



# Superintendent's Newsletter – March 2024

*It is the mission of the Cedar Cliff Local School District to: Provide students with the best well-rounded education that teaches, challenges and develops the mind, body and character and prepares responsible graduates who contribute within society.*

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## **First Impressions and the Cedar Cliff X-Factor**

During my first two months as superintendent, I have attempted to attend as many events and meet with as many stakeholders as possible. I continue to be asked on a regular basis about how things are going or how I like Cedar Cliff. I typically respond to such inquiries with a somewhat measured response, such as “great, but I’m still in the honeymoon period.”

I don’t mean to be dismissive of the question, but the truth is, I continue to be amazed by Cedar Cliff, and I keep thinking this initial amazement will subside. While I’m sure this will be true to a degree, as I reflect on the past sixty days, I realize there is an intangible sewn into the fabric of the district that is largely responsible for the wonderment I feel each time I come to work or attend an event – the overwhelming sense of community!

It isn’t just that Cedar Cliff is small that creates this sense of community. It is the collective sense of ownership that seems present everywhere I go. Community members from multiple generations interact with our students as if they are their own children. Our older students validate the attention given to them by younger students. Our businesses and local groups look for opportunities to partner with the district. The group memberships that sometimes create boundaries in other districts – academics, athletics, music, theater, etc. – seem to unite our staff, parents, and students as they cheer each other on, and often participate in overlapping activities or groups.

I was reminded of the importance of community this past month with the passing of Dick Walker, a man known for his love of the community. Even in his final two months, Dick still prioritized attending basketball games, the FFA pancake breakfast, making social rounds at Beans-n-Cream, and publishing a final issue of the *Cedarville Intersection* (in which he welcomed this new superintendent and made sure I was aware of such by spotting me at Beans and asking for my autograph!). In short, I think Dick Walker’s active commitment to the community embodies the x-factor that makes Cedar Cliff unique from other districts – the *intersection* between school and community.

I realize I am not sharing anything novel to most, but sometimes we take for granted those things that become familiar to us, and it takes an outsider new to the community to remind us of what makes us special. Perhaps more critically, sometimes an implicit understanding of how things work emerges in places with a strong sense of community, which can lead to complacency if we are not careful. My goal is to lead the district in such a way that we not only honor and celebrate the strong traditions that have made Cedar Cliff special, but we build upon these very same traditions, looking intentionally and strategically for ways to make a very special school community even more so!

*Brian R. Masser*

Brian Masser, Superintendent

## Cedar Cliff Board of Education Swears in Newly Elected Members

At the January 8 Organizational Meeting, Cedar Cliff treasurer Julie Lowe administered the Oath of Office to newly elected board member Seth Howard and newly re-elected board members Charlene Campbell and Christi Frizzell. Maria Waymire and Brittney Gillaugh were elected as Board President and Vice-President, respectively.



The Cedar Cliff Board of Education meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7 PM, except in April (4/15) and July (7/11) in the Administration Building.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>

## 2024 – 2025 District Calendar

The '24-'25 Cedar Cliff Local School District calendar has been approved by the Board of Education. It is attached to this newsletter and available on the district website.

## Disconnect to Connect

The Greene County Public Health Department and several other county agencies are encouraging Greene County residents to participate in the Global Day of Unplugging from sundown on Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> through sundown on Saturday, March 2.

