

(ECRWSS)
Postal Customer

INSIDE: NEW STAFF, FREE LUNCHES/BREAKFASTS, WINTER ATHLETIC SCHEDULES

Viking Restart
Reflections from a Caring Staff
page 8-10



North Canton City Schools

Viking Vision

NOVEMBER: 2020

Academic Excellence . . . Fiscal Responsibility . . . Community Collaboration

VOLUME: 8 ISSUE: 2

Message from Superintendent

Jeff Wendorf

The North Canton City School District is working diligently to protect our students, staff, and families by taking precautions with every aspect of the school day, including extracurricular activities. I am proud of the way our staff and students have stepped up to follow our guidelines to protect the well-being of all members of the Viking Family. We know that we will continue to have some cases of COVID-19, and we have contacted parents when these cases arise. Please make certain that your email accepts messages from info@northcantonschools.org so any emails from us do not end up in your spam filter. We continue to update our website, and you can locate information about COVID-19 www.northcantonschools.org.

We recognize that this is a stressful time for everyone, and we are focusing our efforts not only on academics but on mental health as well. We will get through this pandemic by working together, which is evident in the words of our staff members who shared their thoughts about the Viking Restart for 2020-2021. Thank you for your work to help us be successful.

On pages 8-10, you will find the thoughts of some of our staff members regarding the challenge of starting school during the pandemic. I believe you will appreciate the dedication shown by these extraordinary educators and staff members.



Jeff Wendorf
SUPERINTENDENT
NORTH CANTON CITY SCHOOLS
Phone: (330) 497-5600
wendorfj@northcantonschools.org
Twitter: @VikingSupt

Facilities Project Underway

Thanks to the support of the North Canton City School District residents, work has begun on the facility project that will result in two new school buildings in the district. The Mary L. Evans Early Childhood Center, Clearmount Elementary School, and Northwood Elementary will be consolidated into one building. Greentown Intermediate and Orchard Hill Intermediate will be combined into another new school.

A steering committee, which meets every two weeks, has been created to make recommendations about the construction of each school building, such as classroom components, lockers, cafeteria size, number of restrooms, and sizes of extended learning areas.

Timeline for Construction

Late summer/fall 2021	Excavation work
November/December 2021	Bidding process for plumbing and electricity
February 2022	Construction begins weather permitting
August 2023	School buildings open

Continued on page 5

National Merit Recognition

Senior **Jonas Muhlenkamp** has been named a National Merit Semifinalist. Jonas, the son of Aaron and Peggy Muhlenkamp, is one of approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 66th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Jonas plans to attend college to major in math or computer science. He is currently considering the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Carnegie Mellon, and the Ohio State University.



Over 1.5 million juniors in about 21,000 high schools entered the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2019 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state. The number of Semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

To become a Finalist, the Semifinalist and a high school official must submit a detailed scholarship application, in which they provide information about the Semifinalist's academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received. A Semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, and write an essay. From the approximately 16,000 Semifinalists, about 15,000 are expected to advance to the Finalist level, and in February they will be notified of this designation. All National Merit Scholarship winners will be selected from this group of Finalists. Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

Hoover's **Oliver Dhyanchand** has been named a National Merit Commended scholar for his performance on the PSAT/NMSQT. A Hoover senior, Oliver is the son of Charles and Karen Dhyanchand. National Merit commended scholars do not advance in the competition; however, they do become eligible for scholarships from corporate and business scholars.



NORTH CANTON CITY SCHOOLS
FOLLOW US!

 @nccsvikings

 Facebook.com/NCCSvikings

NCCS Athletic Department: HooverVikings.com



Visit us at northcantonschools.org



A Look at What's Inside

District News..... 2-10
 Building News..... 11-15
 Athletic News..... 16

The Viking Vision

The *Viking Vision* is published by the North Canton City School District and given free of charge to community residents, businesses and school district employees. Our purpose is to share information regarding the mission and activities in the North Canton City School District. The *Viking Vision* is not intended to be a public forum.

The NCCS Board of Education reserves the right to reject any press release based on its content.

The NCCS logos and design are trademarks of said school district. All advertising art and editorial content are copyright protected and cannot be used without the expressed written permission. We do not accept advertising.

The Viking Vision
 North Canton City Schools
 525 7th Street NE
 North Canton, Ohio 44720

Non-Discrimination Policy

The North Canton City School District affirms that no persons shall, on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity conducted under its auspices. This shall extend to employees therein and to admission thereto. Inquiries concerning the application of this policy may be referred to the superintendent or designated coordinator. This policy shall prevail in all board policies concerning school employees and students. Title VI complaints (sex, race, color, national origin, or disability) should be referred to David Pilati, Assistant Superintendent, at 330-497-5600 or pilatid@northcantonschools.org.

Planning for The Teaching and Learning in North Canton's New School Buildings Coming Fall 2023



Dave Pilati
 ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Throughout October and November, the architect team from Sol Harris/Day who is designing the new PreK – second grade school building and the new third – fifth grade school building is spending time meeting with all instructional staff members, administrators, and support personnel from preschool through fifth grade to talk about teaching and learning and all that presently takes place in our school buildings. The architects are also visiting the classrooms throughout our five current PreK through fifth grade buildings to see what instruction looks like now. They are also sharing design plans with staff and parents, asking for input from staff and parents, receiving feedback from staff and parents, and making changes to improve the efficiency and the function of every single square foot in the new buildings based on the input they receive. The meetings and conversations that have focused on technology, use and design of instructional spaces, playgrounds, media centers, etc. have been exciting and are constantly evolving to ensure that students who attend these new buildings beginning in the Fall of 2023 will receive the best education possible. These are exciting times, and we again thank the North Canton City Schools community for providing this great opportunity for our students.

NCCS October 9 Staff Professional Development Day

Did you know that while students did not have school on October 9, the North Canton City Schools staff members were busy learning many new skills on their professional development day? Below is just a small glimpse of the learning that took place that day for staff:

- Kindergarten through 2nd grade staff continuing their learning about the science of reading and specifically how to best teach phonics to all students
- All third grade through high school teachers who instruct students in core content areas that have annual state tests learned how to access and use online benchmark assessments developed by the Ohio Department of Education that can provide teachers with useful information on students'

areas of strength and areas that offer opportunities for improvement

- Staff members receiving training in the new state evaluation system that will be used to evaluate teachers beginning in the 2021-22 school year
- Teachers had the opportunity to collaborate with each other in grade level or course teams to continue the development of best teaching practices
- Middle school and high school math teachers received additional training pertaining to the new online textbook and online resources in 6th grade math through Algebra II that the school purchased over the summer
- Staff members had the opportunity to select one or more out of 20 different sessions that were presented by their fellow staff members or consultants from the Stark County Educational Service Center on topics pertaining to using technology in teaching and/or assessing students, accessing online curriculum for AP courses, using a YouTube Channel specifically for teaching, integrating art into core content instruction, implementing best practices when instructing students with learning disabilities and/or gifted students, and addressing students' social emotional needs in the classroom just to name a few.

Diversity Presentations from University of Mount Union Students

Twelve students from the University of Mount Union course titled Negotiating Diversity taught by Dr. Ivory Lyons will make presentations about what they have learned about diversity in their course to students and staff at North Canton City Schools during November/early December. The 12 Mount Union students are divided into four groups; the audiences for the groups include middle school teachers, high school teachers, all teachers from all buildings who are in their fourth year in the North Canton City School District, and a group of middle school students. We hope that these presentations will lead to conversation with staff and students about how to better promote diversity within our schools and community and how to better educate people on how to be more open to attempting to understand different viewpoints in a way that makes everyone feel valued and included.

North Canton City Schools Board of Education



Jordan Greenwald
 jordan.greenwald
 @northcantonschools.org
 (330) 497-5600



Bruce Hunt
 bruce.hunt
 @northcantonschools.org
 (330) 497-5600



Dr. Bob Roden, V. President
 bob.roden
 @northcantonschools.org
 (330) 497-5600



Jessica Stroia
 jessica.stroia
 @northcantonschools.org
 (330) 497-5600



Andrea Ziarko, President
 andrea.ziarko
 @northcantonschools.org
 (330) 497-5600

Board of Education meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. in the INQspot at Hoover High School.

North Canton City Schools District Central Office

Jeff Wendorf, Superintendent
 jeff.wendorf@northcantonschools.org
 Twitter: @VikingSupt

Dave Pilati, Asst. Superintendent
 dave.pilati@northcantonschools.org

Todd Tolson, Treasurer
 todd.tolson@northcantonschools.org

Todd Henne, Director of Business
 todd.henne@northcantonschools.org

John Welch, Director of Special Services
 john.welch@northcantonschools.org

Kim Nidy, Director of Technology
 kim.nidy@northcantonschools.org

Michelle Hostetler, Director of Instruction
 michelle.hostetler@northcantonschools.org

Denise Cooley, Gifted and Talented Coordinator
 denise.cooley@northcantonschools.org

Debbie Dalton, Supervisor of Transportation
 debbie.dalton@northcantonschools.org

Jill Lauter, Director of Food Services
 jill.lauter@northcantonschools.org



Summer Repairs



Todd Henne
DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS

While the stage has been dark in Hoover Hall this year due to Covid-19, that hasn't stopped the district's efforts to begin modernizing the 1976 Performance Hall. Early this summer, glass doors were added to the rear of the facility to provide further soundproofing to the hallway. With the recent North Canton Playhouse renovation, added shows and larger audiences there are likely to provide some noise issues when those shows are on intermission. The glass wall and glass doors will help keep shows in Hoover Hall running without distraction and keep our events sound from spreading to the Playhouse area, too.

