

**Dr. Cosby's Wise Words:**

Mt. Healthy is a small but vibrant community, and Mt. Healthy City Schools is proud to be a vital part of this community. Just this Fall, we participated in and volunteered with Celebrate Mt. Healthy and held our annual Homecoming Parade and Game that celebrates our Owl Pride. Currently, we are in the process of raising funds for The Sharing Tree, an important organization in the community, where we provide assistance to those who need a helping hand. This year we will also be involved with Christmas in Mt. Healthy and Springfield Township's WinterFest. Recently, I was honored to have been included in the Cincinnati Table Project along with Mayor James Wolf, a Mt. Healthy High School Social Studies Teacher. This is just a small sampling of how Mt. Healthy City Schools stays connected to our community.



In addition to the everyday academic supports and learning experiences we provide for our students, we are addressing concerns raised by the State Report Card. While changes such as these don't happen quickly, we have made changes to our curriculum that will adjust to our students' needs. Our staff and administrators are diligently working to make our schools the best they can be. Administrators and education coaches complete regular classroom walk-throughs that allow them to support and encourage teachers with their instruction. We will also be doing PBIS (Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports) walk-throughs to encourage students and staff to keep our schools safe and friendly.

All stakeholders including parents and guardians play an integral part in the success of our students. For our parents we are holding a 6-week parent program focused on learning about family and school culture in addition to ways in which parents can better support their students in school. We have started our second parent workshop, and we still have space for anyone who is interested in attending. For more information contact, Dr. Andre' Roldan at aroldan@mthcs.org.

Enjoy the beautiful fall weather and have a great holiday season.

Mt. Healthy Teachers Learn through LETRS

For Ohio districts, the road to reading achievement must be a carefully orchestrated plan that reflects evidence-based practices and, more importantly, results. With Ohio's Striving Readers Grant funding, Mt. Healthy City Schools has launched LETRS, Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling. Mt. Healthy elementary teachers began training with evidence-based practices utilizing the LETRS program. These practices allow teachers to implement systematic reading instruction with any curriculum, as well as, address the components of the Simple View of Reading. The two-year program starts by building a basic understanding of the science of reading in order for students to "break the code of reading." It focuses on the five big ideas of reading: phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Teachers are reminded that reading is not the natural process that was once thought, and can be quite difficult for young children, especially if they lack adequate background knowledge or vocabulary. Through this specific type of professional development, teachers will be able to identify and target deficits in each student's reading ability and provide the interventions needed to close the gap. The LETRS program includes face-to-face training, online modules, and printed materials that offer examples and visual illustrations. In addition, during professional development days, teachers have opportunities for hands-on activities to take back into their classrooms.

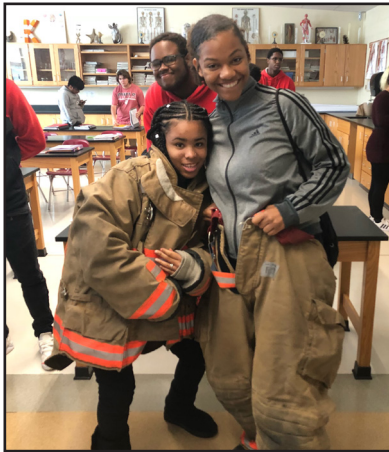
The ultimate goal of the LETRS program is to build the capacity of teachers to implement research and evidenced-based strategies within core reading programs in order to identify and then address specific gaps in students' reading skills and increase their language and literacy growth. The program is directly tied to the district's literacy goal within the strategic plan, Education Destination. Additionally, it also aligns with the Ohio Department of Education's Plan to Raise Literacy Achievement.



Jr/Sr High School



Anatomy and Physiology Class Gets Visit from Cincinnati Fire Department Members



Students in Mrs. Brown's Anatomy and Physiology class received a visit from the Cincinnati Fire Department on Wednesday September 26th. The paramedics, Mike Brown and Matt Noble, discussed the skills needed for firefighting and paramedics, how to train to become a paramedic or firefighter, and some of the emergency medical runs they have encountered during their time on the department. Students even got to try on some of the equipment! This is an incredible opportunity for hands-on learning for our students to gain experiences in these types of jobs.



