

# RIDGEDALE LOCAL SCHOOLS

## HOME OF THE ROCKETS



WINTER 2021



**ROBERT BRITTON**  
Superintendent

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**Ridgedale**

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Morral, Ohio 43337

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As we move toward the second semester of the school year, with it comes the preparations and excitement of the coming Holiday Season! Our music department is putting the final touches on the upcoming holiday programs which will be held in person this year. Please look to our website [ridgedaleschools.org](http://ridgedaleschools.org) for the most up to date holiday program information. As a reminder our district will be out of school from December 22 – December 31, 2021 with school resuming on Monday January 3, 2022.

The Board of Education recently adopted the new Covid-19 guidelines from the Ohio Department of Health, "Mask to Stay and Test to Play". With this change in quarantine guidelines we are better able to keep our children in school and in front of their teachers. Since we have been back in person this school year, we have seen an increase in academic achievement for a majority of our students. However, there are still pockets of learning loss that we will continue to address. The "Mask to Stay and Test to Play" guidelines can be found at the district website.

The Board of Education, administration, faculty, staff and students would like to THANK the entire Ridgedale Community for your support in passing the renewal of an emergency operating levy in the amount 3.72 mils, which is down from the original millage of 11.9 mils passed in 1992. As you know this Emergency Operating Levy is not an increase to your tax bill is still subjected to the rollback and homestead exemptions that were eliminated by the Ohio Legislature in 2014. This levy will collect \$575,034/year for a period of five (5) years. This levy is very important for the continued day to day operations of the district, allowing us to continue to fund programs that were started with grant money, and will soon be expiring. We are very fortunate that we are able to bring in the latest technology and educational opportunities for our students.

As we wind down 2021 I am very excited for the hustle and bustle of the Holiday Season and with it the hope that 2022 is less hectic than the previous two years. As a reminder the quarantine and masking plans in place are as of right now, and hopefully they will not change for the remainder of this school year. We will continue to follow all protocols as set by Marion Public Health and CDC guidelines for disinfecting and cleaning. For the most up to date information please log onto our website [www.ridgedaleschools.org](http://www.ridgedaleschools.org). If you should have any questions, comments or concerns please feel free to contact me at the Ridgedale Board Office, 740-382-6065 ext. 101 or by email at [rbritton@ridgedaleschools.org](mailto:rbritton@ridgedaleschools.org) and we can set up a time to meet.

Sincerely,

*Robert A. Britton*

Superintendent, Ridgedale Local Schools



## RIDGEDALE FFA



National FFA Convention was held in Indianapolis, IN with over 65,000 people in attendance. The Ridgedale FFA members traveled with members from Urbana and West Liberty Salem chapters. They toured MVP Dairy farms in Celina, Ohio, Beck Seed, the largest family-owned seed company in the USA, and Fair Oaks Farms the cattle and pig adventures, soil science displays building, and Agritourism at it's best. Students also attended the Cinch World Toughest Rodeo, and convention sessions. While at National FFA Convention Clayton Lust son of Tom and Tina Lust did receive his American FFA Degree in Lucas Oil Stadium. Grant Park son of Eric and Michelle Park, was also awarded the American degree but was unable to attend due to military obligations, and Samuel Leach son of Cherie and Randy Leach also unable to attend due to college baseball obligations. Congrats to all.



Marion County hosted the District FFA Soil Judging in September, in partnership with the Marion Co. Soil and Water BD at Case Farms. We had over 175 students in attendance.



Ridgedale FFA has a standing tradition that the 1st person to say the entire FFA Creed as greenhands will receive an FFA jacket sponsored by the chapter. Brenda Scott and Amya Clemons were the ones this year on the same day to recite the FFA Creed.



FFA Job Interview contestants, Renee Fremont, sophomore, placing 2nd at Sub District, Andrya Dunn, senior divisions, placed 2nd, and both heading to the districts on Nov 16th at Urbana high school. Noah Cook is new to this and did an outstanding job with 5th place. Congrats and thank for representing Ridgedale FFA.



