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### **Construction Under Way and Changes Happening Every Day**

By Larry Hook, Superintendent

A lot has happened since the groundbreaking ceremony in late October.

Shortly after the ceremony, the construction fencing was put up surrounding the entire construction site. The fence serves as a barrier to protect the public from the day to day activity that is associated with a construction site. Shortly after the fencing came up we began to see large earth moving machines and trucks enter the site and a construction trailer appeared in one day near the concession stand at the football field. This trailer serves as the home for the construction manager of our project for the next year and a half. The role of the construction manager in this project



is to coordinate all of the work of the sub-contractors efficiently and sequentially. The Skanska-Megen company out of Cincinnati was selected by the State of Ohio and Carlisle Local Schools to serve in this capacity.

The work that has been going on and is still going on as of the writing of this article is preparation of the site for the "pad" that the actual building will sit on. Once the pad is completed, you will see the foundation going and then the walls will begin to come up out of the ground.

So what is involved in getting the pad ready? First is running new sewer, water, gas and electric as well as storm lines through and around the site. During Christmas break, we closed the student parking lot to begin running the new sewer lines and water lines to the new building. That work will be completed during Spring Break, when the lot can be closed again to allow the work to go on with minimum disruption. At the same time all these lines are being run, we have large earth moving machines building up the pad so it is level and supports the new building. They are using the fields on the far southeast portion of the school property to borrow the soil necessary to raise and level the pad to the appropriate level. As we move through the remainder of the winter

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### **CLSD** Construction

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you will then see stone being compacted on to the pad prior to any foundation and ultimately concrete work.

It is truly amazing to watch so many different parts of the project going on at the same time. We have been posting weekly pictures on our website so that everyone can observe the progress of the project from the comfort of your computer screen or phone. As you can tell from the picture(s) it is unrecognizable out back and looks more like a war zone than the site of a new school, but very shortly as the pad and foundations are put in place, you will begin to see the new building footprint take shape.

As I conclude this update, we will be establishing the new traffic flow for spring sports. The new varsity softball field is nearing completion and should be ready for the spring season. Spectators and athletes that drive to either a softball or baseball game/ practice will access the fields by the new access road that is located just north of Grigsby Intermediate School. This drive will take you back by the softball/baseball complexes and there is a new parking lot that you can use. For walkers from the High School, there will be a walking path that runs just outside of the construction fence to the north and back to the stadium, track, baseball and softball fields. As always, the inconvenience of dealing with the construction process will be well worth the wait.



*Submitted photo*: Aerial view of the construction site.

# What is Mr. Devolve's Claim to Fame?

By Thomas J. Devolve, Carlisle High School Interim Principal

"Both staff and students - they're just good, solid, hard-working people." This is what I heard countless times when I asked people what I would be getting into if I accepted the interim principal job at

Carlisle High School. They could not have been more accurate.

In the short time I have been here, I have seen firsthand just what those people meant by that comment. Without a doubt, I am absolutely grateful to have this opportunity to be part of this school and community.



Just a snapshot view of who I am: My wife (Lory) of 30 years and I live in Milford, about a 45minute drive from here. We have four wonderful children. Lauren (21) is a junior at Miami studying Speech Pathology; Ryan(19) is a freshman at Ohio State studying Mechanical Engineering; Kristen (18) is a senior at Mount Notre Dame (MND) High School in Cincinnati – still sorting through all those college choices; and Jen (16) is a junior at MND.

During my 30 years in education, half was in the public school systems (all in Ohio) and the other half was spent in the parochial schools as part of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Over 20 years were spent at the secondary level – where I started out as a biology teacher and coach at Newark High School for eight years.

My one and only claim to fame is that in my first year as principal of Roger Bacon High School we beat LeBron James when he was a junior at St. Vincent – St. Mary High School for the boys basketball state championship. Naturally, I took full credit. And LeBron seems to have rebounded from that crushing loss pretty well.

I look forward to meeting and working with you throughout the upcoming months.

# **State Testing Is Fast Approaching**

#### By Dan Turner, Chamberlain Middle School Principal

As the winter season is upon us, students across the State of Ohio will be participating in state testing. Chamberlain Middle School students will be



participating in The Next Generation Assessments and some of our students will be taking an End of the Course Exam in Algebra. These assessments allow for districts, teachers and parents to assess the academic progress of a student. Testing occurs over multiple days and subject areas. Students can prepare them-

selves by attending school daily. Attendance is a significant component of being prepared. Teachers will be providing instruction up until testing starts. Students will feel more comfortable if they have been given the opportunity to be exposed to the subject material. Sleep is also a key component for success. Please make sure your student has a restful night of sleep and a good breakfast the days they are testing.

It is important that students do their very best on the assessments. Testing results allows teachers to see what academic level a student has achieved and how much academic growth the student has gained from the previous school year. This is also a useful tool to use when placing students in specific classes the following school year.

State testing is required at both the state and federal levels. It is required that all students are assessed yearly. This data is used to ensure all students are receiving a high quality education in the State of Ohio. School district report cards and teacher performance are also obtained by testing results. These results give an overall comparison of each school district in the state of Ohio.