Then, in August, the original orange seats from 1976 were pulled from the center section. This allowed for the removal of the center carpet and aisle way carpet as well. District custodians applied a decorative hard surface treatment for the center section. After the new chairs were installed in October, new carpet was added to the two center aisle ways and the front steps leading to the stage.



Drivers, from left to right: **Michele Engeleen, Esther Ranalli, Sandy Barr, Rose Sich, Patsy Williams, and Yvonne Klass.**

The district's plan is to finish all the lower level seats and carpeting in the next two years so that it all matches, and Hoover Hall will look as good as it did when built for our community nearly 50 years ago.

NCCS has purchased six new propane school buses this year. Purchase of these buses was made possible through a grant from the federal government which paid fifty percent of their cost. The grant was designated for purchase of propane buses because of the need to reduce diesel emissions.



Tracie Heckaman is retiring after 36 years in the district as a bus driver. Her husband **Les** retired in June after 17 years as a bus driver. We thank them for their service to North Canton Schools and we wish them all the best.



Principal Message



Josh Runner
CLEARMOUNT PRINCIPAL

Growing up in NCCS as a student, teacher, coach and now administrator, I have always thought of North Canton City Schools as a team. The district often supports each other whether it be through academics, arts, or athletics of all ages. When we knew that we could not hold an in-person Veterans Day event like we usually do, we knew that we needed to think outside of the box to recognize the special veterans in our lives. We didn't have to look any further than the Hoover High School Video Productions class led by Tom Wilson and Tim McCarty. They do amazing

work in many ways and were generous in their support and guidance of where and how to go about this video project. We've collected information on our Clearmount veterans from the families in our school, so we can honor them with a video. We included the Scouts, some second-grade individuals, and every class shared a "Thank You" in their own way. The Video Productions class came to our school to record our students' display of honor and respect for what our veterans have done for our country, while following state and local guidelines. We can't wait to share the finished product with everyone!

The week of October 26 was Red Ribbon Week with the theme 'Be a Healthy Hero - Make Healthy Choices'. Heroes respect their bodies and take responsibility for their health by eating healthy foods, getting exercise, and making safe choices. What other

ways could you be a healthy hero this week and even rest of the school year?

With all the uncertainty surrounding the students, staff, and school at the beginning of the school year, we are so thankful for the overwhelming amount of support from parents and community members in North Canton. Families and churches have donated supplies, food or safety items needed. The PTO has continually offered their support to our staff and students to feel safe and as comfortable as possible in the building. The families and community have supported our fundraisers more than ever before and all those profits directly affect our students. Thank you all for a great start to the school year and continually thinking of us. North Canton truly cares about our children and schools!



Veterans Day at Greentown

Although COVID-19 has changed many of our school programming, Greentown has continued to celebrate Veterans Day. Throughout the week of November 9, Greentown collected donations for Honor Flight, highlighted our military families, created artwork, shared videos on Facebook, and much more! Veterans Day is an important part of our school year and we wanted to make sure that we continued the celebrations. Even though we did not see you in-person this year, please know that Greentown respects all veterans for their service and sacrifice. We greatly appreciate you and your families, and we are honored to share this day with you.



New Certified Staff and Staff in New Positions



Keely Ames



Leah Bailey



Josh Chadima



Destin Heasley



Abigail Hymes



Lindsey Marucci



Amanda Medley



Katelyn Myers



Kelsey Peare



Deshia Pryor



Lindsey Rapp



Josh Runner



Missy Stertzbach



Cary Wade



Gwendolyn Wolf

Keely Ames, Hoover High School German and Social Studies. Miss Adams is a graduate of Copley High School and Muskingum University where she received her B.A. She completed her student teaching at Hoover High School under Karen Greenwood.

Leah Bailey, online second-grade teacher. Miss Bailey is a graduate of Lake High School and The University of Akron.

Josh Chadima, Orchard Hill grade four teacher. Mr. Chadima taught for seven years in Manchester Local Schools. He received his B.A. and M.A. from the University of Mount Union.

Destin Heasley, Hoover High School Science. Mr. Heasley is a graduate of Massillon Washington High School and Kent State where he received his B.S. degree. His M.A. in teaching is from Kent State. He previously worked at WIL Research Labs as a research biologist.

Abigail Hymes, Northwood kindergarten teacher. A graduate of Lake High School and the University of Mount Union, she completed her student teaching in K-3 at Marlinton Local Schools.

Lindsey Marucci, Orchard Hill fourth-grade teacher. Mrs. Marucci has taught at Fairless Elementary School for five years. She is a graduate of Perry High School and The University of Akron.

Amanda Medley, long-term substitute vocal music teacher at Hoover High School

Katelyn Myers, Clearmount Elementary school counselor. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Human Development and Family Studies from Kent State University, and a Master of Arts in Counseling and Human Development from Malone University.

Kelsey Peare, School Psychologist. Ms. Peare is a graduate of Hoover High School and Ashland University for her B.A. She received her M.A. from the University of Kentucky.

Deshia Pryor, Greentown third-grade teacher. She is a graduate of Malvern High School and Kent State University. She taught third grade last year at Wright Preparatory Academy.

Lindsey Rapp, Greentown long-term substitute third-grade teacher. She is a graduate of Louisville High School and the University of Mount Union. She has worked at NCCS the last two years as a long-term sub at Clearmount and Orchard Hill.

Josh Runner, has taught at Clearmount Elementary and has become Principal for the 2020-2021 school year. He is a graduate of Hoover High School, and he received his B.A. and M.A. from the University of Mount Union.

Missy Stertzbach, Hoover High School Online English teacher. Mrs. Stertzbach is also Hoover High School's speech and debate coach.

Cary Wade, Hoover High School intervention specialist. Mr. Wade is a graduate of Arcadia High School. He obtained his B.S. at Bowling Green and M.A. at The University of Akron. He previously served as an intervention specialist at McKinley High School for six years.

Gwendolyn Wolf, Middle School, Greentown, and Orchard Hill Orchestra. Mrs. Wolf is a graduate of Lake High School and The University of Akron for her B.A. She is working on her M.Ed. from the American College of Education. She has taught fifth through eighth-grade orchestra and band at the National Inventors Hall of Fame STEM Middle School in Akron Public Schools since January 2016.

Dear Resident of North Canton City School District


This year to keep our Hoover Band members safe, we are having a VirtualTag Day.

Normally, uniformed band members would be out soliciting the residents for the N.C.C.S.D for donations to the band/orchestra uniform replacement fund. Thanks to the generous support of our community over the years all our instrumental music groups have outstanding new uniforms. This is an on-going project. New uniforms must be added each year to accommodate the size changes and additional band members. It takes many years to save the monies necessary to purchase new uniforms. "Your donations are 100% tax deductible".

We hope you will continue to support this effort. **THANK YOU**

We now have a Paypal account to make donations at
https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=Y7cFymjHqvI&source=url

Mail Checks to P.O. Box 2517 North Canton, Ohio 44720 (checks made payable to H.L.M.A.)




Help a Family During the Holidays

Many families in our community are suffering unexpected financial struggles due to the pandemic and job loss. In addition, evictions are on the rise.

If you, your church, or organization is interested in helping families right here in our own North Canton Community during the upcoming holidays, please reach out to Sue Oryszak at The North Canton Cares Network at 234-978-2024 or email at nccnet@yahoo.com.

You may also reach out to one of our District CARE Team Family Support Specialists:

Sue Oryszak at sue.oryszak@northcantonschools.org
 Orchard Hill Intermediate, Clearmount Elem., Northwood Elem.

or
 Kristen Gaskell at kristen.gaskell@northcantonschools.org
 Greentown Intermediate, North Canton MS, Hoover HS



New Classified Staff and Staff in New Positions



Julie Carroll,
Educational Asst.
at Hoover High
School



Matt Case,
Monitor at
Clearmount
Elementary and
Trans. Dept.
Custodian



Mike Case,
Monitor at
Northwood
Elementary



Kelly Clay,
Bus Monitor



Theresa Cutler,
Monitor at
Hoover High
School



**Rebecca
Dickson,**
Education Asst.
at North Canton
Middle School



Kristen Gaskell,
Family Support
Specialist at
Greentown Inter.,
NCMS, HHS



Brian Gorman,
Bus Driver



Michelle Higgins,
Monitor at
Hoover High
School



Mary Humbert,
Bus Driver



Larry Kinnard,
High School
Security



Jill Kovalchik,
Educational Asst.
at Hoover High
School



**Jennifer
Maierhofer,**
Asst. Cook
at Hoover High
School



Lisa Maxwell,
Custodian at
Clearmount
Elementary



Steve Mooney,
Bus Driver



Marilyn Parker,
Bus Driver



Amy Porter,
Educational Asst.
at Greentown
Elementary



Greg Seemann,
Playground
Monitor at
Orchard Hill
Elementary



**Jacqueline
Snyder,**
Monitor at
Hoover High
School for
Online Students



Steve Valentine,
Bus Driver



Bethany Vallos,
Educational Asst.
at Orchard Hill
Intermediate



Peggy Wrigley,
Educational Asst.
at Greentown
Elementary

Photos not available for
Collin Carter, Assistant Mechanic
and **Michele Engelsen,** Bus Monitor.

