



Continental Local Schools



Board of Education Members:
 Dean Bidlack Ron Bradford
 Robin Etter Chad Olds
 Mike Zachrich

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 - March, 2019

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

Hello, and welcome to your spring newsletter. As we have turned the page to March, it is time to finish this school year strong and begin planning for the next school year. This is a unique time of year for schools as we work hard in the present while thinking and planning for the future.

Testing - As you will see in this newsletter, testing season is here. Although the state tests are important for many reasons, please know that Continental focuses on educating your child for their future, not a test. By focusing on educating your child, we believe they will do well on the test. It is about kids and learning, not tests.

Kindergarten Screening - We are looking for **ALL** five-year-olds who are not in school yet, kindergarten screening is April 12. If you know of anyone with a five or soon to be five-year-old, please make sure they know about our screening. See more on page four or call the elementary for more information, 419-596-3860.

Closing school - The decision to close school at Continental rests solely with the superintendent. In my absence, one of the principals is charged with this decision. What goes into a decision:

1. The safety of students, parents and staff.
2. Not only do we evaluate current conditions, using forecasts and discussions with neighboring districts, we must look into the immediate future to know what is coming.
3. The Putnam County Superintendents are out driving the roads to check conditions and communicate on what they are seeing and making decisions they feel are appropriate for their school.

We all know no one likes make-up days, but coming to school on a nice day in April or May is better than putting our children at risk in bad weather. Please note the make-up days listed in the blue box on this page. If we have to cancel again, then we will be using the end of the school year to start making up days. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Once again, this newsletter is filled with many of the wonderful programs our staff and students are putting on. Please come out and support our students.

Danny F. Kissell, Superintendent
 "Protect, Respect, Care!"
 #ProudtobeAPirate



Calamity/Make-Up Days

To date, we have used nine calamity days, with four of these needing to be made up. Because of this, the end of the third nine-weeks has been moved back to Friday, March 22.

Our first make-up day was held on **Friday, March 1**.

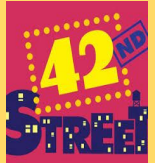
The second make-up day will be made up on **Thursday, April 18**.

The third and fourth make-up days will be held on **April 22 and 23**.

We will **NOT** be using Friday, April 19. Any future make up days will be placed at the end of the school year.



High School Musical



"Come and meet, those dancing feet,"

of Continental High School students in the spring production of *42nd Street*, a show that celebrates Broadway, Times Square, and the people who make the magic of musical theatre!

In the midst of the Great Depression, small town Peggy Sawyer, played by Riley Fenter, dreams of life on the NYC stage and gets her break to be a chorus girl in a new show directed by the brilliant but bad-tempered Julian Marsh, played by Justin Etter. Add in the long-past-her-prime diva, the belligerent Dorothy Brock, played by Breanne Eickholt, plus the challenges of putting up a new show, and watch the drama unfold. If you're not tapping along, you'll be humming along with the Broadway standards "Shuffle Off to Buffalo," "We're in the Money," "I Only Have Eyes For You," and the crowd favorite, "Lullaby of Broadway,"

Performances will be held on Friday, April 5 and Saturday April 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the Irene Wahl Casteel Auditorium, with a Sunday, April 7 matinee performance at 2:30 p.m. The show is directed by Mrs. Amanda Heil. Student choreographers are Breanne Eickholt and Brooke Davis. Mr. Dan Swonger is the assistant musical director and pit director. Mrs. Pam Jones is the piano accompanist.

Tickets will be available at the door for \$10/adults, \$8/students. Come and enjoy!



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

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

State Testing is Coming!

As we head into the spring testing window, I want to take a few moments and explain why the upcoming state testing is so important to both your student and our school.

While state testing can sometimes be viewed negatively, this is the yardstick that the State of Ohio uses to measure school and student performance. Our school and district report card data comes in large part from the state testing that takes place every year. These tests evaluate how well our school teaches and our students learn the curriculum that is prescribed by the State Board of Education, the State Legislature, and our Local Board of Education.

We want all students to take the testing seriously every year so that we can get a true and accurate assessment of how we are doing. Two of the simplest things that can be done to help make sure your student is ready for their state test is to make sure that they get a good night's sleep the night before the test and to make sure they've had a nutritious breakfast the morning of the test. It's amazing how much of an effect these two simple things can have on a student's performance!

