



# Continental Local Schools



**Board of Education Members:**  
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**#ProudtobeAPirate**

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

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

***#ProudtobeAPirate***

As I begin to write this, I can't believe it is already November, and we have started the 2nd nine weeks. Thank you to our students, staff, and parents for an excellent beginning to our school year. I would also like to take this time to thank our coaches and athletes for a unique fall sports experience. Finally, our marching band was also in competitive action this fall as they competed at Ottawa-Glandorf and Columbus Grove. Whether it be in the band, on the stage, the field/court or in the classroom, I am always impressed with the commitment our kids bring their endeavors. Thank you for supporting our students/your kids in all they do!

Mental Health is a topic that you see almost daily in the news or social media. Here at Continental Local Schools, we have also made an effort to do our part to support students who may be struggling or having difficulties in one way or another. I have spoken about our relationship with the ADAMHS board and Pathways in the past, but I wanted to take a few more minutes to go into a bit more detail. The ADAMHS Board of Putnam County through Pathways of Putnam County has provided TWO counselors to Continental Local Schools at NO COST to the school. We truly appreciate our relationship and look forward to continuing these worthwhile programs. Over the past two years, we have been able to keep both these counselors busy supporting our students with their various needs. Additionally, we have contracted with your ESC for counselor services to work with our special needs population.

Not only have we developed these wonderful relationships with our community partners, but Continental Local School also recognized we needed to fill some gaps in our schools. To fill these remaining gaps, we hired a school social worker at the elementary, allowing our guidance counselor at the high school to transition from a K-12 to 7-12 counselor. Also, with the advent of our PBIS programs, students have been assigned to houses or teams. Through PBIS, we work on positive behavior and support for each other. All these programs have helped us make sure students who need assistance are not missed. If you feel your child needs support they are not receiving, please contact the school so we can see how we can help.

Finally, you may be asking why all this focus on mental health. It is quite simple. With all the concerns about violence in schools, many schools have chosen to hire police or armed staff. At Continental, we believe we must first work on prevention while preparing deterrents. Prevention is our goal. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to talking with you about our efforts to keep students safe and support their needs at the same time.

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

**SCHOOL SECURITY AND PUBLIC USE OF THE FACILITY**

As we talked about mental health services on the front page, I also feel it is essential to talk about school security and come changes coming in November. Through a grant from the Bureau of Worker's Compensation, Continental has been able to update its door security.

**Keys, Keys, Keys...** If you have ever been associated with any school district, you may know that it seems EVERYONE has a key to the school. Now, I get it; the school belongs to the community. In small towns like ours, it is also possibly the center of most activities. While all of these statements may be true, it is also true that as the leadership of the school, it is our responsibility to keep the school buildings secure and safe. As stated above, starting in November, we will have a new system in place for door security. The doors will be able to lock and unlocked with the software on the computer.

**NEW LOCK and UNLOCK TIMES**

The school will be unlocked from 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. The doors will then open again at 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The times may vary slightly between buildings, but this will be the general rule. After 4:00 p.m., you must have an appointment or have been granted access to the building with a keycard.

**PUBLIC USE OF THE SCHOOL BUILDINGS**

Community members who wish to walk or use the weight room in the building during non-school hours will be subject to the following times and MUST sign a waiver and receive a keycard from the superintendent's office. The cost of the keycard is \$5.00 and will be charged to anyone under the age of 65.

Public building use for walking (in the building) is 5:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Free weight room use is from 6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

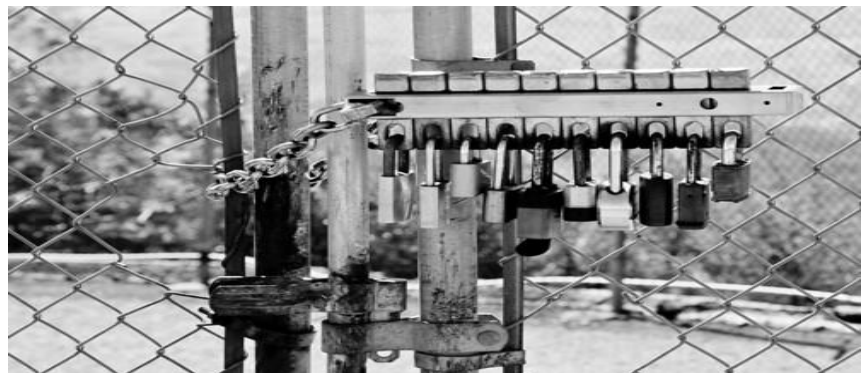
The use of any other part of the facility, such as gyms and cafeterias, requires the completion of a building rental agreement. Building rental agreements may be subject to fees for cleaning, etc...

