



# THE KAMPUS KEYHOLE

## *Old Fort Local Schools*

### NEWS FROM SUPERINTENDENT BRYANT



We are now more than halfway through the school year. Although we continue to feel the impacts of Covid, substitute teacher shortages, and calamity days, our academic work in the district remains a top priority. We are in the process of learning more about The Science of Reading and aligning our curriculum with this

research. PK-12 staff have been working on explicit vocabulary instruction this year in all subject areas, while our elementary is in the process of choosing a content-focused reading curriculum that will help students build better background knowledge and vocabulary, both necessary skills for reading comprehension. Additionally, our primary teachers maintain fidelity to explicit phonics and phonological awareness instruction daily. Our Math Department has received specialized math-focused professional development and coaching from our ESC, and we've implemented a new K-6 Math curriculum this year as well. For a full update on all of our district goals and action steps, please see the Qtr. 2 Strategic Plan District Report on our website.

One of the larger projects we will undertake in the district this summer is the refurbishment and replacement of our HVAC systems at each building. Both systems have served our buildings well over the years, but have now outlived their projected lifespans. The most immediate benefit of the renovation at the high school includes more local control over smaller spaces, rather than being able to control large zones only. At the elementary, updated software will provide better control over the temperature and comfort

level of each classroom. We've experienced difficulty this winter with temperature regulation, as our old control system is losing communication with the heating system itself. Rising material costs and recent inflation are compelling reasons to move forward with both building HVAC system projects simultaneously. Mr. Siloy and our Board of Education have been saving money for this project in our Capital Projects Fund for several years. This savings, combined with recent ESSER dollars, is allowing us to complete this 1.8 million dollar renovation without asking our taxpayers for any new money.



Lastly, we would like to recognize Board of Education President Val Steyer and newly elected Board Members, Mandy Stacy and April Hull, who were sworn in at the January Board of Education Organizational Meeting. Board membership is a service to the community, and our

district is extremely appreciative of all of our Board Members who give selflessly of their time and energy to help make OFLS the best that it can be. Welcome aboard, new members!

It continues to be a privilege to lead this great district. Thank you for your continued support of our staff and students. It's a great time to be a Stockader! Thank you!

With Children at Heart,

*Mrs. Laure J. Bryant*



# FROM THE DESK OF THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



Greetings from your Principal,

We continue to make our way through the second semester of the 2021-2022 school year with high expectations and pride at Old Fort Junior High/High School! Shout-outs and signage line the hallways,

while locker magnets show how our students are Honoring the Fort: Feel the Pride, Opt for Integrity, Relationships Matter, Together to Excellent!

Our 7th grade, 8th grade, Algebra I, and geometry students completed the Math Restart Readiness Benchmark Assessment at the beginning of the semester. This assessment will help our math teachers continue to prepare the students as student scores are reported immediately and readily available to analyze. The reporting categories of the content areas are broken down to look at individual questions and point values. The assessment mirrors the content and characteristics of the End of Course Assessment that students will be taking in April.

On November 16th, Mrs. King held an informational CCP meeting at the high school. At the meeting, requirements, program overview, rules, and eligibility were covered.

Old Fort's CCP partnering colleges introduced themselves and explained how to enroll in the CCP program. Mrs. King has created and shared a CCP Google Classroom with all 7th-11th grade students. The digital platform includes information such as the PowerPoint presentation, the 2022-2023 CCP Handbook, required

forms, and requests for transcripts. For any student interested in participating in CCP for the 2022-2023 school year, intent forms need to be completed and submitted no later than April 1st, 2022.

Congratulations to the following students for earning student of the quarter for 2nd quarter: Aiden Dick, Gabi Overmyer, Henry Beisner, Kendall Grine, Ryan Adelsperger, Cora Baker, Brayden

Frankart, Addyson Gillmor, Adam Magers, Elizabeth Straub, Casey Clouse, and Allison Fortney! These students were nominated by their teachers for exhibiting leadership, effort, model behavior, and for contributing to a positive classroom atmosphere. Way to go, Stockaders!