For high school students, the state testing is especially important because it could be one of the state-mandated "Graduation Pathways" that are required to earn a high school diploma. On top of earning all 21 credits (earned by passing classes), students must also show that they are "college or career ready." The spring End-of-Course tests are one such pathway that students can use. To satisfy the requirement of the testing pathway, students must earn at least 18 points on the seven End-of-Course tests (English 1, English 2, Algebra I, Geometry, American History, American Government, and Biology) that are given each year. In addition to earning a total of 18 points, students must earn at least 4 points in English, 4 points in Math, and 6 points in Science and Social Studies. *(To be clear, each test is worth up to 5 points and is scored anywhere from 1 to 5, depending on student performance.)*

Our testing schedule is posted on our high school calendar on the school website. We have scheduled to do all of our testing in English the week of April 15th and our Math, Science, and Social Studies testing will be done the week of April 22nd. For the specific day and time of each of your student's tests, please check the high school calendar on the lower left side of the school's homepage.

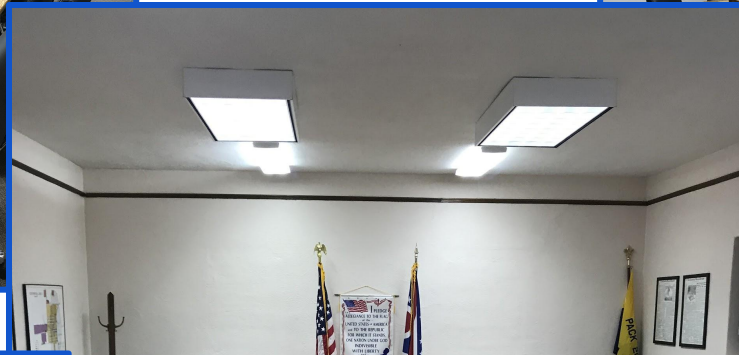
If you have any questions regarding the upcoming testing, I encourage you to visit the Ohio Department of Education's website (<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing>) or contact the school and speak with Mr. Eding and/or Mrs. McIntyre.

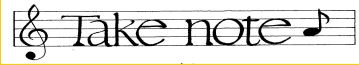
Woods Class Students Build City Council Desk



The photos below, are pictures of the desk that Mr. Stegbauer's students built for Continental's Village Council Office. It is beautiful! The students involved in this project were Isaiah Good, Konnor Okuley, Cristian Perez, Brooke Bradford, and Blake Elkins.

We are very proud of this group and the work that they did. This desk is something that will serve the village of Continental for years--and it was built right here by our students. Thank you to Mr. Stegbauer for the leadership on this project and to the students for all their hard work. *Well done!*





HIGH SCHOOL BAND/CHOIR



The Continental Music Department has been hard at work during the winter months and the results are starting to show! Many of you have been to a basketball game and have showed a lot of love to the pep band this season. On behalf of the students, we appreciate all the compliments!

On February 9, a select few high school students traveled to Lima Senior High School to participate in our region's Solo and Ensemble Adjudicated Events. Students perform either alone or with a small group for a judge who rates their performance that day on a scale of 1 to 5, with a 1 being the highest rating possible. I am proud to say the students represented our school district very well, with all students receiving either a 1, 2, or 3 rating.

On March 1, students traveled to Bluffton University to begin rehearsals for All-County Honors Band and Choir. The following students auditioned and were accepted into the ensembles for this year - Justin Etter, Riley Fenter, Connor Maag, Ellie Schwarzman, and Courtney Weaver. The concert is in Kalida this year on March 10 at 2:00 p.m. Admission is \$6, which directly funds the event each year. The Art Show will also be at Kalida before the Band and Choir Concert begins. Come check out all the talented students from Continental, and from around the county!

Finally, the High School Band and Choir performed a concert on Monday, March 4. We hope many of you came to listen to the music that we have been working on this winter! The band and choir are under the direction of Mr. Dan Swonger.



This year's **Homecoming** game was held on February 2 at the Continental/Columbus Grove varsity boys basketball game. Even though school was canceled for the day on February 1 due to the weather, the dance was able to be held as planned that evening. The Homecoming Court was announced with great fanfare at the dance to start off the festivities enjoyed by many of our high school students and their dates. They were introduced again prior to the varsity game on Saturday.

Those students representing their classes in the above photo are: Kindergarten Crown Bearers-Shaylen Bidlack, Weston Dockery. Freshmen-Caden Garcia, Annika Bowers; Sophomores-Connor Maag, Ellie Schwarzman; Juniors-Trevor Brecht, Kennedy Hiltner; Seniors-Jarret Keck, Brooke Bradford, King Konnor Okuley, Queen Brooke Davis, Josh Wagner, Breanne Eickholt, Jaden Warner, Riley Fenter; 2018 King and Queen-Caleb Olds, Kaitlyn Alvarado.