Owl's Nest Awards for Jr/ Sr High School Students

Owl's Nest Award is a recognition for students who show OUTSTANDING Mt. Healthy PRIDE! The students who are nominated display excellent behavior and service to the school that stands out above the rest. There were 21 junior high students and over 50 high school students who received Owl's Nest Awards. These students attended a celebration ceremony and breakfast on Tuesday, October 30th, 2018. We are quite proud of our Owls!



Junior High and High School Students Recognized on Principal List and Honors List

Students from junior high were honored for their achievement on the Principal's List. These 18 students were treated to lunch with Mr. Morris at Chick-Fil-A. Students earned the Principal's List if they received all As on their report cards. We congratulate and express our pride in these students for their dedication and achievement! Additionally, thirty-four high school students were honored and rewarded for their all As on the Principal's List. They received a pizza reward at lunch.

Furthermore, Honor Roll included 84 junior high students and 143 high school students. These students earned certificates which were handed out during Owl Time. Honor Roll includes students who received As and Bs on their report cards for 1st Quarter. We are very proud of all the students' efforts.





North Elementary

Family Free Night



North families and staff came together for Family Free Night in early October. This event focuses on connecting school staff with families to provide food, clothing, shoes, coats, hats, gloves, laundry products, self care, and other household



items to families for free. This year, we had fresh produce from the Freestore FoodBank which included potatoes, tomatoes, cabbage, onions

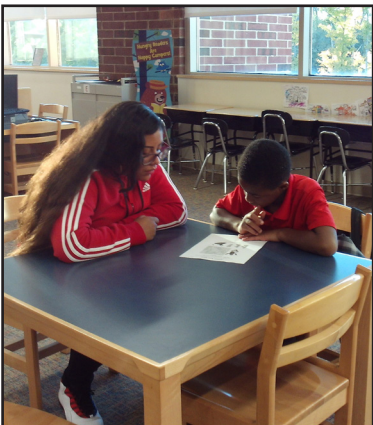
and some fruits. There was toothpaste, laundry detergent, personal care items and a bunch of dried goods and foods also from the Freestore FoodBank. We gave away hundreds of books from 1/2 Price Books and teacher donations. Also informational tables were available with resources for other food pantries and activities for Christmas and Thanksgiving, the *One Sight Eye Clinic*, Mt. Healthy Wellness Committee, and improving literacy information and resources. Through this event we are helping families to reduce barriers to students' success.

Donuts with Deans

North Dean, Mrs. House, celebrated Donuts with Deans on Wednesday, October 24 with about 48 students attend-



ing. Students were honored if they had no referrals, were absent one day or less, consistently follow the three expectations: Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Responsible and had no "F's" on the report card/final grade average.



North Arts Programs and Partnerships

North is partnering with Cincinnati Ballet to offer a small group of third graders free ballet classes during their specials. This is a fantastic opportunity for the students to work on small and large motor skills. A few weeks ago several sixth graders attended the Kamikaze Fireflies show through Arts-Connect, where they were given a chance to interact with the performers.

Additionally, a number of North students are benefiting from mentoring through the Hillman Group and tutoring from Mt. Healthy Junior High students.

South Elementary



South Elementary Celebrated National Father's Walk Your Child to School Day



Mt. Healthy South Elementary School celebrated National Fathers Walk Your Child to School Day in September. Over 150 fathers walked with their children from the board office to the school. They were escorted by Mt. Healthy High School Drumline Band and Cheerleaders as Michael and Devin Thomas led the march to school. South Elementary drummers played along the route welcoming them on campus. Communi-



ty members were also on hand to cheer on the dads and students. Many fathers and community members stayed to listen to Reverend Brice of St. Marks Church and Mr. Thomas Dillingham Jr of the Talbert House's Fatherhood Project. We celebrate this day annually to further impress the importance of having dads in their children's lives as well as the joy and success they each experience from the inclusion.

South Family Fun Night

South held their Family Fun Night in October that focuses on literacy activities with families. Students and families enjoyed the opportunity to have fun while completing reading and vocabulary activities together, as well as literacy related board games and even making s'mores together. There were seven baskets given away to families that were chock full of fun items such as books and games. It was truly a fantastic evening of learning, growing, and having fun.



