



# School Update

A Publication of St. Henry Consolidated Local School District  
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## Smoke Signals

Mrs. Julie Garke, Superintendent



### Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Thanksgiving is behind us and we look forward to the Christmas season. Many of our holidays have taken a different look this year, but we continue to be thankful for what we have. Many are bringing back past traditions or starting new ones as the pandemic continues. As we celebrate the Christmas and New Year season, I would like

to wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season!

### Congratulations State Participants

Senior Ellen Naumann was able to make her fourth consecutive trip to the girl's state golf tournament. Ellen finished in 7th place as an individual golfer. Congratulations on an outstanding golf career at St. Henry High School!

The girls cross country team competed at state tournament. They finished 16th. Congratulations to Coach Wendel and the team!

### Veterans' Day

St. Henry Middle School continued with the tradition of celebrating Veterans' Day this year in a different way due to the pandemic. The St. Henry 8th grade class, with the assistance of Fullenkamp Video Productions, was able to honor our Veterans. The video can be found on You Tube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ec47-M3Sis>.

### *School Update*

St. Henry Consolidated Local Schools  
<http://sthenryschoools.org>

*The School Update is published five times yearly by the school district and is distributed by bulk mail to all residents of the district.*

*Eric Rosenbeck, Editor  
Sherri Ranly, Assistant Editor  
419-678-4834*

### High School Guidance

On Tuesday, October 13, St. Henry High School suffered an impactful loss in the passing of Guidance Counselor, Betsy Armstrong. Ms. Armstrong taught business classes at St. Henry after coming from the private sector. She later became guidance counselor for the high school. She loved the 22 years she spent with St. Henry Schools. Her passion for youth was evident by all with whom she worked. Thank you to the entire community for their continued support and kind words for Betsy and her family during this difficult time.

On Monday, November 30, St. Henry High School will welcome Kim Seaver as the high school counselor for the rest of the school year. Kim retired from Minster Local Schools two years ago as their high school counselor. Please join us in welcoming Kim to St. Henry.

### Christmas Break

Students will be dismissed at 1:30 pm on Tuesday, December 22, 2020 for the Christmas break. Classes will resume on Monday, January 4, 2021.

### St. Henry Community Center

The St. Henry Board of Education accepted the donation of all titles and rights to the new facility from the St. Henry Athletic Boosters, who along with a fundraising committee raised about \$2 million through donations and events. Ground was broken in November, 2019. The 22,500 square foot facility features batting cages, a weight room, a walking track and courts for pickle ball, volleyball and basketball. The building is for the students of the St. Henry School district and the St. Henry School community. The calendar for open hours, liability form and rules and regulations for the center can be found on the school website under 'Community Center.'

### COVID-19 Update

Community support is still needed as the pandemic continues. At the start of this school year goals were established to instruct our students with in-person education as long as possible. To achieve this goal, St. Henry Schools must continue to rely on the community for support to make this happen, especially in the midst of cold and flu season. Here are some suggestions to assist us in reaching the goal:

1. Continue to do daily health assessments of your child before they come to school.
2. Have your child stay home if they have symptoms such as but not limited to: new cough, severe head ache or sore throat, vomit-

ing/diarrhea, new loss of taste/smell, or shortness of breath.

3. Keep your child home if a household member is showing signs of COVID-19. This will assist us in keeping our staff healthy so that school can remain in session.

St. Henry Schools will continue to work in conjunction with the Mercer County Health District and will follow guidelines provided by them to assist with keeping all staff and students safe. Thank you for your continued support!

### Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame

Due to the current situation with COVID-19, we will not be honoring distinguished alumni into the Hall of Fame this year. All nominations will be considered next year. Thank you for your understanding.