Facilities Project Underway Continued from page 1

Steering Committee

NCCS District Personnel

Superintendent Jeff Wendorf
Asst. Superintendent Dave Pilati
Treasurer Todd Tolson
Business Manager Todd Henne
Technology Director Kim Nidy

Board of Education

Jessica Stroia
Robert Roden
City Administrator for

City of North Canton

Pat DeOrio
Hammond Construction
John Kirkpatrick, Jeff Adams, and
Frank Mongiardo

Sol Harris Day

Domenic Ferrante, Burt Marzley,
Jordan Lewis Regina Erdman, and
Carolina Silva

Parents

Holly Pierpont, Larry Kinard, and
Andy Schiltz

NCCS Staff

Alyssa Wise, Amanda Chaney,
Candice Robinson, Darlene Howald,
David Russ, Denise Cooley, Janet
Peare, Jarrod Thomas, Jennelle Ellis,
John Welch, Josh Runner, Kerrie
Steepleton, Kristi Cropper, Matthew
Donaldson, Melissa Wolf, Ryan
Kumpf, Terri Simmons, and Tiffany
Humphrey

Due Diligence on the Charlotte Site

Questions have been asked about the choice of the Charlotte site for a new school building.

In August 2020 the North Canton City School District hired Intertek PSI to perform a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment on the property. This assessment consisted of sampling of the soil, shallow groundwater, and soil gas along the eastern side of the property. Results of the assessment revealed some volatile compounds in the soil gas, above the screening level but below actionable requirements for a residential (or school) building. As such, these screening levels are generally considered conservative. It is not uncommon to remediate a site with these conditions and build on it. Although the testing has shown the site to be safe, NCCS will, out of an abundance of caution, implement two strategies to maintain optimum air quality. First, an enhanced vapor barrier will be placed below the building to create a natural barrier between the ground and the concrete foundation. Second, horizontal piping will be laid below the foundation with a venting system to extract any vapors safely away from the building. We will be implementing both systems into the building design. Once the building is constructed, routine air quality checks will be implemented to ensure the systems are functioning as designed.

The Charlotte Street site is absolutely adequate for a school building this size, as history has shown. This site has successfully housed school buildings/students for many decades. For at least 10 years

prior to 1995, the NC Middle School was located at Charlotte St. and housed approximately 650 students. During that time, the Mary L. Evans building housed the kindergarten center consisting of approximately 285 students. For many years prior to that configuration, students in grades 1-6 from the neighborhood were located in the Portage building. In addition, all seventh-grade students from across the district were in the Mary Evans building, and all eighth and ninth-grade students were in the Charlotte building. The total enrollment at that time on the site was 900+ students.

In addition, Bill Prenosil, a Senior Planning Manager for the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC), said the Ohio School Design Manual's requirements for acreage have evolved into "guidelines" because of the different types of districts (rural, suburban, urban) across the state. He explained, "We knew we had to be lenient with urban/suburban areas. We want to see enough acreage for parking lots, student drop-off and pick-up, and playgrounds. We have viewed the plan (for North Canton City Schools) and did not see any red flags about the acreage. We have seen urban/suburban areas successfully build on three acres of land because very few have 20 acres available. We work with the best site that is available when a district is building on the site of an existing school."



Food Services



Jill Lauter
Food Service Director

Our new head cook at Orchard Hill is **Julie Miller**. She has been an NCCS Food Service employee for 21 years. She began as a substitute, then a dishwasher and has worked her way to becoming a kitchen manager. Julie has a fantastic smile for everyone that walks into “her” kitchen, and even during this year of unpredictability, she has stepped into her new position seamlessly, having demonstrated great leadership for her new team. Julie has learned from the best, following in the footsteps of her mother, Ann Manse. Ann worked for North Canton food service from 1982 through 2007,



when she retired as head cook at the North Canton Middle School.

On another note, we are supplying hot delicious meals to the junior and seniors that have opted to leave the high school for “open campus” lunch periods. Since they leave every day for their lunch periods, our fabulous food service staff has started providing nice meals for those students to take with them as they walk out the door.

The meals are available daily with a variety of the daily menu features. Due to staffing and timing, we can only provide these meals for the first six minutes of 5th, 6th and 7th period and only at door #22 (under the bus port). If a student doesn't typically exit at door #22, the student can swing by and grab a meal to go! We are providing a nice complete meal including milk, utensil(s) and a napkin.

All meals are provided for FREE.

Finally, did someone say, “Turkey Gravy”? Turkey Gravy Day at Hoover High School will be on November 18.



Red Ribbon Week

During the week of October 26-30, each school in our district celebrated Red Ribbon Week, which was an opportunity to teach students about the importance of living without drugs. This year's theme was “Be Happy, Be Brave, Be Drug-free.” Greentown Intermediate and students and staff had fun activities that taught this important lesson.

All STUDENTS Eligible for FREE Lunches and FREE Breakfasts through the End of the 2020-2021 School Year

Through a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) program, **ALL North Canton City School students** can receive **FREE** meals, regardless of household income. Students who are attending school in person or Viking Online can be eligible for one free breakfast and one free lunch each school day.

Students in all buildings have been offered school breakfast and school lunch at no charge since the program became effective on September 8. In addition, we were able to refund any meal charges back to August 24, 2020, the first day of school. On October 9, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced the extension of all Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) waivers, allowing schools to offer meals to all children at no charge through the end of the 2020-2021 school year. North Canton City Schools Food Service Department will be reimbursed for the meals by the USDA with funds appropriated.

- Menus for our in-person students can be found on the school district website (www.northcantonschools.org) under Departments, Food Services, then click on the menus. Second entrees, extra milk and additional ala carte items are not free under this program.
- For Viking Online learners, free meal packages are available each Tuesday which includes breakfasts and lunches for the school week. Meals are available for pick up at Hoover High School between 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday. To sign up for the Tuesday meals, please contact Jill Lauter at jill.lauter@northcantonschools.org

We are grateful for this opportunity to continue to feed our students these nutritious meals at no charge until the end of the school year.

If your family is eligible for free or reduced-price meals and you have not filled out a free and reduced meal application for this school year we encourage you to still do so because even though your children will continue to receive free meals the state and federal governments use our percentage information to provide additional funds to schools for all students. These benefits may include Title I funds for reading programs for K-8th students, advanced placement testing, and other student programs.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Jill Lauter, NCCS Food Service Director, at jill.lauter@northcantonschools.org

ORDER YOUR '21 YEARBOOK

We are now accepting pre-orders on the 20/21 HHS Yearbook!

Save \$15 if you order by 11/30/2020. Snag yours today.

Limited number of copies available.

WWW.YEARBOOKFOREVER.COM

Pre-Order Deadline 5/28/21.
Books will be distributed Fall 2021.

NEW...
request your items online,
pick them up curbside.

Library to go
CURBSIDE



north canton public library



Visit us at northcantonschools.org



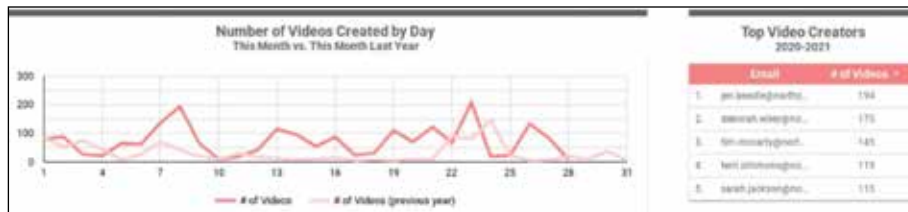
Technology Department



Kim Nidy
Tech Director

We have learned many lessons since life changed so drastically in March. With teachers and students facing learning from home, there was an initial sense of fear of the unknown and a rush to find tools that would make life easier for teachers, students, and parents.

Thankfully, we had already gotten a district enterprise version of Screencastify, which gives unlimited access to record, edit and share videos for teachers and students. Although this application was already being used by some of our staff, remote learning caused explosive growth in usage rates from 4,850 videos created in 2019 to 18,032 created through September of 2020.