South Hold Fundraiser for Breast Cancer Awareness

South Elementary went pink on Friday, October 26, to raise money for Breast Cancer research and those affected by the disease. Students and staff paid a dollar to wear a pink top with their uniform bottoms. Additionally, they held staff/student competitions such as volleyball and basket ball games and a pie-in-the-face to staff. They raised over \$300 that will be donated to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.



Trunk or Treat was held at South on Halloween for students to walk around the school for treats.



Owl Athletics and Marching Band

As Fall sports season comes to an end, we have quite a few student-athletes to highlight. There will be more as South Western Ohio Conference (SWOC) releases the data and athlete achievements.

Mt. Healthy football had good season with big wins over Northwest, Campbell County, and Ross High Schools. They held their record at 5-5 with outstanding yard totals by Ty Mincy, Jamal Kelly, and Alex Howard. An important win came for the football team on Senior Night against Northwest when they defeated the Knights 21-7. Ty Mincy had an outstanding season and proved why he won Tristate Football Player of the Week in week 7. Mt. Healthy Football team played in the first round playoff game on November 2. Unfortunately, they lost to Archbishop Alter High School, but they will regroup and come back stronger next year. Additionally, a group of MTH football players volunteered their time for Celebrate Mt. Healthy.

Justin Abrams made 1st team all conference in Cross Country

Lady Owls volleyball team defeated St. Bernard in 5 sets after being down 2 sets. The team has worked hard to improve all season.

Girls and Boys Soccer teams played hard throughout their seasons with strong showings from individual players. Unfortunately, their efforts weren't strong enough to take them into post-season games.

Graduate, H'Javier Pitts who plays running back at Thomas More University surpassed 1,000 yds for the season for the Saints.

Graduate David Montgomery helped his Iowa State Cyclones upset #6 West Virginia. He ran for 189 yards and 1 TD. A few weeks ago, he became the 15th player in ISU school history to rush for 2,000 yards in a career. Way to go David!



Marching Band had a fantastic season with traveling to couple colleges and playing during half-time performances including Ohio University and University of Cincinnati. Additionally, they performed in two band festivals where they earned some hardware, but also played with several other marching bands locally. Marching Band will hold its annual awards ceremony and concert on Tuesday, November 6 at 7 p.m.



Mt. Healthy City Schools Launches Parent Engagement Seminar

Late last school year, the district launched Woven Traditions Parent and Community Engagement Seminar. The meeting provides the opportunity for parents, community members, and schools to connect and better understand types of cultural skills necessary for academic and social success of Mt. Healthy students. If you would like to join this group, the next session is November 14 from 5 pm to 7pm at South Elementary School. For more information contact, Dr. Andre' Roldan at aroldan@mthcs.org.

Upcoming Events and Activities

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| 11/19 | Board of Education meeting 6:30 pm |
| 11/20 | Progress Reports for district students |
| 11/27 | South 3rd grade Reading Guarantee mtg 6 pm |
| 12/1 | Springfield Twp WinterFest and Parade |
| 12/3-7 | South Santa's Workshop - Library |
| 12/8 | South Breakfast with Santa/Winter Concert 9 am |
| 12/10 | Jr/Sr High School Choir Concert 7 pm |
| 12/15 | North Breakfast with Santa 9 am |
| 12/17-21 | North Santa's Workshop - Library |
| 12/17 | Board of Education mtg 6:30 pm |
| 12/18 | North Winter Music Concert 7 pm |
| 12/19-21 | Jr/Sr High Exams - see schedule on website |
| 12/21 | End of Second Quarter |
| 12/24-1/8 | Winter Break |
| 1/9 | Classes resume |
| 1/15 | Junior high 2nd Quarter awards |
| 1/15 | High School Band Solo and Ensemble recital 7 pm |
| 1/18 | South Dr. Martin L. King Jr. Program 9 am |
| 1/21 | MLK Jr. Day - NO SCHOOL |
| 1/22 | High School 2nd Quarter Honor Roll 9 am |
| 1/23 | High School Principal's List Luncheon |
| 1/25 | South Donuts with Dad 8 am |

Please visit www.mthcs.org for calendar updates

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