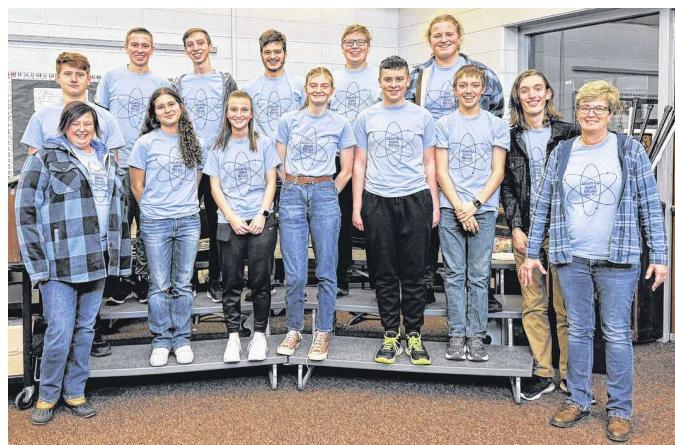


- **Why:** Studies show that higher screen time is linked with poorer mental health and greater perceived stress. The good news is that when screen time is lower, we all experience more social support, less stress, and healthier coping behaviors.
- **When:** Block out chunks of your day, i.e. mealtimes & bedtime, and areas of your home, such as the living room, kitchen table, front porch, and bedroom, etc., to disconnect from the digital world.
- **How:** Find other ways to engage with family and friends by playing outside, taking a hike, riding a bike, volunteering, reading a book, going to lunch with friends, etc.

## Quick Recall Wins Conference Championship

Cedar Cliff maintained its stranglehold on Quick Recall, winning its fourth consecutive OHC Championship, and its seventh title in the past eight years! Overall, the team finished the season 16-1 and went undefeated in the tournament.

Quick Recall is an academic trivia competition testing how “quickly” students can “recall” nuggets of information from a wide range of subjects.





## OHC Fine Arts Festival

On February 6, select band, choir, and art students participated in the annual OHC Fine Arts Festival. During the school day, students worked on “products” with students from every school in the Ohio Heritage Conference. That same evening, these “products” were presented in a conference-wide concert and art show.



## National Honor Society Induction

National Honor Society (NHS) is intended to recognize students who represent the four pillars of Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character in their schools and community. On January 12, the Cedar Cliff NHS inducted the following new members:

Jack Baise, Austin Biggam, James Brooks, Dylan Cook, Tyler Cross, Zoe Digel, Isaiah DeWitt, Eden Foerch, Ava Hardy, George Landon, Austin Mazelin, Emma Minor, Luke Moore, Willa Kate Porter, Ryan Reed, Ezri Rice, Ayden Rodgers, Josh Sultan, Ellie Schulte, Faith Steward, Isaac Wallis, Luke Wallis, Abby Wonders, Jaana Whitmore, Lauren Wiesert.

## Elementary Coding Championship

On January 4, Cedar Cliff fourth and fifth grade students competed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Coding Championship. The competition required students to complete an obstacle course using the Blockly app and Dash robots.

Congratulations to U’niya Shields, Vivi Linden, Aubrey Simon, Preston Tingelstad, and Mason McClure whose team won the fourth-grade competition.

Congratulations to Avery Walker, Jaxson Lohr, and Jameson Combs whose team won the fifth-grade competition.



## Strong Basketball Season

Cedar Cliff basketball represented the district well in the conference, earning the following Ohio Heritage Conference honors:

- Varsity Boys’ – South Champs (see p. 4)
- Varsity Girls’ – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (Tied) in South
- 9<sup>th</sup> Boys’ – Tournament Champs
- 8<sup>th</sup> Boys’ – Tournament Runner-up
- 8<sup>th</sup> Girls’ – Tournament Runner-up
- 7<sup>th</sup> Boys’ – Tournament Champs

## Boys' Basketball Wins OHC South Conference Championship

On February 9, the boys' basketball team cut down the nets with an OHC South Conference Championship! The team finished the regular season 13-3 and heads into the postseason with a lot of experience, led by seven seniors: Brayden Criswell, Tyler Cross, Jackson Howdyshell, Mason Johnson, Jackson Miller, Kyle Orchard, and Jackson Pyles.



