



School Update

A Publication of St. Henry Consolidated Local School District
Vol. XXXV No.2 October/November 2020

Smoke Signals

Mrs. Julie Garke, Superintendent



The sound of laughing and chatter in the hallways was welcomed back after five months on August 25. The nervousness and excitement has made the start of the school year an outstanding one. I would like to commend all the students, parents and staff on an excellent start to the school year. This sense of normalcy has become significant in everyone's lives, not just for students, but for

staff and parents as well. In a world that is anything but normal right now, our students have had the opportunity of experiencing many activities that just months ago were taken for granted.

COVID-19 Update

Community support is still needed to continue the great start to the school year. While it has been going well in so many ways, obstacles are still being dealt with on a daily basis. Beginning this school year, we established the goal of instructing our students with in-person education for as long as possible. To achieve this goal, St. Henry Schools continues to rely on the community for support to make this happen. Doing daily health assessments of your children before they come to school is beneficial to stop the spread of illness. Symptoms may include but are not limited to: new cough, severe headache or sore throat, vomiting/diarrhea, new loss of taste/smell, or shortness of breath. Also, keeping your child home if a household member is experiencing signs of COVID-19 will allow for our staff and students to remain healthy. Fortunately, we have experienced very few students who have tested positive for COVID-19. However, we have a fair amount of

adults in the community who have tested positive, which leads to quarantining our students and a spread to our young people. We continue to promote safety measures that help mitigate the spread of the virus: wearing a facemask, social distancing, frequently washing/sanitizing hands and thorough cleanings. Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this.



USDA COVID-19 FREE LUNCH

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) passed a waiver providing schools with funds from the Federal Government to feed ALL students in grades K-12 at no charge this fall. The purpose of this federal program is to minimize the challenges of meal service during a pandemic. The funds to supply these free meals are being provided by the Federal Government through the USDA. There will not be any local district funds used to support this program.

What does this mean for your child? Starting October 1st, ALL students will be provided free meals while at school. This program will be offered until December 31, 2020 OR until funds run out, whichever comes first. In order to receive this free meal, a complete lunch must be purchased. Any items purchased as extras or a la carte will still be charged to the student's lunch account balance. Money that is in the account will remain there for these extra purchases or to begin charging for lunches once the federal funds are depleted.

School Update

St. Henry Consolidated Local Schools
www.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

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent teacher conferences are scheduled for November 9, 10 and 12. School will not be in session on Friday, November 13. Parents should have received notification from the building your child attends regarding conferences this year. Given the current circumstances, conferences will look different this year. Please be open to the changes that will be taking place.

Teacher Inservice Day – Oct. 12

On Monday, October 12, all teachers in Mercer County will gather virtually for a Professional Learning Conference. There will be no in-person classes on that day.

School Bus Safety Week

Bus Safety Week this year is October 19-23. “Red lights mean STOP!” is the theme for 2020. National School Bus Safety Week is a unique reminder to motorists and students about the dangers that exist outside the school bus. Thank you to all of our bus drivers and motorists for being aware of their surroundings and assisting in getting all of our students to and from school safely.

Count Week for Transportation

If your child(ren) are scheduled on a bus route, we ask that you have them ride the bus Oct. 5 - 9. This is “count week” for bus riders and helps determine our funding for bus routes. Thank you for your cooperation.

Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame

Enclosed in the newsletter is a copy of the nomination form for potential candidates for the Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame. Please take the time to honor an alumnus from the St. Henry School system including any previous graduates from Burkettsville High School. Nominations will be accepted until November 27, 2020. Nomination forms can be found on the school website under Forms. Inductees will be honored at the February 6th home basketball game. If you have any questions, please contact Sherri Ranly at 419-678-4834 ext. 2101.

Go Skins!



From the Board of Education

Mr. Brad Nerderman

I just want to start off by saying that it has been an exceptional start to the school year. Like many of you, I was unsure how the start of school was going to play out. It has been incredible to see students/teachers improvise, adapt, and overcome the obstacles that COVID-19 has thrown their way. I would say I am surprised but truthfully, I am not. Our administration and teachers spend countless hours building leaders and creating an elite culture at St. Henry. The foundation they have paved has made transitioning from the classroom to home schooling back to the classroom look seamless.

