriate images, messages, or language.
- Shorts, dresses, skirts, and holes in pants must meet the fingertip guideline.
- Leggings must be worn with a shirt or top that provides appropriate coverage.

When selecting clothing for school, students and families should always consider whether the clothing is appropriate for a professional learning environment.

Personal Care Products

Spray products—including body sprays, perfumes, and colognes—are not permitted on school property. Students may use roll-on or stick applicators when needed.

Vape Detection System

School restrooms are equipped with vape detection devices. When a detector is activated, staff members will respond immediately. Students may be subject to a search in accordance with school policy.

Student Drop-Off and Pick-Up

Please use the front entrance when dropping off or picking up students. Vehicles should pull forward as far as possible to help traffic move safely and efficiently.

Please do not park or stop in the lane between the school and the weight room.

Football Games

We encourage students and families to attend our athletic events and support the Bearcats in a positive and respectful manner.

For everyone's safety, footballs may not be brought into the stadium. Student seating is available in the north-end bleachers. Students should either sit in the designated student section or remain seated with their parents or guardians.

Accessible seating is available on the south end of Memorial Field.

(-continued on Page 18-)

Welcome, Miss Cami High!

We are excited to welcome Miss Cami High as our new seventh-grade English language arts teacher.

Miss High graduated from Wright State University in 2026 with a bachelor's degree in Middle Childhood Education for grades 4–9. Her areas of concentration are English language arts, social studies, and reading.

Although she is from Mendon, Miss High has family in the Spencerville area and has been connected to the Spencerville community since childhood. In her free time, she enjoys reading, baking, spending time with family and friends, and trying to help her dog burn off some extra energy!

Miss High has dreamed of teaching middle school English language arts since she was a middle school student herself. She is excited to share her passion for reading, writing, and learning with our students and community.

Welcome, Mr. Mason Brandt!

We are also excited to welcome Mr. Mason Brandt as our new fifth-grade mathematics teacher.

Mr. Brandt is from Leipsic and earned his Bachelor of Science in Middle Childhood Education from the University of Findlay, with concentrations in mathematics and social studies. While attending the University of Findlay, he was also a member of the men's basketball team.

Mr. Brandt is engaged and will be getting married this August. He is looking forward to beginning his teaching career at Spencerville, developing relationships with our students and staff, and helping students grow academically and personally. He is also excited to become involved in our athletic programs as a coach.

Please join us in welcoming Miss High and Mr. Brandt to the Bearcat family!

Looking Forward to a Great Year

A successful school year is built through a strong partnership among students, families, teachers, and staff. By communicating openly and working together, we can make this a positive, productive, and memorable year for every student.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions, concerns, or ideas. I can be reached at 419-647-4112, ext. 3102, or by email at zerbejohn@svbearcats.org.

Welcome back, and here's to a great school year!

