



Spring Newsletter – '25-'26

Legends and History Making

Remember kid, there's heroes and there's legends. Heroes get remembered, but legends never die. -The Sandlot

At one of my first CHS basketball games as superintendent, I was introduced to “Cedarville legend” (the words to me from others upon introduction) – *Coach V*. This interaction stuck with me – not just because of Coach Villinger’s kindness and encouragement – but because of his undeniable *presence* and ongoing interest in the school. Approximately three years later, Jim Villinger passed away on February 2, 2026. Tributes poured in on Facebook. His status as *legend* was clear – he wasn’t just being remembered, his influence was living on through the people he impacted.

Fittingly, Coach V passed during a history-making winter season for Cedarville High School, full of District “firsts”:

- Another legend-in-the-making – varsity boys’ basketball coach Ryan Godlove – picked up his 200th win, the most in school history, and the team again finished as OHC South champions, the District’s first threepat!
- Varsity girls’ basketball coach Haley Peters also made history, leading our lady Indians to the first District Championship in school history, and more impressively, the first Regional finals appearance!
- Quick Recall, led by advisor Kim Shaw, extended its history-making run, once again finishing as OHC Champions for the sixth consecutive year, a first in school and conference history!
- Junior Elisabeth Thomas became the first CHS musician selected through audition for Ohio’s OMEA all-state honor band!

Though small in size, Cedar Cliff packs a powerful punch in all areas, fulfilling its

mission to *Teach, Challenge, and Develop the Mind, Body, and Character!*

Brian Masser, Superintendent

Financial Spotlight

Ohio now provides just 33.5% of school funding – 11% below the national average – leaving the remaining to local communities and other sources. When property values soared, this resulted in excessive tax burdens. In response, the legislature recently passed property tax reform bills, admirably intended to limit this burden on individuals, but because they didn’t proportionately increase the state’s share of funding for schools, it has left the school funding candle burning at both ends, with both local and state share revenues trending downward.



Districts like Cedar Cliff who have carefully stewarded their resources can survive this funding deficit trend for a few years before the flame reaches the fingers holding the candle, but it is not sustainable long-term. Prior to these property tax reform bills in May ‘25, we projected having nearly 140 days of cash on hand in five years; we now project having fewer than 85 days!

You will observe this impact by reading about other districts who are reducing staff, bussing, and even eliminating athletics and other extracurricular activities in response.

Educators of the Month

December

- Mr. Wagner, MS – *So funny and such a great teacher. I remember everything I learn from him.*
- Mr. Rodgers, HS – *Takes time to listen to us and make sure that we understand the things he teaches.*

January

- Mr. Reed, MS – *Explains questions thoroughly, asks about understanding, and makes class time light and friendly!*
- Ms. Shaw, HS – *I have never wanted to go to math class as much as this year. She really helps you learn and wants to do what is best for you at all times.*

February

- Mrs. Lide, MS – *Kind, listens well, and doesn't judge. She answers questions clearly and directly.*
- Mrs. Sandwich, HS – *A really good teacher, always looking to help others. She is kind to everyone, and I learn a lot in her class.*

Students of the Month

December

- 6th Grade – Kelsi Jones
- 7th Grade – Jameson Combs
- 8th Grade – Addie Godlove
- 9th Grade – Lizzy Ferry
- 10th Grade – Allie Ankeney
- 11th Grade – Wyatt Marsh
- 12th Grade – Brett Haemmerle

January

- 6th Grade – Ana Schulte
- 7th Grade – Micah Ferguson
- 8th Grade – Kellen Stewart
- 9th Grade – Titus Rice
- 10th Grade – Bella Page
- 11th Grade – Gabe Duncan
- 12th Grade – Elizabeth Caraway

February

- 6th Grade – Ellie Cochrell
- 7th Grade – Clay Dunsmore
- 8th Grade – Kaitlyn Corry
- 9th Grade – Maddox Rodgers
- 10th Grade – Maria Christian
- 11th Grade – Lydia Betts
- 12th Grade – Zoe McKinion

Winter Athletics

Boys' Varsity Basketball – OHC South Champions and District Runner-up.

Girls' Varsity Basketball – District Champions and Regional Runner-up.



Girls' 8th Grade Basketball – Conference Champions.

Arts and Academics

Quick Recall – Undefeated Conference Champions.

Choir – Choralation earned four superior ratings at the OMEA District Contest enroute to the State Contest in May; Josh Cochrell and Zoe McKinion were selected via audition for solos at the OHC Fine Arts Festival.