I am sure we will need to fine-tune our processes and procedures as we implement this new access to the buildings. Please be patient and share with us any of your concerns or comments at [d.kissell@continentalpirates.org](mailto:d.kissell@continentalpirates.org). Thank you for your support and understanding as we work to keep our students safe.

Yours in Education,



Danny F. Kissell



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

Follow the JH/HS Building on Twitter  
@Pirates\_CHS and @CHSAthleticDept

Happy Fall!

This month, we would like to take the opportunity to share some of the great things that our wonderful junior high and high school students are doing. From painting a mural on Main Street for the Fall Festival to our newly created robotics team competing at MakerFest in Lima, there is a lot of exciting things happening in and around the JH/HS building. Our marching band has returned to competition after taking a few years off and did quite well at both the Ottawa-Glandorf and Columbus Grove competitions. Our senior NHS members were recently recognized as the “Students in the Spotlight” in the Putnam County Sentinel and we are just a few short weeks away from seeing our many talented actors and actresses present the fall play, *Clue: On Stage*. We truly have wonderful students doing amazing things in Continental Schools and hope you don’t mind us bragging them up a little bit!



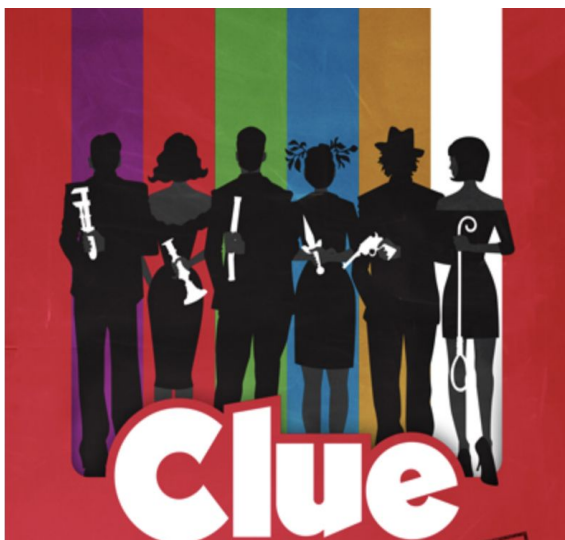
Some of our **high school art students under the direction of Mrs. Jessica Swonger, K-12 art teacher**, took their artistic talents to Main Street, to complete this year’s Fall Fest Mural at the request of the festival committee. Always an attraction for the festival crowd, it will remind the community of the beauty of the season throughout the fall.

A group of students in **Mr. Schmidt’s computer science and robotics classes** recently attended MakerFest in Lima to compete in a coding and robotics competition. The competition consisted of navigating a robot through an obstacle course by configuring its path using code. The score was based on time and penalties for hitting obstacles. In addition to the competition, students were also able to network with local businesses and colleges in the expo center. This was a great opportunity for our students to showcase what they’ve learned so far in coding and robotics. Students that participated were, Isaac Gibbs, Zack Okuly, Gabe Nunez, Connor Maag and Jaeger Schwab.





Our senior **National Honor Society** members were selected by **Mrs. Emily Fuller, NHS advisor**, to be recognized this month as Scholars in the Spotlight. Alex Hoeffel, Addyson Army, Kennedy Hiltner, Kerri Prowant, Katie Keller, Macy Collier, Karson Prowant, Justin Etter, and Mackenzie Rayle excel in many areas beyond just academics. Some of their activities include: class or club officer, student council representative, Buckeye Girls and Boys State representatives, and Future Career and Community Leaders of America member. They have been recognized at county, district, and state levels in several sports and assisted with Red Cross blood drives, community clean up activities and local food bank drives. They are involved in marching and concert bands, drama productions, choir and art programs having received awards at community and county levels . They have actively supported our local Packs for Pirates, veterans organizations, the American Cancer Society, and Toys for Tots. The best thing about recognizing these students is that there are many more of our students earning some of these same honors because of the leadership shown by these outstanding students!