Ohio FFA Legislative Leadership Conference was held in person at the Ohio Capital and meeting with Tracy Richardson, State Representative from this area. Members in attendance were Hannah Cook, Noah Cook, Renee Fremont, Rep. Tracy Richardson, Nathan Thiel, Lilly Ruth, and Mrs. Guthrie.



Marion Co Greenhand Initiation will be held in-person this year at Elgin cafeteratorium Dec.1st, 2021 at 7 pm. The members will be receiving their Greenhand Degree, reciting the FFA Creed, and competing in the Greenhand Quiz contest. We have 30 greenhands (1st-year members) that will be participating, Caitlyn Thiel will be the County President for these ceremonies and a tradition in this county since 1989.

## RIDGEDALE FFA OFFICERS 2021-2022

President - Caitlyn Thiel • Vice President - Hannah Cook  
Secretary - Renee Fremont • Treasurer - Noah Cook • Sentinel - Nathan Thiel



## FROM THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

The first quarter of the school year has flown by! Our students, and their teachers, have been incredibly busy as we continue to address the unfinished learning from the previous two school years. I always look forward to the winter months because it gives us the opportunity to slow down and reflect on the many things we have to be thankful for from the past year. We have overcome many challenges to get to the point of having all of our students in the building and without masks. Things are starting to feel almost "normal" again!

3rd grade students have completed their fall Reading AIR assessment. We are anxiously awaiting their results. Kindergarten students have completed their week at Safety City, learning important information to keep them safe at home and in the community. All of

our students have been working hard to meet the individual goals they have set for their yearly success plans.

Our Literacy Home Connections have started in each grade level. These have been designed and created by our teachers to further help families support their students' learning at home. Our goal is to help all students continue to grow and develop as readers, while helping the adults at home with students with additional ways to provide support and assistance.

In our biggest news this fall--our restrooms have been renovated and are back open for use by students and visitors! New fixtures, stalls, and pipes are features within our restrooms. After several months of using the trailer bathroom and the locker rooms, our students have a new appreciation for

these restrooms.

We would also like to welcome Mrs. Kevlynn Tilley-Bails (Title I Aide), Mrs. Cheryl Shumaker (Elementary Secretary), and Mrs. Megan Broach (Intervention Specialist) to our Ridgedale Elementary staff. They have been wonderful, positive additions to our staff.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me, or our staff, with any questions, concerns, or additional ways to support.

We look forward to continue watching our students grow!

Sincerely,

*Jessica Parthemore, E.D.S.*  
Principal  
Ridgedale Elementary School

## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The RHS Chapter of the National Honor Society has had a busy start to the year! Here's just some of the things we've been doing:

- We inducted 2 new members, Jordyn Nutter and Luke Strine in September. Congratulations!
- We provided Breast Cancer Awareness face tattoos at the Homecoming Football Game and tossed pink footballs into the crowd to help raise awareness for cancer prevention and research.
- We passed out toys at Boo-at-the-Barn.
- During Parent/Teacher Conferences, we helped with child care in the elementary.
- Andrya Dunn and Kyle Jolliff worked the polls during the recent election.
- We are currently conducting a food drive for the Christmas Clearinghouse. The winning Junior High and High School homerooms will receive donuts for breakfast.

-- We will be adopting children for Christmas to help brighten the day of those who need our support.

These young women and men are such outstanding representatives of Ridgedale! We are so proud to have the opportunity to work with them! They definitely help make Ridgedale the wonderful school that it is.

If you can help support the Food Drive or help with the Christmas Adoption Program, please feel free to drop off items at the high school office, or contact Mrs. Turner (740-383-2167 x211), or Mrs. Guthrie (x 415) for further information.

**We inducted 2 new members (Luke Strine and Jordyn Nutter in the Ridgedale NHS)**



## ARTIST CLASS ACTIVITIES

Here is what my High School classes have been up to...