Daughters of the American Revolution – Emma Black and Ella Godlove took 1st place in the DAR state video contest; Cora Mahan earned 1st place in the state essay contest.

Safety

School Resource Officer (SRO)

When students return from spring break, Cedar Cliff's new SRO – Jason Robison – will officially begin. Students will likely recognize



Officer Robison because he has previously worked athletic games for the District and has had a presence on campus in the past as an on-duty officer for the Cedarville Police Department. Robison comes to the position with nearly a decade of law enforcement experience and an educational background in psychology. He also recently became a first-time dad, so he transitions into the position at a moment when he is acutely aware of the value of our children! Please take time to welcome Officer Robison to Cedar Cliff when you see him at the school!

Stop-Arm Bus Cameras

Over spring break, stop-arm cameras were installed on our four newest buses using funds from a safety grant secured by the District. These cameras capture cars who put our

students at risk by passing the bus when it is stopped and students are exiting to their respective homes. Cameras will be installed on the remaining four buses in our fleet as they are replaced.



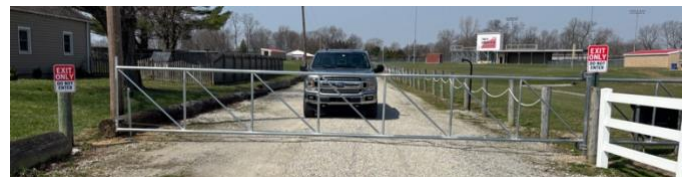
Facilities

US Route 42 Egress Lane Gate

An electric gate has now been installed at the exit onto US Route 42 from the gravel lane that the District received permission from the State last fall to utilize for egress. As you have undoubtedly observed, utilizing this lane for buses has dramatically improved the traffic flow for cars exiting onto State Route 72 at dismissal since it has eliminated the bus load.

With the spring athletic season upon us, the newly installed electric gate allows us to open this lane for egress from baseball and softball games, which should also dramatically improve the traffic flow at these events. The same is planned for the 2026 football season.

Please help us establish this new travel pattern at sporting events by parking and traversing this lane in only one direction, east toward Route 42.



Kindergarten Registration and Screening

Parents of *prospective 2026-2027 kindergarten students are invited to a parent meeting in the cafeteria at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, April 28.

More information will be available at the parent meeting, but kindergarten screening is Thursday, May 14 in the middle school gym.

*Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, students in Ohio must turn five (5) years old on or before the first day of school (8/20) to be eligible for kindergarten.

No Activity Period

The District's annual "no activity" period is scheduled for Monday, June 22 – Sunday, July 5. With the involvement level of our students, we are committed to maintaining this practice, so students and families have an opportunity to disconnect and spend valuable time together.

Open Enrollment

The Cedar Cliff Local School District will accept new applications for open enrollment in grades K-12 for the 2026-2027 school year from May 1st at 7:30AM to June 15th at 4:00PM on a first-come, first-served basis.

Applications can be submitted online – beginning at 7:30 AM on May 1st – by clicking on the Google Forms link on the district website: cedarcliffschools.net. Families that submit applications for more than one student on the same day will have their applications date/time-stamped based upon the first application submitted.

Individuals can optionally submit their application(s) online at the district office, beginning on the same date/time. Paper applications will not be accepted.

Applications for open enrollment in grades 1-12 will be acted upon no later than August 4th, at which time applicants will receive a letter of acceptance or denial sent to the email address used to submit the application. Applications for open enrollment for kindergarten will be acted upon prior to the first day of school (8/20). Please reach out to the superintendent's office with any questions – (937)766-6000.

Calendars

Located on the website (District>Calendars)

- Academic Calendar (including '26-'27)
- Athletics Calendar
- Current Events Calendar

Public Meetings

Board of Education

- 3rd Tuesday of each Month at 6:00 PM in the Board Room (unless advertised differently)

Committees

- Meetings are posted on the Current Events calendar on the website (see "Calendars" section above)

District-Support Organizations

- Athletic Boosters – 2nd Monday @ 7:00 PM in the Health Room
- Music Boosters – 2nd Monday @ 5:30 PM in the Band Room
- PTO – 2nd Tuesday @ 5:30 PM in the Library and/or Virtual

Public Notices and Auctions

The district posts required public notices on its website (Home>Public Notices)

The district utilizes online public auctions to sell items that are obsolete and/or no longer contributing to the educational program (Home>Public Auctions).