### Incident Weather

As we enter the winter season, there will be times that school will need to be delayed or cancelled. This will be posted in several ways:

1. The St. Henry App
2. Text Alerts
3. WCSM Radio
4. Other channels may include: K94, T102, Channel 2 (WDTN) and Channel 7 (WHIO)

### We Need Your Help!!

Have some extra time on your hands? Need something to do daily or a day or two a week for a couple of hours? St. Henry Schools may have the answer. St. Henry Schools is in need of:

- \*Substitute cafeteria workers, aides, and custodians
- \*Substitute bus drivers

If you are interested, please call Sherri Ranly at 419-678-4834 ext. 2101 or stop by Central Office. Thank you for your consideration!

### **Go Skins!**

*Julie Larke*

*Holiday Greetings*

## Senior Citizens' Breakfast

The annual Senior Citizens' Holiday Breakfast has been cancelled due to COVID-19!



## From the Board of Education

Mr. Paul Moorman

My mom is an eternal optimist. "Focus on the good stuff" and "give people the benefit of the doubt" are two ideals she instilled in me. She continues to lead by example for her family. Sometimes it is not easy to have a positive attitude and outlook. Life is hard.

Work, school, sports, entertainment, meetings, shopping, and parties are all very different with COVID-19 lurking at every turn. The student body, staff, and administration have been working very hard to cope with all the challenges, obligations, and changes that arise on a daily basis. Parents play a huge role in the students' ability to cope; they too need to be commended for their efforts. It has not been easy for anyone. I am confident the school system has the best interest of the student body in mind.

The holiday season is finally upon us: a time to give thanks, give gifts, and embrace a new year. A zoom party may not be as fun as the real deal, mom's cooking may not match grandma's cooking, and the election may not have gone the way you would have liked. "Make the best of it!" In the words of my mom, "You can't change it!"

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

Bring on 2021!!

GO SKINS!!!

There will be NO SCHOOL December 23 – January 3 for the Christmas Holiday.



### **Warm Winter Walks**

At this time, there will be no walking in the schools. The walking track at the Community Center is available for use except from 11 pm – 5 am every day and 3 pm – 6 pm during the week if you have a key fob.

### **Chromebook Shortage**

With students being out for COVID-19 quarantines, we are sending devices home when necessary so students can take part online to keep up with their schoolwork. This situation has caused a shortage of devices we have available, especially with chromebooks being in short supply for purchase. We have been fortunate to have several former St. Henry students donate their school issued chromebooks back to the school after graduating. This is of tremendous help to get us through the current situation.

If you have a student who has graduated from St. Henry in the last 3 years, you can help by donating their old chromebook (and charger if possible) back to school if it is no longer being used. This is true no matter the condition as replacement parts are also in short supply.

If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact Rose Harrod by phone at 419-678-4834 ext. 2284 or email at [harrod.rose@sthenryschools.org](mailto:harrod.rose@sthenryschools.org).

### **Elementary Information**

#### **Kids Doing Great Things!**

Mr. Adam Puthoff

#### **Do You Show Respect?**

Students at St. Henry Elementary are some of the best kids around and we appreciate the guidance and support from all community members in instilling those values in our youth. I would like to recognize a few students that have been recognized by their teachers for showing respect to themselves, their peers, and their school. We recognize students monthly and these students represent the months of September and October:

**Kindergarten** - Sara Bender, Nia Stammen, Rocco Rosenbeck, and Easton Wourms, William Schmitmeyer, Makayla Lange, Cooper Fullenkamp, Ally Huelsman.

**1st Grade** - Violet Jacobs, Charlotte Hess, Abigail Huelskamp, Ava VanSkyock, Brody Schwieterman, Adam Luebke, Ella Will, and Sage McCoy.

**2nd Grade** - David Wendel, Max Bruns, Nico Subler, Emma Schmitz, Grayson Kramer, Maria Evers, Charlie Borger, and Graci Westerheide.

**3rd Grade** - Savannah Holdheide, Luke Hartings, Evan Nieport, Emme Homan, Lindon Wendel, Ethan Hietkamp, Stella Huwer, Drew Moeller, Jasper Garman, and Jack Woeste.

