

**Cedar Cliff Local Schools
Superintendent's Newsletter
December 2021**



It is the mission of Cedarville Schools 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."

Do it again?

The older I get, the question seems to arise more often, "Knowing what you know now, would you do *it* all over again?" The "it" can be anything—your career choices—your geography—your educational degree—home purchase—etc.

Usually, in educational circles, the question revolves around career choices, "Would you choose to teach again?" or when talking to a student, "Would you take that class again?" I find it ironic, that the present time and situation usually dictates that answer. If someone is going through a rough time, the answer is usually, "No way!" But, if times are good and running smoothly, then one usually answers, "There have been good times and bad, but all-in-all, yes, I would do it again."

Our present stressors usually control our opinions—it is just human nature. It can be very difficult to look at any situation in its totality. Does your current occupation have moments of frustration and/or boredom? I would assume so, but in totality, has your career choice allowed you to meet good people, brought you security, or provided for your needs? Is that enough?

I once read a quote, attributed to Warren Buffet, one of America's greatest investors. He stated, "Go and find a job you would take if you did not need a job." Easy to say when you are literally worth billions, as most Americans take a job for financial reasons, but there is some wisdom in those words.

This time of year always causes me pause and provides for time of reflection. When I see folks scrambling about, purchasing gifts, meeting a hectic schedule, and trying to squeeze the family gatherings in during the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, I wonder how hard these folks had to work to purchase those items and would they choose the same life path, given the option?

I find solace in knowing I would do it again—pretty much the same way (although there are some cars and TV purchases I would like to rethink along the way). But I do try to look at things in totality—through the ups and downs.

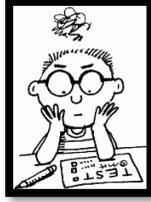
Through the lens of totality, do we have a good community? Do we have a good and safe school system? Are we fortunate to be surrounded by good people? There are few “do-overs” I would have, given the opportunity. My sincere hope for each of you is the same peace of mind and a “totality” perspective. As we navigate the holiday season, as we approach the time for resolutions, and as we stress over small things that should cause us no stress, I want to extend my best wishes regards--have a blessed holiday season and a great start to 2022.

Best regards,



Chad Mason, Superintendent
Cedar Cliff Local Schools





Meet Our Quick Recall Team

Quick Recall is an academic competition, whereby Cedarville High School students compete against other schools in the Ohio Heritage Conference (OHC) on a range of topics from virtually all subject areas. Cedarville students have done very well in this competition in the past and we expect they will compete at a high level again this year. Be sure to follow their schedule on the district calendar and feel free to stop by and watch a competition; the team would appreciate all the support they can get. Under the direction of Mrs. Shaw, this year's current team members are:

Seniors:

Daniel Allen, Zoe Barger, Travis Bonenberger, Reagan Dunstan, Carter Foerch, Bryant Smith, Isabel Williams, and Nathan Wrightsel

Juniors:

Haylee Florkey

Sophomores:

Jack Baise and Connor Smith

Freshmen:

Austin Bigham, James Brooks, Isaiah Dewitt, Eden Foerch, George Landon, and David Tarwater

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Congratulations to our Awarded Fall Athletes!



Once again, Cedarville High School was represented when the coaches of the Ohio Heritage Conference voted for All-Conference selections. We wish to congratulate all honorees for their work and accomplishments on a job *Well-Done!*

Golf:

Eli Wilson –Honorable Mention
JJ Donnaker –Honorable Mention

Volleyball:

Anna Shepherd –1st Team All-Conference
Ciara Horney–2nd Team All-Conference
Rachel Beste –Honorable Mention All-Conference
Olivia Miller –Honorable Mention All-Conference
Molly Mossing–Honorable Mention All-Conference

Football:

Max Pollander –1st Team All-Conference
Masin Bowen –2nd Team All-Conference
Chase Baldwin --Honorable Mention All-Conference
Justin Mahaffey –Honorable Mention All-Conference

Cross-Country Girls:

Aleena Cook – 2nd Team All-Conference
Anna Mark – 2nd Team All-Conference
Elizabeth Dunham – 2nd Team All-Conference
Emma Minor –2nd Team All-Conference
Rachel Tarwater–Honorable Mention All-Conference
Noel Kira–Honorable Mention All-Conference

Cross-Country Boys:

Caleb Sultan—1st Team All-Conference
Isaac Wallis—1st Team All-Conference
Drew Mason—Honorable Mention All-Conference
Ben Ormsbee -- Honorable Mention All-Conference

Girls' Tennis:

Anna Bowman –*OHC Player of the Year* / 1st Team All-Conference
Sara Cooley -1st Team All-Conference
Reagan Smith – 1st Team All-Conference
Ryleigh Burnett – 1st Team All-Conference
Hannah Peterson – 1st Team All-Conference



Crisis Training To Be Conducted in January

In January, all students in grades K-12 will be involved in a mandatory active-intruder crisis drill. Three crisis drills are now required by Ohio law for public schools for three distinct purposes; a lock-down drill, evacuation drill, and an active shooter/intruder drill.

All students have been participating in fire, tornado and lock-down drills for decades, but the addition of active intruder and evacuation for reasons such as bomb threat are now also requirements by Ohio Revised Code (ORC).

Faculty and Staff have been trained in a nationally recognized crisis reaction protocol, referred to as ALICE training and the safety of our students and staff is of the utmost concern and additional safety features have been added to assist in that mission.