Building an elite culture is not easy. Our teachers know that to be elite it takes hard work, determination, and leadership.

There is no better example for our teachers and students to learn from than Ohio State's last football coach. Urban Meyer has made a living off of pushing students to an elite level. He is so passionate when speaking about leadership it is infectious. Meyer defines a leader as someone who can raise the level of effort and performance of those around them. He is also quoted as saying, “Leaders create culture. Culture drives behavior. Behavior produces results.” In 2020 leadership looks a little different. Now leadership is that student who wears their mask during class and urges their buddies to put theirs on. Or maybe that parent who thinks it's ridiculous to sit 6ft apart at a sporting event but does it anyway because it's the right thing to do. It is the little things we can do that add up to make a big difference. Be that leader at school, at work, and in our community.

During this pandemic I have found that it is important to not only be that leader but to stay positive. It is easy to feel down, especially in the world we are living in today. Positivity is contagious. There are many things going on around our community that we should be grateful and excited about. One is the new addition to our south park, which is a Vietnam statue placed at our Veterans' Memorial. If you haven't stopped by to see it yet, you really should because the detail is amazing. Youth soccer has been going on. It is nice to see our kids getting out and having fun. Another big addition is the Community Center that is set to open any week. The Athletic Boosters have done an incredible job with the building and it definitely gives you that wow factor. So be grateful, be thankful, and stay positive.

“The comeback is always greater than the setback.” – Mike Sorrentino

Stay Safe and Go Skins!

The financial statements of St. Henry Consolidated Local School District for fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, have been completed and are available for inspection at the office of the Treasurer/CFO. A copy of the financial report may be reviewed at the office during regular school hours.

From the Elementary School

PRESCHOOL SCREENING

Mrs. Albers

Preschool screenings will be held at the Mercer County Educational Service Center on September 25, November 13, January 15, March 5, and June 9. If you have any concerns about your child (ages 3-5) in the areas of speech/language, pre-academics, hearing, vision, or motor development, please call Janice Diller at the Mercer County ESC (419-586-6628) to schedule an appointment.

Attention: St. Henry parents of youth basketball players - grades preschool through 4th grade

It is our intention to have a St. Henry Youth Basketball League this year at the new St. Henry Community Center. The building looks like it will be completed by October or November. Sign up forms to participate in the league will be sent home from school in October and the league will start in late November/early December and run through the middle of January. More details will be in the sign up form being sent out in October.

Please contact Tim Beyke or Bill Gast for additional information. Thank you!

SUPPORT THE ST. HENRY PTO AS YOU SHOP!!

You can show your support through **Amazon Smile and The Kroger Community Rewards Program**. Please visit smile.amazon.com to sign up!

To add Kroger Community Rewards, please visit www.krogercommunityrewards.com. Login or create an account and search for "St. Henry PTO."

Please "like" us on Facebook so you don't miss any PTO updates!

2020-2021 PTO Officers:

Carrie Stachler
Jodie Huelsman
Amanda Kremer
Angie Schmitz
Jennifer Stachler
Jessica Huelsman
Janessa Schwieterman
Kylie Huelsman
Julie Buschur

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE ST. HENRY PTO!!

In Honor of Mary Cahill

We are very appreciative of Douglas and Theresa Cahill's donation of 10 chromebooks to the St. Henry Elementary library in honor of Mary Cahill's service to the school as its librarian. This donation will allow students to check out chromebooks and provide better access to students that need it in our community. Thank you for your support of St. Henry Schools.



From the High School

Juniors and Parents/Guardians of Juniors

Mr. Eric Rosenbeck

The fifth statewide administration of the college and career readiness test will be in the spring of 2021. Districts can choose only one of these tests to be given. St. Henry has elected to administer the ACT; this is the test that the majority of our students take for college admission. This ACT test is planned to be given on March 23, 2021. The positive news is that this ACT test is FREE to all juniors. Students will be able to use the test results to send to colleges/universities of their choosing for admission purposes. This particular test does not include the writing portion nor is the writing portion an option. Only juniors will be eligible to take the FREE test during the testing window.

