



# Continental Local Schools



## Board of Education Members:

Dean Bidlack      Ron Bradford  
 Brian Donaldson      Robin Etter  
 Derek Heitzman

5211 St Rt 634  
 Continental, OH 45831  
 419-596-3671  
 #ProudtobeAPirate

Superintendent: Danny Kissell  
 High School Principal: Tim Eding  
 Elementary Principal: Tracy Potts  
 Treasurer: Katelyn Adams

Newsletter - June, 2020

## ***From the Desk of Mr. Kissell, Superintendent...***

To the Continental Community:

In my 27 years in education, I have never seen a school year like the 2019-2020 school year. I am well aware that the delivery of education over the last two months was not perfect; however, I do want to acknowledge that teachers, students, and parents had approximately two days to shift their entire mindset from a face-to-face format to a digital/at home format.

Parents: Thank you for your understanding, support, and patience as we worked through the challenges. Thank you for shifting your dining rooms and kitchen tables from a place to have meals to a place to have school.

Students: You impressed me with your efforts, commitment, and get-it-done attitudes. I know it was not always easy and I know you missed out on some of the best parts of school this spring, but your resolve will help you grow in the future. Thank you for being the wonderful students that you are. SENIORS: I am very proud of how you handled yourselves through this pandemic. All of your lasts were cut short, for that I am sorry. As I told you at graduation: This has made you tough.

Educators: Our teachers, guidance counselors, and principals did an amazing job transforming an in-school to an online/distance learning format. Thank you for your "above and beyond" attitude and efforts. Thank you for your commitment to students and community.

Support Staff: I am also very appreciative of all the extra efforts our support staff have done to assist us in moving forward during this unusual time.

On Tuesday, June 2, Governor DeWine announced he plans on having students back in school this fall. Continental Local School has been working on a sanitation/disinfecting plan for our buildings and later this summer more information will be sent home to address the process and procedures for restarting school in a safe manner.

Finally, a reminder that all information concerning Continental Local Schools can be found on our website, [www.continentalpirates.org](http://www.continentalpirates.org).

***Have a safe and enjoyable summer and as always #ProudtobeAPirate!***



Krista Crossgrove

### **Continental Names Crossgrove as New Assistant Treasurer**

Krista Crossgrove is the new assistant treasurer at Continental School. Krista is a life-long resident of Continental and a 1999 graduate of Continental High School. She has been married to Josh Crossgrove for the past 18 years and they have two children, Drew, grade 10; and Olivia, grade 7.

Krista has an associates degree from UNOH in the Medical Assisting Program and has worked as a Certified Medical Assistant at Pediatrics of Lima for the past 20 years. Changing careers was a big step for her but Krista is excited to learn something new. She is proud to take on the new position as Assistant Treasurer at Continental School.

Outside of work, Krista enjoys trips to Disney World and going on cruises. She is currently involved in Music Boosters and "Drama Moms", and previously helped with POP events for the elementary students.



Danny Kissell  
Superintendent



Tim Eding  
Principal



Jessica Swonger  
Class Advisor



Justin Etter  
President



Natalie Speiser  
Vice President



Kerri Prowant  
Secretary



Karson Prowant  
Treasurer

# Continental High School

Continental, Ohio

## Class of 2020



Addyson  
Armey



Rheese  
Backhaus



Noah  
Becher



Trevor  
Brecht



Camila  
Butler



Olivea  
Coble



Macy  
Collier



Brayden  
Dockery



Kennedy  
Hiltner



Alexis  
Hoeffel



Andrew  
Johns



Sage  
Kaye



Kaitlynn  
Keller



Mikayla  
Mayes



Dalton  
Palmer



Gannon  
Prowant



Mackenzie  
Rayle



Trevor  
Rayle



Jason  
Shepard



Zachary  
Shepard



Wyatt  
Stauffer



Dominik  
Tice



Angelica  
Vazquez



Randy  
Vickery



Kiya  
Wiggins

Not Pictured  
Chandler  
Bullinger

### Graduation Day 2020

Sunday, May 24 - 2:30 pm

4.0 Honor Graduates, Addyson Armey and Kennedy Hiltner, addressed their classmates along with Class President, Justin Etter.