Rank	Username	# of Videos
1	gen.kendall@ncs	194
2	stacey.wright@ncs	175
3	jen.mccarty@ncs	145
4	hollie.kirchgasler@ncs	119
5	stacy.johnson@ncs	115

The creation and consumption of video by both teachers and students have several benefits. Teacher created videos increase student engagement, provide opportunities for reteaching and reinforcing concepts, and motivate students with authentic content. Student created videos encourage creativity, taking a deeper dive into content, and problem-solving demonstrations that walk through their learning.

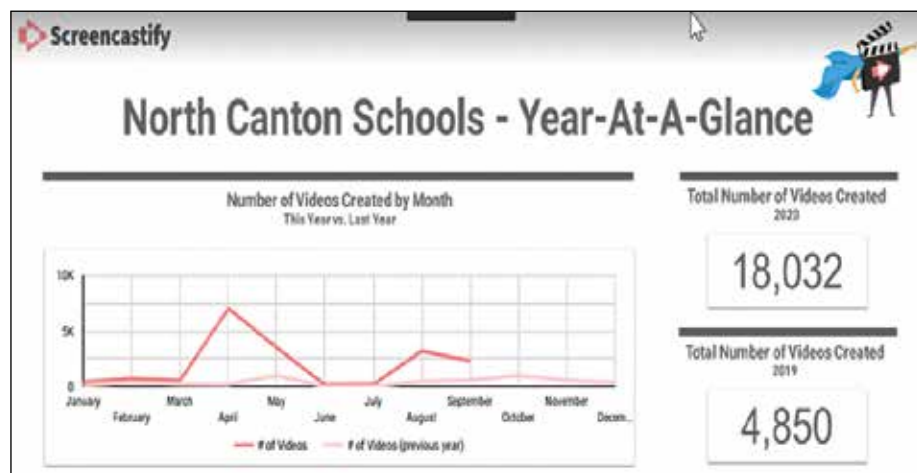
Another product that we identified and adopted is called Kami. This app integrates with our learning management system, Schoology, and allows a teacher to attach a .pdf that students can access and annotate

on. Teachers can see their work and provide feedback in a very collaborative way and we are seeing use from across all subjects and grade bands.

A lesson learned in remote learning in the spring is that there needs to be some sort of landing page where students and parents can access information without having to jump around to different locations. Our teachers, both Viking Online and in-

person, have worked hard to create these areas with organized folders and clear pathways to resources and information. Some teachers spent time creating Bitmoji classrooms in Schoology as a fun way to organize with visual appeal and ease of use.

Perhaps the biggest takeaway from the last several months is that these tools and methods are great ways to integrate technology and enhance learning, whether students are remote or in-person. We are proud of our teachers for their professionalism and continued interest in new learning to benefit their students.



Northwood Elementary's Annual Staff Halloween Event

The Northwood Elementary School staff has a tradition of dressing up the Friday before Halloween every year. Needless to say, staff and students enjoy the annual event!

Viking Restart

Reflections from a Caring Staff



Although the hunt for a mask I could tolerate wearing all day and my students could hear me through was a genuine struggle, teaching my students despite a pandemic wasn't. I couldn't wait to return to the classroom, and my students did not disappoint. They rose to the additional challenges of one-way hallways, closed drinking fountains, off-limits lockers, anxiety-inducing COVID statistics, and mask-wearing with an eagerness that confirmed and reinforced my love of this profession. Our students and staff members are amazing, and no pandemic could stop us from learning together. If anything, we've learned to appreciate the school environment even more and see it as a blessing.

LINDSAY MCCANN
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS &
READING
HHS



In teaching, I have always been advised to have a plan in place, but be flexible because those plans change frequently. During this pandemic, our county and school district have had a plan in place to keep all of our students and staff safe. We have done that successfully, but have had to learn to be even more flexible in the process. We have a great group of students whom I enjoy teaching and communicating with. This group of students' conversations, thoughts, and inquisitiveness will carry forward as my memorable moment.

TAYLOR SOWERS
NCMS



As a first-grade teacher, my philosophy is to always teach students to become the best that they can be and to keep each student safe in school. Since Covid-19 became a daily part of our lives, I realized my second statement became a more important priority to focus on during the school day. A former parent reached out to me before school began this year and said "Do what you can. These kids need you all! I have kept that statement close to my heart since all students not only need the best education that they can get in today's

world, but they need teachers who will be even more compassionate, understanding, loving, respectful, and kind through these uncertain times. Although each day my students and I work extremely hard on our first-grade curriculum, there are more classroom team discussion times as well as one on one conversations. This time allows my students to express their feelings as their little lives have significantly changed from wearing masks to not being able to participate in their normal daily activities as they once did. We, as teachers, truly need to keep a close eye on all of our students' emotional and physical needs in addition to teaching the curriculum each day and allowing time for students to express their own feelings.

NANETTE MELERT
NORTHWOOD ELEMENTARY



Northwood cafeteria X's illustrate the distancing at the cafeteria tables and also the spacing required as students wait in line.

I have truly felt the trust and support that the parents and community have in Northwood. With every communication, every challenge and every change of practice, the parents have been so incredibly understanding and have voiced their appreciation for our efforts during this challenge. I feel blessed to be part of such a caring and supportive community.

I personally have a great appreciation and admiration for the teachers at Northwood. Their flexibility, dedication, professionalism, and passion has shown through in our experience this year. They have adapted to new policies and procedures and in fact, helped to create the new safety policies in place. We are 'better together' and never has that been more

true. They truly are willing to do whatever is necessary for the betterment of our program and ultimately, our children. I am awed by their dedication, commitment and work every day! I'll never forget how blessed I am to be part of the Northwood team.

MATT DONALDSON
PRINCIPAL
NORTHWOOD ELEMENTARY



Leading up to the first day of school, I felt very anxious. I wasn't sure what to expect with how the students would react to the restrictions being placed on them. When they arrived, I found they were so excited to be back and school and they were very eager to learn. The students adjusted very quickly to wearing a mask and with the help of my microphone, they are able to hear me clearly (although I miss seeing their sweet smiles;). Our second-grade team used the remote learning opportunity in the spring to prepare for a possible return to remote status for the current school year. We also made sure to teach our students the tech skills needed within the first two weeks of school so they would be all set in the event we would return home. I am profoundly grateful for the opportunity to be in the classroom. I love teaching and being with my students /coworkers each day!

TIFFANY HUMPHREY
CLEARMOUNT ELEMENTARY



Amidst the unknown of this pandemic, I have come to appreciate the importance of a few things. The staff and students at the ECC have shown me that;

- Together we can accomplish anything! It is even more true now than ever that working together and helping one another out is truly the key to success. The pandemic has reminded me that keeping others safety, thoughts, and feelings in mind is so important.
- The pandemic has also shown me a new-found appreciation for seeing my students' smiling faces in our classroom, everyday! Being able to enjoy the company and interaction of our preschool peers is what learning is all about!

LYNSEE HOISINGTON
EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER



2020 has been filled with ups and downs, positives and negatives! There have definitely been some COVID wins, though. Here are a just a few:

1. We take a 10-minute outdoor mask



Dots to line up and maintain distancing.



Individual math toolkits-building numbers with our own base-10 blocks.



Hallway triangles to help us maintain distancing.



Using a Chromebook with Google Earth to study landforms in science class (virtual field trip). Photos above taken in Mrs. Brenda Triner's class at Orchard Hill.

break each afternoon. This has been such a great way for the kids to incorporate more movement, get more air, and work off some of the energy and wiggles they have by the afternoon. It has provided me with the daily opportunity to see my students in an unstructured environment. I originally thought this would result in a loss of instructional time, but it has actually had the opposite result.

2. Several of my colleagues joined together to eat lunch outside any days that it was possible. This socially-distanced time together provided us with some much-needed Vitamin-D and allowed us to meet together in a new way.



District News

3. Orchard Hill has placed dots on the floors of classrooms and triangles on the hallway floors to help students understand social distancing. The kids have really responded well. They are ready to transition to different classes so much faster, as they know exactly where to stand.

4. I dreaded the idea of enforcing masks all day, but my students have shown me that it is possible. They have truly risen to the occasion! They have worked very hard and have reminded each other in kind, caring ways.

5. I created individual math toolkits for each of my students so that we would not need to share materials. It is unbelievable how much time this has saved us! The students are excited to have their own sets and have taken pride in caring for them.

6. We have made incredible strides in our use of technology! The kids have done such a wonderful job with this!

BRENDA TRINER
ORCHARD HILL



For any educator or parent, the start of the school year brings excitement and anticipation. This year has been unlike any other in terms of the preparation of the building to provide a sense of normalcy for our students. What I will always remember and take away from this experience are the countless efforts by our staff to provide not only the first-class academic support that we consistently provide but also their dedication to the mental health of our students. This experience has been traumatic for many of our students and our staff truly want to support their emotional health.

DAVID EBY
PRINCIPAL
NCMS



Helping students and their families during this pandemic has made me even more aware of how different home situations and family dynamics affect students' learning. During remote learning, I was able to closely relate to families who were home, working and also acting as "teachers" for their own children, as I often had to manage phone calls, Google meets, and other work while attempting to keep my own young children occupied and quiet! It was a challenge, but a great learning experience in multi-tasking and managing multiple roles.