If you would like additional information, please visit the Ohio Department of Education website and search "ACT Test."

FREE TUTORING

Do Good Restaurant and Ministry in Osgood is offering FREE tutoring services for K-12 students from the four county service area: Auglaize, Darke, Mercer and Shelby. Their goal is to help parents who are unable to afford private tutoring or who are simply looking for tutoring service. Tutors have been screened and evaluated to ensure students' safety and true assistance. Please contact Chris Raterman, Coordinator, at (937) 726-5949 if you have any questions, comments or concerns about this program. She will gladly assist you in trying to set up tutoring that can possibly help your child.

Homecoming 2020

The 2020 Homecoming Crowning took place on September 11 at the Wally Post Athletic Complex.

The following represented their classes:
Freshmen: Tony Werling, Lydia Werling
Sophomores: Aiden Brunswick, Hope Kemper
Juniors: Mark Knapke, Camryn Ahlers
Seniors: Evan Buschur, Derek Broering, Nathan Howe
Kate Kunkler, Lauren Hartings, Alayna Ahlers

Congratulations to the 2020 King and Queen, Derek Broering (son of Joe and Kelly Broering) and Kate Kunkler (daughter of Tim and Dianna Kunkler)!

HS Guidance Office

Ms. Betsy Armstrong

Summer is gone, fall has arrived, and school is finally back in session! Students are beginning to settle into school schedules and events after a long break from in-person education. For those of you who are new to the high school setting, any parent meetings that I have are usually

scheduled on Wednesday evenings. I will announce those dates and send email reminders. I will be communicating the guidance announcements as much as possible through the St. Henry App and through email. If you have a change in your email address, please let me know so there is no interruption in our communication.

The financial aid meeting that was scheduled for September 16th could not be held in-person this year. Melanie Weaver, Director of Financial Aid at Ohio Northern, provided a recorded presentation about FAFSA and other aspects of financial aid. I sent the presentation to the seniors' parents along with contact information for Melanie. She works with financial aid and FAFSA on a daily basis and is happy to answer any questions that you may have, even if a student is not going to Ohio Northern. You may begin filing FAFSA starting on October 1st using your 2019 tax information. During this COVID time, some of the post-secondary schools have changed their financial aid deadlines. Check individual school websites under financial aid for the specific deadline. Remember that FAFSA is free. If you are asked to pay, you are on the incorrect website. The correct web address is <https://fafsa.ed.gov>. In order to use and complete the FAFSA form, both the student and one parent must have a FSA ID. You can apply for one at the same website. It could take 3-5 days for the FSA ID to be processed, so please apply as soon as possible.

During this COVID time, colleges/universities have changed how campus visits will take place, the application deadlines, and test options (ACT/SAT scores) for admittance and scholarships. You will need to check with the colleges/universities of interest to find what that particular institution is requiring. There will be no in-person College Fairs this year; however, some virtual ones will be offered. Juniors and seniors have the opportunity to attend presentations when colleges/universities visit St. Henry during the school day. Some college/universities will not allow their representatives to visit schools; instead, they are offering virtual visits.

On October 16th, Van Wright from Bowling Green State University will talk to the juniors about their future plans and how to prepare for them. This will pertain to all juniors, even if they do not plan to go to some type of post-secondary institution.

Once again this year the seniors were asked to complete a form to "brag" about themselves. In addition, their parents/guardians were asked to complete six (6) questions about their children. By completing these brag sheets, it helps any of the staff who is asked to be a recommender to write content about the student that we normally may not have known. It was truly a pleasure to read about the students through their parents' eyes.

Please do not hesitate to call, email, or make an appointment with questions or concerns you may have. If I do not know the answer, I will do my best to find the answer through the resources available to me. I look forward to working with you this year.



St. Henry Baseball

2020 Dayton Dragons Refund

The St. Henry baseball program sells Dayton Dragons tickets every year for the opportunity to go play a regular season game at the home field of the Dayton Dragons, now called Day Air Ballpark. Each player in our program was responsible for selling a minimum of five tickets last year.