Our 2021-2022 Homecoming Court graced the gymnasium floor on January 14th, 2022. Congratulations to the following students on being voted to the Homecoming Court— Freshmen-Ryan Adelsperger & Addison Nutter  
Sophomores-Quinn Barr & Alex Henning  
Juniors-Clayton Sooy & Ava Wasserman  
Seniors-Andrew Combs & Jada Howard, Casey Clouse & Rachel Anstead, Parker DuBois & Jaislynn Woodall.

**Congratulations to our 2022 Homecoming King and Queen:**  
Casey Clouse & Jada Howard!



As always, thank you to our strong teachers, hardworking staff, dedicated coaches, and supportive families! Stockaders will...HOLD DOWN THE FORT!

Erica Cobb



# FROM THE DESK OF THE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL



As I write this, we are preparing for our biggest snow storm this year! Our students are enjoying outside recess, and teachers are preparing for spring conferences. Here in the office, we are working on getting ready for state testing as well as thinking about next year. There are so many things happening in the near future I have decided to list them to make it a little easier.

## Old Fort Elementary Events:

- **Preschool registration** was open Feb. 1st through the 28th. Families will be notified mid-March of placement. We look forward to meeting our new Little Stockaders.
- **Kindergarten Screening:** We opened our kindergarten registration in January and have scheduled kindergarten screening for Thursday, April 28th or Friday, April 29th. Please remember to sign up for a time on one of these two dates for your child to attend screening. Also if your kindergartener is an open enrolled student, you will need to fill out our open enrollment form.
- **Open Enrollment:** Information on open enrollment will be available March 1st. Families need to fill out the form that will be located on the Old Fort Website. Our open enrollment period will be open from March 1st until March 31st. Be on the lookout for more information to be sent out soon.

- **Spring Break:** Spring break is from April 14th until April 19th. Students will return to class on Wednesday, April 20th.
- **Ohio State Spring Tests** will be held starting March 29th and continuing until the beginning of May. Grades that are tested include 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th. A letter with exact dates and testing information will be sent home in March.
- **Spring Cleaning:** As you start to clean out your closets, please think about donating to our clothing bin, located at the end of our parking lot. The items donated help earn the Elementary money for our PBIS activities. This business follows the same profile as Goodwill or Salvation Army. Items are sorted for resale, and the rest are used in one of the following categories: repurpose, recycle, or reuse.



Other things to look for as we move forward are Facebook posts. Teachers will continue to share pictures of classroom learning, so we don't want you to miss out. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am very honored to lead Old Fort Elementary.

Your Partner in Education,  
Mrs. Kristina Smith

# REVERSE RAFFLE IS BACK

The Old Fort Reverse Raffle Committee is excited to say that this year we will be back in person and will hold our annual Reverse Raffle at Old Zim's on April 2, 2022. The Raffle will begin at 7:00 P.M and the doors will open at 6:00 P.M. If you would like to donate a door prize, please contact either Pat Biller or Pat Fry. If you are interested in purchasing a ticket or an extra ticket, please contact LaVonna Schank at 419-992-4269. Tickets are \$100 and include one meal. Also, if you have moved or changed your phone number, please let any Reverse Raffle committee member know so that we can update our records. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in person this year.





# STUDENT SERVICES: SPECIAL EDUCATION



The Old Fort Local School District serves students with special needs from age 3 to age 21, as required by federal law with a free and appropriate public education. Old Fort Schools offers specialized services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) and state laws for students with disabilities in the areas of:

- *Specific Learning Disabilities*
- *Intellectual Disabilities - Formerly known as Cognitive Disabilities*
- *Hearing Impairments*
- *Visual Impairments*
- *Speech and Language Disorders*
- *Multiple Disabilities*
- *Emotional Disturbances*
- *Other Health Impairments*
- *Orthopedic Impairments*
- *Autism*
- *Traumatic Brain Injury*
- *Physical Impairments*
- *Preschool Developmental Delays*

Students eligible for services participate in the least restrictive environment possible and are included in the regular classroom with their typical peers, as determined by their Individualized Education Program designed to meet their unique educational needs.