Class Motto - Always together, never apart, maybe in distance, but never in heart

Class Flower - Daisy

Class Song - "Don't Blink" by Kenny Chesney

Class Colors - Blue and Gold



**2020 Class Officers:**

Class President:  
 Vice President:  
 Secretary:  
 Treasurer:  
 Student Council Representatives:

Justin Etter  
 Natalie Speiser  
 Kerri Prowant  
 Karson Prowant  
 Addyson Armye  
 Kennedy Hiltner  
 Alex Hoeffel  
 Kiya Wiggins



**Diploma with Honor Recipients**

Addyson Armye      Kennedy Hiltner      Mikayla Mayes      Mackenzie Rayle

**Honor Graduates:**

Addyson Armye	Justin Etter	Mikayla Mayes	Kiya Wiggins
Trevor Brecht	Kennedy Hiltner	Karson Prowant	Wyatt Stauffer
Olivea Coble	Alexis Hoeffel	Kerri Prowant	
Macy Collier	Andrew Johns	Mackenzie Rayle	
Brayden Dockery	Kaitlynn Keller	Natalie Speiser	

**National Honor Society Members:**

Addyson Armye	Kennedy Hiltner	Karson Prowant	Kiya Wiggins
Macy Collier	Alexis Hoeffel	Kerri Prowant	
Justin Etter	Kaitlynn Keller	Mackenzie Rayle	

**National Technical Honor Society Members:**

Kaitlynn Keller      Gannon Prowant

# Class of 2020

This class has many potential nurses, teachers, skilled technicians, engineers, medical professionals and many others to lend their expertise to the world. Some statistics of interest for the Class of 2020: Out of 30 graduating seniors, 7 of them or 23% are planning to enter the workforce, and most of them have full-time employment already lined up or are getting work experience plus a college education paid for through an apprenticeship program. 23 or 77% of them have plans to attend college either at a 4-year university or a 2-year community college. To go along with their academic resumes the class of 2020 has earned a total of \$578,839 in award money. Congratulations! Good luck to all the seniors and congratulations on a job well done!

***Addyson Army***

***University of Cincinnati – Operations Management and Mathematics***

*Cincinnati Scholarship*

*U. of Cincinnati’s Kolodzik Business Scholars Scholarship*

*Air Force ROTC Scholarship*

*Marvin Charles Ellerbrock Veteran’s Scholarship*

*Beverly Sabo Memorial Scholarship*

*Gary & Joann Grant Memorial Scholarship*

*American Legion Post 541 Scholarship*

***Rheese Backhaus***

***UNOH – Robotics***

*Vantage – Industrial Mechanics Program*

*Employed at BK Tool*

***Noah Becher***

***Rhodes State College – Criminal Justice***

*Rhodes State’s CCP Scholarship*

***Trevor Brecht***

***Rhodes State College – Nursing***

*Rhodes State’s CCP Scholarship*

*Continental Community Scholarship*

*Sons of the American Legion Scholarship*

***Chandler Bullinger***

***University of Toledo***

***Camila Butler***

***Employed at Great Clips***

*Vantage – Cosmetology Program*

*American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship*

***Olivea Coble***

***Rhodes State College – Radiology***

*Rhodes State’s CCP Scholarship*

*Continental HS Music Booster’s Scholarship*

***Macy Collier***

***Indiana University (Ft. Wayne) – Dental Assisting***

*Continental Community Scholarship*

***Brayden Dockery***

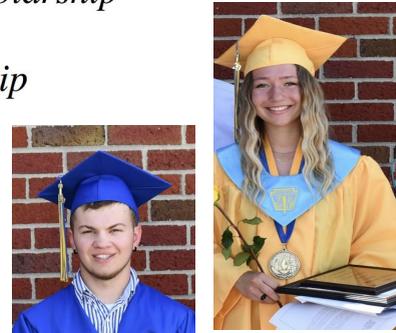
***Ivy Tech Comm. College (Ft. Wayne)– Mechanical Engineering***