Sincerely,

John Zerbe Principal, Spencerville Middle School

NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS	EXT	POSITION
Abel, Rachel	abelr@svbearcats.org	3157	EL Grade 4
Ball, Paula	ballp@svbearcats.org		Café/Head Cook
Baumgartner, James	baumgartnerjim@svbearcats.org	3125	Guidance 9-12
Baumgartner, Joy	baumgartnerjoy@svbearcats.org	3234	HS Intervention Specialist (9-12)
Beining, Amanda	beininga@svbearcats.org	3235	HS/MS Vocal Music
Blair, Damon	blaird@svbearcats.org	3250	HS PE & Health
Boedicker,Sasha	boedickers@svbearcats.org		Café/6-hr Cook
Bohyer, Rachel	bohyerr@svbearcats.org	3488	Tutor
Bowsher, Cindy	cindy.bowsher@gmail.com		Sub Bus Driver
Boyer, Darren	boyerd@svbearcats.org		Maintenance
Brandt, Mason	brandtm@svbearcats.org	3187	MS Grade 5 Math
Brenneman, Harmony	brennemanh@svbearcats.org	3117	HS Social Studies
Brinkman, Michelle	brinkmanm@svbearcats.org	3128	HS Math
Brown, Michele	brownm@svbearcats.org	3180	EL Grade 2
Buerger, Joshua	buergerj@svbearcats.org	3129	EL Grade 1
Burden, Sarah	burdens@svbearcats.org		Sub Bus Driver
Carless, Meghan	carlessm@svbearcats.org	3233	HS Science
Carter, Christie	christie.carter@allencountyesc.org	3164	ESC Gifted Instructor
Clark, Tracy	clarkt@svbearcats.org	3100	Secretary EL K-4
Clum, Spencer	clums@svbearcats.org		Board Member
Conference Room		3311	
Collins, Reyna	collinsr@svbearcats.org		Sub Bus Driver
Cook, Alyssa	cooka@svbearcats.org	3184	EL Grade 2
Cook, Ashley	ashley.cook@allencountyesc.org		ESC MD Aide (Chandler)
Cook, Devon	cookd@svbearcats.org	3152	EL Intervention Specialist
Core, John	corej@svbearcats.org		Board Member
Davis, Chelsea	davisc@svbearcats.org	3236	HS Science
Dicke, Grace	dickeg@svbearcats.org	3211	HS VoAg
Ekis, Greg	ekisg@svbearcats.org	3216	Athletic Director
Ekis, Kimberly	ekisk@svbearcats.org	3201	Admin Asst/EMIS
Elkins, Loren	elkinsl@svbearcats.org	3319	Technology Assistant
Erickson, Christina	ericksonc@svbearcats.org	3105	Nurse
Erickson, Lee	ericksonl@svbearcats.org	3108	Bus Mechanic
Evans, Amber	evansa@svbearcats.org		Bus Driver
Evans, Dave	evansd@svbearcats.org		Bus Driver
Falke, Shane	falkes@svbearcats.org	3136	EL/MS Phys. Ed.
Fenbert, Emma	davise@svbearcats.org	3133	HS Math
Fosnaugh, Emma	fosnaughe@svbearcats.org	3149	EL Art K-5 & 7th Grade Art
Gallimore, Ashley	ashley.gallimore@allencountyesc.org		ESC MD Aide (Rydell)
Gephart, Scott	gepharts@svbearcats.org	3203	Principal 9-12
German, Derik	germand@svbearcats.org		Maintenance
Graham, Michael	grahamm@svbearcats.org	3137	EL/MS Technology
Graves, Debra	gravesd@svbearcats.org		Van Driver
Grogg, Jason	jgrogg1973@outlook.com		Sub Bus Driver
Grothjan, Danielle	grothjand@svbearcats.org		Bus Driver
Hale, David	dhale416@icloud.com		Sub Bus Driver
Hanjora, Kim	hanjorak@svbearcats.org		Café/6-hr Cook
Harter, Abbey	abbey.harter@allencountyesc.org		ESC MD Aide (Rydell)
High, Cami	highc@svbearcats.org	3132	MS ELA 7
Heiby, Logan	heibyl@svbearcats.org	3210	HS VoAg
Hemker, Sarah	hemkers@svbearcats.org	3218	MS Grade 6 Science/SS
Hoback, Amy	hobacka@svbearcats.org	3195	MS Grade 5 ELA
Holbrook, Mathew	holbrookm@svbearcats.org		Maintenance

NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS	EXT	POSITION
Hollar, Carole	hollarc@svbearcats.org	3143	EL Grade 1
Hollar, Heidi	heidi.hollar@allencountyesc.org	3110	ESC Psychologist
Howell, Katrina	katrina.howell@allencountyesc.org		ESC MD Aide (Painter)
Huber, Jennifer	huberj@svbearcats.org	3189	EL Grade 3
Hurst, Daniele	hurstd@svbearcats.org	3150	EL Intervention Specialist
James, Kayla	jamesk@svbearcats.org	3155	EL Grade 2
Keller, Rick	rkkeller@live.com		Bus Driver
Kiene, Terry	terry.kiene@allencountyesc.org		ESC PS Aide
Kitchen		3221	
Klaus, Liz	klause@svbearcats.org		Board Member
Klosterman, Emily	klostermane@svbearcats.org	3248	HS English
Koenig, Kyle	koenigk@svbearcats.org	3238	MS Grade 7 Math
Koenig, Sydney	koenigs@svbearcats.org	3142	EL Grade 3
Koester, Rachel	rachel.koester@allencountyesc.org	3159	ESC Speech/Hearing
Kohorst, Kevin	kohorstk@svbearcats.org		Maintenance
Kyler, Amanda	kylera@svbearcats.org	3237	HS Spanish
Layman, Keeley	keeley.layman@allencountyesc.org	3489	ESC MD Aide (Chandler)
Lefik, Don	lefikd@svbearcats.org	3112	Maintenance
Lenhart, Dave	lenhartd@svbearcats.org	3360	TESOL Tutor
Lenhart, Keith	lenhartk@svbearcats.org	3244	HS Social Studies
Lewis, Sarah	lewiss@svbearcats.org		Café/2-hr Cook
Library		3208	
Longsworth, Alden	longswortha@svbearcats.org	3209	MS/HS Band
Lugibihl, Brianna	lugibihlb@svbvearcats.org	3104	MS ELA 8
Lyons, Suzanne	lyonss@svbearcats.org	3153	EL Kdg
Maas, Tiffany	tiffany.maas@allencountyesc.org	3328	ESC PS Teacher
Mabry, Barbara	mabryb@svbearcats.org	3190	MS Math
Main Work Room		3113	
McCormick, Kristina	mccormickt@svbearcats.org	3141	EL Grade 1
McMichael, Brian	bcmspen@hotmail.com		Sub Bus Driver
McMichael, Ryan	mcmichaelryan@svbearcats.org		Board Member
Miller, Ron	millerr@svbearcats.org		Bus Driver
Morrison, Tammy	tammy.morrison@allencountyesc.org		ESC PS Teacher Aide
Mozingo, Tiffany	tiffany.mozingo@allencountyesc.org		ESC MD Aide (Chandler)
Mulholland, Tressa	mulhollandt@svbearcats.org	3191	EL Grade 4
Mull, Kayla	mullk@svbearcats.org	3231	EL Kdg
Munshower, Rachel	munshowerr@svbearcats.org	3219	MS Science
Nagel, Logan	logan.c.nagel@gmail.com	3285	Athletic Trainer
Oehlhof, Brian	oehlhofcb1@gmail.com		Sub Bus Driver
Orr, Richard	orrr@svbearcats.org	3245	HS Math
Osting, Trent	ostingt@svbearcats.org		Sub Maintenance
Painter, Renee	renee.painter@allencountyesc.org	3480	ESC MD Teacher K-4
Prichard, Clarke	prichardc@svbearcats.org		Board Member
Prine, Rachel	priner@svbearcats.org	3480	MS Educational Aide
Pugh, Jen	pughj@svbearcats.org	3120	MS Grade 6 ELA
Purdy, Karri	purdyk@svbearcats.org	3240	HS/MS Home Economics
Rammel, Don	rammeld@svbearcats.org		Bus Driver
Ricker, Rebekah	rickerr@svbearcats.org	3145	EL Music
Roberts, Cole	robertscole@svbearcats.org	3127	Fiscal Assistant / Accounts Payable
Rydell, Keith	keith.rydell@allencountyesc.org	3196	ESC MD HS Teacher
Sadler, Paul	sadlerp@svbearcats.org	3317	HS/MS Technology/Photography
Salvage, Kim	salvagek@svbearcats.org	3239	HS Art/Yearbook/8th Grade Art
Sanderson, Megan	megan.sanderson@allencountyesc.org		ESC MD Aide (Painter)

NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS	EXT	POSITION
Settlemire, Jennifer	settlemirej@svbearcats.org		Café/2-hr Cook
Schnipke, Chelsea	schnipkec@svbearcats.org	3130	Staff Social Worker
Schroeder, Ann	ann.schroeder@allencountyesc.org	3167	ESC /Transition Coordinator
Schwark, Karen	kschw43098@aol.com		Sub Van Driver
Schwartz, Amy	schwartza@svbearcats.org	3154	EL Kdg
Schwartz, Lori	schwartzl@svbearcats.org	3139	MS Grade 5 Science/Social Studies
Seibert, Tiffany	seibertt@svbearcats.org	3107	Monitor/Library & Teacher Aide
Sensabaugh, Kevin	sensabaughk@svbearcats.org	3126	MS Social Studies
Shaw, Ben	shawb@svbearcats.org	3148	Maintenance
Shoppell, Amy	shoppella@svbearcats.org	3114	Technology Coordinator
Shumate, Pam	shumatep@svbearcats.org	3243	MS Math
Smith, Lauren	lauren.smith@allencountyesc.org		ESC PT
Smith, Samantha	smiths@svbearcats.org		Café/6-hr Cook
Smith, Trenton	smitht@svbearcats.org	3450	EL Title I
Snipes, Jennifer	jennifer.snipes@allencountyesc.org	3329	ESC PS Teacher
Solomon, John	ajsolomon3719@gmail.com		Sub Bus Driver
Sommers, Chris	sommersc@svbearcats.org	3162	Digital Academy Coordinator
Sommers, Sara	sommerss@svbearcats.org	3162	Digital Academy Aide
Stemen, Abby	stemena@svbearcats.org	3206	Food Service Supervisor
Stemen, Rebekah	stemenr@svbearcats.org	3140	EL Grade 3
Stemen, Zachary	stemenz@svbearcats.org	3414	Maintenance Supervisor
Stephenson, Jennifer	stephensonj@svbearcats.org	3146	EL Title I
Stewart, Mandi	stewartm@svbearcats.org	3208	Monitor/Library
Stiles, Ginger	ginger.stiles@allencountyesc.org		ESC PS Aide
Stirn, Rebecca	rebecca.stirn@allencountyesc.org		ESC MD Aide (Painter)
Stober, Josiah	stoberj@svbearcats.org	3156	MS Intervention Specialist
Sudhoff, Jennifer	sudhoffj@svbearcats.org	3204	Treasurer
Swartz, Don	swartzd@svbearcats.org		Bus Driver
Thompson, Anna	thompsona@svbearcats.org	3151	EL Grade 4
Thompson, Lezlie	thompsonl@svbearcats.org	3199	EL Kdg
Thompson, Tera	thompsont@svbearcats.org	3213	Treasurer Assistant / Payroll
Tucker, Andrea	tuckera@svbearcats.org	3144	Playground/Monitor
Van Vorce, Lauren	vanvorcel@svbearcats.org	3170	EL Grade 1
Vasquez, Joshua	vasquezj@svbearcats.org	3247	HS English
Voice, Kelly	kelly.voice@allencountyesc.org		ESC OT
Wagner, Susan	wagners@svbearcats.org	3101	Principal K-4
Weight Room (new)		3415	
Willrath, Priscilla	willrathp@svbearcats.org	3138	EL Intervention Specialist
Wireman, Brittany	kennedyb@svbearcats.org	3200	HS Secretary
Wood, Billie	woodb@svbearcats.org	3103	Secretary MS Grades 5-8
Wood, Matt	woodm@svbearcats.org		Van Driver
Woods, Brian	woodsb@svbearcats.org	3205	Superintendent
Woods, Julie	woodsj@svbearcats.org	3135	MS Gr 5-6 Intervention Specialist
Zenz, Kory	zenzk@svbearcats.org	3217	MS Intervention Specialist
Zerbe, Brooke	zerbeb@svbearcats.org	3121	Guidance K-8
Zerbe, John	zerbejohn@svbearcats.org	3102	MS Principal

Welcome back Bearcat Family!

Health Screenings for 2026-2027

The following health screenings will be completed throughout the school year, thus meeting the Ohio Department of Health requirements:

Vision- K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11
Hearing- K, 1, 3, 5, 9, Height/Weight- K
Vision, hearing- New students to the school district in any grade

If you do not want your child to participate in a screening, please notify me.

Special Education Students:

Amended House Bill 95 requires all students who are initially identified with a disability to have a comprehensive eye examination from an eye doctor within 90 days unless the student has had a previous eye examination in the past 9 months. Cost should not be an issue for students without insurance as assistance is available. Please contact the school psychologist, Heidi Hollar, or myself for further information.

Reminder on School's Medication Policy:

Any prescription medication that is to be taken during school hours MUST be dropped off by the parent, guardian, or other authorized adult and will be logged in by the nurse or principal. I MUST have an updated order from the physician to be able to give any prescription medications during the school day. You can find these forms on the website under the clinic section. Students are prohibited from carrying prescription medication into the school or carry during school hours. In addition, over-the-counter (OTC) medications need to be dropped off first thing in the morning in the clinic or office. Students are not permitted to have in their possession an OTC medication during school hours. All medication given including OTC medications MUST have a medication authorization form filled out.