**4th Grade** - Clay Niekamp, Ruby Oakleaf, Kenley Watercutter, Parker Stammen, Greyson Bergman, Gemma Merrill, Skye Bartlett, Emma Rindler, Natalie Koesters, Shaylee Lefeld, Carson Huelsman, Leo Stachler, Owen Stienecker.

### **FROM THE PTO:**

On Friday, September 18th, we held our Annual PTO Walk-a-thon. The kids always seem to enjoy this event! Thank you for your pledges!

We recently wrapped up our first ever PTO Spirit Sale. Special thanks to Homestretch Sportswear for working with us to organize the sale! For those that ordered, we greatly appreciate your support!

PTO Chicken Dinners will be on February 5th. Please watch for more information to come home!

Due to COVID, we will NOT be able to host Father/Daughter Dance, Mother/Son Bowling or Grandparents and Bingo in 2021.

The holidays are around the corner. Instead of the PTO “Stuff the Stocking” event like we have done in years past, the PTO will be sponsoring AMAZON wish lists for the elementary teachers. Many parents like to purchase a gift for their child’s teacher at Christmas time. This event allows you to gift an item or Amazon gift card to your child’s classroom for student use. Teachers have created Amazon gift registries. Log on to your Amazon Smile account, type in “amazon gift registry” into the search bar. Click “All lists”. Type in your child’s teacher’s name and click “custom gift list.” Feel free to participate if you would like!

You can show your support through **Amazon Smile and The Kroger Community Rewards Program**. Please visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to sign up! To add Kroger Community Rewards, please visit [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](https://www.krogercommunityrewards.com). Login or create an account and search for “St. Henry PTO.”

Please remember to connect with us on **Facebook** for more information! Thank you all for supporting the PTO!

**Merry Christmas** from the PTO Officers: Carrie Stachler, Angie Schmitz, Jodie Huelsman, Amanda Kremer, Julie Buschur, Jess Huelsman, Jennifer Stachler and Janessa Schwieterman.

# High School News

## Guidance News

Ms. Kim Seaver and Mr. Eric Rosenbeck

It is that time of year for seniors to submit college applications. Some schools have scholarship deadlines in December and January. This means that if students submit their applications after that deadline, they may not receive certain scholarships such as merit scholarships. As of October 1<sup>st</sup>, students were able to start filing the FAFSA. Check the specific college or university for its FAFSA deadline. When students apply to a university or college, they should tell Mrs. Stout to send their transcripts. The transcript has ACT or SAT scores on them. There are some institutions that will take the scores off of the transcript; others require that the scores come directly from ACT. Ask the institution before spending the money on ordering from ACT.

Scholarships have been rolling in over the past several weeks/months; they are announced in the morning and are viewable on the school website under high school, guidance, and scholarships. An important aspect of scholarships is due dates. These due dates are set by the organizations that offer the scholarships. We cannot make any exceptions to those dates since it is beyond our control. We suggest that you send the scholarship in at least three days before the deadline to avoid any problems.

Ohio gives students in grades 7 through 12 the opportunity to take college classes while in high school. The program is called College Credit Plus. St. Henry will be holding their annual College Credit Plus meeting on Wednesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. This is no longer a mandatory meeting for the student and one parent/guardian to attend as it has been in the past. St. Henry offers several classes through Rhodes State that could be taken for college credit. If you are taking any of those classes, you may want to attend this meeting. If you cannot attend this meeting, the student and parent/guardian can meet with Ms. Seaver and/or Mr. Rosenbeck to discuss the program. Further information and packets can be viewed on the school website under high school, then guidance, then CC+ Handbook. If you are an 18-year old male, you must register for the Selective Service or forfeit financial aid that is given to you by the government either in college or through College Credit Plus classes.