***Justin Etter***

***BGSU – Musical Theater & Choral Education***

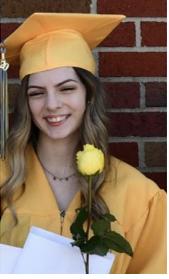
*Bowling Green State University’s Merit Scholarship*

*Continental HS Music Booster’s Scholarship*



**Kennedy Hiltner**

**University of Findlay – Nursing**  
**University of Findlay’s Trustees Scholarship**  
**CHS Blood Donor Scholarship**  
**Beverly Sabo Memorial Scholarship**  
**Gary & JoAnn Grant Memorial Scholarship**



**Alexis Hoeffel**

**Ohio Northern University – Pharmacy**  
**CHS’s Thanks for the Memories Scholarship**  
**Sons of the American Legion Scholarship**



**Andrew Johns**

**University of Cincinnati – Information Technology**

**Sage Kaye**

**Continuing work – attend college in the future**

**Kaitlynn Keller**

**University of Findlay – Special Education/Track & Field**  
**UF’s Dean’s Scholarship**

**UF Women’s CC/Track Scholarship**  
**Michael Walls Future Teacher Scholarship**  
**Beverly Sabo Memorial Scholarship**



**Mikayla Mayes**

**American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship**  
**CHS’s Thanks for the Memories Scholarship**  
**Purdue University (Ft. Wayne) – Interior Design**

**Purdue’s Trustee’s Scholarship**  
**Kenneth McKibben Scholarship**  
**Christopher M. Potts Memorial Scholarship**  
**Floyd Groff Memorial Scholarship**

**Dalton Palmer**

**Northwest State Comm. College – Computer Science Eng. Tech.**

**Gannon Prowant**

**Employed at the Defiance County Sherriff’s Department**

**Vantage – Criminal Justice Program**

**Karson Prowant**

**Ohio State University (Lima) –**  
**Continental HS’s Music Booster’s Scholarship**  
**Sons of the American Legion Scholarship**



**Kerri Prowant**

**Rhodes State College – Nursing**  
**Rhodes State’s CCP Scholarship**  
**Continental Lions Club Scholarship**  
**Sons of the American Legion Scholarship**



**Mackenzie Rayle**

**Bowling Green State University – Marketing**  
**BGSU Freshman Academic Scholarship**

**Trevor Rayle**

**Employed at Schultz Automotive**  
**Vantage – Auto Technology**



**Jason Shepard**

**Pursuing employment opportunity**  
**Vantage – Welding Program**



**Zachary Shepard**

**Pursuing employment opportunity**  
**Vantage – Interactive Media Program**

**Natalie Speiser**

**Rhodes State College – Nursing**  
**Rhodes State’s CCP Scholarship**  
**Cooper Farms Family Scholarship**

*Wyatt Stauffer*

*Dominik Tice*

*Angelica Vazquez*

*Randy Vickery*

*Kiya Wiggins*

*Kenneth McKibben Scholarship  
Beverly Sabo Memorial Scholarship  
Rhodes State College – Engineering*

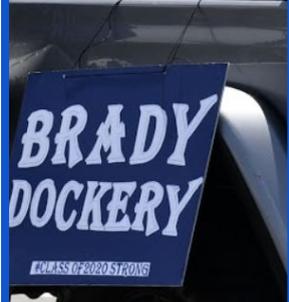
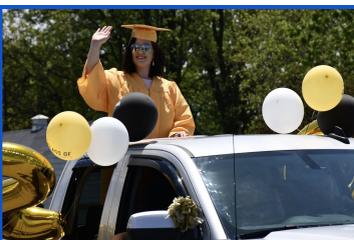
*Rhodes State CCP Scholarship  
Rhodes State College – Digital Media Technology  
Rhodes State’s CCP Scholarship*

