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From the SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

Superintendent Dr. Felisha Gould ~ Stow-Munroe Falls City Schools





OUR SCHOOLS COME TOGETHER TO HONOR VETERANS

Our schools came together last week to recognize Veterans Day and honor the men and women who have served our country. Students and staff participated in special activities, performances, and celebrations to express their thanks and learn about the importance of service and sacrifice.

At the high school and Kimpton Middle School, students and veterans gathered for breakfast and ceremonies featuring beautiful performances by our choirs. Our elementary schools celebrated in their own ways, spending time with veterans, sharing moments of reflection, and learning about the symbols and traditions of military service.

The week also reminded us that veterans are part of our everyday lives. They are our family members, neighbors, colleagues, and even our school bus drivers! Our Transportation Department honored its veterans with decorations and a celebratory lunch.

Thank you to everyone who organized these meaningful tributes, and to all veterans for your service to our country! Watch a recap here.



HIGHLAND KICKS OFF READATHON WITH KSU GUESTS

The excitement was high at Highland Elementary on Monday, Nov. 9, as students kicked off their Readathon with a spirited assembly featuring special guests from Kent State University! Student-athletes and Flash, the Golden Eagle, joined students for a series of fun reading-themed challenges, including balancing books on their heads, sight-word races, and building book towers even taller than Principal Kish!

The assembly launched Highland's reading challenge, encouraging students to read up to 45 minutes each day while working toward a $15,000 fundraising goal. Students also received the exciting news that a new book vending machine had been installed at the school.



Reminders!

- **SMFHS Orchestra at the Holiday Tree Festival on Monday, Nov. 16:** Our orchestra will perform from 12 to 12:30 p.m. at the John S. Knight Center in downtown Akron.
- **SMFHS Presents The Mouse That Roared - Nov. 20-22:** Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. in the SMFHS Auditorium. See details below.
- **BOE Meeting - Monday, Nov. 23:** The Board of Education will meet at 6 p.m. at Echo Hills Elementary.
- **Ohio's Winter Safety Awareness Week - Nov. 15–21:** Visit the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness for tips and resources.



ECHO HILLS & LIVING VINE SPREAD MORNING CHEER

A little warmth and kindness went a long way on a chilly Monday morning! Echo Hills Elementary and its neighbors at Living Vine Church teamed up to offer families complimentary coffee during morning drop-off.

This thoughtful gesture was a wonderful way to brighten the morning and strengthen the connections that make Echo Hills' school community so unique. Thank you to Living Vine Church for helping our Bulldog families start their week with a smile!

STOW DQ REWARDS POSITIVE CHOICES AT SMFHS

A special thank you to Stow Dairy Queen for supporting our SMFHS Positive Choices program! Dairy Queen generously donated free treat coupons to recognize nearly 200 high school students who achieved perfect attendance during the first quarter.

Partnerships like this help us celebrate students who demonstrate responsibility, commitment, and positive habits. We appreciate Dairy Queen's generosity and continued support of our Bulldogs!

WONDERFUL PERFORMANCE BY KIMPTON STUDENTS

Kimpton Middle School students took audiences on a whimsical adventure with their Nov. 13–15 production of Alice in Wonderland Jr. The performances showcased the talents of our student actors, singers, and production crew. Congratulations to everyone involved in bringing this imaginative story to the stage! Bravo!

SMFHS WILL PRESENT THE MOUSE THAT ROARED

The SMFHS Theatre Department will present its fall production of The Mouse That Roared, Nov. 20–22! Join our talented student performers for this comedic production, with shows Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. in the SMFHS Auditorium. Purchase tickets here!



SMF CITY SCHOOLS NIGHT AT THE CAVS - FEB. 6!

Join us for Stow-Munroe Falls City Schools Night at the Cleveland Cavaliers on Saturday, Feb. 6, at 7:30 p.m., as the Cavs take on the Orlando Magic! Bring your family and friends for an exciting evening of basketball and Bulldog spirit.

Students who purchase tickets through our district's special offer will be entered into a random drawing for a chance to participate in the Courtside Kids experience, where they could have the opportunity to watch the teams warm up from courtside for 30–40 minutes before the game!