Obviously, these tickets could not be used for this season's Dayton Dragons schedule, and the Dragons have recently refunded our program with a full refund of the ticket money. Our program did not foresee a pandemic and thus did not retain a list of the amount of tickets sold by each player. With that being said, it makes it very difficult on our end on issuing individual refunds.

If there are any players, parents of players, or friends/family of players that do not care to get the refund for these tickets, St. Henry Baseball will certainly accept your generosity and use it to the benefit of our program's student athletes.

The following is our solution for refunding this ticket money: If players have their tickets that were passed out in the spring, they can turn these in to Coach Gast so that we can track the amount of money to be refunded to each player/family. If a player does not have the tickets that were passed out in the spring, they will be refunded for five tickets if they notify Coach Gast. After compiling a list of all requested refunds, refund checks will be sent out/delivered to each player/family. Each player has received, or will receive, a letter outlining the plan for refunds. The deadline for turning in tickets to Coach Gast or letting him know that the tickets are no longer around is **Friday, October 30**.

We apologize for any inconvenience and/or frustration this may cause.

2020-2021 Spirit Pack

The 2020-2021 St. Henry Baseball spirit pack will be available online for players and the community during late October and early November. This will allow for items to be completed by early/mid December. Players/Families will be able to pick up items at the school; 2-3 dates/times will be made available for community pickup.

An array of items will be available for every member of the family. If you'd like to purchase any items for your family for the holiday season, please be on the lookout for a link to the online store during the month of October.

We will attempt to spread the word and provide access to the online store via social media. For more information, or if you'd like the link sent directly to you when it is available, please contact Coach Gast (gast.mike@sthenryschools.org). More information will be available about specific dates/times when the online store is up and running.

ST. HENRY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION FOOD FAIR
Fall 2020

Please help support scholarships for our deserving St. Henry students!

The St. Henry Education Association (SHEA) is sponsoring a "Food Fair" beginning **Tuesday, October 13th and ending Friday, November 2nd.**

The items available are listed in this newsletter. We are continuing to use Gordon Food Service as our vendor. They supply many local schools with a variety of foods. If you are interested in placing an order, please include the quantity, cost, and your total amount of the order. Many items have large quantities. Keep in mind that you can split an order with a family member or friend. Make checks payable to SHEA. Return the form and the payment to any school office (elementary, middle, or high school) on or before **Friday, November 2, 2020**. We cannot accept late orders. Extra order forms are available from any school office. Please pick up your order on **Wednesday, November 18th** at the **High School Commons, from 3:30-5:15**. We will NOT be able to fill orders before 3:30 and we need to be out of the Commons by 5:15. If you know you cannot make the pick-up, please arrange for someone to pick it up for you. Any questions, please feel free to contact Sarah Sheeley at St. Henry Elementary School 419-678-4834 ext 2411 or sheeley.sarah@sthenryschools.org.

Please note these changes:

- We will send you a text message reminding you to pick up your order. Please include your cell phone number on your order form.
- This year we will be delivering the food to your car. Just pull up to the doors at the Commons. A volunteer will come to your window, ask the name on your order, and deliver your food to your car.

**As always, all profits from these sales will go toward SHEA scholarships.
Thank you so much for your generous support.**