*Sons of the American Legion Post 541 Scholarship  
Continental Community Scholarship  
Columbus Police Academy – Police Officer Training*

*Pursuing employment opportunity  
Vantage – Culinary Arts Program  
Florida State University - Radiography  
Continental Community Scholarship*



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**From the Desk of Mr. Eding, JH/HS Principal...**

Follow the JH/HS Building on Twitter  
[@Pirates\\_CHS](#) and [@CHSAthleticDept](#)

Dear Students, Parents, and Community:

Back in April, my letter in the newsletter discussed how the school was so much more than just the physical building on the north end of Main Street. The school is made up of the people--the students, parents, teachers, staff members, and the Continental Community as a whole. While there was a great deal of uncertainty in April as to how we would finish the year, the one thing I was certain of was that this community and this school would pull together. I'm glad I was right.

Nothing about the last few months has been easy. Students struggled with the distance learning format. Teachers struggled to provide distance learning options for the students with very short notice and limited training. Parents struggled to keep their students on-track and engaged in their schoolwork while also worrying about their jobs and the unknown of what was happening in our world. It was hard. But we came through it--and we came through it together.

The crowning achievement of the way we worked together happened on May 24th when the Continental Community banded together and gave our seniors a graduation to remember. I want to thank all of the members of the Class of 2020 and their parents. Thank you for your patience and trust in us as we worked through our graduation options and planned an event that would still bring the class together one last time. Thank you to the Continental Police, Fire, and EMS for the processional that they led down Main Street. Thank you to the Village of Continental for your help and support with signs, blocking roads, and allowing us to use the village streets for this great event. And thank you to the Continental Community for showing up, coming out, and supporting our seniors on their graduation day. It was truly AWESOME!

One last group of people I want to thank before signing off for the year: the faculty and staff of Continental Schools. This school is blessed to have a very hard-working, student-centered group of people that work tirelessly and without complaint to serve our students. The staff has worked hard, pushed their limits, and done things in the past few months that they didn't even know they could do. And they did it well. Thank you to the teachers, secretaries, aides, custodians, drivers, and everyone else that has worked tirelessly to end this year as well as we can. Your work is appreciated and does not go unnoticed.

We're just starting to hear from Governor DeWine about what fall holds for education, what school will look like, or how things will work. But we know that whatever the challenge is, we will continue to work together and come through this even better and stronger in the end.



Students maintaining **Perfect Attendance All Year:**

Gr. 7 - Collin Davis, Jaxson Slattman; Gr. 8 - Kaydyn Heacock, Avery Noffsinger, Braxton Stegbauer; Gr. 9 - Reese Knowles, Olivia Logan; Gr.11 - Trinity Prowant.

Students receiving **All A's All Year:**

Gr. 9 - Rhenn Armeay, Mya Bishop, Alyssa Burgei, Reese Knowles; Gr. 10 - Gavin Huff, Brooklyn Smith; Gr. 11- Catelyn Etter; Gr. 12 - Alexis Hoeffel, Kaitlynn Keller, Mikayla Mayes, Kerri Prowant. **Congratulations to all!**

***From the Desk of Mrs. Potts, Elementary Principal...***

Follow the elementary building on Facebook @ContinentalElementary

It is hard to believe we are at the end of another school year. The 2019-2020 school year is definitely one for the books and one that will be talked about for years to come. Due to Covid-19 this spring students, teachers, and parents experienced many changes to what they considered a “normal” school day. These changes were sudden and unexpected, yet everyone rallied together to make the best of the situation. This is one of the many reasons I am proud to be a Pirate.