An Individual Educational Plan (IEP) is developed for each

student receiving special education services. Parents meet with appropriate Old Fort staff to determine annual educational goals and an educational plan, including necessary accommodations and services. Services can include speech and language services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, behavior modification, specially designed instruction through intervention specialists and other specialized services designed to insure that each child's educational needs are met.

Old Fort Local School District seeks to identify, locate and evaluate all children from birth to age 21 who may have a disability. Parents of children attending public, parochial, or private schools should contact Old Fort Local Schools Student Services Director if they suspect their child has a disability. For more information on the ETR process used to evaluate students for services, please contact our Student Services Director at 419-986-5166.

## INTERVENTION ASSISTANCE TEAMS

An Intervention Assistance Team (IAT) is a school-based team whose purpose is to assist teachers and parents with finding successful intervention strategies to help children with academic, social, or behavioral concerns. At Old Fort the team is made up of the principals, literacy coach, special education teachers, Title I teacher, teachers, OT/PT and the school psychologist. These strategies are research-based to target the skill in the area(s) of concern. Our goal as a team is to help each child grow and learn skills to be successful in and out of the classroom.

# SCHOOL NURSE UPDATES AND REMINDERS

Hello Stockader Families!

Please remember to schedule annual wellness visits if you haven't already, and get your student(s) up to date on vaccinations before the beginning of the next school year! If you are wanting to fill out an immunization exemption form for a student, these can be found in the school offices.

Preschool, Kindergarten, 7th graders and Seniors, and those behind on vaccines; vaccinations **need to be completed by the beginning of the new school year, or in process with documentation that they are in process from a provider's office or health department, otherwise these students may be kept from attending school.**

On a separate note, I want to discuss something that commonly spreads in the school setting, head louse, or lice. I know this conversation will start to have you itching away, but I find it is imperative we educate ourselves on this to help prevent the spread.

### Control of Spread:

- Exclude a suspected/confirmed case from school until treatment has begun.
- Remove all nits after the first treatment. This is a good idea even though the child is not contagious at this point.
- Carefully examine the heads of all children, yourself and family.
- Examine heads of close contacts of a case again in two weeks.
- Educate the children on head lice and why personal items



# FROM THE DESK OF JASON MILLER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



During our 2022 Winter Athletics Season, we were able to take some time and honor some students and teams from the past. On December 10, 2021, during the boys' basketball game against Fremont St. Joe, the District inducted 2021 graduate Zach Dewese into the 1,000 Point Club. Zach had his 1,000 point jersey mounted in the gym and received a smaller replica jersey courtesy of the Old Fort Athletic Boosters and Handy Grafix of Tiffin, Ohio.



Then on January 29, 2022, the Hall of Fame Committee honored the 2016-17 Old Fort Girls' Basketball Team that reached the Regional Finals. The team picture now hangs with the other Hall of Fame inductees in the high school. The Hall of Fame also inducted Jenna Clouse, 2019 Old Fort graduate. During Jenna's senior year, she qualified for the State Track and Field Meet in both the 100 meter and 300 meter hurdles. That year, Jenna placed 9th in the 100 meter hurdles and 4th in the 300 meter hurdles, qualifying her for induction into the Hall of Fame. Her individual photos now hang with the other inductees.



Also, next season we will be inducting another member into the 1,000 point club, as Colin Nutter reached that milestone on January 14, 2022, against New Riegel during the Old Fort Homecoming Game! Congratulations to Colin on this outstanding achievement.

## (School Nurse cont. from page 4)

should not be shared.