AMERICAN RED CROSS



The CHS Student Council is hosting a blood drive on Thursday, March 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. There is currently an urgent need for blood, so please consider scheduling an appointment to give. Additionally, your donation will help our school raise scholarship money for one of our very own seniors here at CHS. If you would like to schedule an appointment to donate, please email our Student Council advisor at j.armey@continentalpirates.org, or you may contact the High School office. Thank you for your consideration of giving blood and saving a life!

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

Follow the Elementary Building on Facebook
@continentalelementary

Kindergarten Registration

It's that time of year to register your child for kindergarten. If your child will be five on or before September 30, 2019 we would love to have your child attend kindergarten at our elementary building. Kindergarten registration forms can be downloaded from the school website or picked up at the elementary office. Kindergarten screening is Friday, April 12, 2019.



Kinderstart

The Continental Elementary Kinderstart program has been in place since the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year. Kinderstart students attend school all day, every day and they are taught kindergarten skills at an appropriate pace to meet student needs. The program consists of a smaller class size (13 students) and is designed for students whom teachers and parents feel are not academically and/or socially ready for kindergarten. Many of the students enrolled also fall in the young birthdays category. To be eligible for Kinderstart a child must be five on or before September 30, 2019 and participate in the spring screening for kindergarten.

Parents who are interested in sending their child to Kinderstart must complete a kindergarten registration form. Forms can be downloaded from the school website or picked up at the elementary office.

Advantages of the program

- Pace allows for students to build the foundation for the rigor of Kindergarten
- Smaller class size = more one-on-one and small group attention
- Opportunity for confidence building and student success!
- Establishing routines & rules
- Feeling more confident going into Kindergarten
- Becoming a LEADER for the following year



Second Year of School: Kindergarten

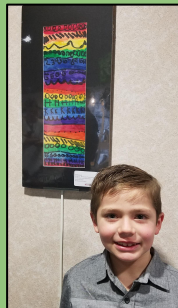
The following school year, Kinderstart students attend Kindergarten!

Elementary Students to Have Artwork Showcased at the 39th Annual Young People's Art Exhibition and Youth Art Month Exhibition in Columbus, Ohio

Isabella Okuley, daughter of Matt and Tracy Rue, and Wade Okuley; and Gavin Linch, son of Austin and Ashley Varner, and Isaiah Linch, had their artwork selected by the Ohio Art Education Association from over 130 pieces that were entered from across the state by pre-kindergarten through eighth grade students. The students created their artwork under the direction of Mrs. Jessica Swonger, K-12 art teacher at Continental School.

Isabella's artwork will be displayed in the Young People's Art Exhibition at the Rhodes State Office Tower, 30 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio. Gavin's artwork will be displayed in the Youth Art Month Exhibition at the State Teachers Retirement Systems (STRS) building, 275 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio. Both artworks will be on display from February 16 to March 23.

Congratulations students on receiving this honor!



Gavin Linch, Gr. Kdg. with his artwork



Isabella Okuley, Gr 1 with her artwork

Marathon Petroleum Company Donates Book Kits



The Marathon Petroleum Company supports diversity and inclusion in the classrooms. Recently, MPC donated book kits to our teachers which are designed to facilitate healthy conversations about what makes individuals unique and what people have in common.

Jeralynn Deken and her family donated the book "We'll Paint the Octopus Red." The Continental Elementary staff would like to thank Marathon and the Deken family for providing the books about diversity.



Pictured above are: Tracy Potts, Elementary Principal; Erin Schmidt, Elementary Guidance Counselor; and Jeralynn Deken and her mother, Diana.



Mrs. Swonger
 K-12 Art Teacher

**Northwest Ohio Regional Youth Art
 Month Exhibition, Toledo, Ohio**

Eight elementary artworks were selected from Continental for display in the Northwest Ohio Regional Youth Art Month Exhibition, sponsored by the Ohio Art Education Association. These works are showcased in the Wolfe Gallery at the Maumee Valley Country Day School, 1715 S. Reynolds Rd., Toledo, OH until April 16. A total of about 200 artworks are displayed from schools across 12 counties in the Northwest Ohio region.

Continental Elementary students who had artwork selected are:

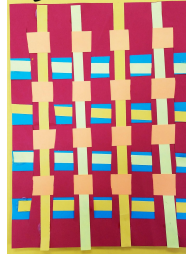
Grade 2: Adam Bidlack, son of Eric and April Bidlack;
 Soiyer Perry, son of Tracen and Lacie Perry;
 Mackayla Schaffner, daughter of Jason and Lisa Schaffner;
 Kinley Stegbauer, daughter of Brian and Karissa Stegbauer;
 Leah Searfoss, daughter of Curt and Kristy Searfoss.