Interested sophomores will be attending Tri Star to visit their two programs of interest in January. Details are being worked out at this time. Tri Star will have their annual open house in January as well; due to Covid-19, details are still being worked on this area as well. Tri Star applications will be available from the guidance office in late December/early January.

All juniors will take the ACT on March 9, 2021. This is DIFFERENT than what the school calendar states so please note this if you have a junior in high school. Students will not need to register since the school will have already registered them. Approximately one to two weeks before the test, students will be asked to complete information for the test including the names of the institutions that they would

like to have their scores sent to for free. Students are allowed to choose up to four institutions.

We wanted to remind you again this year that Ohio has provided us with a system called Ohio Means Jobs. According to the [Education.ohio.gov](http://Education.ohio.gov) website, "It's a new, no-cost, online career planning tool that helps students discover career interests, explore future job options, build a future budget, create a resume and more." The part of the system that we are using is for students; however, there is a website for anyone who might be looking for information regarding careers, resumes, job search, etc. It is also an excellent resource for students to practice ACT, SAT, or AP exams. For the ACT practice, the website gives four tests for each part of the exam with three different ways to take the exam. We believe it will help the students immensely if they spend time becoming familiar with the ACT test.

You are invited to call, email or visit us any time with questions or concerns you may have. If we do not know the answer, we will do our best to find the answer through the resources available to us. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

"PEOPLE WILL FORGET  
WHAT YOU SAID,  
PEOPLE WILL FORGET  
WHAT YOU DID,  
BUT PEOPLE WILL  
NEVER FORGET HOW  
YOU MADE THEM FEEL."  
— MAYA ANGELOU



The above was Ms. Armstrong's favorite quote - RIP Betsy Armstrong – you will be missed!!

## Academic Team

Mr. Tom Marchal



The Varsity Academic Team finished a very successful season on November 23rd at the MAC Scholastic Bowl at Ft. Recovery. After finishing in a first place tie for the regular season, St. Henry finished 1st in the Scholastic Bowl. Congratulations on a great season! In addition, the team earned a \$200 check from Mercer Savings Bank, as well as the Academic Team Traveling Trophy for the year!!!!



On November 16th, the Junior Varsity Academic Team participated in the MAC Scholastic Bowl held at Versailles High School. After 7 rounds, the team was tied for first place with Coldwater and Parkway – forcing an overtime round. St Henry and Parkway again tied forcing another overtime round. Parkway won the 2nd overtime round – giving St. Henry a 2nd place finish. Congratulations to the JV team!

### Christmas Break - Early Dismissal

We will be dismissing school early on Tuesday, December 22, 2020, at 1:30 p.m. for Christmas break. School will resume on Monday, January 4, 2021.

## BASKETBALL SEASON TICKETS

We will not be selling season tickets to the public for the boys' junior varsity & varsity games this basketball season. Tickets will only be issued to High School basketball players and cheerleaders' families. There will be no winter school passes this year for middle school basketball games. Tickets will be sold to families of players and cheerleaders only for each game. Closer to game time, information will be sent home with the players and cheerleaders.



## News from the bus stop

Mrs. Sherri Ranly

Fog! Snow! Winter weather ahead! It is that time of year again. Winter weather is here. Bus drivers do everything in their power to keep the kids safe on and around the school bus, no matter what the conditions. As motorists, please help out the bus drivers! As the weather turns bad, please allow extra distance between your vehicle and school buses so you have plenty of time to stop.



Parents, please remind your children to be especially careful while waiting on the bus when weather conditions are poor. Remind them that it is more important than ever to be at the bus stop 5 minutes early and to stand in their Designated Place of Safety. Students need to stay there until the driver motions them to board the bus. They should board the bus and sit down immediately so the bus is stopped on the roadway for a minimum amount of time.

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## Military Student Identifier

Districts are required to identify students whose parents or legal guardians have been active members of the Armed Forces or National Guard at any time throughout the current school year. Please contact Sherri Ranly at [ranly.sherri@sthenryschools.org](mailto:ranly.sherri@sthenryschools.org) or at 419-678- 4834 ext. 2101 if this applies to your family.