### **Clue: On Stage**

On a dark and stormy night, six unique guests, plus a butler and a maid, assemble for a dinner party at the home of Mr. Boddy. When their host turns up dead, it is clear that no one is safe! Soon the guests are racing to find the killer and keep the body count from stacking up. Clue is the comedy whodunit that will keep you guessing (and laughing) to the very end.

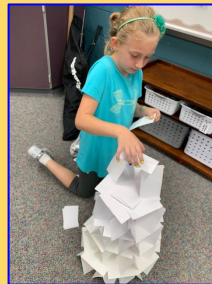
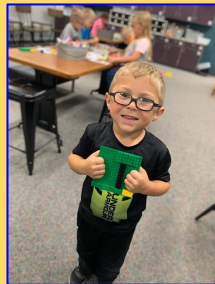
A talented cast and crew which includes: Karson Prowant, Justin Etter, Ellie Schwarzman, Connor Maag, Gwen Blevins, Jacob Quigley and Mackenzie Mayes will perform on Friday and Saturday, November 8 and 9, at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday, November 10, at 2:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium **under the direction of Ms. Amanda Heil and Mr. Dan Swonger.**



Continental High School Band Performing at the Columbus Grove Band Competition

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

Starting our school year at Continental Elementary, we have found out how much fun learning with STREAM can be. STREAM (Science-Technology-Reading-Engineering-Art-Math) are all very important elements to the education of our students. Our educational system has created a curriculum that requires a rigorous understanding or knowledge; however, it seems to leave out some of that, "Out of the box thinking." During the summer the elementary building added a new area for our students to do exactly that kind of thinking. We took what was previously our computer lab and created a Makerspace area for kids to explore and engage in STREAM activities. Our Makerspace area is titled - *Pirate Planet: A Space Where we Tinker Outside the Box*. This area has been a big hit with the students of Continental and they love being able to have different hands on activities when they visit the room for their special class throughout the week. The room is also used weekly, as the Media Specialist makes connections to the classroom curriculum with the regular education teachers. Students come to the Makerspace, along with their regular classroom teachers, to have a Maker Media lesson that takes the classroom learning to the next level! An example of this is in the second grade classroom, students read a story about ants and the strength they have. When these same students came to the Pirate Planet they used the Engineer Design Process to plan, design and execute their ideas of how to make a stand from straws that would support an apple.



And the winner is..... THE GRAY HOUSE!

The first nine weeks has come to an end. The house that collected the most crew cards for being responsible, respectful and ready the first quarter was the gray house. Those students enjoyed a fall party.

#beresponsible #berespectful #beready



Congratulations  
Kamryn Searfoss

The 5th and 6th grade students would like to thank their family, friends and community members for their support in raising funds for Camp Willson. A special thanks to the American Legion, Parents of Pirates (P. O. P.) and an anonymous donor for providing funds for camp. All 77 students will be going to camp for three days the last week of October.

