ASHLAND CITY SCHOOLS
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Arrows in Action: Empowering Our Youngest Leaders

State Representative Melanie Miller
State Representative Sarah Fowler Arthur
State Senator Mark Romanchuk

As Superintendent & Treasurer of Ashland City Schools, we are excited to begin another school year and welcome our students back into our classrooms. As we look forward to the opportunities ahead, we want to highlight some of our youngest Arrows and the important work taking place at Reagan and Edison Elementary Schools.

At Reagan Elementary, our youngest Arrows are learning that leadership can begin at any age. During the 2025–2026 school year, Reagan launched Leader in Me, a program based on Stephen Covey's 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, to help students develop responsibility, confidence, and positive decision-making skills. Students learned that leadership is not simply about being in charge, but about making good choices, helping others, working together, and taking responsibility for their actions. By the end of the year, many students could explain the 7 Habits and share examples of how they were using them both at school and at home. These lessons have extended beyond the classroom as students welcomed visitors, assisted their peers, modeled positive behavior, and participated in school events. Combined with strong academic growth in literacy, mathematics, and problem solving, Leader in Me is helping our kindergarten, first-grade, and Little Arrows Preschool students recognize their strengths and understand that they can make a positive difference in their school and community.

At Edison Elementary, these same leadership principles are helping our second and third-grade students take greater ownership of their learning and find meaningful ways to serve others. Through Leader in Me, students are learning to set goals, build positive relationships, work together, and recognize the important role they play in their school community. Students have also put these lessons into action throughout Ashland by volunteering during the United Way Day of Caring, supporting families through a

partnership with the Salvation Army Kroc Center, donating nearly 500 food items during a food drive, and ringing bells for the Salvation Army. Looking ahead, Edison will continue to strengthen this work through daily leadership development, family engagement, student clubs, community service projects, and the use of Wildly Important Goals (WIGs) to encourage students to take ownership of their academic growth. Together, Reagan and Edison are creating a consistent foundation for leadership during a child's earliest school years—helping students develop the confidence, responsibility, perseverance, and compassion they will carry with them throughout their education.

Programs like Leader in Me are made possible through the strong partnership that exists between our schools, our community, and the State of Ohio. Ashland City Schools is fortunate to have tremendous local support from families, businesses, and community organizations that continually invest their time and resources in our students. Combined with state funding provided for public education, this local support allows us to invest in programs that extend beyond traditional academics and help students develop leadership, responsibility, confidence, and other skills that will benefit them throughout their lives. Leader in Me is an example of how local and state resources can work together to create meaningful opportunities for students beginning in their earliest years of education.

We respectfully ask for your continued support of public education funding so we can sustain programs like Leader in Me and continue building upon the strong support already provided by our local community. Continued investment gives school districts the ability to meet the academic needs of students while also developing the leadership, character, and life skills that prepare them for success beyond the classroom.

Sincerely,

Steve Paramore
Superintendent
Ashland City Schools

Kyle Klingler
Treasurer
Ashland City Schools

WE ARE ASHLAND ARROWS