Fall 2020 Food Fair

Name:		Order Deadline: Friday, November 2				
Please write your cell phone #:		Pick up Date: Wednesday, November 18				
Mail order and check to: SHEA 391 E. Columbus Street St. Henry, OH 458883		3:30 - 5:15 at the St. Henry Commons				
		Payment is due when placing orders Make Checks Payable to: SHEA				
Number	Description	Unit	Quantity	Price	Total Cost	
1	268127	Chicken Breast/Raw/Boneless/Skinless/ In Tray	48 – 4 oz portions		55.00	0.00
2	253138	Chicken Breast/Raw/Boneless/Skinless in Bags	2-5 lb bags, 20-4oz/bag		35.00	0.00
3	558040	Chicken Breast Chunks (Tyson)	6/5 lb		57.00	0.00
4	281622	Chicken Breast Patty (Tyson)	150-3.49 oz		65.00	0.00
5	185873	Popcorn Chicken – Breaded	2-5lb bags		40.00	0.00
6	231750	Chicken Quesidillas (Gilardi's)	96 – 5oz. Each		60.00	0.00
7	156850	Chicken Breast Strip Fajita Seasoned	2 - 5lb		51.00	0.00
8	459739	Fish Squares – Pollock	18# - 3oz. Each		42.00	0.00
9	779170	Oven roasted shaved turkey breast (Perdue) <i>*new</i>	6- 2lb package		61.00	0.00
10	457558	Wedge fries oven roasted	6 - 5#		51.00	0.00
11	182600	Seasoned Curly Fries	6 - 5#		55.00	0.00
BREAD/PIZZA ITEMS						
12	432180	Mozzarella filled breadsticks	108 breadsticks – 3oz. ea		51.00	0.00
13	267080	Mozzarella Sticks Battered GFS	6 – 2# bags		60.00	0.00
14	764370	Prebaked Soft Pretzels – 4.75 oz.	3 – 20 count		59.00	0.00
15	483974	Pepperoni Hot Pockets	24 – 4 oz pockets		29.00	0.00
16	557773	Ham & Cheese Hot Pockets	24 – 4 oz pockets		29.00	0.00
17	509167	Plain Breadsticks, heat and serve	132 - 8 inch		33.00	0.00
18	219122	Pizza Whole Grain with Turkey Sausage	96 count		56.00	0.00
19	152111	Pepperoni Pizza Whole Grain (4x6 rectangle/diced meat) (Tony)	96 count		48.00	0.00
20	154321	French Bread Cheese Pizza	60 – 5.0 oz. pizzas		50.00	0.00
BREAKFAST FOODS						
21	652370	Richs French Toast Sticks	150 count		31.00	0.00
22	222127	Cinnamon Rolls (Rich)	120 – 2.25 oz rolls		26.00	0.00
23	147891	Quaker Granola Bars (chocolate chip)	96 bars		31.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS						
24	113125	Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough (Kitchen Essentials)	480 – 1 oz cookies		74.00	0.00
25	113131	Sugar Cookie Dough (Kitchen Essentials)	480– 1oz cookies		69.00	0.00
26	746831	Fruit Snacks (Mott)	144 - 1.6 oz bags		54.00	0.00
27	895090	Yogurt-Go-Gurt (Strawberry)	64– 2.25 oz each		30.00	0.00
28	784350	Variety Fruit Waves Juice (Capri Sun)	4 – 10 packs		13.00	0.00
29	587642	Variety Gatorade 10 grape, 10 cool blue, 8 strawberry New	28 - 12 oz		22.00	0.00
30	837421	G2 Glacier Gatorade	2 - 12 12 oz count		14.00	0.00
31	667922	G2 Lemon-Lime Gatorade	24 - 12 oz		14.00	0.00
Split items with family and friends!			Total Items			0
			Total Amt. Due			0.00

Clip bottom of form for a reminder to pick up order.

REMINDER!!!!

My bulk food order will be ready for pick up on November 18 at the St. Henry High School Commons between 3:30 and 5:15.

Call Sarah Sheeley at St. Henry High School at 416-678-4834 ext. 2411 for additional information.

REMINDER:

If attending any type of activity at the Middle/High School, we request you not park on Columbus St./Kenneth Dr. where the curb is painted yellow. This area is for the safety of the pedestrians crossing the street and the visibility of vehicles exiting the Middle/High School parking lot and Kenneth Dr. This is more of an issue during evening activities. Thank you!

~ The St. Henry Police Department

Choir Pie Sales

Members of the High School Choir will be selling pies and other baked goods from The Bake Shoppe starting on October 15 and ending on November 2, 2020. The products will be delivered on Tuesday, November 24.