Upperclassmen in Art II, III, and IV were given the task of "Inktober" during the entire month of October!

Inktober is a drawing challenge started by professional artists in 2009 where during the whole month of October a different drawing is completed each day! 31 days equals 31 drawings!

The student artists of Ridgedale took on this challenge in the same manner. During the studio time of October - each student created 19; 4x4" drawings (20 total to make the piece symmetrical) based on a random word prompt. Theme and style were their choice along with full color or black/gray shading.

**Top honors go to:**

**Seniors - Ellishia Gaffney, Erin Buckley, and Collin Lust**  
**Juniors - Nya Miller and Abby Bridges**

**Honorable Mention Artist of the Month:**

**Amirah Jones; Art II, and AJ Imbody; Art I**



## BURTONESQUE SELF PORTRAITS



8th Grade – Christian Elswick, Kaylinn Gilbert, Annison Jones, Brogan Weston, Vincent Shuster, & JJ Slaughterbeck



6th Grade – Alyvia Alspach, Mylez Crabtree, & Kaylyn Bullion



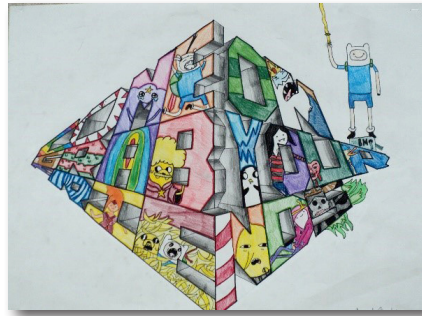
7th Grade – Dylan Conn, Malaki Owen, Callie Comer, & Abi Place



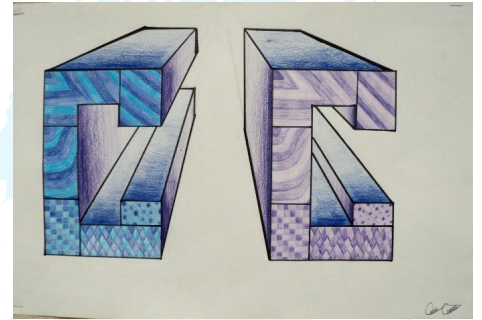
ARTISTS OF THE MONTH - OCTOBER



Torey Smith-Art I



Abby Bridges-Art III



Callie Comer-Art MS 7



Erin Buckley-Art IV



JJ Slaughterbeck-Art MS 8



Emily Lowe-Art II



Jadine Torres-Art MS 6

BURTONESQUE PORTRAITS  
BY MR. GREENWOOD



Karlie Jennings



Karmandi Huffman



Kristi Hampton



Morgan Stanforth



# PROM PARENTS MEETING . . . . .

Tuesday, November 30th at 6:30pm

High School - Cafeteria

Pizza and drinks provided.

Parents of Juniors or Seniors that would like to help with decorations for food for Prom please join us to start planning. If you are unable to attend would like to help please contact Heather Studer, [hstuder@ridgedaleschools.org](mailto:hstuder@ridgedaleschools.org) or at 419-310-8599

## TEEN INSTITUTE STUDENTS AT THE DRUG FREE RALLY IN THE PARK!



## boo at the barn



The Ridgedale Community enjoyed our Second Annual Boo at the Barn at the Fogle Sale Pavillion. A huge thank you to Rick and JoAnn Fogle for hosting this Parent-Engagement Event. All enjoyed organizations from our community and Ridgedale Elementary and High School.