Kindergarteners:

Please have your child's immunizations completed by the first day of school. If your child received shots over the summer, please turn in an updated copy of the shot record to the elementary secretary. If you have a personal, medical or religious exemption, please fill out the waiver on the school website and return to me. Kindergartners who are not up-to-date on immunizations will be excluded from school by October 15, 2025 as required by Section 3313.671 of the Ohio Revised Code.

A copy of the original birth certificate, issued from the health department in the county where the child was born, is also required for entry to Kindergarten by the first day of school according to Section 3313.672 of the Ohio Revised Code. Hospital birth certificates are not acceptable. Please drop off a copy of your child's birth certificate to the elementary secretary, if you have not already done so.

7th Graders & Immunization Requirements:

A Tdap (Tetanus Toxoid, Reduced Diphtheria Toxoid, and Acellular Pertussis) booster and one dose of the Meningococcal vaccine is required for all 7th graders, including digital academy students, by the first day of the 2026-2027 school year. Please send in documentation to the school after receiving the Tdap and Meningococcal vaccines. If you have a personal, medical, or religious exemption, please fill out the waiver on the school website and return to me. 7th graders who are not up-to-date on immunizations will be excluded from school by October 15, 2025 as required by Section 3313.671 of the Ohio Revised Code.

12th Graders & Immunization Requirements: The Meningococcal vaccine is required for all 12th graders, including Apollo, digital academy, and post - secondary students, by the first day of the 26/27 school year. Please note that if your child had a dose of the Meningococcal vaccine before the age of 16, a second dose will be required. Please send in documentation after receiving the Meningococcal vaccine. If you have a personal, medical or religious exemption, please fill out the waiver on the school website and return to me. 12th graders who are not up-to-date on immunizations will be excluded from school by October 15, 2025 as required by Section 3313.671 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Dental Service:
Health Partners of Western Ohio will be returning to Spencerville Schools on September 17-25, 2026. They offer a dental prevention program within the school, which includes an exam, cleaning, fluoride treatment, and dental sealants. They will bill Medicaid or private insurance and there will be no out of pocket expense. If there is no dental coverage, it will be provided free of charge. The program is open to all K-12 students. Applications will be available during the Back to School Fair or in my office after school begins.

Vision Service:
Health Partners of Western Ohio will be returning to Spencerville Schools on February 8-11, 2027. They will offer a complete vision exam and glasses will be ordered and fitted here at school if needed. They will bill Medicaid and private insurance. This program is free of charge for Spencerville students who do not have an eye doctor. The program is open to all K-12 students. Applications will be available at the Back to School Fair and in my office after school begins.

Confidentiality:
All health information that relates to any student at Spencerville Schools, such as emergency medical forms, emergency action plans, and health records, is treated as highly confidential. This information is only shared with specific school personnel on a need-to-know basis. Please notify me if you have any concerns or questions regarding this.

Questions or Concerns:
If there are any changes in medical information, please reach out to me. I am available for any questions or concerns. Feel free to call or email me at the below information.
Call 419-647-4113, ext. 3105 or email ericksonc@svbearcats.org

I am excited for the 2026-2027 school year. Let's have a great school year! Christy Erickson, RN BSN
School Nurse

SPENCERVILLE ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

The Spencerville Athletic Boosters thank you for your past contributions and for your tremendous support of our student athletes. We are an organization that provides assistance for all junior high and high school sports and student athletes. We are a Bearcat Family! We welcome your support and invite you to our meetings which are held the 1st Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Home Economics room of Spencerville School.

Past Year Highlights:

- Boys and girls basketball warmup pants
- Starting blocks and hurdles
- Girls soccer uniforms
- Junior high baseball uniforms
- Volleyball uniforms
- Portable athletic training table

2026 Annual Bearcat Booster Drive

This year's Bearcat Century Club level and above donors will receive 2 complimentary Spencerville Bearcats lapel pins per $100 donation.

Commitment Level

- ☐ White level—$20
- ☐ Black level—$40
- ☐ Bearcat Century Club —$100
- ☐ Bearcat Backers Club —$500
- ☐ Bearcat All Star Club —$1000

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

How would you like name(s) listed in the Sports Program?: _____

Method of Payment ☐ Check ☐ Cash

Please make checks payable to Spencerville Athletic Boosters and mail to:
P.O. Box 66, Spencerville, OH 45887, Attn: 2026 Bearcat Booster Drive.

The Spencerville Athletic Boosters are a 501c(3) organization and all donations are tax deductible to the extent that the law allows.

