

The Colt Cornerstone

October 18, 2024

Butler Happenings...



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

As a Title I building, Butler Elementary receives family engagement funds to support literacy. Last spring, **Mrs. Clapp** brought a reading idea to **Mrs. Nickoli**; after sharing the **One School, One Book** concept with our building literacy team, it was decided we would try a school wide reading event for the 2024-2025 school year.

One School, One Book is a part of the Read to Them program which encourages families to read aloud to children. With **One School, One Book**, you select a book and each student in your school receives a copy to read at home as a family. At school, students celebrate and explore the novel with their classmates. This essential strategy reinforces reading instruction, increases parental involvement, bridges the home-school connection, and builds a true community of readers.

We chose the book **Charlotte's Web** and decided to tie our annual Family Literacy Night to the book. **Mr. Buck** loves to get creative with Literacy Night decorations. Mrs. Nickoli told him we needed a Charlotte's Web themed stage for the kick off event which would take place October 7th. Once again, Mr. Buck did not disappoint. His creativity and hard work brought Zuckerman's Farm to the Butler Elementary stage. **Ms. Legron** brought her creativity to the process by coordinating additional decorations. **Liberty Lawn and Garden** provided concrete animal statues and straw and **Mrs. Daniels** provided additional farm items. (see pictures) The kick off assembly featured siblings **Tori and Briner McCready** performing a skit as Fern and Avery, in addition to former student **Christian Walker** who returned to entertain our students as Templeton the Rat. **Mrs. Nickoli**, dressed as Wilbur the Pig, hyped the novel which was then sent home with each student.



...Butler continued

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

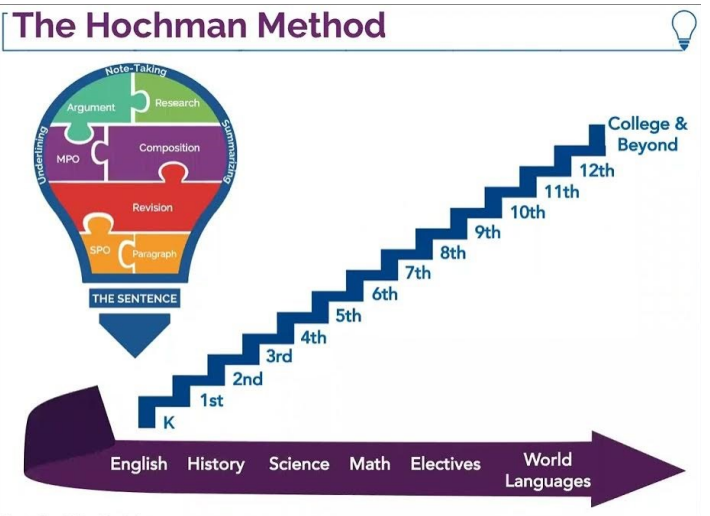


Butler Elementary is also participating in a school improvement project through OAESA titled **Ohio Instructional Leadership Academy**. OILA is a K-12 program that utilizes blended learning strategies to provide building leadership teams with skills that will impact educator growth and student achievement. OILA is built on the foundation and components for leadership as defined in the Ohio Standards for teachers, the Ohio Standards for Principals, the Teacher Leader Model Standards, and the Ohio Standards for Professional Development. This three day workshop is being attended by **Mrs. Nickoli, Ms. Walker, Mrs. Ver-**

million, and Miss Winters. The text, *The Way Forward* by Anthony Muhammad, provides the framework which focuses on Professional Learning Community work at the building and district level.

THE WRITING COLLABORATIVE

Lisa Kvochick, second grade teacher at Butler Elementary, has been embracing the **Hochman Method** of writing which is found in the book *The Writing Revolution*. Last year, SST 7 provided this book to Clear Fork and any teacher interested in a copy was sent one by Mrs. Nickoli. This year, Lisa asked if she could lead a book study. The first meeting was held on October 10th at Butler Elementary after school. Mrs. Kvochick and Mrs. Nickoli created a Google Classroom of resources for teachers to use as they continue to improve their writing instruction.



CELEBRATIONS

Mrs. Nickoli celebrated her teachers earlier this year when they learned they had achieved a **5 STAR** rating on the state report card. There are 3,259 school buildings in the state of Ohio and only 298 earned a **5 STAR** rating. That **places Butler in the top 10%**. Our **5 STAR** progress score put us in the top 11% of schools and our **5 STAR** Gap Closing placed us in the top 25%. The work in our monthly TBT meetings and our team approach to providing interventions and enrichment across all grade levels has made a significant impact on student growth.



Middle School happenings...



Our 6th graders attended Nature's Classroom from Oct. 9-11 at Ohio FFA Camp Muskingum. They had a great experience interacting with nature and their friends.



...Middle School Continued

One of **Ed Kossick's** classes built bridges with PLA plastic (with 3D pens). And tested them by stacking weight on them to determine which bridge was the strongest, based on the ratio of weight held compared to the weight of the bridge itself.

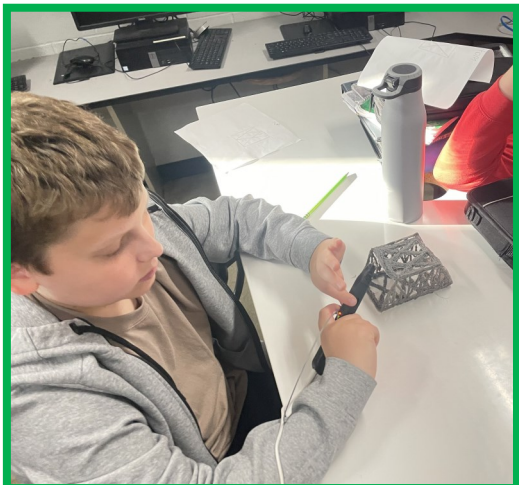
The overall strongest bridge was 4.5" long, 2" tall and 2" wide, weighed 1.72 ounces and held 330lbs. This student team was:

Lexi Ludwig, Lacey Vidonish & Olivia Heuss.