News from the Bus Stop

Mrs. Sherri Ranly

The school year is off to a good start in the transportation department. Even though there were some changes made in routes to accommodate new students and to balance loads, everything has been going smoothly. I want to thank the students, parents, and bus drivers for all doing their part to ensure that everyone gets to and from school safely!

This year we have our statewide count week from October 5-9. The school receives state funding for transportation by the number of students that ride the bus to school in the morning. Please encourage your children to ride the bus to school in the morning that week if they are assigned to a bus route.

Bus Safety Week this year is October 19-23. **“Red lights mean STOP!”** is the theme for 2020. National School Bus Safety Week is a unique reminder to motorists and students about the dangers that exist outside the school bus.



Nearly one million Ohio students ride on school buses each day and over 15,000 bus drivers are dedicated to providing safe transportation for children in the state. National studies show school buses are the safest method for transporting

young people – up to 22 times safer than passenger cars. The bus drivers at St. Henry are constantly working to ensure the safety of the kids they transport and take pride in doing so. The drivers work diligently to ensure the safety of your children and ask that you assist in helping your children understand the rules.

For the safety of children, encourage your students to wear light colored clothing especially when it is dark in the morning when they get on the bus.

Just a reminder, please refrain from sending your child home on a bus that is not his/her regular scheduled route. Our buses are very full and cannot always accommodate extra children. Thank You!



8 things to remember when going through tough times.

1. Everything can - and will - change.
2. You've overcome challenges before
3. It's a learning experiences
4. Not getting what you want can be a blessing
5. Allow yourself to have some fun.
6. Being kind to yourself is the best medicine.
7. Other people's negativity isn't worth worrying about.
8. And there is always, always, always, something to be thankful for.

Community Center Update

Construction of the Community Center is on track with all electrical, HVAC, painting and gym equipment installation complete. In the coming weeks, the flooring and weight room equipment will be installed. The facility looks amazing and will be something that we can all be proud of and provide valuable use for generations to come. We are targeting an early November Grand Opening Ceremony to introduce the facility to the Community so please be on the lookout for more details. The Booster Club has taken on a substantial loan to support the facility construction and with the COVID pandemic has created some challenges to this year's normal fundraising activities. If you are interested in continuing to support financially, please reach out to any member of the Booster Club or Community Center Team.

There have been questions regarding scheduling and use of the facility. Specific scheduling and use guidelines have been approved by the Board of Education. However, below is a summary of the key highlights:

- Facility will be open from 5 am to 11 pm daily to anyone who has an active key fob. The initial key fob cost will be \$200 (waived with a donation of \$200+) and then an annual fee of \$20 per year, which will be used for upkeep of the site equipment.
- Specific windows have been targeted for school sports team use to effectively manage the School's needs. These include weight room from 6:00-7:30 am and 3:00-4:30 pm. And gym usage from 3:00-6:00 pm Monday-Friday. This equates to roughly 25% of the available facility hours.
- All other windows are targeted for community usage which equates to roughly 75% of the available facility hours.

- The track will be open to key fob holders during all community hours.
- Any key fob holder needing to schedule time in the gym can do so by contacting Dennis Wendel who will post the active schedule on the school website.
- If any area of the facility is not formally scheduled the day prior, it will be open for general use on a first come, first serve approach by anyone with an active key fob.

Additionally, the Community Center Advisory Committee has been developed to allow for representation from both the Community and School to ensure that all needs are being met. As the facility is opened to the public, please direct all questions and improvement recommendations to the Advisory Committee Thanks to this group for volunteering their time.

Community Center Advisory Committee Members:

Jenny Huelsman – Community Representative
Kurt Huelsman – Community Representative
Eric Pepple – Booster Club Member
Josh Werling – School Coach
Jenn Bruns – School Representative

Any of the following committee members are also available for any questions: Jeremy Schwieterman (852-0121), Chris Huelsman (614-634-2033), Bill Beyke (678-8250), Vic Post (733-1325), Riley Kremer (937-214-9053), Ben Miller (852-9021), Jerry Huelsman (678-3516), Phil Fullenkamp (852-1988), Vern Hoying (937-308-0113), Corey Hess (704-4520).



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

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