From the desk of the Elementary Principal

Mrs. Susan Wagner

As we begin a new school year, we are excited to welcome our students, families, and staff back to a year filled with opportunities to learn, grow, and succeed together. The start of a new school year brings a sense of hope, fresh beginnings, and endless possibilities. We look forward to building strong relationships, celebrating achievements, and creating meaningful learning experiences that inspire curiosity, confidence, and kindness. Together, we will continue to foster a safe, supportive, and engaging school community where every child is encouraged to reach their fullest potential.

Attendance: Every school day matters! When children attend school regularly, they build strong academic skills, develop friendships, and establish routines that help them feel confident and successful. Even a few missed days each month can make it harder for students to keep up with classroom learning and stay connected to their teachers and classmates.

The State of Ohio has made improving student attendance a priority because regular attendance plays an important role in a child's long-term success. Our goal is to work together with families to support consistent attendance while recognizing that illnesses and unexpected circumstances do happen. By partnering with parents, communicating early about attendance concerns, and providing support when challenges arise, we can help every child be present, engaged, and ready to learn each day.

Chronic absenteeism applies to students who miss at least 10% of the school year, or over 110 hours. According to HB 166, students with a nonmedical excuse or without legitimate excuse are only allowed to miss 65 hours of school. Once 65 hours has been attained, a student is identified with excessive absenteeism and a doctor's note will be required to excuse further absences. **Vacations do count toward a student's excessive and chronic absentee hours.** Please refer to the handbook for details regarding this policy. The handbook is located on the elementary webpage.

Arrival and Dismissal: Drop-off for elementary students will be the same as last year. Parents can drop off using the west parking lot and students will enter through the AG entrance, or students may be dropped off at the bell tower entrance. Please do not let students out of cars until 8:25, as that is when the doors open.

Elementary pick up will remain in the west parking lot and parents will be expected to park and pick up their students from the staff on duty. **We will continue using pick up cards this year. Please be kind to staff on duty who are enforcing this policy.** Our intent is to simply ensure your child's safe departure from school.

All students will have 3 pick-up cards with their individual names on them. A new set of cards will be available for pick up in the student's homeroom class at the Back to School Fair. ***Anyone picking up a student MUST show the card with the student's name on it to the staff member on duty.*** *If there is not a card presented to staff, then the student will be brought into the office. The pick-up person will be verified by the principal or secretary and the student will need to be signed out. We appreciate your support as we are trying to make our school more safe and secure.*

(-continued on next page-)

Mrs. Wagner–continued from page 25:

Electronic Devices: At the elementary level, our goal is to create classrooms where students can focus on learning, build friendships, and enjoy being actively engaged each day. In accordance with Ohio law, our school has a policy regarding the use of electronic devices, including cell phones and smartwatches, during the school day. We ask that these devices remain turned off and stored away in student's bookbags. If you need to reach your child during the school day, please contact the school office, and we will make sure your message is delivered. Thank you for partnering with us to help minimize distractions so every student can learn, grow, and be successful.

PTO: I would like to thank our PTO, parents and students for a successful Laps for Learning campaign in the spring! The staff and students had a blast!! PTO is vital to providing wonderful opportunities for our students! PTO sponsors all K-4 fieldtrips, books for our classrooms and libraries, and multiple rewards teachers give to students. We appreciate all of the time and effort these volunteers give to our school community. Please consider being a part of this amazing organization!! Please contact Jenifer Stegaman, the PTO president, for more information.

Required Tests: A critical component of meeting students' needs depends on knowing where students are in relation to their current skills and abilities. This understanding is determined through multiple measures acquired from diagnostic assessments. Students in grades K-4 are tested in the areas of math and reading using a program called iReady and Aimsweb. These programs provide information for essential skills needed for academic success. The results of these assessments are shared at parent-teacher conferences.
All Kindergarten students are required to be administered the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment. This test is created by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) and looks at a variety of skills that are needed for academic success at the kindergarten level. The results of this assessment is a parent report provided by ODEW and are sent home by the school.