During every step of this difficult time, I remained in awe of the perseverance from students, parents, and teachers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of these groups. To the students, I thank you for taking on the challenge of learning in new ways. Although it took a couple of weeks to adjust to online learning, packets of material and interacting with teachers through a screen, most students exceeded my expectations of their ability to embrace distance learning. The work that you were able to do outside of the classroom was incredible and I am proud to be your principal!

Parents, where do I begin? Thank you for going above and beyond to help your child with distance learning. The teachers and I sincerely appreciate your time, effort, dedication, and teamwork in embarking on the adventure of helping your children with Google Classroom, Zoom, videos, projects, and worksheets. This was a learning curve for everyone involved and you rocked it! The teachers and I are forever grateful for your help!

Last, but not least I want to thank the teachers. Given a weekend to figure out how to teach from a distance was a job that no teacher wants to handle. The teachers at Continental embraced the task with grace and perseverance. They never complained and continually learned new avenues to make distance learning as successful as it could be. I am lucky to work with amazing teachers.

I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer!

***Continental Welcomes the Newest Member of Their Pirate Family***

Jessica Vennekotter is the new secretary at Continental Elementary. Jessica is an alumna of Continental High School. She is married to Kyle Vennekotter and they have two children, Emmy, Kindergarten; and Larkin, age 2.

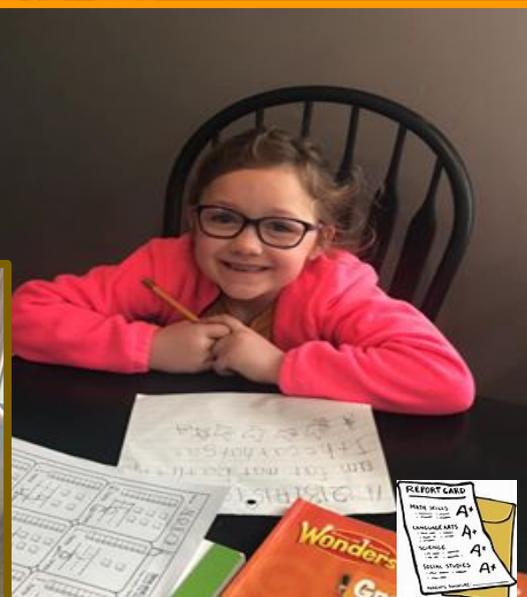
Jessica earned an associates degree in Occupational Therapy Assistant from Brown Mackie College. She previously worked at Miller City School as a paraprofessional for four years. Jessica gained office experience at Matson Chiropractic where she worked as an office assistant. Jessica has diverse experience and is committed to serving elementary school children. Jessica is looking forward to her new career and becoming a member of the Pirate staff.

In her free time, Jessica enjoys spending time with her family. She likes to take part in and watch all types of sports.





All the WORLD is  
 my SCHOOL



**ALL A's ELEMENTARY CAREER**  
 Jackson Bidlack & Camren Burgei

**ALL A's ALL YEAR**

Grade 1 - Lindin Basinger, Weston Dockery, Lincoln Doster, Dane Heitzman, Claire Homier, Keely Kraft, Jase Ladd, Gavin Linch, Aubrey Noffsinger, Fynn Slattman, Emma Sloan, Macy Wiseman, Luke Branham, Brayden Cole, Ashton Donaldson, Breck Prowant, Amelia Rosebrook, Ryker Winkle, Remington Wollam

Grade 2 - Bailey Bitter, Grady Dirr, Ian Clemens, Danielle Clementz, Maleigha James, Mason Shaffer, Alexi Slattman  
 Grade 3 - Denali Hiltner, Kinley Stegbauer, Wesley Huff  
 Grade 4 - Maeci Dockery, Bristol Fitzwater, Cassie Pier, Becca Sullivan  
 Grade 5 - Grant Clementz, Brynn Thomsen  
 Grade 6 - Rhettik Bowers, Jackson Bidlack, Camren Burgei, Olivia Crossgrove, Morgan Dockery, Quinn Tegenkamp, Cole English

**Perfect Attendance!**



Have a great summer!