MEGAN ZAHOREC-DEIERLING
SCHOOL COUNSELOR
GREENTOWN INTERMEDIATE



Starting a child's kindergarten school year online is not ideal, so I was determined to make the best out of this difficult situation. The students are the only motivation I need when it comes to planning fun activities and lessons to help my students be successful.

I have always said, it's best to set high expectations for students because they always surprise us and rise to the challenge. My virtual learners have proved that to be true once again because they are becoming successful in their independent learning.

Getting to see the kids smiling faces and listen to them share during group chats is the best thing. They have continued to make friends and enjoy their time together each week. The group chats are the highlights of my days!

JENNIFER BEADLE
VIKING ONLINE TEACHER -
KINDERGARTEN



We are so appreciative of our administration's support and willingness to work with us in order keep the North Canton Band Program up and running during this pandemic!

The NCMS band members have been awesome! Even with the uncertainty of future performances and the challenge of using woodwind bags and brass covers, they still work hard each and every day! The band students are happy to be together again, playing music and spending time with each other. Seeing the band students in class every day, working and laughing together, is priceless! I'm so proud of the North Canton Band Program's students and what they are accomplishing during this time!

ELLEN VARN
NCMS



COVID-19 has changed the world around us. That change was evident in the weeks leading up to the start of the 2020-2021 school year. To be honest, I was energized by the thought of having staff and students in the building again. This pandemic has created a lot of unknowns and has taken all of us out of our comfort zones. We have had to learn how to adapt to changes, become flexible with our expectations, and rally together for the good of us all. Being an elementary principal can sometimes make you feel like you're on an island. Although we have administrative colleagues within the district for collaboration purposes, nothing compares to knowing the specific details of your own building, students, staff, and

school community. Normally, the first few weeks before school are spent making sure the machine is well oiled. This year, however, the first few weeks were spent building a machine from scratch. In my estimation, I spent over 110 hours examining our current practices, creating new practices, and adjusting our old practices. Although it took away from my normal routine, it created a natural sense of excitement, adrenaline, and anxiety. Would the plan work? Could we keep students and staff healthy? What needed attention and what could take a backseat? How will the online learners do? How can we keep them connected? A plan was assembled, but it wasn't tested until those first students literally walked into the building on August 24th and the school year officially started for both in-person and online learners. All of the planning and anticipation was met with a sense of normalcy. Besides the changes in protocols, the masks, the extra cleaning, the mindfulness of social distancing, students were back. The halls were filled. The lunchroom was noisy. The playground was filled with laughs and silliness. School was back in session. Our students and staff have been nothing short of amazing. They adapted to remote learning without any training. They adapted to the changes in our building without hesitation and their feedback throughout the planning process was paramount to our success. Our students and staff have shown resilience and perseverance and I couldn't be more proud to be a part of the Greentown and North Canton City Schools communities. As we head into the second quarter, with many things still unknown, I know that Greentown can tackle any challenge that lies ahead. Not because of the planning, but because of the people. Education is a people business. We're happy to be doing business with you.

RYAN KUMPF
PRINCIPAL
GREENTOWN INTERMEDIATE



I think as the year began, I was filled with many doubts as to how the students and I could manage all these new normals. Amazingly the students have been better stewards of the rules than I am sometimes. Responsible in wearing their



masks, following-up with emails if they are absent, digitally uploading work instead of physically turning in artwork, and taking extra care with supplies to make sure they are placed in our "yuck buckets" for sterilization, has been a very easy change in our routines.

I was pleasantly surprised how many times within the first few days of school, students would tell me they were so glad to be back to in-person learning. While I assumed they would say that missing friendships was the greatest loss in the spring of 2020, more often than not, they would mention how much they wanted to learn and develop personal relationships with teachers again. They missed the lunch ladies, the video announcements, and they wanted to be "makers" of things again. Even today, about once a week, I find myself just standing in the middle of the art room full of students, and I am so thankful that we are all able to be here for each other. There's no doubt in my mind, I need them, as much as they need me.

CHRIS TRINER
HHS



I am extremely thankful to be here working at the middle school. The students have been amazing in following the safety policies that have been put in place. They are genuinely happy to be here and want to make sure they stay. It's not easy to have to wear a mask all day and carry around those heavy backpacks with everything in them they need for the day, but they do it! And for the most part, they seem pretty cheerful during the day. And the staff...well, THEY ARE THE BEST! The teamwork and efforts to make everyone safe and secure in our building is like no other. The teachers bring smiles and have found new creative ways to keep the kiddos involved with their

Continued on page 10

District News

Viking Restart, Reflections from a Caring Staff Continued from page 9



school work. I am amazed at all the new techniques and ideas they have come up with this year, and all these new ideas have worked for the good of the education of our students and their well-being. Last Friday, we had a movie that showed in the classrooms for each grade level, raffles throughout the day, and we actually heard a student say, "this has been the best day ever, I'm so glad I came to school." How refreshing is that?! Makes my heart smile! Our administrators have been wonderful in keeping us informed of the latest news we need to know in order to stay on top of keeping everyone safe. They have made sure to check in with staff members to see that they have what they need to make each day successful. The district has been very attentive in checking in with each building and making sure that all is well. They have also been keeping everyone up-to-date, which is so important at this time. I think the fact that we are still in school full force shows that we are determined to follow the important guidelines for this pandemic and still have a happy, healthy and successful school year. I love coming in to work every day and look forward to seeing the kiddos and the staff members. I think this year has brought us all closer as "family" and friends, and I think it's a beautiful blessing to be a part of this team!

MICHELE MCALLISTER
NCMS MAIN OFFICE
SECRETARY



The history of the extraordinary measures taken to facilitate a "near normal" marching season for the Hoover Marching Band. On March 16, the COVID-19 pandemic began and the nation was sent to their homes to try to survive this pandemic. The schools were closed, instruments were silenced, and live performances were put on hold. I, along with three other band directors in Stark

County were approached by Roger Hall, a legendary retired band director, and current Ohio Music Education Association Executive Director, to begin work to come up with approved best practices to allow bands to move forward. Beginning in April, we met remotely weekly, sometimes bi-weekly to discuss approaches that will fall within CDC, Stark County Health, and National Health Guidelines. We researched current studies concerning aerosol spread when instruments are being played. All the while, I met remotely with all of the bands on Fridays to remain connected with the students. I made sure to include students from the eighth-grade band so that we would be able to share thoughts, and apprehensions moving forward. In June 2020, all of the directors working on this task presented our guidelines to our individual superintendents for support as we move forward to meet with the Stark County Superintendent of Schools to present our research, as well as our best practices in moving forward. The Stark County Superintendent took the best practices to the Stark County Health Department for approval. Finally, with approval granted, the task force presented their research and guidelines to the directors of Stark County for adjustment to their individual schools and implementation if they wanted to. I presented these best practices to our students in late June with plans to begin rehearsals in July as normally as possible. We made "bags" for our woodwind instruments until purchased bags came. All instruments had bell covers and we all sanitized often. The groups of instruments were separated and limited in time spent together. I rewrote the pregame for Hoover so that the students are at least six feet apart. Our "competition show" was written to be at least six feet apart. Since we could not go to our usual Edinboro University for band camp, we set it up to do it at Hoover High School. While this is not what we wanted, it was the only way we could have band camp. Rehearsals continued at our normal time throughout the rest of the summer in preparation for the 2020 Hoover football season.

RON VARN
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC



The Digital Academy is using Acellus this year as the "core" curriculum, but each of our teachers is supplementing just like we would face to face. I personally have a "virtual classroom" where there

are a variety of resources that students have access to meet them where they are academically. In my third-grade class, I really want to create an environment where we feel connected! Even if we are not face to face we feel like we are a class. We meet twice a week with our class google meets. I divided the class into smaller groups (12-15 kids) and our focus is the social part of school. We share about our weekends, we have show and tell, and we play games virtually. Those Google meets are my favorite part of the week. I want the students to know we care about them!!! I don't want anyone to feel isolated and not a part of our room.

KRISTI CROPPER
THIRD GRADE VIKING
ONLINE TEACHER
GREENTOWN ELEMENTARY/
ORCHARD HILL INTERMEDIATE



They say you'll always remember where you were and what you were doing when tragedy occurs, which explains why I can recall, almost two decades later, the weather on 9/11. It was sunny.

What about pandemics, though? When it's not one specific day or moment, but several months? What memories stay with you?

When I said goodbye to my fifth-graders in March, I didn't know we wouldn't be returning to the classroom in a few weeks, or what would end up being the rest of the school year. Yes, we met in Google Meets, which became the highlight of my remote-learning days, but when school began in August, something didn't feel quite right. My brain knew my fifth-graders had moved on to the middle school, but my heart kept expecting those faces, the faces of students I'd taught three years in a row, to still be sitting where they were when we left in March. The lack of "normal" end-of-year goodbyes hadn't given me the closure I wanted and I missed those students.

