

Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools

Community Update

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MAYOR ANDERSON***
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October 2017

A Message from your Superintendent



We are well into a new school year and as the class of 2017 left, they set the bar high for this year's graduates.

The graduating class of 2017 have a lot to be proud of. Twenty-one students in the class graduated with an associate degree in addition to their high school diploma.

Sixteen of the graduates were AP Scholars, twenty students entered the military and one of our students at South High was a National Merit Scholarship Finalist and a National AP Scholar. In addition to these accolades, Joe Jarmuszkiewicz from the Northern Career Institute Welding Program earned the title of top welder in the country through his participation at SkillsUSA and Savannah Kubish placed first in Customer Service. These accomplishments would not have taken place without excellent classroom instruction coupled with perseverance and hard work on behalf of the students. I look forward to the accomplishments of the Class of 2018.

During the first quarter of the year, students in several of our buildings completed fundraising projects including the collection of dental products for victims of Hurricanes Irma and Henry. I am proud of the students in the district and all that they have accomplished.

Our district continues to place students first, ensure quality instruction and maximize time on task. It is with this laser focus that we continue to **Improve Student Achievement.**

I hope that you enjoy this month's Community Update.

Steve Thompson



Edison families enjoyed an Ice Cream Social.



The Travel & Tourism students from NCI Willoughby visited Put-In-Bay.

Thank You, Mayor Anderson

After 26 years as the mayor of Willoughby, Dave Anderson has decided to retire. No one can argue that Willoughby, Ohio has been transformed into the incredible town that it is today thanks to the hard work and tireless dedication of this great man.

Recently, Mayor Anderson took on the endeavor of assisting our students at South High School to identify a rejuvenated Rebel mascot for their new school. It has been a pleasure and honor to have him serve on this committee with our students. Mayor Anderson has brought not only his brilliance but also insight into the history of the district as he eloquently communicates with this team.



Throughout his tenure as Mayor, Dave has continuously supported Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools. He has had a tremendous and positive impact on the district.

“On behalf of Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools, we would like to thank Mayor Anderson for his dedication and commitment, not only the City of Willoughby, but also to our schools. The leadership that Mayor Anderson has shown is a shining example for all to follow. Thank you again, Dave, for all that you have given in your time as Mayor. We wish you many years of happiness in your retirement. May you enjoy your newly found time with your family and on the golf course!”

Superintendent, Steve Thompson &

The Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools Board of Education

Meister Media Partnership

A new partnership between Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools and Meister Media has recently launched. For 85 years, Meister has been advancing the business of agriculture through comprehensive education, extensive industry support, and targeted leadership.

During the 2017 - 2018 school year, Meister Media, has joined our district with the intent of maintaining a hands-on, ongoing relationship. As a part of the partnership, employees with Meister have committed to exposing our students at Success Academy to the world of agriculture and industry. At their headquarters, located in Willoughby, the company has a recording studio which is just one of the areas in which they plan to train Willoughby-Eastlake students.

This week, for “Make a Difference Day” several employees from Meister donated and assisted our students to assemble two picnic tables. In addition to this generous donation of time and resources, the students received critical guidance through relationship building.

We are grateful to this great organization for their generosity!

Success Academy

A Message from your Treasurer



Auditor of State Award

For the second straight year, Willoughby-Eastlake has been awarded the **Auditor of State Award**. To earn a "clean" audit report, all reporting must not contain any findings for recovery, material citations, material weaknesses, significant deficiencies, Single Audit findings or any questioned costs. Furthermore, the entity can have no other financial or other concerns.

"The district strives to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars," said Bill Parkinson, Willoughby-Eastlake Treasurer. "This award is evidence of the fact that Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools takes that responsibility seriously and follows through on community expectations to be financially accountable."



Willoughby and Willowick Middle School students have been working on STEM design challenges.



W-E Schools



Willoughby-Eastlake Seeks to Renew a Current "Emergency Levy" as a "SUBSTITUTE LEVY"

- I** Willoughby-Eastlake will be on the ballot on November 7, 2017. We will be asking voters to *transition* a current "Emergency Levy" to a "SUBSTITUTE LEVY." It will NOT increase taxes, and in fact, this change will save money.
- S** In 2008, Ohio Revised Code 5705.199, made it possible for school districts to convert emergency levies to substitute levies. Converting the current emergency levy to a *substitute levy* will allow the district to ensure precise planning for responsible spending **WITHOUT A TAX INCREASE**.
- S**
- U** The current emergency levy was placed on the ballot in 2003, renewed in 2008 and 2013. It can be expensive to be on the ballot. Passing this initiative will leave that money in the general fund for classroom instruction or maintenance of facilities.
- E** A substitute levy will not increase taxes and will not increase the originally voted upon tax. If approved, the levy will continue at the current rate of collections.

#7



"Operating on a cycle of levy renewals can disrupt consistent tax collections," stated Superintendent, Stephen Thompson. "It is my goal to stop paying fees to be on the ballot. Keeping that money in our classrooms, rather than funneling it to the Board of Elections is a far better way to spend taxpayer dollars. Issue 7 will not increase taxes, and will allow the district to keep more money in classrooms."

