FALL 2026 ISSUE

Buckeye Brief

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER OF THE
BUCKEYE CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOLS

Superintendent's Update



Dear Buckeye Central Community,

As we move through the fall semester, I continue to be grateful for the many ways our students, staff, families, and community make Buckeye Central such a special place.

This issue of the Buckeye Brief offers a glimpse of that work in action. Across our schools, students are learning through hands-on experiences, building relationships across grade levels, celebrating accomplishments, and finding meaningful ways to connect with one another.

From classroom projects and perfect scores to our house and Crew traditions, these experiences reflect our commitment to helping students grow academically, socially, and personally.

You will also find updates on several important district priorities, including changes to local school funding and the progress of our track renovation project. As state funding and property-tax laws continue to change, we remain focused on careful planning, responsible stewardship, and keeping our community informed.

Fall is also a time when our Buckeye Central spirit is on full display. Homecoming, classroom celebrations, student activities, athletics, and everyday moments across the district remind us how much pride there is in being a Buck.

As we look toward the second half of the school year, we remain committed to creating Bright Futures, Curious Minds, and Strong Hearts for every student. Thank you for your continued support of Buckeye Central Local Schools and for being an important part of our school community.

Sincerely,

Barbara Green
Superintendent

BUCKEYE CENTRAL SCHOOLS...

BRIGHT FUTURES
CURIOUS MINDS
STRONG HEARTS

BUCKEYE CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Treasurer's Update



Understanding Changes to Local School Funding

Ohio's school funding and property tax laws continue to change, and Buckeye Central is monitoring how those changes affect the district's financial outlook.

One recent change is House Bill 186, which took effect in March 2026. The law created an Inflation Cap Credit for qualifying property in districts affected by the 20-mill floor. In certain circumstances, the credit limits property-tax revenue growth tied to increases in property values.

What HB 186 Means for Buckeye Central

For Buckeye Central, HB 186 resulted in $548,876 less in property-tax revenue than the district otherwise would have received.

Currently, HB 186 also provides temporary supplemental payments from the state to certain affected districts in FY2027 to help address reductions in property-tax revenue resulting from the new credit.

With the many questions surrounding tax reform, it is very important to remember the services that we all rely on every day.

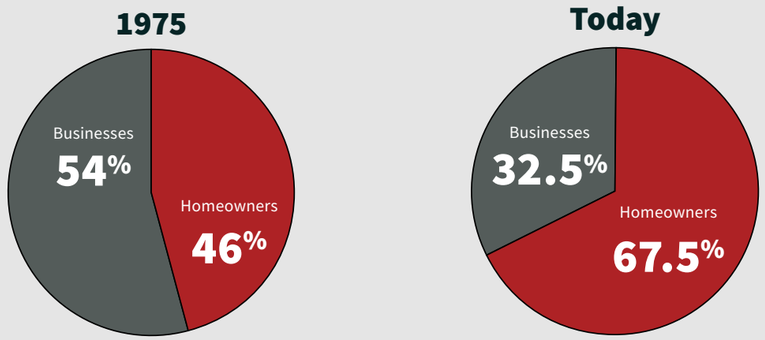
Ohioans should continue discussing ways to improve our tax system and address the challenges many property owners face.

However, before eliminating a funding source that supports schools, public safety, infrastructure, and essential community services, a plan must be in place to provide alternative financial support.

Nancy Ackerman
Treasurer

Understanding the Tax Shift

Statewide data shared by OASBO show that the share of school property taxes paid by homeowners has increased over time:



More of the responsibility for funding schools through property taxes has shifted to homeowners.

DISTRICT NEWS

Building Belonging Across Buckeye Central





Buckeye Central intentionally creates opportunities for students to build relationships, support one another, and feel connected to their school community.

One way the district does this is through its house system.

Students in grades K–6 are assigned to houses made up of students from different grade levels. Throughout the year, houses come together for games, activities, friendly competitions, and other experiences that help students build relationships beyond their own classrooms and grade levels.

Recently, kindergarten students were welcomed into their houses, where they will remain throughout their K–6 experience. These connections give younger students familiar faces throughout the building while also creating opportunities for older students to lead, encourage, and support their younger peers.

Buckeye Central's house system was inspired by the Ron Clark Academy model, which uses mixed student groups to strengthen relationships, school culture, and a sense of belonging. Over time, Buckeye Central has adapted the concept to create its own houses, traditions, and activities.

That same focus continues in grades 7–12 through Crew with a Cause. Students connect across grade levels while also participating in community service, giving them opportunities to work together and make a difference beyond the classroom.

Whether students are competing in a house activity, working on a service project, or simply spending time together, the goal is the same: to build relationships and help every student feel connected to something larger than themselves.

At Buckeye Central, Bright Futures, Curious Minds, and Strong Hearts are reflected not only in academics, but also in the relationships students build and the community they create together.

★ BUCKEYE CENTRAL ★ New Staff Spotlight

We are pleased to welcome several new staff members to our school community this year. Each brings unique experience, skills, and perspectives that will support our students and strengthen our schools.

As they settle into their new roles, we hope our students, families, and staff will take a moment to say hello and help them feel at home.

We are glad to have them on our team and look forward to the many ways they will contribute throughout the school year.