On my recent birthday a few weeks ago, I opened my email to find surprise birthday wishes from many of those former students. It was so unexpected and sweet that I was overwhelmed by the reminder of what a simple gesture can do for someone else, even if it's just a few kind words. I will carry forward the memory of those emails from my students because not only will it challenge me to reach out to do the same for others, but it's also a good reminder that we're all more connected than we realize, even when far apart.

SHANNON MCPHERSON
ORCHARD HILL INTERMEDIATE



Child Find

Each year school districts throughout Ohio participate in an effort to identify, locate and evaluate all children with disabilities, birth through 21; for age birth to 3, an established condition known to result in delay or documented developmental delay; for ages 3 through 21, identification of one or more of the following conditions: Autism Spectrum Disorder, developmental disability, deaf-blindness, hearing impairment-including deafness, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, emotional disturbance, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury and/or visual impairment-including blindness. Parents are not always aware that there are programs and services available for children identified with a disability.

If you know of a child who may have one or more of the above suspected disabilities, including preschool age children, please contact the Special Services Office at (330) 497-5665.



NORTH CANTON CITY SCHOOLS
FOLLOW US!

@nccsvikings
 Facebook.com/NCCSvikings

NCCS Athletic Department:
HooverVikings.com



Mrs. Leckie-Ewing awarded recognition in Skillful Teaching



The organization Research for Better Teaching conducted a contest asking teachers to demonstrate one theme related to skillful teaching in a video. Mrs. Gretchen Leckie-Ewing, an English teacher at Hoover High School, chose "Making Student Thinking Visible." Video Productions teacher Tim McCarty and two of his students recorded the seniors in her Advanced Placement Literature class last February, edited the footage from the multiple cameras in record time, and I submitted the video last March. We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Leckie-Ewing won second place in the competition. She will receive a \$250 Amazon gift card and a signed copy of Dr. John Saphier's *The Skillful Teacher*. In addition, her video has been shared on the Research for Better Teaching website at www.rbteach.com.

Director of Instruction Michelle Hostetler praises Mrs. Leckie-Ewing's incorporation of Make Student Thinking Visible (MSTV) into her teaching. "Mrs. Leckie-Ewing has stated that taking the MSTV course has proven to be the most effective professional development of her career. For a seasoned, master teacher, that statement gives a lot of credence to the foundational principles of MSTV. She also shared that the mental work involved never stops: letting students give wrong answers, learning from the mistakes, making sure more than one student answers the same question and having students expand on their responses and the responses of their peers."

"While observing Gretchen use these techniques, I noticed she would employ wait time after asking questions. As the teacher in the room, she seldom acknowledged right and wrong answers to the questions she asked. Instead she facilitated the student discussion to allow the students to navigate their own responses and the responses of others in such fashion that all students walked away with a deep understanding of the material being studied. The students were the evaluators and Gretchen the facilitator!"

If you wish to view Mrs. Leckie-Ewing's video, please go to their website and create an account.



Hoover High School's Student Artwork on Display

Studio525's "6 Feet of Art" show is now open at Hoover High School. Because of safety precautions due to the pandemic, only students and staff are permitted to view the works. A YouTube video of the show, however, is accessible on the NCCS district website under the "Visual Arts" tab and also on the various social media platforms, including Facebook and Instagram.

We extend special thanks to our student curators who spent many hours preparing and judging the work that is currently on display in the gallery and in this virtual presentation. They are Maddie Bennett, Emma Ellis, Kelly Friel, Allison Richardson, and PJ Johnson, and we appreciate the help of our art teachers, Mrs. Tam Grandjean and Mrs. Greene. Finally, thanks to the Hoover High School staff and administration who constantly support our visual arts program.

Career Technical Education Courses

Hoover High School offers a variety of Career Technical (CT) Education courses focusing on high-demand careers with the goal of strengthening student college and career readiness. It is our mission to ensure that students graduate with skills and abilities that are aligned with the needs of a competitive, high-tech global economy. Many of our students leave high school with valuable knowledge, skills, credentials, and work experiences to put them ahead for their post-high school endeavors.

Our CT programs provide students the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of academic concepts by applying them in real-world applications and situations. They incorporate rigorous classroom instruction with hands-on training and experience that inspires, engages, and prepares our students for success in life after high school. Hoover High School is pleased to offer courses in the pathways listed below. Many of these pathways allow students to begin their career exploration as early as their freshman year. However, all programs can begin as late as their junior year. The earliest grade in which a student may begin a pathway is listed in parentheses.

- Biomedical Sciences (10th)
- Business Management (9th)
- Construction Technology (9th)
- Culinary Arts (10th)
- Engineering (9th)
- Interactive Media - Graphic Design (8th)
- Medical Technology (10th)
- Teaching Professions (11th)
- Video Productions (10th)

To learn more about these programs, please go to our website at www.northcantonschools.org/CareerTech.aspx. Also, we would encourage you to talk with your high school and middle school student about their future and career aspirations. Help your student have the motivation and direction to experience future success and enjoy school. Converse with your child(ren) about their career plans. Don't wait until it is too late. I think you will find that Hoover High School has many options to quench the thirst for a variety of career interests. For more information or questions, please email CareerTech@northcantonschools.org.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED AT NORTH CANTON CITY SCHOOLS

At North Canton City Schools, we offer a quality education in a professional setting. Please join us by calling our District Office at 330-497-5600.



Building News

PBIS at NCMS

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) has been implemented at various levels throughout North Canton City Schools over the past several years. North Canton Middle School has been improving their implementation over the last seven years and will continue to refine their practices to better serve their students.

The 2019 - 2020 school year, although shortened due to COVID-19, was the first year of implementing PBIS Rewards, a digital token economy where staff members reward students through attributing points for meeting the behavioral expectations that center around Respect, Kind, Trustworthy, and Responsibility. Students were able to spend their points to attend end of quarter assemblies as well as bid on or purchase items assembled by their grade level team.

For the 2020 - 2021 school year, and with the limitation of assembling large gatherings, we have continued with PBIS Rewards while also implementing a school wide store for students to use their points to purchase items. Many of the items that students may purchase from the

school store include a 'shout out' on the morning announcements or items donated by parents. The pubescent transition that takes place between age 11 and 14 is substantial; therefore, the items of interest may vary greatly from time to time. However, the underlying foundation to the middle school's approach to PBIS Rewards, is to provide a collaborative structure of reinforcing student behaviors as a cohesive and transparent entity. The middle school has recently launched the PBIS Rewards Parent App, where parents can connect to their child's account to view the number of points awarded.

"The greatest success of the program has been the change in the mindset and culture by our students and staff. Rewarding positive behavior and promoting our district's mission, vision, and values have promoted a positive culture at NCMS." - Principal David Eby

The success of the PBIS Rewards program at North Canton Middle School has caught the attention of program leaders as well. Principal David Eby and associate principals Renee Manse and Michael Coppa recently presented at a national conference that was scheduled for June 2020 in St. Louis, Missouri, but took the form of a live broadcast due to restrictions to conventions and large gatherings. The three middle school administrators shared their implementation framework as well as the obstacles and successes experienced while carrying out their vision.

Students can make purchases through the store on select days within each month. That allows time for staff members to assemble the items for delivery. The success of the PBIS school store has been tremendous, to where keeping store inventory has been a challenge. However, other

incentives such as 'free homework pass' or '15 mins of Chromebook time' are some of the more creative ways students can utilize their points.

As a few staff members who participated in PBIS Rewards training last February report that it will take 3-5 years to fully implement the program with success and fidelity, students and staff members are optimistic within its second year of implementation. "It's a work in progress as we continue to move forward and receive feedback from students and staff members." says Michael Coppa, Associate Principal. "Within each obstacle is an opportunity to learn more, but in a time where large gatherings and school assemblies are limited, we are concentrating on making our school store more successful." And successful it is, as over 197,000 points have been awarded and 3,500 items have made their way through the school store and into the hands of students throughout the first nine-week period.

ALS Fundraiser

As many of you know, Mrs. Susie Hertler Van Vranken, a former NCCS teacher and board of education member, has been diagnosed with ALS. Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis is a neurodegenerative disease that strikes nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. It's also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. WKYC-TV broadcast an interview with Mrs. Van Vranken earlier in October. Mrs. Van Vranken's battle has inspired NCCS residents. Earlier this fall, Mrs. Theanna Orr approached North Canton Middle School Principal David Eby and suggested that the school start a fundraiser for ALS in honor of Mrs. Van Vranken, her friend and former colleague at NCMS. Thirty staff members decorated pumpkins for a raffle. Thanks to the raffle and donations from NCCS schools, over \$2,500 will go to Massachusetts General Hospital, the location of Mrs. Van Vranken's specialist, for ALS research.



StarkMHAR

When the team responsible for addressing the needs of local young people at Stark County Mental Health & Addiction Recovery (StarkMHAR) was looking for innovative ways to engage and educate middle and high school students, The Center for Cartoon Studies (CCS) in Vermont came up as a potential partner. CCS had recently found a way to make government and civics lessons appealing through a comic book, and StarkMHAR thought that could certainly translate to mental health topics, too.