## Upcoming Meetings and Events

### Thursday, February 29

- *The Little Mermaid* – 7:00 PM

### Friday, March 1

- *The Little Mermaid* – 7:00 PM

### Saturday, March 2

- *The Little Mermaid* – 10:30 AM
- *The Little Mermaid* – 7:00 PM

### Tuesday, March 5

- MS/HS Band and Choir Winter Concert

### Wednesday, March 6

- ES Spring Pictures

### Friday, March 8

- End of Third Quarter
- District Contest for Choralation
- Midnight Mania

### Monday, March 11

- 5:30 PM—Music Boosters Meeting
- 7:00 PM—Athletic Boosters Meeting
- 7:00 PM—PTO Meeting

### Friday, March 15

- No School – In-Service Day

### Saturday, March 16

- TBA—OHC All-Star Game

### Tuesday, March 19

- 5:30 PM—Wellness Night
- 7:00 PM—Regular Board of Education Meeting
- Washington D.C. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip Departs (Returns 3/22)

### Thursday, March 21

- FFA Banquet

### March 25 – March 29

- Spring Break

### Monday, April 1

- No School – In-Service Day
- 7:00 PM – Athletic Boosters Meeting

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If you know of someone who would like to receive the newsletter, feel free to forward the information. We will also have print copies of the newsletter available at the Board office and Beans-n-Cream if someone would like a paper copy. You can also sign-up to receive the newsletter electronically from the Cedar Cliff Website at: <http://www.cedarcliffschools.net/>





**Congrats to our 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball Teams on a great Season!**  
Special congrats to 4<sup>th</sup> boys and 6<sup>th</sup> girls on winning their tournament brackets  
and 6<sup>th</sup> girls having an undefeated season! Go Indians!



## 2024-2025 Cedar Cliff Local Schools Academic Calendar

### August 2024

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### September 2024

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### October 2024

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### November 2024

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### December 2024

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### January 2025

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### February 2025

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |    |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### March 2025

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

### April 2025

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### May 2025

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### June 2025

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |

**Yellow - Break**  
**No School (Students / Staff)**  
**Blue - Staff In-Service**  
**No School (Students)**  
**Green - Staff In-Service**  
**Early Dismissal - 1:00 p.m.**  
**Gray - Exam Days**  
**Early Dismissal - 2:00 p.m**



# CEDAR CLIFF LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## 2024-2025

### AUGUST

15 First Day for Teachers  
16 Second Day for Teachers  
19 Third Day for Teachers  
20 First Day for Students

### SEPTEMBER

2 Labor Day – No School  
27 No School-In-Service Day (w)

### OCTOBER

3 K-12 Parent-Teacher Conferences  
10 K-12 Parent-Teacher Conferences  
18 End of 1st Nine Weeks (42 days)  
18 K-12 Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.  
21 No School-In-Service Day (w)

### NOVEMBER

15 K-12 Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.  
25 Thanksgiving Break Begins

### DECEMBER

2 School Resumes after Break  
18 9-12 Exams–K-12 Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.  
19 9-12 Exams–K-12 Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.  
20 9-12 Exams–K-12 Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.  
23 Christmas Break Begins

### JANUARY

6 School Resumes after Break  
10 End of Second Nine Weeks (44 days)  
10 End of First Semester (86 days)  
10 K-12 Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.  
20 Martin Luther King Day – No School

### FEBRUARY

7 K-12 Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.  
13 K-5 Parent-Teacher Conferences  
17 Presidents' Day – No School  
20 K-12 Parent-Teacher Conferences

### MARCH

14 End of Third Nine Weeks (43 days)  
14 K-12 Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.  
24 Spring Break Begins  
31 School Resumes after Break

### APRIL

18 No School-In-Service Day (w)  
21 No School

### MAY

26 Memorial Day – No School  
27 8-11 Exams- K-11 Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.  
28 8-11 Exams- K-11 Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.  
29 8-11 Exams- K-11 Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.  
29 End of Fourth Nine Weeks (46 days)  
29 End of Second Semester (89 days)  
29 Last Day for Students  
30 Last Day for Teachers



### District Phone Numbers

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| Superintendent     | 766-6000 |
| Treasurer          | 766-5633 |
| Middle/High School | 766-1871 |
| Elementary         | 766-3811 |

### Calamity Days

If ten calamity days are used, time may be made up by adding days to the end of the school year.