Get your tickets here

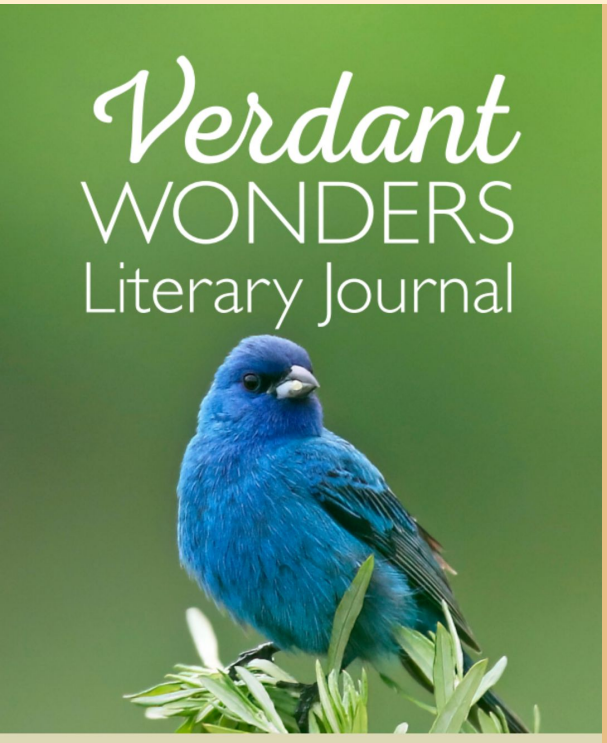


ELLA DUNMIRE SELECTED FOR ALL-STAR GAME



Congratulations to Ella Dunmire of our SMFHS Varsity Girls Soccer team on being selected to participate in the Greater Akron Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association (GASSCA) Senior All-Star Game! Ella will represent the Bulldogs on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at 5 p.m. at SMFHS.

Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition, Ella!



SMFHS STUDENT'S WRITING FEATURED IN JOURNAL

Congratulations to SMFHS student Gracelynn Ferrell, whose writing was selected for publication in the 2026 Volume 2 edition of Summit County's Verdant Wonders Literary Journal!

Gracelynn submitted her work as part of an AP Environmental Science assignment that challenged students to explore their connection to local parks.

HEALTH REMINDER: HAND, FOOT, & MOUTH DISEASE

We are seeing an increase in cases of Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease (HFMD) in our schools and community. This common viral illness primarily affects children under age 5, although anyone can become infected. HFMD is highly contagious and can spread quickly in schools and childcare settings.

Symptoms typically include fever, sore throat, painful mouth sores, and a rash on the hands and feet. While the illness is usually mild, symptoms can last 7–10 days. Families can help reduce the spread by practicing frequent handwashing, cleaning and disinfecting commonly touched surfaces, and avoiding close contact with others.

Learn more from the CDC.

Summit Metro Parks

SPECIAL TICKET SAVINGS FOR DISNEY ON ICE!

Disney On Ice returns to Rocket Arena this January, bringing beloved Disney characters and stories to life with dazzling skating, music, and family fun! Bulldog families can enjoy special ticket savings by using access code **NEOPTA22** when purchasing tickets online. Simply select your preferred performance and click "Use Access Code" to unlock the special offer. Tickets are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Visit their website here:
www.rocketarena.com/group/detail/rocketarenaadvantage





FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION FOR SENIOR FAMILIES

Attention, senior families! The 2027–28 FAFSA is available, and families are encouraged to complete the application to explore financial aid opportunities for college or career training. The FAFSA is used to determine eligibility for federal grants, work-study opportunities, and student loans, and may also be required for state and institutional aid.

Visit StudentAid.gov to get started and review applicable deadlines.

SMFHS BASEBALL HOSTS TURKEY BALL CAMP

Looking for a fun activity for your young baseball player over Thanksgiving break? The SMFHS Baseball team is hosting its Turkey Ball Youth Baseball Camp on Wednesday, Nov. 25, at the high school Field House!

Led by Bulldog baseball players and coaches, the camp offers two age-based sessions focused on hitting, fielding, baserunning, and other essential baseball skills. Ages 6–10 will participate from 9–11 a.m., followed by ages 11–14 from noon–2:30 p.m. Registration is $30 per child, with all proceeds supporting the SMFHS Baseball program. It's a great opportunity for young athletes to sharpen their skills, have fun, and learn from our Bulldogs! Register here



K-6 LOG NEARLY 500K READING MINUTES IN OCT.

Our K–6 Bulldogs are building a love of reading through the Bulldogs Dig Reading initiative, logging an impressive 480,866 minutes of reading across seven schools in October. That's more than 8,000 hours spent exploring books and developing reading skills. Congratulations to all our young readers on this achievement, and thank you to the teachers and families who encourage their love of reading!