Making a Difference

Thank You, Staff and Students



Eastlake Middle Students continue their tradition with the Art for All Club!



Thank you WECP (Willoughby-Eastlake Classified Professionals) and students for collecting 25 cases of dental supplies for the hurricane victims!

Students at the School of Innovation donated 1,500 items of food to the Lake County RSVP food drive.



Royalview students took time to honor the first responders in their community.



Students from North and South worked together to raise \$30,564 for United Way. These funds will be used to aid citizens in Lake County.



Sprouting Young Scientists Preschool Program

Providing Superior
Learning Experiences
Through
Partnerships



The Willoughby-Eastlake Preschool will be participating in a pilot program with the Holden Arboretum this school year.

The Preschool students will be engaged in a program called Sprouting Young Scientists (SPYS). SPYS is a preschool outreach program in which a Holden Forests and Gardens Guide will visit classrooms for

four seasonal programs across the school year. These 45 minute visits will be delivered in the fall (October), winter (January), spring (April) and summer (July). The content of the programs is themed around plant science and is delivered through literature.

Students will participate in hands-on activity stations which are supported by fictional and nonfictional books. Each program is a building block for the next, connecting science and literacy through all four seasons. Sammy the Scientist Squirrel, a fictional character from the books, helps guide each session. In their first lesson, the students were excited to explore the world of science.



Tell me and I forget.

Teach me and I may remember.

Involve me and I learn.

Benjamin Franklin



W-E Schools

PROJECT UPDATES

During the summer months, both stadiums were completed. In addition to the fields at both high schools, the home stands and press box at North High were replaced.

In addition to work on the football fields, the window projects were completed at any of the schools in need of windows.

Once the windows had been installed, much needed replacements were also



South High Football Field



Willowick Middle-New Windows

completed to the exterior doors of all buildings.

As the construction crews continue through their work at North High School, the building pad has been completed and has passed the soil "roll" (compaction) test. The utility "tie-ins" for storm and sanitary water at this location continue to be underway.

At Longfellow Elementary School, the building pad is also completed and the storm and sanitary work has begun.

At South High School, the site excavation has begun and the building pad is approximately 50% completed. The utility materials at this site (piping and storm detention structures) continue to be installed.

At all of the construction sites, the work being done prior to placing a foundation and steel is tedious and arduous. The construction projects for the district are currently running on time and on budget.



North High Football Field



Across the District



Jefferson students raised \$4,500 for new playground equipment!



The students in Medical Assisting learned Infant CPR.



Longfellow students kicked off the month of October with their grandparents.



Success Academy students have been working to restore abandoned bicycles.



Grant Bulldogs raised nearly \$14,000 for classroom resource materials!



W-E Mobile FAB Lab

This year will be the inaugural year for the district Mobile FAB Lab.

Gail Myers, the Director of the FAB Lab, was trained at MIT's FAB Academy and will now work to share that expertise with students and staff across this district.

During this past month, Mrs. Myers has begun travelling to schools so that students can enter the world of digital fabrication and develop skills to enrich Problem Based Learning.



“Willoughby-Eastlake is committed to ensuring that our students learn the skills that are in high demand in the job market,” stated Superintendent, Steve Thompson. “Students engaged in design, engineering and complex problem-solving will be better prepared to compete in the 21st century.”



Jefferson Staff

A New Partnership in Science

Teachers from Thomas Jefferson have been invited to participate in an undertaking that plans to make science learning for today's students even more meaningful.

Partners in Science Excellence (PSE) is currently working with Avery Dennison in Mentor and area teachers to facilitate Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education. Through this collaboration, Avery Dennison, together with PSE, will create elementary STEM kits based on the "Picture Perfect" series of books from the National Science Teachers Association and then donate those materials to area schools, including Thomas Jefferson. These books have ready made STEM lessons, which all begin with reading a children's literature book.

A team of teachers from Thomas Jefferson has attended a ninety - minute workshop at the Avery Dennison facility in Mentor in order to expand and promote science education.

Lisa George, the principal of Jefferson explained, “We are excited to participate in this wonderful opportunity. The work being done through this collaboration is just one example of the hard-working and dedicated staff we have here at Jefferson. This opportunity will give our students skills that will better prepare them for successful futures in the community. We are grateful to Avery Dennison for their commitment to us.”



Important Updates



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Please remember to vote on November 7th.
If passed, Issue 7 will not increase taxes.

[Read more here >>>](#)

OUR MISSION

IMPROVE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

October 30, 7:00 p.m.

Willoughby Middle Choir Concert

November 2, 6:30 p.m.

Royalview 4th Grade Music Program

November 7, 2017

Professional Development Day

No School

This is not an inclusive list of all events during the upcoming month. For a more complete list, please check our district calendar or follow us on Facebook. Facebook is now being updated to include weekly events.

CONNECT WITH US



Teach - Learn - Grow

Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools - 37047 Ridge Road - Willoughby, OH 44094