The Ohio Department of Education has a link for students and parents, which can answer additional questions. <u>https://oh.portal.airast.org/ost.stml</u> Practice tests, specific testing dates and learning standards can also be found. Please feel free to contact Chamberlain Middle School with questions.

## **Inspirational Young Student Writes Book**

By Dan Turner, Chamberlain Middle School Principal

CMS sixth grader Matthew Jacob Harrison had his life turned upside down on June 10, 2017, when he was diagnosed with leukemia. Over the last year and a half, he has endured many treatments and tests to help him beat this terrible disease.

Through his journey, Matthew also partnered with the Smiles Book Project and co-authored a book. The mission from the Smiles Book Project website states: "To work closely with critically ill children to turn each patient into the main character of their own story and help bring a smile to their face."

The book, titled *My Cancer Life*, was written with the purpose of sharing Matthew's story, which, in his words, "... gives information on how to make the cancer journey better," and contains snippets of Matthew's own writing interspersed throughout the book.

On February 15, Matthew, author Sarah Curry Rathel, and illustrator Robert Kelly were at Chamberlain Middle School to talk about the book and the writing process, as well as sign copies of

books ordered through presales, which will benefit Matthew's family.

Submitted Photo: 6th grader, Matthew Harrison, poses with the book written about his cancer journey.



### **Quality Meals Provided** to Every Carlisle Student

By Gail French, Food Service Director

It was a busy holiday season here in the Carlisle cafeterias but now we are beginning to look



forward to the second half of the 2018-19 school year.

As our cafeterias are part of the USDA department, parents and guardians can rest assured that your child(ren) receive a quality meal at lunch in each of our buildings.

National School Breakfast

week is coming March 4-8, so look forward to some special treats that week to start the school day off right.

There are new menus for the High School and

Chamberlain Middle School posted on the website, so be sure to take a look and see what now being offered.

We always welcome any questions you may have, and are just a phone call away.



### CMS <u>Dates to Remember</u>

- 2/18 No School Presidents Day
- 2/22 PTO Spring Fundraiser Kickoff
- 3/41st Day of Track Practice2:30-4pm
- 3/22 Last day of the 3rd 9 Weeks
- 3/25-29 Spring Break
- 4/8-18 ELA State Testing
- 4/20-5/12 Math & Science State Testing
- 4/19 No School Good Friday

### **Exciting Spring Set for Grigsby Students**

By Jennifer Dearwester, Grigsby Intermediate School Principal

We are very excited for 2019 at Grigsby Intermediate School! This is going to be a great year for our school!

As we move towards the second half of the school year, we have lots of events coming up that we hope you can join us for. Please be sure to check our school website often for dates and information regarding all upcoming events. Information will also be sent home with students.



#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- President's Day: Monday 2/18 (No School)
- Fifth grade music concert: Monday 3/18
- Parent Teacher Conferences: Thursday 3/21
- Last day of third quarter: Friday 3/22
- Spring break: 3/25-3/29 (No School)
- Good Friday: Friday 4/19 (No School)
- Quarterly awards will be the week of April 8

Our Spring testing for all grades is right around the corner. Please watch the website for the specific dates for each grade/testing subjects. Always make sure your child gets plenty of rest and eats a healthy breakfast every school day but it's especially important on testing days. All students have been working hard all year and we're sure will do their best on the upcoming tests. Although the tests are important for your child's academic record, we don't want students to worry or put undue pressure on themselves.

Don't forget every Thursday our building will be going BLUE in support of the Anti-Bullying initiative! All students and staff are encouraged to wear blue every Thursday.

Please contact me by phone at 937-746-8969, or email at Jennifer.Dearwester@carlisleindians.org, if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

### Alden Brown Students Strive to Excel With Help of Aimsweb

#### By Mike Milner, Alden Brown Elementary School Principal

Alden Brown is its 8th year using the Aimsweb assessments for our students.

Three times this year (August, mid-January, and



early May), all ABE students will be (have been) assessed in literacy and numeracy areas using the Aimsweb program.

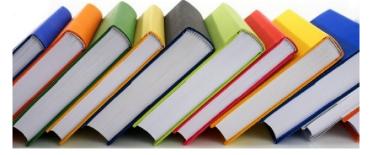
Teachers and other staff members use this student data to compare how our students are progressing as compared to students across the nation who also

take part in the Aimsweb program. We also will use this information to plan instruction and specific interventions for our students. If students are struggling in any particular areas, we are able to monitor their progress weekly or bi-weekly as applicable using the Aimsweb Progress Monitoring tools.

In 1st and 2nd grades, we use the Aimsweb student data to plan for intervention/enrichment groups four days per week. All students in 1st and 2nd grade spend 80 minutes per week working specifically on skill areas in need of intervention or enrichment as identified by this data. As in years past, we plan on our students greatly increasing their literacy and numeracy skills this year!

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- 1st grade Spring Concert on March 14 @ 7 pm in the Chamberlain Middle School Auditorium
- 'COSI on Wheels' program on April 26



# Immunization Updates

#### ATTENTION 6TH GRADE PARENTS:

The Ohio Department of Health is now requiring that your child receive a Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis) vaccine AND the Meningococcal vaccine prior to entering 7th grade.