INCREDIBLE!!

The 2nd place bridge held 440lbs, but weighed a little over 3 ounces that's about 150lbs/ounce!! This student team was:

Chase Reed, Micah Bechtel, Naomi Gess and Orhea Gess.



Middle School Sports



Our 8th grade girls Cross-Country had a great MOAC meet!

Reagan Sudol finished in 4th place, and **Eliyah Molina** placed in 10th place in the MOAC Championship meet.



Congratulations!!

7th Grade Football finished the season 6-2 and came in 2nd place in the MOAC! Great Job !!

8th Grade Volleyball competed for a championship and came up just short...finishing in 2nd Place in the MOAC!! Way to go!!

Our 8th Grade Football team finished their season **UNDEFEATED!!** Which made them the **MOAC CHAMPIONS!!** Congratulations on an amazing season.

Coach **Jared Beans** was chosen "Coach of the Year" by the MOAC.



Bellville Happenings...

Mrs. Ashley Twedt spent much of the week in advocacy for military connected youth in her role as Ohio MIC3 Council Vice Chair at the national business meeting. Ashley is a fierce advocate for Purple Star, a program in all our buildings in support of our military connected youth and families. Her work is impacting how school districts can better serve students and families state and nation-wide! Thank you Ashley for your dedication to such an important cause!

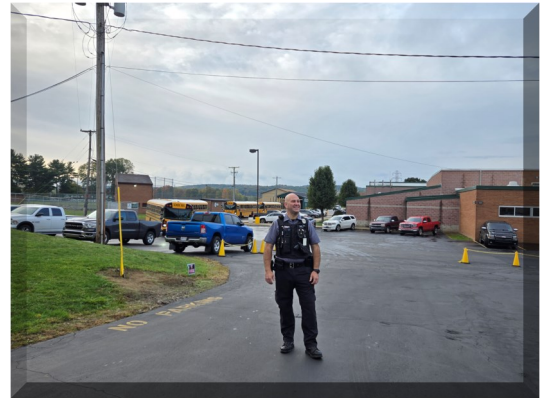


Supporting Military Families



...Bellville continued

Bellville Elementary, alongside local **police** and **fire**, conducted the 1st ever (to our knowledge) full offsite safety evacuation drill. The students evacuated to a pre-identified evacuation site. Staff then worked together to safely load all students on buses which drove to the high school where the transportation department conducted annual safety drills. **Staff** then met the following evening after school to debrief. What an invaluable experience!



Mr. Gabe Dannemiller was recently notified he is a recipient of a \$2,500 grant through Battelle and OSLN (Ohio STEM Learning Network) to expand tech programming! He earned the award by putting together a thoughtful project involving robots which will allow students to explore area and perimeter with a Johnny Appleseed theme.

High School Happenings...



Our small town homecoming football game buzzed with an infectious energy. Families and friends gathered together once again to celebrate and support our Colt band members and football team. Blankets lined the bleachers and lawn chairs were sitting on the hill. All familiar sights of Friday nights here in the Valley. The sounds of the marching band performing their traditional "Glow Show", followed by fireworks!! The smell of popcorn, green, black and white. There is so much tradition here at Clear Fork and that's what makes living in the Valley so special.

* GLOW SHOW *



...High School continued

HOMECOMING COURT

Freshmen

Kylie Ludwig
Conner Bailey

Sophomores

Hailly Thrush
Alex Schlosser

uniors

Lucy Myer
Kaiden Dettmer

Seniors

Mel Blubaugh, Vanessa Eicher,
Regan Pore, Haylee Swank

Carter King, Mason Sansom,
Jay Jackson

"Futures"

Colton Morgan
Adley Sparks



King

Carter King

Queen

Mel Blubaugh

An update from our Interim Superintendent...

Just to update each of you regarding my efforts to meet everyone and to get to know everyone as I begin my year with all of you. I have completed riding all the Clear Fork Valley school buses and have met and spoken with all the bus drivers and have met and talked with the Transportation Supervisor, the two secretaries and the bus mechanic. So I am done with my interviews in the bus garage. I have finished interviewing everyone at Butler Elementary School. I have also finished interviewing everyone in the district central office.

I have also begun interviewing at Bellville Elementary, the Clear Fork Valley Middle School and the Clear Fork Valley High School. I have completed interviews with 14 individuals at Bellville ES; 23 individuals at the middle school and 18 individuals at the high school.

I also observed the EOP Drill at Bellville Elementary school on Tuesday Oct. 15, 2024 and then met with the debriefing team to listen to the lessons learned. On Friday, October 18, 2024, I will be attending the Dedication of the Military Childrens book section at the Mifflin Elementary School and will be accompanying Ashley Twedt, who will be attending as our state's representative from the Purple Star program.

Hope you enjoy this staff newsletter and the summary of some of the things happening here in the Clear Fork Valley School District. If you have something that you or your students are doing that you would like your colleagues to know about, please share the information with your principal.

John Thomas, Interim Superintendent
Clear Fork Valley Local School District