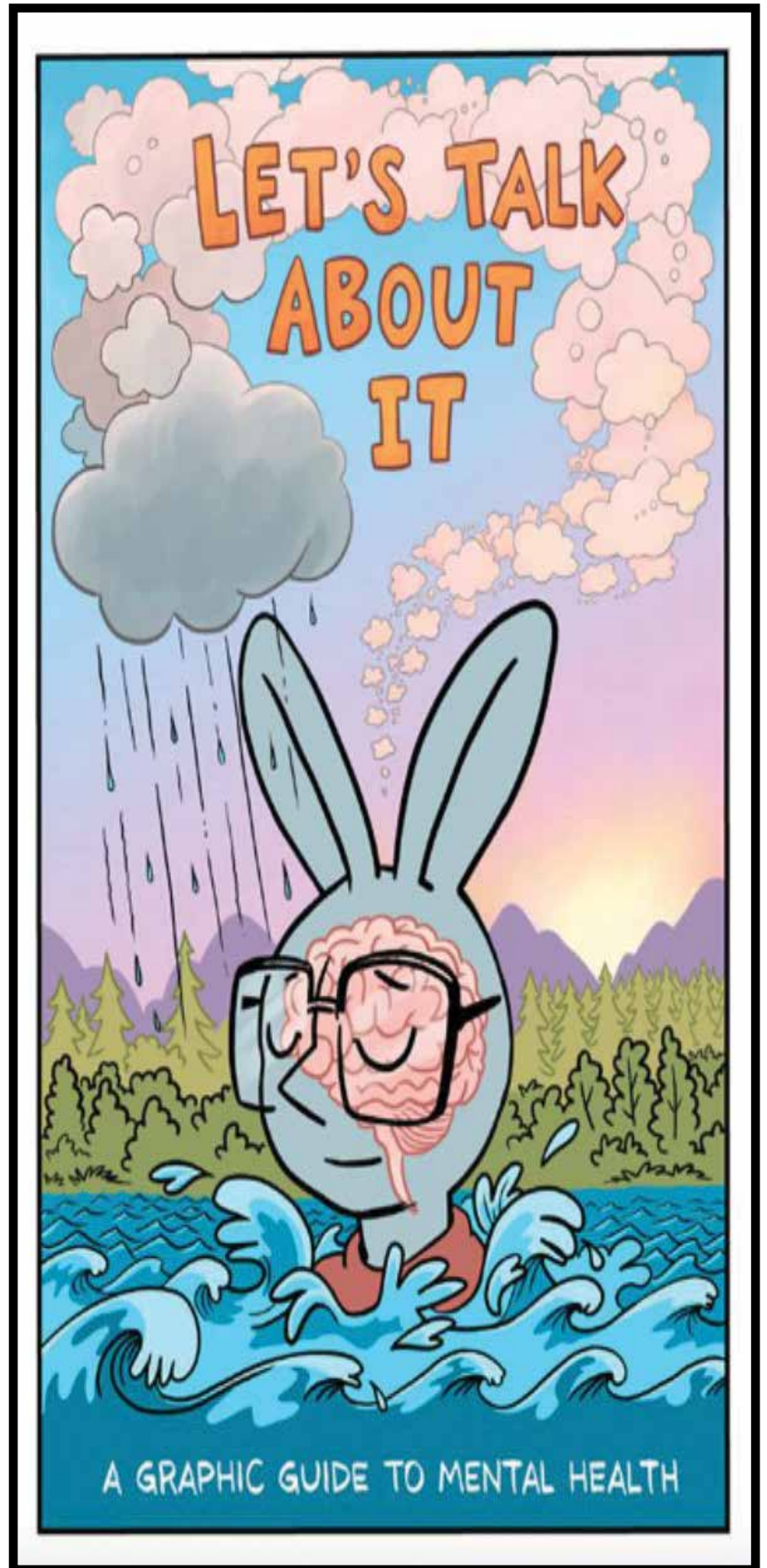
The connection was made, and before long mental health experts, educators, and cartoonists were all collaborating. *Let's Talk About It: A Graphic Guide to Mental Health* is a 24-page comic that will be distributed to every middle school student in Stark County, Ohio and will be available for free online at cartoonstudies.org/mentalhealth.

Let's Talk About It: A Graphic Guide To Mental Health is designed to destigmatize the conversation around mental health addressing everything from stress to anxiety to addiction. The book also looks at how the brain affects behavior, shares ways to stay mentally healthy, and directs readers towards resources for those who need help.

The comic's lead cartoonist, Cara Bean, is also a former public school teacher and is currently working on a graphic novel that speaks directly to kids about mental health. The piece was edited by cartoonist and CCS director James Sturm who was recently awarded a 2020-21 Radcliffe Fellowship at Harvard University to create a comics about the US healthcare system "Cartooning is an ideal medium to connect with younger readers and Cara's work brims with empathy and warmth," says Sturm. "She literally creates an inviting space to learn about mental health."

Although this project was underway prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for creative ways to interact with young people about their mental health is paramount at this time. In general, according to The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 7.1% of children aged 3-17 years have diagnosed anxiety and 3.2% of children aged 3-17 years have diagnosed depression. Furthermore, Stark County, Ohio experienced a youth suicide cluster in 2017-2018; 13 young people lost their lives to suicide.

"Research will tell you that when young people themselves gain an interest in solutions to problems that affect them and their peers, that is when you start to see meaningful change," said John Aller, PCC, LICDC, executive director of StarkMHAR.



Fall Festival at the ECC

The ECC had a Fall Festival Parade in October. The students enjoyed "walking the parade route" in the Mary L. Evans Early Childhood Center parking lot as the families watched from their socially distanced spots along the route. Thank you, parents, for joining us for a fun day!

- For more information about this Applied Cartooning project visit: cartoonstudies.org/mentalhealth
 - For more information about Cara Bean's work visit: carabeancomics.com
 - For more information about CCS's democracy comic visit: cartoonstudies.org/democracy
- [The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)
https://www.cdc.gov/childrensmentalhealth/data.html](http://www.cdc.gov/childrensmentalhealth/data.html)



Orchard Hill Activities

This year's theme for Red Ribbon Week was "Be Happy, Be Brave, Be Drug-free." Orchard Hill students and staff held special events as students learned more about the dangers of drug usage.



The Food Truck from the TriStar Cafe was here as part of a project for the Hoover Culinary Arts with Phil Ogilvie. His students were working on a mass production project of edible cookie dough, and Mr. Ogilvie reached out to share the results with the students at Orchard Hill.



Orchard Hill has had a busy fall with the annual Warrior Dash, Red Ribbon Week, and third-grade parents' lunch.



Third Grade Parent Lunch





Orchard Hill Garden provides a fun Writing Activity

Mrs. Sarah Mallaci’s English Language Arts (ELA) students visited the Orchard Hill garden for some writing time and fresh air. Students could choose from five different writing prompts related to the garden. For example, students could pretend that they have shrunk to the size of an ant. They then wrote about an adventure their shrunken selves could have in the garden. Another topic directed students to pick one plant from the garden and write a descriptive passage using the five senses. Mrs. Mallamaci said, “The students really enjoyed their writing time near the garden on such a beautiful day.”

NORTH CANTON CITY SCHOOLS

SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS



Cindy Hendricks
Program Manager



Brian Young
Therapist
Hoover High School
Greentown Intermediate



Beth Bushey
Prevention
Hoover High School



Nicole Fuller
Therapist
North Canton
Middle School &
High School



Mandy Myers
CPST/Prevention
North Canton
Middle School



Brittany Sanders
Therapist
Clearmount, Northwood,
and Orchard Hill

Grit | Respect | Integrity | Relationships





What is a School-Based Mental Health provider?

Using a strength and relationship based approach, our experienced staff fosters resiliency, social/emotional development, skill building, positive school climate, and hope, through a range of supports including prevention, early intervention, crisis response, and treatment, conveniently located in your child’s school.

How do I get started?

- Call 330.455.0374 now
- Ask for any of the providers listed for your school!

CommQuest 



NCMS Celebrates Red Ribbon Week!

This week we reminded our students on the importance of drug and alcohol awareness. Red Ribbon Week is recognized as a national event honoring **Enrique Camarena**, a Drug Enforcement Administration special agent, who was killed in 1985 by drug traffickers. The Red Ribbon Campaign is designed to encourage healthy, drug-free, violence-free lifestyles among our students. This year’s national theme is: “Be Happy, Be Brave, Be Drug Free!” This week, NCMS students dressed up and participated in activities to celebrate healthy choices as well as to recognize the dangers of drugs and alcohol. Red Ribbon Week Trivia and “I Can, You Can, Be Drug Free” Canned Food Drive were a few of the activities that students enjoyed this week. Long after the month of October passes, we continue to remind the students of making lifelong smart, healthy choices.



2020/21 Winter Schedules

Please be aware that schedules are subject to change in the best of times. With the current pandemic, please consistently check the athletic website, www.hoovervikings.com to verify schedules of events.