Grade 3: Maeci Dockery, daughter of Isaac and Brittany Dockery;
 Chloe Larry, daughter of Shantelle Cline and Joey Larry;

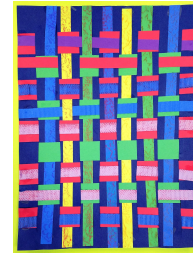
Grade 4: Laney Nienberg, daughter of Janelle Nienberg and Dwayne Nienberg

congratulations

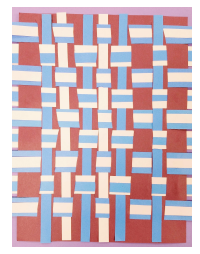
ARTIST CORNER..



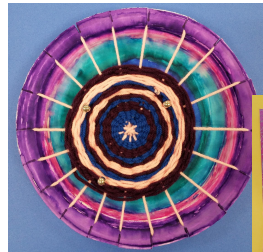
Soiyer Perry, Gr 2



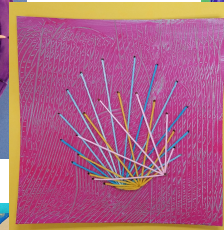
Adam Bidlack, Gr 2



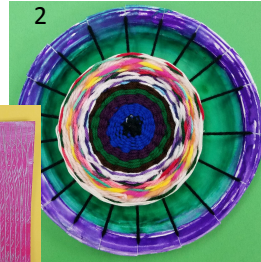
Kayla Schaffner, Gr 2



Maeci Dockery, Gr 3



Laney Nienberg,
 Gr 4



Chloe Larry, Gr 3



Kinley Stegbauer, Gr 2



Leah Searfoss, Gr 2

KEWPEE HIGH SCHOOL ART INVITATIONAL

Senior Brooke Davis' artwork titled "Story To Tell" was selected 1st place in the drawing category at the Kewpee High School Art Invitational held in Lima, Ohio. Brooke is the daughter of Robin and Sheila Davis. Sophomore Ellie Schwarzman's artwork titled "Requiem of a Legend" was selected 2nd place in the mixed media category. Ellie is the daughter of Laura Ford and Rick Schwarzman.. Both girls will receive cash prizes for their awards.

Senior Breanne Eickholt's artwork titled "This Day In History" was also selected for display. Breanne is the daughter of Jeremy and Rebecca Schnipke and the late Bryon Eickholt. The Kewpee High School Invitational honors artists from 18 different area schools. Over 300 artworks were entered into this juried show, where only 88 were selected for display and prizes. Artwork is featured at the ArtSpace/Lima gallery until April 6, at 65-67 Town Square, Lima.



Brooke Davis, with her drawing "Story To Tell"



Ellie Schwarzman, with her artwork titled "Requiem of a Legend"



Breanne Eickholt, with her artwork titled "This Day In History"

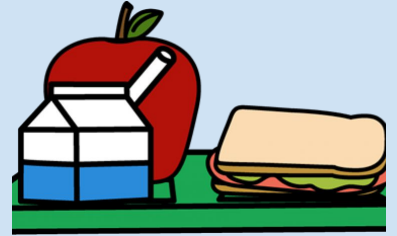
IF YOU GO

WHAT: 31st Annual Kewpee HS Art Invitational

WHEN: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays through April 6

WHERE: ArtSpace/Lima, 65/67 Town Square, Lima

ADMISSION: Free



March, 2019

Fellow Pirates,

We would like to thank you for the feedback from the survey that was sent out a few months ago and truly appreciate all the comments that were written on the letters. We want the students to eat the food at the school, but more importantly, we want them to *enjoy* the food. Before taking this position, I was truly surprised on the amount of government controls that are in place regarding what students are allowed to eat on school grounds. Some of the suggestions and comments I received were wonderful, unfortunately, I am not able to fulfill due to these rules and regulations. I would like to explain to you what must be incorporated into student meals, so you have a better understanding on why you may see the same kind of food weekly.