# CHRISTMAS IN THE COUNTRY CRAFT SHOW

Saturday December 11, 2021  
10:00am – 3:00pm

Meeker Community Center  
6400 Harding Hwy. W.  
Marion, Ohio 43302

Any questions, please contact Kelly

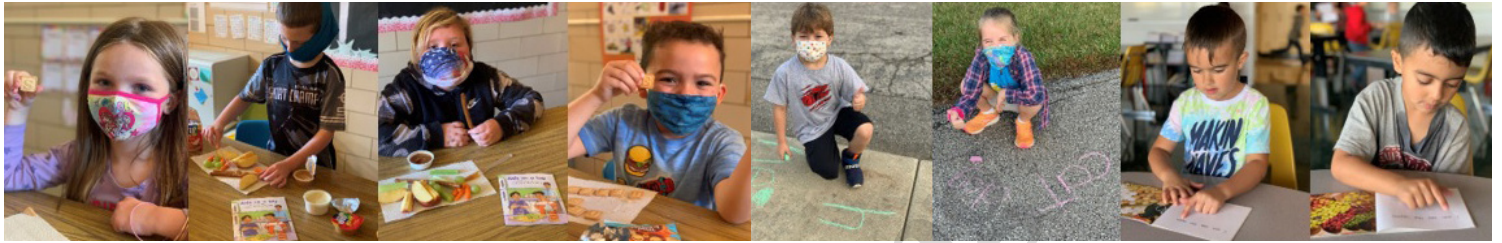
740.360.9011



## RES FALL TITLE READING NEWS

As the 2021-2022 is underway, so is our Title Reading program at RES. We are excited to have two support aides, Mrs. Bails and Miss Galloway working with our students this year along with Title Teacher, Mrs. Cook. As we work with our striving readers it is important to use as many multi-sensory strategies as possible. This means we try to engage as many of our students' senses when doing an activity. We have been outside saying our letters and writing them with chalk. Some of our kindergarteners have started reading and learning to point to each word as they say the sounds. First and second graders have been very busy working on phonics patterns, learning to read, write, and make words using those patterns. Third graders have a huge job of preparing for their 3rd Grade Reading Assessment. They have been focusing on reading passages and finding evidence for their answers. Thank you parents for supporting your striving reader with reading at home and completing Home-Connection folder activities. Your support is very much appreciated. If at any time you have questions on how to help your child in a certain way, please reach out. Our Title Team is here to assist you!

Tabitha Cook - [tcCook@ridgedaleschools.org](mailto:tcCook@ridgedaleschools.org)



## FAMILY, CAREER AND COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA

Ridgedale High School is pleased to have a chapter of FCCLA as part of the Career Based Intervention program. Officers held the first meeting on 27 October 2021. Present for the meeting were: Vice President Summer DePhillips, Secretary Kylan Austin, Treasurer Morgan Forrider, Sergeant of Arms Kampton Christner and 8 other members. President Luke Rodenberger was absent. This year's initiative is Student Mental Health. Students will be exploring ways to help students in Ohio have mental health issues excused absences and help schools connect students with the proper care. Students interested in FCCLA and/or CBI may contact Mrs. Grieshop.

## WANTED - BUS DRIVERS:

We can Train you or if you already have CDL Class B with a Passenger Endorsement.

You will have to pass a Back Ground Check and Physical.

Contact:

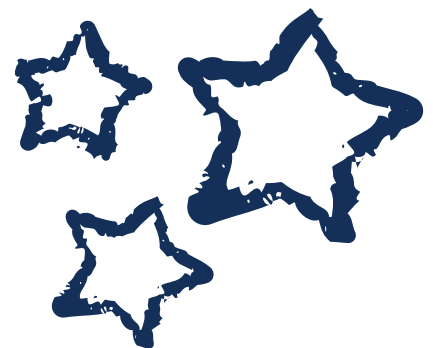
Robin Townsend 740-382-6065 ext. 420

[rtownsend@ridgedaleschools.org](mailto:rtownsend@ridgedaleschools.org)



## Morning Flag Raising

Mr. Dietsch has chosen (based on a paper kiddos had to write) 3 students per quarter to be our flag raisers in the morning and they take the flag down at the end of the day. What a beautiful backdrop.





# RIDGEDALE ROCKET REFRAIN

**NOV. 2021  
VOL. 1**

*See and hear what's happening in the music department!*

## A Note from Mrs. Pozderac



I wanted to take a moment to thank the community for their support at our recent Fall Band & Choir Concert. We had a record number of staff members in attendance as well as a hefty crowd of parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings, friends, and more!