Boys Varsity/JV Basketball

Date	Time	Event	Home/Away
11.28.2020	6:30pm	Cuyahoga Falls	A
12.04.2020	7:15pm	Jackson	H
12.08.2020	7:15pm	Green High School	A
12.11.2020	7:15pm	GlenOak High School	H
12.18.2020	7:15pm	Lake High School	A
12.19.2020	TBA	HOF Classic @ Barberton	A
12.22.2020	7:15pm	Ellet	H
12.29.2020	7:30pm	Louisville High School	A
01.05.2021	7:00pm	Boardman	A
01.08.2021	7:15pm	Perry	H
01.12.2021	7:15pm	McKinley	A
01.15.2021	7:15pm	Jackson	H
01.17.2021	2:00pm	Spectrum Ortho. Classic	A
01.22.2021	7:15pm	Green	H
01.26.2021	7:30pm	GlenOak	A
01.29.2021	7:15pm	Lake	H
02.05.2021	7:15pm	Perry	A
02.06.2021	3:00pm	Kosta Koufos Classic@GlenOak	A
02.09.2021	7:15pm	Massillon Washington	H
02.12.2021	7:15pm	McKinley	H
02.16.2021	7:15pm	New Philadelphia	H
02.19.2021	7:15pm	East-Akron	H

*JV Games are played at 6:00pm
**Varsity Only

Girls Varsity and JV Basketball

Date	Time	Event	Home/Away
11.20.2020	7:15pm	Nordonia High School	H
11.24.2020	7:15pm	Buchtel	H
11.28.2020	2:15pm	McKinley	A
12.02.2020	7:15pm	Jackson	A
12.05.2020	2:15pm	Green	A
12.09.2020	7:15pm	GlenOak	H
12.12.2020	2:15pm	Lake	A
12.16.2020	7:15pm	New Philadelphia	H
12.19.2020	2:00pm	Medina	A
12.23.2020	7:15pm	Perry	H
12.29.2020	7:30pm	Lady Viking Classic (VAR ONLY)	H
12.30.2020	1:30pm	Lady Viking Classic (VAR ONLY)	H
01.06.2021	7:15pm	McKinley High School	H
01.09.2021	2:15pm	Jackson High School	H
01.13.2021	7:15pm	Green High School	H
01.16.2021	2:15pm	Classic in the Country	A
01.20.2021	7:30pm	GlenOak High School	A
01.23.2021	2:15pm	Lake High School	H
01.25.2021	7:15pm	Massillon Washington	H
01.30.2021	2:15pm	Perry High School	A
02.03.2021	7:30pm	Louisville	A
02.06.2021	6:00pm	St. Vincent-St. Mary	H

*JV Games are played 1.5hr before the varsity games

Boys & Girls Varsity Bowling

Date	Time	Event	Home/Away
11.14.2020	8:00am	Early Bird Tournament	H
11.16.2020	3:45pm	United High School	H
11.18.2020	3:45pm	Canton South High School	A
11.20.2020	3:45pm	Washington High School	H
11.24.2020	3:45pm	Claymont High School	A
12.02.2020	3:45pm	Perry High School	A
12.07.2020	3:45pm	Green High School	H
12.08.2020	3:45pm	Lake High School	H
12.11.2020	3:45pm	Louisville	H
12.15.2020	3:45pm	Lake High School	A
12.16.2020	3:45pm	McKinley High School	A
12.31.2020	8:00am	Holiday Tournament	H
01.04.2021	3:45pm	Perry High School	H
01.13.2021	3:45pm	Green High School	A
01.22.2021	3:45pm	Jackson	A
01.26.2021	3:45pm	Louisville High School	A
02.01.2021	3:45pm	GlenOak	H
02.09.2021	3:45pm	Jackson High School	H
02.12.2021	3:45pm	McKinley	H
02.17.2020	3:45pm	GlenOak High School	A

Varsity Wrestling

Date	Time	Event	Home/Away
12.05.2020	9:00am	Trojan Duals-Findlay	A
12.10.2020	6:00pm	Green High School	H
12.18.2020	5:00pm	Hoover Quad 1	H
12.19.2020	10:00am	Hoover Quad 2	H
01.07.2021	6:00pm	Jackson High School	A
01.09.2021	10:00am	Lake Catholic	A
01.14.2021	6:00pm	Perry	A
01.15.2021	9:30am	Top Gun Tour.-Alliance	A
01.21.2021	7:00pm	Lake	H
01.28.2021	6:00pm	GlenOak High School	H
02.04.2021	6:00pm	McKinley	A
02.11.2021	TBA	Tri Meet	H

JV Wrestling

Date	Time	Event	Home/Away
12.14.2020	5:00pm	Iron Boy-Marlington	A
12.21.2020	5:00pm	Iron Boy-Marlington	A
01.11.2021	5:00pm	Iron Boy-Marlington	A
01.18.2021	9:30am	Northwest Canal Fulton	A
01.25.2021	5:00pm	Iron Boy-Marlington	A
02.15.2021	5:00pm	Iron Boy-Marlington	A

Boys Freshman Basketball

Date	Time	Event	Home/Away
11.28.2020	10:00am	McKinley	A
12.03.2020	6:00pm	Jackson	A
12.07.2020	7:30pm	GlenOak	H
12.10.2020	5:00pm	Dover	A
12.12.2020	11:00am	Lake	A
12.17.2020	6:00pm	Massillon Washington	A
12.19.2020	10:30am	Brunswick	A
12.22.2020	4:30pm	Ellet	H
12.29.2020	4:30pm	Louisville	A
01.07.2021	7:30pm	McKinley	H
01.09.2021	10:00am	Jackson	H
01.14.2021	7:30pm	Green	H
01.16./2021	10:00am	Perry	H
01.21.2021	5:00pm	GlenOak	A
01.23.2021	10:00am	Lake	H
01.27.2021	7:30pm	Louisville	H
01.30.2021	11:00am	Perry	A
02.01.2021	7:30pm	Massillon Washington	H
02.06.2021	10:00am	Federal League Tournament	H

Gymnastics

Date	Time	Event	Home/Away
01.31.21	TBA	N. Canton Invitational	H
02.07.21	TBA	N. Canton Invitational	H
TBA	TBA	Sectional	
02.27.21	TBA	District	
03.05.21	TBA	State	
03.06.21	TBA	State	



Boys & Girls Swimming & Diving

Date	Time	Event	Home/Away
12.02.2020	6:00pm	McKinley Relays	A
12.04.2020	5:00pm	Rocky River	H
12.12.2020	8:00am	Christmas Invite	A
12.18.2020	7:30pm	GlenOak	A
12.19.2020	1:00pm	Lake	A
12.19.2020	1:00pm	McKinley	A
12.30.2020	9:00am	Federal League	A
01.08.2021	4:30pm	Green	A
01.16.2021	9:00am	Northeast Classic	A
01.22.2021	5:00pm	Hawken Upper School	H
01.27.2021	5:00pm	Perry	A
01.30.2021	7:00pm	Jackson	H
02.05.2021	TBA	JV Dive Meet @ Perry	A
02.06.2021	9:30am	JV Swim Meet @ Branin	A
02.13.2021	9:00am	OHSAA Sectionals@Branin	A
02.20.2021	9:00am	OHSAA District @ CSU	A
02.26./2021	9:00am	OHSAA State @ Branin	A
02.27.2021	9:00am	OHSAA State Meet @ Branin	A

The North Canton Athletic Department has a website with great information available at HooverVikings.com at the Varsity News Network (VNN). On the website you will find athletic department information as well as team rosters, schedules, athletic forms, directions, photos, ticket prices and more. At the bottom of the web page, you can also sign up for Team Alerts to receive game scores and information for your favorite teams.

Video Productions/ Broadcast Journalism Livestreams

Special thanks to Hoover's Video Productions/Broadcast Journalism class for their live streams of this fall's athletic events. Their work was impressive, and the community enjoyed the opportunity to watch events that they would have otherwise missed due to the pandemic.

Tom Wilson, Coordinator of Media and Video-Journalism, explained the challenge. "It's been a fast-paced season for students in the video production program. A lot of work had to be done to get the stadium ready for our live streaming of football. Each game requires a crew of six students and two teachers. Working out a manageable social distancing plan was a challenge, but we were able to reconfigure our mobile control room to accommodate this. Setting up for each game takes about eight hours, but it's well worth it for the fans to be able to view Hoover's home games since not everyone can be in the stands this year."



Heisman School Winners announced

The Heisman Trophy Trust and Acceptance Insurance has announced the 2020 School Winners for the Heisman High School Scholarship presented by Acceptance Insurance. Hoover High School's winners are **Grace May** and **Jacob Cureton**.

From an applicant pool of thousands of high school scholar-athletes graduating with the class of 2021, more than 3,600 have been named School Winners in the Heisman High School Scholarship competition awarded by The Heisman Trophy Trust and Acceptance Insurance.

In their first year as presenting sponsor, Acceptance Insurance pledged an additional \$25,000 scholarship donation to the program. State Winners receive a \$750 college scholarship, National Finalists receive a \$1,250 college scholarship and the male and female National Winners will each receive a \$5,250 college scholarship.



Grace May



Jacob Cureton