If your child has already received these vaccines, please send in a copy of his/ her record so that we can update your child's record.

Any student who has not received a TDAP by September 4 will be excluded from school and all absences are considered unexcused.

For questions please call Rebecca Baker, RN at 937-746-7610, ext. 134.

#### **ATTENTION 11TH GRADE PARENTS:**

The Ohio Department of Health is no requiring that your child receive a Meningococcal vaccine prior to entering the 12th grade.

If they have had a meningococcal vaccine already it must have been administered after their 16th birthday to count as this requirement. If it was administered before the 16th birthday, a 2nd dose is required at this time. Exclusion for this vaccine is September 4.

Any questions please call Rebecca Baker RN, at 937-746-7610, ext. 134.

#### UPCOMING DISTRICT CALENDAR DATES

February 18 - Presidents Day: NO SCHOOL March 25-29 - Spring Break April 19 - Good Friday: NO SCHOOL May 27 - Memorial Day: NO SCHOOL May 30 - Baccalaureate May 31 - Last day of school June 1 - Graduation

### High School Student Earns High Recognition



Congratulations to Ryland Scott on being named as a National Merit Finalist! Only 1% of the 1.5 million juniors who take the PSAT earn this honor.

Ryland now has the opportunity to compete for the Merit Scholarships – which is even more selective than being named a Finalist.

Good Luck and Great Job!

### Congressman Steve Chabot to Visit Grigsby Intermediate School

By Ryan Thomas, Grigsby Intermediate School Teacher

In recent months our 4th grade class crafted business letters to Congressman Steve Chabot, 1st Dis-

trict of Ohio representative.

The letters contained questions from students related to local issues including topics such as school safety, animal rights, and environmental protection.

To the delight of Grigsby's students, Chabot responded by having his office contact Principal Jennifer Dearwester to sched-



Congressman Steve Chabot

ule a visit to our school on March 4.

During the assembly, Chabot will present the school with an American flag that was flown over the Statehouse in Columbus, as well as talk about government. He will also present the school with a book he recently published.

### Welcome, Coach Smart, to Carlisle Football

Submitted Information

T.J. Smart is excited to serve as the next head football coach at Carlisle High School. Smart has a multitude of experience including coaching football, as well as track and field. He's also served as an athletic site manager.

Coach Smart looks forward to establishing a great culture where players will be winners in the classroom, community and on the football field.

For his complete coaching biography, visit carlisleindians.org, then click on the "athletics" tab.



*Submitted photo:* Carlisle's new head football coach, T.J. Smart

# **Positivity in the Air for Valentines**

#### By Carry Branson, Chamberlain Middle School Teacher

Sometimes all you need is a little love - and a little affirmation!

Carlisle High School's Teen Alliance Council were at Chamberlain Middle School Wednesday, February 13, to deliver valentines to all of the students.

When students arrived Thursday morning, they found a valentine taped to their locker. Each note had an inspiring message to spread positivity.

CMS staff and students alike were touched by the messages to spread happiness among our Indian Nation community.

Chamberlain sends a sincere "thank you" to the students of TAC.

#### Submitted photos:

Left (*bottom*): Two images show examples of messages left on students' lockers.

**Right** (*top*): Valentines were taped to CMS lockers. **Right** (*bottom*): Carlisle High School TAC students took time to show some love to CMS students.







### Students, Staff and Local Organizations Give Back

By Rebecca Baker, RN, MSN District School Nurse

When it comes to giving back to the community, Carlisle students, staff, and community members know how to get the job done right! Throughout this school year so far, many opportunities to serve have been presented, and every time, the challenge was met with flying colors.

During the holiday season, Carlisle Local Schools and the local Lions and Lioness Clubs worked together to help provide Christmas meals to families in need throughout the community. With my guidance, the annual district food drive was organized to help provide food to local pantries and for the Lions Club Christmas food baskets.

In total, the district collected over 9,000 cans to support these local charities. Carlisle High School teacher and National Honors Society Director Leah Warner helped drive success at CHS with collecting over 7,000 cans! These cans helped build 50 Christmas food baskets for families in our community.

Chamberlain Middle School's food drive was organized by teacher Deanne Johnson and the Junior Honors Society members. Those items were donated to the local organization Blessings in a Bag initiative, which provides meals and snacks for students in need on the weekends.

Food items that were collected for these drives were gathered, sorted and delivered to the organizations on the morning of December 22. Chamberlain Middle School wrestlers, Coach Jory Brown, members of the Carlisle football team and coaching staff, Superintendent Larry Hook, as well as National Honor Society members all worked together to move over 9,000 cans to their final destinations.

The Allistrong Foundation, a local free store, provided 20 hot ready-to-eat Thanksgiving meals to local families in need of help for the holiday. Allistrong Foundation also held a free Christmas event for the community to shop for gifts, where Santa made a visit for the kids.

Carlisle students and staff were honored to be a blessing to our community through the holiday season!



Photos submitted by Rebecca Baker