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## ST. HENRY COMMUNITY CENTER

Ms. Jenny Huelsman, Advisory Committee

On Sunday, November 8th, the St. Henry Athletic Booster Club, along with a great turnout from the community celebrated the Dedication of our new Community Center. Thank you to all the donors, sponsors, companies, school administrators and booster members whose generosity and hard work have made this all possible.

As the Booster Club turned over the Center to the care and operation of the Board of Education, the Community Center Advisory Committee was formed as a conduit for input from the SH community to the School Administration and Board of Education. We plan to keep everyone updated via the School Newsletter and social media. The inaugural members of this Advisory Committee are listed at the end of this article.

In the first couple of weeks of operation, it has been gratifying to see the years of planning and fundraising pay off with families enjoying the facility! However, it has also reminded us that we need to accelerate our communication regarding initial Rules and Regulations as well as instructions for equipment operation.

As we try to balance the freedom of use with the potential liabilities to the school, we will be publishing more guidance as to the usage of the Center. In addition, we all need to treat the facility with proper care as we would like our community to enjoy this facility for many years to come.

Some general rules:

- Visitors under the age of 18 MUST be accompanied and monitored by an adult.
- Please, no street shoes. Proper “clean” gym shoes should be worn at all times in the gym and fitness center
- The control pad operating the gym equipment should only be operated by an adult.
- Sanitize all equipment after use.

Visit the St. Henry School Schools’ website for availability calendars and rules & regulations. During the school week, the Hoying Fitness Center is closed for school use from 6 am-7am and the gym area is closed from 3 pm-6 pm.

If you would like to have access to the Center or reserve a court, contact Dennis Wendel for details: [wendel.dennis@sthenryschools.org](mailto:wendel.dennis@sthenryschools.org) or call 419-678-4834 ext. 2203.

*If you have any questions/comments/concerns, you can contact the advisory committee at:*  
[shcommunitycenter2020@gmail.com](mailto:shcommunitycenter2020@gmail.com)

*Jenny Huelsman, Chairperson, 419-305-6854*

*Jenn Bruns*

*Kurt Huelsman*

*Eric Pepple*

*Josh Werling*



## Community Center Key FOB

Mr. Dennis Wendel

The Community Center Key FOB information is located on the school website "sthenryschools.org" under "Community Center". The Rules and Regulations, FOB Form, and Liability Form are all listed along with a Community Center calendar. To obtain a FOB, the FOB form and Liability form must be turned into the high school office or scanned and emailed to [wendel.dennis@sthenryschools.org](mailto:wendel.dennis@sthenryschools.org). Once a donation or fee is verified and the documents are turned in, a FOB will be programmed for you. You will receive an email, phone call, or text message stating that your FOB is ready for pick-up from the high school office.

The walking track is available for use except from 11 pm-5 am every day and 3 pm-6 pm during the week. The track will also be closed during boomer basketball games on Saturdays from 12/5 until 1/16 from 8 am -4 pm. When youth teams, CYO, pickle ball, etc. are using the courts, the walking track is open for public use.

Please be patient after you turn in your paperwork. There has been overwhelming interest, and it may take a week or more before your FOB is programmed and ready for use. A 2nd FOB can be obtained for an additional \$10 fee, but currently I am not issuing 2nd FOBs until I am caught up with programming 1st FOBs for all households that want one. If you want a 2nd FOB, please check with me in a few weeks.

### EXTRA YEARBOOKS

2020 Yearbooks are available for \$60. If interested call the high school office at 419-678-4834 ext. 2201.

Be mindful.  
Be grateful.  
Be positive.  
Be true.  
Be kind.

*Roy T. Bennett*



St. Henry Consolidated Local School District  
391 East Columbus Street  
St. Henry, Ohio 45883-9574

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