Our students worked so hard to prepare for our first live performance in almost two years and that is DEFINITELY something to be proud of. We could not be successful without the continued support of YOU and those students who dedicate their time and energy to music.

We will see you soon at our Holiday Concert on Monday, December 13th at 7pm in the HS Gym. Students should arrive at 6:30 and the attire is Holiday/Dressy.

For the Joy of Music,  
Mrs. Pozderac



**RIDGEDALE JH/HS  
BAND & CHOIR**

**HOLIDAY  
CONCERT**

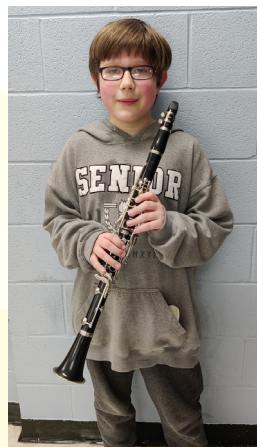
Monday, December 13  
7:00, Ridgedale HS Gym  
(Students Arrive @ 6:30)  
Attire is Holiday/Dressy

## Student Spotlight

**Scott DePhillips**  
6th Grade Clarinet

Recognized for his dedication to practicing his instrument and always wanting to go above and beyond to help and support others!

Awesome Job, Scott!



## RHS Presents

## *Beauty and the Beast*

Directed by Amanda Zucker

We are excited to announce that this year's Spring Musical is....Disney's *The Beauty and the Beast*. Auditions will be held in Mid-December for any student wanting to audition! Keep an eye out for audition information before Thanksgiving Break. Make sure to put the performance dates on your calendar. Friday, March 4th 7:30pm, Saturday March 5th 7:30pm, and Sunday March 6th 2:00pm at the Palace Theatre in Marion. See you on stage!





GREG ROSSMAN

Junior/Senior High School Principal

It has been a very busy fall at Ridgedale junior/senior high school as we have completed academic quarter one and quickly are progressing through quarter two. Our students have been back in the building learning and developing the skills and abilities that will prepare them for their next step/phase of life. We continue with the mindset and pursuit of preparing students for the future: "what's your E" Enroll/Enlist/Employ after graduation from RHS. Ridgedale students have been on several educational experiences and activities this fall, such as: career days at Tri-Rivers, visits to location companies and corporations like Morral Companies, Poet, RobotWorx and the Marion city/county building. Visiting the Marion Made Career Expo at the Marion Coliseum, "Boo at the Barn during Halloween", Teen Institute Leadership camp, Youth engaged in philanthropy events, FFA members participating in the National Convention in

Indianapolis, Indiana, also competing in soil judging, job & interview skills. Our music department's Fall performance (amazing) and looking forward to the winter show. Students leading pep rallies, NAMI assembly, our Homecoming game and dance and many more amazing experiences.

Congratulations to all students making the 1st quarter honor roll, great job and continue your efforts this quarter. Congratulations to Coach Tyler Clark and the Lady Rocket volleyball team earning an NWCC and sectional title this fall, compiling a 19-6 season, the most successful volleyball season in 20 years at Ridgedale. Great job to all fall sports teams and groups, good luck to all winter sports teams and groups as you compete. I wish everyone a safe and happy Holiday season.