All students in grades 3 and 4 will take State tests in ELA and Math. Grade 3 only will give the ELA test twice, once in the Fall and Spring. State achievement tests tell us how well our students are growing in the knowledge and skills outlined in Ohio's Learning Standards. These tests help guide and strengthen future teaching so we can be sure that we are preparing our students for long-term success in school, college, careers and life. Test results also allow citizens to know how their local schools are performing compared to others around the state. **The ELA test is approximately 90 minutes and requires 2 sessions to complete. The Math test is approximately 75 minutes and also requires 2 sessions to complete. The results of these assessments are a parent report provided by ODEW and are sent home by the school.**
****The ELA test is April 22nd and 23rd and the math test is April 29th and 30th. Please avoid scheduling vacations and appointments on these days.

Important Dates for elementary to kick off the school year:

August 31: Back to School Fair (12-2 and 4-6:30)
September 1 and 2: Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
September 2: First day of school for 1-4th grade students
September 3: First day for kindergarten girls
September 4: First day for kindergarten boys
September 7: Labor day- no school
September 8: All kindergarten students
October 2: No school- teacher professional development
November 6: 2 hr delay for teacher professional development
November 19: 1 hr early release- parent/teacher conferences
November 23-24: No school- parent/teacher conferences
November 25-27: Thanksgiving Break

Elementary Staff Updates:
I would like to welcome **Devon Cook** as our new second and third grade intervention specialist. Devon was born and raised in Spencerville where he graduated from and currently lives with his wife Alyssa and their 3 children, Payton, Gianna, and Daxton. He chose Special Education to help make a difference in the students' lives that may need it the most. He loves basketball and has been coaching junior high for 10 years with 9 being at Spencerville (8 with boys and 2 with girls). He also enjoys volunteering in our community, mainly with Summerfest and youth sports.

Lauren Van Vorce is excited to transition from intervention to teaching first grade! It will allow her to support students at such a pivotal point in their academic journey. She's eager to build strong habits, confidence, and a love for learning from the very beginning! Her experience in intervention has strengthened her ability to meet diverse learning needs of all students and she looks forward to applying those skills while fostering a positive and engaging classroom community!

As we begin another exciting school year, thank you for the trust you place in us each day. We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with you in your child's education and know that our strongest successes come when families and schools work together. We look forward to celebrating achievements, supporting one another through challenges, and creating meaningful experiences that help every child learn, grow, and thrive. Here's to a wonderful school year filled with curiosity, kindness, and success. We can't wait to welcome our students back! As always, feel free to contact me at (419) 647-4113 ext 3101 or via email at wagners@svbearcats.org.
Thank you!
Susie Wagner

Spencerville Local Schools - Picture Day is Coming Soon!

Pictures will be taken on Monday, August 31 at Spencerville Local Schools.
Pre-Order Online and receive a FREE 10 x 8 Scrapbook Page with purchase!!!
QR Code to order is on page 5.

SPENCERVILLE SCHOOLS
2026-2027

July 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

July

August 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August

25	Staff Work Day
26	Staff Work Day
31	Back to School Fair (12:00-2:00 and 4:00-6:30)

3T

September 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

September

2	First Day of School
7	Labor Day - No School

20T, 20S

October 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

October

2	Staff Professional Development Day - No School
30	1st Quarter Ends (41 days)

22T, 21S

November 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

November

6	Two-Hour Delay for Staff PD
19	P/T Conference (4:30- 7:30) - One-Hour Early Release
23	P/T Conferences (8:00-7:30) - No School
24	P/T Conferences (8:00-2:00) - No School
25	Teacher Work Day - No School
26-27	Thanksgiving Break - No School

19T, 16S

December 2026

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

December

18	One-Hour Early Release - Holiday Break
21-31	Christmas Break - No School

14T, 14S

January 2027

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January

1	Christmas Break - No School
4	1st Day of 2027
8	Two-Hour Delay for Staff PD
18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School
22	2nd Quarter Ends (44 days)

19T, 19S

February 2027

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

February

5	Two-Hour Delay for Staff PD
15	Presidents' Day - No School

19T, 19S

March 2027

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

March

5	Two-Hour Delay for Staff PD
25	One-Hour Early Release - Holiday Break
26-29	Easter Break - No School

21T, 21S

April 2027

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

April

2	3rd Quarter Ends (47 days)

22T, 22S

May 2027

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

May

30	Graduation
31	Memorial Day - No School

20T, 20S

June 2027

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

June

3	Students' Last Day - One-Hour Early Release
3	End of 4th Quarter (43 Days)
4	Staff Work Day

4T, 3S