**PERFECT ATTENDANCE ALL YEAR**

Brock Horstman, Karlee Sanders, Lindin Basinger, Brayden Cole, Bailey Bitter, Ian Clemens, Eythan Risner, Paxton Wilson, Aubrey Winkle, Devin Volkert, Ava Homier, Preston Wilson, Camren Burgei, Nate Peterson, Allison Seibert, Sawyer Prowant, Quinn Tegenkamp and Coralynne Wetmore



## End of Year Staff Recognition

*Thank you for your service at Continental Local School!  
"HAPPY RETIREMENT VICKI"*



Vicki Wagner receiving the STARFISH award from Superintendent Kissell

Vicki Wagner, elementary secretary, is shown receiving the "Starfish" award from Superintendent Danny Kissell. This year, Mrs. Wagner was selected by staff members to receive this award for going the "extra mile" for students and staff at Continental School.

Below is a sampling of remarks that were made on behalf of Mrs. Wagner:

*"Vicki has been the "go-to" person in the elementary since I started teaching. She handled parents, staff, and student questions daily. She has been a calming presence in time of stress or crisis. She has also been a strong force standing up for our students and their safety."*

*"Vicki has been the first line of defense, protecting students and staff daily for many years. She handled the irate parent who wanted to vent at the first person who answered the phone. She also handled the upset staff member who had a bad day and just couldn't take one more thing."*

*"More than answering phones, taking temperatures, and handing out band-aids, Vicki has given her time and talents to district and community!"*

*"Her knowledge and skills will be missed."*

*"Years of experience is evident any time you go to the front desk in the elementary office. When something needs done or no one knows the answer to a problem, Vicki has always been the person who can complete the task and find the solution."*

*"I have watched Vicki give both tough love and a tender heart to many students when needed. She knows when it is appropriate to provide each of these types of love. Vicki deserves this award because she goes the "extra mile" EVERY day. Her job of being front and center for students, staff, administration, and parents everyday is a tough job and she does it with pride for all Pirates."*

*"Over the course of her time as elementary secretary, Vicki has worn many "hats." Do I know everything she does behind the scenes? Absolutely not, I'm not sure I am even aware of how many duties she fulfills. However what I do know, is that she not only serves her secretarial duties, but also that of a school nurse. I cannot express how many times I've told a student "Go have Miss Vicki check your temperature."*

*"She is also quick to remind me (and I'm sure others) when we haven't submitted our attendance each morning. I hope whoever takes her place knows that reminders will need to be sent to several of us!"*

*"Vicki served our students, but also the staff as well for many years. I can't think of a better way to send her off to retirement than as the Starfish award recipient. We will be sad to see her go, but "once a pirate, always a pirate!" 🧡💙"*

We would like to congratulate Mrs. Wagner on receiving this award. Vicki will be retiring at the end of this school year with over 26 years of service and we would like to thank her for all that she has done for the students and staff in our District!

Best of luck in retirement Vicki! *Ami Butler Apple Fun!*

## Making a Difference

An old man walked up a shore littered with thousands of starfish, beached and dying after a storm. A young man was picking them up and flinging them back into the ocean. "Why do you bother?" the old man scoffed. "You're not saving enough to make a difference." The young man picked up another starfish and sent it spinning back to the water. "Made a difference to that one," he said.

*You make a difference,  
every day.*

### SERVICE AWARDS / PERFECT ATTENDANCE

The following employees were recognized for their years of service and perfect attendance at Teacher Workday on May 22nd:

5-Year: Brian Badenhop, Emily Fuller, Taylor Geckle, Amanda Gray, Casey Homier, Keith Schnipke, Damon Schmidt, Nathan Schmidt, Danielle Stallkamp, and Dan Swonger

10-Year: Cathy Ohms

15 Year: Sarah Baughman and Chris Murphy

20 Year: Bill Bany

25 Year: Terri Schlegel, Pam Retcher, and Etta Worline

30 Year: None

35 Year: Darlene Griffith

Retiree: Vicki Wagner

Perfect Attendance: Keith Schnipke.