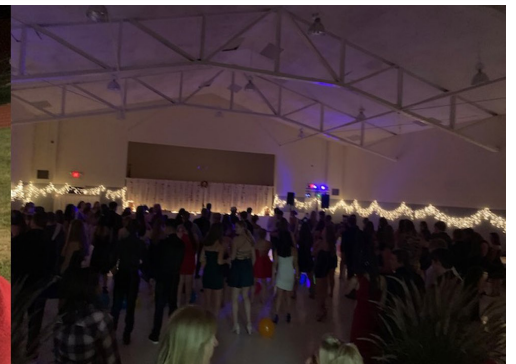
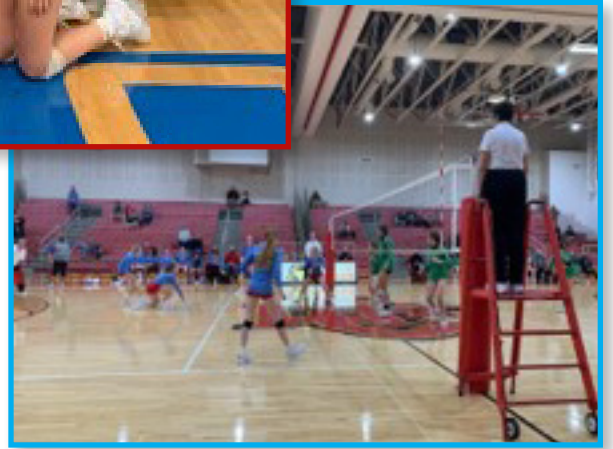
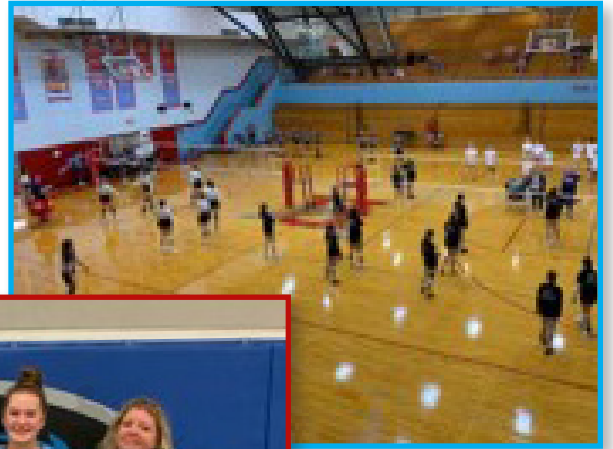
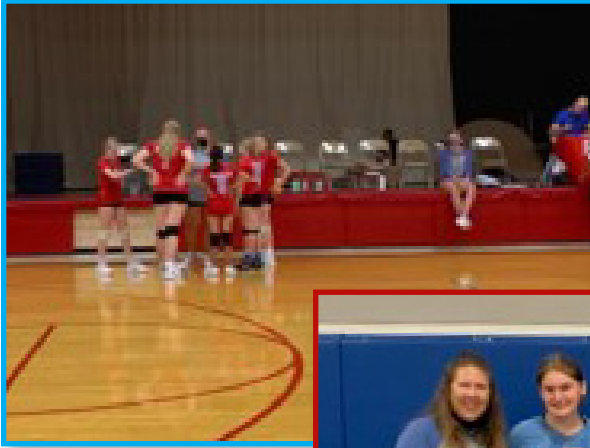
As Always, Go Rockets





WINTER 2021

# GO ROCKETS





**Ridgedale Local Schools**

3103 Hillman Ford Road  
Morral, Ohio 43337

Non-Profit  
ORGANIZATION  
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Permit No. 9

## **SEPTEMBER STUDENTS AND STAFF OF THE MONTH**

**GRADE 6:** Brayson Arnet • Logan Oliver • Elliot Weston • Tristan Callahan  
Jillian Slaughterbeck • Adie Shoemaker

**GRADE 7:** Mike Richmond • Billy Wren • Kadinn Parish • Justice Chatmen • Emma Mattix

**GRADE 8:** Brogan Weston • Brody Fultz • Hannah Murphy • Kristi Hampton

**GRADE 9:** Brayden Townsend • Torey Smith

**GRADE 10:** Gavin Parish • Andriah Kirkpatrick • Amirah Jones

**GRADE 11:** Aiden Gaffney • Grace Staton

**GRADE 12:** Collin Lust • Felicity Murrell • Elisha Gafney

**STAFF:** Mike Mathey • Teena Kasler