- Wash clothing and bedding in the machine using hot water and dry using the hot cycle or press with a hot iron. Non-washable items can be dry cleaned or sealed in a plastic bag for 14 days. This should be done with items both at the place of child care and at the home.
- Carpet and furniture should be vacuumed. Insecticide sprays should not be used because they are not effective and have harmful fumes.
- Combs and brushes should be soaked in a sanitizing solution (1/4 cup of bleach to a gallon of water) or lice-killing shampoo used for treatment or soap and hot water (130° F.) for one hour.

**Treatment:** Prescription medication (Kwell, NIX) and non-prescription medications (RID, A-200, R&C) are used for treatment. Follow directions on the medications. Treatments can be toxic if not

used correctly. Regardless of the product used, an effort should be made to physically remove all nits. A physician should be consulted before treating a child less than age 2. Family members may also need treatment.

It is important to remember that head lice are not associated with poverty, age, sex, personal hygiene, or cleanliness. The closeness of children in child care and in the home increases the potential for spread. Please discuss this with your children and remind them to be kind to one another, as students may be very sensitive when returning from school after dealing with the infestation.

Thank you!  
Charita Hartman, District Nurse  
chartman@oldfortschools.org



# MUSIC DEPARTMENT UPDATE

## Old Fort Band Students Selected to the OMEA District 2

### Honor Band

This year we were excited to have two high school band students be selected to the OMEA District 2 Honor Band. This ensemble is made up of students from all over Northwest Ohio who must audition in order to compete for a spot. Congratulations to Trinity Quaintance (Contra Alto Clarinet) and Nathan DeRodes (Trumpet) for being chosen!



## Aaron Wilson Plays "Linus" in Heidelberg Production

This past fall, Aaron Wilson, a member of the Old Fort Band and Choir, was cast in Heidelberg's teen theater production of *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* and played the role of Linus. He participated with teens from all over Northwest Ohio. Great job, Aaron!

## Old Fort Students Return To The Stage This March!

It's musical season again and the Old Fort Theater Department has been hard at work rehearsing for our upcoming production! *Into The Woods*, the 1988 Tony Award winner for both Score and Book of a musical, is a brilliantly conceived exploration of what happens after "happily ever after." The show, which has an enchanting, moving and profound score by Stephen Sondheim and a powerful, witty book by James Lapine, opened on Broadway on November 5, 1987, at the Martin Beck Theatre under the direction of Mr. Lapine. Based on the fairy tale stories of the Brothers Grimm, *Into the Woods* will captivate you through lessons of love, life, and the power of community. We hope that you will join us March 11-13th. Friday and Saturday shows will begin at 7 P.M., and Sunday afternoon will begin at 3P.M. Tickets are \$8 and will be available for sale that week or can be purchased at the door.

## Rose Bowl Trip: A Rewarding Experience

I wanted to share with all of you how proud I was to represent the Old Fort Band and Choir, Old Fort High School, and the Old Fort Community as a member of the "Band Director's Band" at the 2022 Rose Bowl Parade! It was a beautiful, sunny day, and I made

it the whole way....5.5 miles! It was honestly one of the greatest musical experiences of my life. There was so much to take in and so much to be grateful for in this experience. The theme for this year's parade was "DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE" and focused on the value of education.

While I was in California, I marched with music educators from all 50 states and all walks of life: some of them were composers, some were arrangers, one teaches overseas, another was on a military base, and one even teaches on a Native American reservation. I met CMA Music Teacher of the Year nominees and even Grammy Award-winning music educators. I was truly humbled to be a part of this ensemble.

As we all got to know one another, it became abundantly clear that we were all inspired by our own director...that special teacher who made all the difference in each of our lives. We all chose to become music educators because someone saw the potential in us before we saw it in ourselves. That's what the Mike Sewell Foundation is all about. My band director and clarinet teacher was Mr. Colella. I called him the day before I left to tell him how grateful I was to have him as my teacher and mentor. I heard that many times over from the other directors. We are all connected in this profession through the directors who first inspired us. It was truly a blessing to learn from them, march beside them, and make music with them. I am truly honored



to have had this opportunity, and I look forward to sharing my photos and stories at the Old Fort Lions Club meeting in March!