*From the Desk of Sarah Goedde, Director of Food Service...*



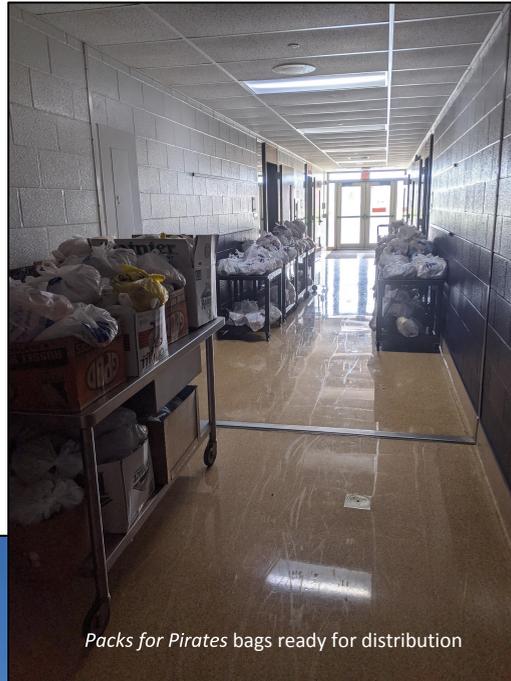
Fellow Pirates:

Another school year has come to an end! In years to follow, I hope we look back and remember that the last two months of spring 2020 school year was a time we all came together as a Pirate family. I want to thank the *Packs for Pirates* and cafeteria staff for continuing the food distribution to families who needed it in these unprecedented times. We all came together as a town and helped our fellow families by delivering and packing food along with the generous monetary contributions from the community.

As we enter into 2020-2021 school year, we will overcome the challenges brought forth to us and make the necessary changes needed to ensure the financial and wellbeing of the families of Continental Local Schools.

Sincerely,

Sarah Goedde  
Director of Food Service  
419-596-3860  
s.goedde@continentalpirates.org



*Packs for Pirates* bags ready for distribution



Cafeteria staff members preparing *Packs for Pirates* food bags



Loading food bags for the *Packs for Pirates* program

## immunizations



Hey Parents!

Do you have a child entering **kindergarten, 7th grade or 12th grade** this fall? If so, they may need some shots before the 2020-2021 school year begins.

According to the Ohio Department of Health rules for the 2020-2021 school year, incoming 7th graders are required to have one dose of both a Tdap and Meningitis (MCV4) vaccine and 12th graders are required to have one or two doses of the Meningitis (MCV4) vaccine.

Tdap vaccine protects against three diseases: Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis. The MCV4 vaccine protects against four strains of Meningitis (A, C, W, Y).

The health dept. is maintaining social distancing guidelines during all clinics. Because of this they are having more clinics throughout the summer. In order to do this safely, they ask that you:

- \*Wear a mask when entering the health department.
- \*Leave other children at home if possible.

**Appointments are required. NO WALK-INS will be allowed.**

Please consider scheduling an appointment early because they cannot allow more people in the building than distancing rules can safely support. **August is typically very congested with full clinics, so please do not delay this year. Please call 419-523-5608 for an appointment.**



Guidance from the state level about opening and restarting sports activities and facilities for the high school student athletes will soon allow coaches to complete their plans for summer. They will be contacting their athletes directly as schedules are finalized.

Information will be posted to the JH/HS Sports Calendar on our website as updates are received.



## LUNCH PROGRAM

**All children ages 1 through 18 (no adults)** are eligible to receive free meals during the summer months at participating program sites. Individuals ages 19 through 21 who have been identified as having mental or physical disabilities and are following Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) through their current enrollment in educational programs also are eligible for free summer meals.

For more information or to find a location near you call **1-866-3-HUNGRY (486479)**.