Mrs. Kelsey Aldrich
6th Grade Math/STEAM Teacher

Mrs. Stephanie Brant
Intervention Specialist





Mrs. Kim Dominguez
Bus Driver

Mrs. Jenna Watson
4th Grade Teacher





Mrs. Erin Lucius
Intervention Specialist

Mr. Andrew McFarland
Intermediate Principal

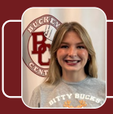




Mrs. Nicole Mills
Educational Aide

Mr. Shawn Ramion
Junior High/High School Principal 7-12





Mrs. Mackenzie Reese
Preschool Teacher

Ms. Samantha Templin
Educational Aide Early Learning Center





Mr. Cole Weiss
6th Grade Science and Social Studies

DISTRICT NEWS

Track Renovation Project Update

The new asphalt surface has been installed along with the initial layer of polyurethane. Next steps will include the installation of the top coat which will be the final layer of surface and striping will begin after that. Although the fall weather has been nice, we continue to navigate the rainy and damp days.

We are hopeful the project will be completed this fall as we work through weather conditions.





Celebrating Perfect Scores

Buckeye Central recently recognized students who earned a perfect score on one or more state assessments last spring. These students were honored at a recent Board of Education meeting for their outstanding achievement, hard work, and dedication.

A perfect score is a tremendous accomplishment, and Buckeye Central is proud to celebrate each of these students and the effort behind their success.

Congratulations to all of our perfect-score students!





CLASSROOM LEARNING IN FOCUS

Early Learning Center



Through math games, our Early Learning Center students counted one by one, compared more and less, helped one another, and celebrated each little win along the way. This is where confidence starts to grow!

Kindergarten students brought the letter M to life by creating their own one-of-a-kind masks.

From superheroes and animals to colorful masquerade designs, students used plenty of creativity and fine motor skills to make each mask uniquely their own.



Intermediate School

Mrs. Aldrich's 6th Grade Math/STEAM students kicked things off with the Newspaper Tower Challenge, putting their ideas to the test while working through plenty of trial, error, redesigning and teamwork.



Mr. Weiss' sixth-grade science students recently put their learning into action by creating models of plant and animal cells.

The hands-on project gave students a chance to demonstrate their understanding of cell structures and functions while using creativity to bring their learning to life.







Buckeye Central fourth graders recently traveled to the Heritage Festival in Tiffin, where they had the opportunity to see history come to life and explore new experiences outside the classroom.

The trip gave students a memorable day of learning, discovery, and time together with classmates, the kind of experience that makes fourth grade special.

CLASSROOM LEARNING IN FOCUS

Junior High / High School



Students in Mr. Martin's High School and 7th Grade Art classes created collaborative "All About Me" tessellations, filling each section with drawings of the people, places, hobbies, foods, sports, games, and other things that make them who they are.

Spanish 2 students brought their lesson on Los Castells de Tarragona to life with a fast-paced tower-building challenge.

Students worked together to build the tallest structures they could, first using classroom materials and then cups, with less time in each round. The activity combined creativity, teamwork, and plenty of fun while reinforcing their learning.





Mrs. Williamson's eighth-grade science students recently took their learning outdoors at the Buckeye Central Outdoor Learning Lab.

While exploring the creek between the east and west woods, students observed how water can reshape the Earth's surface, from erosion along cutbanks to sediment collecting on point bars and the winding path of a meandering stream.

Precalculus students kicked off the year by turning Pringles into a math experiment. After learning how hyperbolic paraboloids create stability, they put the concept to work by building freestanding Pringles rings.



BUCKS AND BUCKETTES IN ACTION

Homecoming Brings Buckeye Central Together

Homecoming 2026 brought plenty of Buck pride to Buckeye Central as students, staff, families, alumni, and community members came together to celebrate.

Festivities included a spirited pep rally, the Homecoming parade, Friday night football and the introduction of the Homecoming Court, the crowning of the king and queen, and the Homecoming dance. *A special congratulations to our 2026 Homecoming King and Queen, Brock Stacklin and Taylor Collins, and to the entire Homecoming Court.* We are proud of this wonderful group of students and the way they represented Buckeye Central.

From the parade and Friday night lights to the dance and all the traditions in between, Homecoming offered plenty of smiles, celebrations, and memories that showed just how special the Buckeye Central community truly is.



Vernburn Takes the Powder Puff Title

Buckeye Central's Crews brought plenty of competitive spirit to three rounds of Powder Puff, with Vernburn and Dutchville meeting in the championship game.

Vernburn capped off an undefeated run by winning the championship. Just as memorable was seeing students come together, cheer each other on, and enjoy the tradition with their Crews.

Congratulations to Vernburn and their coaches!



Homecoming Spirit Across Buckeye Central

Homecoming spirit filled Buckeye Central as students from preschool through 12th grade joined in themed dress-up days throughout the week.

From Pajama Day and Anything But a Backpack to Career Day, USA Day, and Neon Day, students across the district helped make Homecoming fun well beyond the big weekend events.







Buckeye Central Local School District

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BuckeyeCentralSchool

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Scenes from Around the District










LOOKING AHEAD

November 2026

November 9 — Late Start Day (2 Hours)
November 25 — Parent/Teacher Conference Waiver Day, No School
November 26-27 — Thanksgiving Break, No School

December 2026

December 18 — End of 2nd Quarter / 1st Semester
December 21 - January 1 — Winter Break, No School