- Mrs. DeRodes

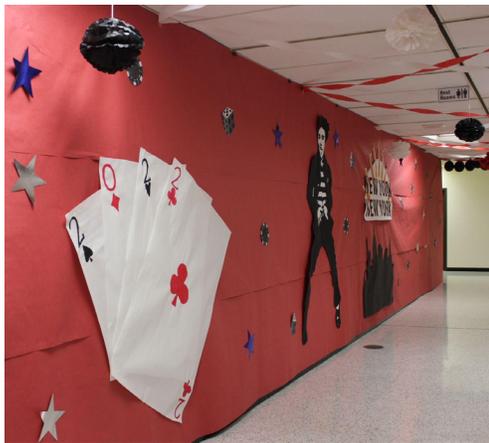




# NEWS FROM AROUND OLD FORT

## STUDENT COUNCIL

January brought the excitement of homecoming into the halls of Old Fort! With an incredible group of seniors leading the way, students in grades 7-12 decorated hallways based on our "Vegas" theme. Each class did a great job decorating with the help of some great OF teachers, which created a sense of excitement for the big dance. Homecoming week entailed daily themes to boost school spirit! On Monday, for "Dress Like a Teacher" day, many students gave a nod to Mr. A and Mr. Zender! On Tuesday, students got a little "Tacky/Wacky"! "Wax Museum Wednesday" brought some famous people into the building, and "Throwback Thursday" had some teachers reminiscing about their glory days! As always, students wore their Homecoming shirts or "Class Colors" that sent a rainbow of color throughout the halls. A huge congratulations to this year's Homecoming King and Queen, Casey Clouse and Jada Howard. A big thank you to this year's amazing senior class for their initiative and leadership organizing such a fun-filled week. Teachers and staff were awesome, helping out in any way they could, from hallway decorating to "playing" in the staff/student basketball game at the pep rally. It's okay teachers, there is always next year!! We had a very successful homecoming this year and are very glad that our student body had a great time.



## SCIENCE CLUB ENERGY

On Friday, December 10, the high school Science Club visited the fourth graders at the elementary school to teach about energy. Elementary students began by learning about the ten sources of energy. They used interactive boards to learn the basics and then tested their knowledge by participating in an energy relay.

After learning about the ten sources of energy, students visited various energy stations, where high school students presented many hands-on science activities. Students learned about thermal energy, light energy, kinetic and potential energy, and electrical energy. We ended the day by playing energy games. It was a fun day for all involved!

## SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN *BE E3* SMART ENERGY PROGRAM

Mrs. Scherger and the seventh grade students will be participating in *Be E3 Smart*, an energy efficiency education program sponsored by North Central Electric Cooperative, Inc.

This program brings math and science learning into the classroom and students' homes by teaching ways to reduce energy demand and use. The program correlates with Ohio's Learning Standards and promotes student leadership through its innovative school-to-home model.



ABOVE: Science Modeling Atoms  
RIGHT: Environmental Science proudly displaying their pollution clean-up finds





**OLD FORT LOCAL SCHOOLS**

7635 North Co. Rd. 51  
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

## THE OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD MARCH 1-31

See our website *oldfortschools.org* for the open enrollment application after March 1.



**OLD FORT  
LOCAL SCHOOLS**

## IMPORTANT COMMUNITY DATES

**March 11-13** High School Musical *Into the Woods*

**March 14** Board Meeting 6:00 P.M.

**March 14** No School- Staff Professional Development

**March 28** National Machinery Awards

Program 7:00 P.M. Seniors Only

**April 11** Board Meeting 6:00 P.M.

**April 14-19** Spring Break- Students Return April 20

**April 28-29** Kindergarten Screening

**VISIT US AT**

[www.oldfortschools.org](http://www.oldfortschools.org)

**OLD FORT LOCAL SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Val Steyer, President  
Nicholas Baker, Vice President

April Hull, Member  
Mandy Stacy, Member  
Kristin Woodall, Member