Weekly, we have to make sure we do not go over a certain amount of calories, fats, sodium, and sugars in the meals provided to students. We must also provide daily a certain amount of protein, whole grain, fruits, and vegetables. The vegetable is the most difficult and you may wonder why you see broccoli for instance, almost weekly, on the calendar. A vegetable must be offered that comes from the dark green, red and orange, beans and peas, starchy, and “other” group. This is not easy! If you were to look up those subgroups (www.choosemyplate.gov/food-groups/vegetables.html) and see the types of vegetables offered, there is not a good selection to choose from that most kids will eat. We have found that giving options to the students has helped on the amount of leftovers and less peanut butter and jelly going out the door. On the March menu, you will see that we have added two vegetables daily and we will have up to three or four different kinds of pizza offered on Fridays. We have seen a positive difference when the students are offered options.

The snacks offered to the students for purchase, must also follow the evidence-based nutrition standards that are put in place by the United States Department of Agriculture for snacks and beverages sold at school. Every snack served is put into a USDA “smart snacks calculator” to make sure that these standards are being followed. Cookies and chips, for instance, must be whole grain, and low in fats and sugars. Ice cream must be fat free with guidelines followed in order to offer it to the students for purchase. With these rules, it is not always easy to find food that is compliant, and more importantly tastes good to our students.

Again, thank you for all of your feedback and we welcome all comments that you have for us. Please feel free to email me if you ever have any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

Sincerely,

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

**Happenings Around
 Continental Local School**

- March 10 Fine Arts Fest at Kalida HS, 1:00-4:00 PM
- March 14 Student Council Blood Drive, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM
- March 19 ELEVATE Job Fair, Leipsic, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
- March 22 End of Third Nine-Weeks
- April 5 High School Musical, 7:30 PM, Irene Wahl Casteel Auditorium
- April 6 High School Musical, 7:30 PM, Irene Wahl Casteel Auditorium
- April 7 High School Musical Matinee, 2:30 PM, Irene Wahl Casteel Auditorium
- April 8 Spanish Classes to Flamenco Ballet in Ft. Wayne
- April 10 Grade Two to Science Central in Ft. Wayne
- April 12 Kindergarten Screening
- April 18 Make-Up Day - School in Session
- April 19 No School - Easter Break
- April 22 & 23 Make-Up Days - School in Session
- April 17 Grade Four Farm Safety in Ottawa
- April 27 Volley for the Vets, 11:00 AM
- April 30 Kdg to Putnam County Fairgrounds
- May 4 Prom, Continental American Legion, Valet Parking 5:30 PM; Grand March 6:00 PM; Dinner 6:30 PM; Dance 7:00 PM
- May 6-10 Elementary Right-to-Read Week
- May 7 R-T-R Author Assembly, 10:00 AM
- May 8 Grade 3 Field Trip to Sauders
- May 14 Grade 4 Field Trip to Grand Rapids Canal
- May 20 Spring Sports Awards, 6:30 PM
- May 23 Students Last Day of School
 Elementary Awards 9:00 AM
- May 24 Graduation Practice, 9:00 AM
- May 26 Graduation, Class of 2019, 2:30 PM



**Positive Behavior
 Intervention System**



The junior high students have started a new positive behavior program. This program, PBIS, divided students into five houses (red, blue, white, yellow, and black) as a way to be rewarded for their positive behaviors throughout the school day. Students in each house are rewarded in multiple different ways such as, A/B honor roll, attendance, having homework completed, coming to class prepared, having a clean locker, or being respectful of other students.

At the end of each week, the house that is in the lead gets to be in the front of the lunch line if they are wearing their house color. Mid-term prize was a donut party and three homework passes. Another big prize will be awarded to the winning team at the end of the quarter.

We've already seen positive impact on the 7th and 8th grade students this quarter. I hope this will continue to impact our students' success and leadership throughout the school year.



**March 19, 2019 we are expecting the largest,
 most well attended workforce celebration yet!**

Putnam County Elevate 2019 showcases employers in the Putnam County region and the wealth of talent that is our workforce of the future.

ELEVATE activities include:

- 1). Career exploration for high school students when they attend with their district during school hours.
- 2). Exposure to employment opportunities in Putnam, Allen and Hancock counties. Connect face-to-face with employers about immediate and future employment opportunities.
- 3). Apply for jobs 8:30 a.m. -5:00 p.m. Some employers will also interview on site.

Adults: full-time, part-time and seasonal job openings. Teenagers: part-time and seasonal job openings. College students: connect with businesses offering internships and co-op's.

**Putnam County ELEVATE
 March 19, 2019 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
 At The Leipsic Community Center**

MARCH 19, 2019
ELEVATE
 YOUR CAREER

**We're
 Looking
 For You!**

40 EMPLOYERS | 1 DAY | LEIPSIC, OHIO

Career Expo & Job Fair
 The Leipsic Community Center
 8:30 – 5:00

WWW.PUTNAMCOUNTYOHIIO.COM