***Continental Local School - Upcoming Events***

- |         |  |            |  |
|---------|--|------------|--|
| Oct. 31 | Vision/Scoliosis Screenings Grades 7-10<br>HS Band Halloween Performance following<br>Community Trick or Treat, HS Gym | Nov. 25    | No School, Professional Development,<br>Parent-Teacher Conferences, 3:00-7:00 p.m. |
| Nov. 1  | No School - Professional Development<br>First Day of Coaching - Boys Basketball  | Nov. 26    | No School, Parent-Teacher Conferences,<br>10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.                   |
| Nov. 4  | Americanism Test at Continental American<br>Legion for Grades 10-12<br>Fall Sports Awards, 6:30 p.m.                   | Nov 27     | Boys Basketball Season Begins  |
| Nov. 5  | Eighth Graders Tour Vantage  | Nov. 27-29 | Thanksgiving Break, No School  |
| Nov. 8  | Fall Play 7:30 p.m.  | Dec. 5     | NHS Induction Ceremony, 1:30 p.m.  |
| Nov. 9  | Fall Play 7:30 p.m.  | Dec. 9     | JH/HS Band and Choir Concert, 7:00 p.m   |
| Nov. 10 | Fall Play 2:30 p.m.  | Dec. 23    | Winter Break Begins  |
| Nov. 11 | Veterans Day Assembly,<br>Local Vets and Community Welcome   | Jan. 6     | Classes Resume   |
| Nov. 22 | Girls Basketball Season Begins   | Jan. 8     | Vantage Rep here to meet with Sophomores   |
|         |  | Jan. 15    | CCP Parent Meeting, 6:00 p.m.  |
|         |  | Jan. 20    | No School - Martin Luther King Day   |
|         |  | Jan. 24    | Homecoming Dance, Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.  |
|         |  | Jan. 25    | Homecoming Game  |
|         |  | Jan. 31    | Sophomores to Vantage  |



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



With a new school year back in full swing, I would like to go over what would consist of a reimbursable meal. I have noticed many of our families spend more money on a meal than what they possibly should. Both schools participate in what is called OVS (Offer Versus Serve). What this means is that we offer, at minimum, five (5) different food items to the students for lunch each day, and of these five (5) items, the students have to take three (3) of them for their meal to equal a lunch. The five (5) food groups are meats/meat alternates, grains, fruits, vegetables, and milk. What OVS does is reduce food waste and allow students to choose the foods they want to eat and decline the foods they do not intend to eat. When students understand what they need to take, it makes going through the lunch line easier for both them and the cafeteria staff.

For example: If one of the elementary students came in and wanted to buy tater tots and popcorn chicken, they would have been charged \$3.00 when a meal is \$2.50. All a student has to do is get either a vegetable or fruit, and we could charge it as a meal. More food for less money...

If you would like to read more on OVS, you can go to:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/updated-offer-vs-serve-guidance-nslp-and-sbp-beginning-sy2015-16>





Pathways Counseling Center



Crime Victim Services

## The Mental Health, Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Board of Putnam County

### Support LOCAL Mental Health & Recovery Services

- The renewal levy on the November ballot will maintain and expand local community mental health and addiction services.
- New services provided to the county since the last levy include; Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), Telepsychiatry, In-School consultation and counseling, Crisis Text Line, Critical Incident Stress Management Team (CISM), and violence prevention curriculum for schools.
- Over the last 5 years, Pathways Counseling Center has handled more than 3,739 cases for people with mental health and/or substance use issues. This is an 18% increase in clients served in 3 years.
- Over 1,800 students per year attend Prevention Programs.
- About one-third of all clients served are between the ages of 5 and 19.
- Many youth and families throughout Putnam County receive supportive services (WRAP). The levy will help maintain the availability of Mental Health Specialist to Putnam County Schools (Private & Public).
- In 2018 Crime Victim Services served 689 victims of domestic violence, victims of violent crimes, property crimes, and sexual assault victims.
- Crime Victim Services is the only victim assistance organization in Putnam County that assists victims of felonies, misdemeanors, juvenile and unreported/unsolved crimes.
- The Friends of Mental Health Organization, a not-for-profit organization, is a group of volunteers in Putnam County who promote every citizen's interest in Mental Health. They are also actively involved in helping individuals recover from addiction.
- The Board is proud to collaborate with a number of other county agencies to improve our service effectiveness and the lives of people we serve.
- Support for local veteran services.
- The Mental Health, Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Board of Putnam County became Culture of Quality certified in 2009. The most recent recertification was December 2017.
- Pathways Counseling Center received the highest level of accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) in February 2019.



Members of Youth Prevention

**Local Needs...**

**Local Decisions...**

**Local Boards!**

*Thank you for your support of Recovery Services in Putnam County!*

*For more information please go to Friends of Mental Health Facebook Page.*



FRIENDS OF MENTAL HEALTH