This year, we will complete this mandatory training in some capacity to meet our legislative mandates. Each year, the district attempts to address a hypothetical scenario in which to train the staff and students. *As of now, the exact scenario has not been established, but be on the look-out for more information as we get closer to the training date.*

As noted previously, while no system is fool-proof, these steps should assist in the reaction time and safety of law enforcement should an event such as those in the national media happen on our small campus.

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*“Tis the Season”
(For Delays, Cancellations and Phone Calls!)*

Each year, as the winter approaches, I try to pass along some information regarding the thought process for closing or delaying school due to inclement weather. The following is the information that I have passed along in previous years—as you can see from the snowball throwing picture below, the inclement weather season is upon us!

Why are they not in school?

Winter has finally begun; it took some time but it is here. I hope you each have a wonderful and relaxing Christmas break enjoying time with family and friends while you have a safe holiday season.

As we approach this time of year, “snow days” are often the topic of conversation and exactly what process a superintendent utilizes for the alteration of a normal school day. Last year, I submitted an article for this newsletter entitled “Anatomy of a Snow Day,” and I thought it pertinent as we approach the typical winter season/events and may answer any questions you have as to the necessity of school delays and/or cancellations. Here is a re-print of that article:

Anatomy of a “Snow Day”

Experienced superintendents often talk of the stress and worry associated with calamity days and whether or not to make the decision to cancel school. Community members often ask what determines whether or not school is on-time, delayed, or cancelled and exactly what takes place when superintendents have those conversations (and yes, those conversations take place).

As superintendent, I can now attest to the process and having been through it, unfortunately, on multiple occasions, I know the frustration involved. After all, it is Ohio, and it is winter—snow is going to come. School will always take place during winter months, however, there are many considerations when cancelling school—and in an effort to be honest and frank, here are some of the things I consider during those times Cedar Cliff Local Schools have to be closed due to inclement weather.

First and foremost—Safety. There is a difference between a ‘*consideration*’ and a ‘*determining factor*.’ For all intent and purpose, there is only ONE determinant for a calamity cancellation/delay, that being safety. Superintendents may consider many things when making a decision, but the one true factor is always the well-being of the students. Safety in all facets—safety on the roads for the buses and our drivers, for the students waiting at the stops/homes, for the parking lots and parents dropping off students for the day in the hustle and bustle of their morning routine, for the new teen-age drivers who are facing slippery streets for the first time, and for staff who may be driving some distance to get to the workplace. Superintendents carry a heavy burden—no superintendent wants to attend a funeral or visit a family in the hospital after an accident in which a child was traveling to school.

Snow Day (cont.)

After safety, all else is merely a consideration:

Second—Other perspectives. Yes—we call colleagues, those others entrusted with making the decision. Having other perspectives and input is valuable, especially when your colleagues have more experience. To not have that interaction is naïve and an example of poor judgment, in my opinion. The opportunity for criticism is ever-present; it is exacerbated when a call is made that goes ‘against the grain’ and leaves your district in a solitary position.

Third—Timing. It is very frustrating school starts at 8:00 am (roughly) and you believe weather conditions will be fine by then; however, you must make your decision at 5:30 am. Drivers begin arriving for work, preparing their buses for pre-trip activities, and then begin their routes shortly after. It is quite common to expect conditions to be acceptable by the start of school but you wonder if there is a chance that you may not get the weather you expect. Then, the district is caught with drivers on routes that make the superintendent’s decision questionable.

Fourth—Days out already. Most folks think at some point in the year, “Well, they had 5 days to burn and had only used one, so they cancelled today.” I detest that point of view—NO good educator likes to “burn” a day of a child’s education, when, for some children, that school day is the best sense of normal they have. Having said that, ‘pressure’ seems to mount as one nears that 5-day ‘limit’ imposed by the state. So, do some superintendents consider the number of days missed already? Probably so.

Fifth—Activities at school. OAT testing, OGT testing, expensive presenters that cannot be re-scheduled admittedly do enter into your mind when making the decision. But to be very clear, entering your mind and rising to the level of safety are not the same—while “what is happening that day” may be a consideration, but remember, it is not a determination for a delay or cancellation. It is merely what crosses one’s mind as a repercussion for the actions of altering the daily schedule.

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Pass along the Information!

If you know of someone who would like to receive the newsletter, feel free to forward the information. We will also have copies available at the Board Office and the Senior Citizens’ Center if someone would like the traditional paper copy. Once again, you can sign up to receive the newsletter from the Cedar Cliff Website at:

<http://www.cedarcliffschools.net/>

Want to Stay Up-to-Date on Cedarville High School Athletics?

As newspaper coverage for local high school sports teams decreases, many fans have turned to alternative ways to stay current on their high school team's seasons. **Scorestream**, a web/app based resource offers fans a way to report the scores and statistics and provide a means for those who are not in attendance to stay up-to-date on the High School happenings.

While not all sports teams are tracked, it is a way to stay current on the teams that utilize this site. If you (or someone you know) would like to see how our teams are faring, check out: <https://scorestream.com/team/cedarville-high-school-indians-12891> and follow the Indians as they progress through the seasons.



Two Cedarville Athletes Sign Letters of intent!

On Tuesday, November 30, Seniors Drew Mason and Caden McKinion signed letters of intent to run Track (Drew) at Walsh University and play Baseball (Caden) at Cedarville University. Drew will graduate this year as a successful runner for the Track and Cross-Country Teams, while Caden will graduate after a very successful high school baseball career. Both of these young men have represented CHS well and will, undoubtedly, have successful College careers in their respective athletic arenas. *Congrats* to Drew's parents, Chad and Carrie, as well as *Congrats* to Caden's parents Randy and April. We are proud of both of you, Drew and Caden!



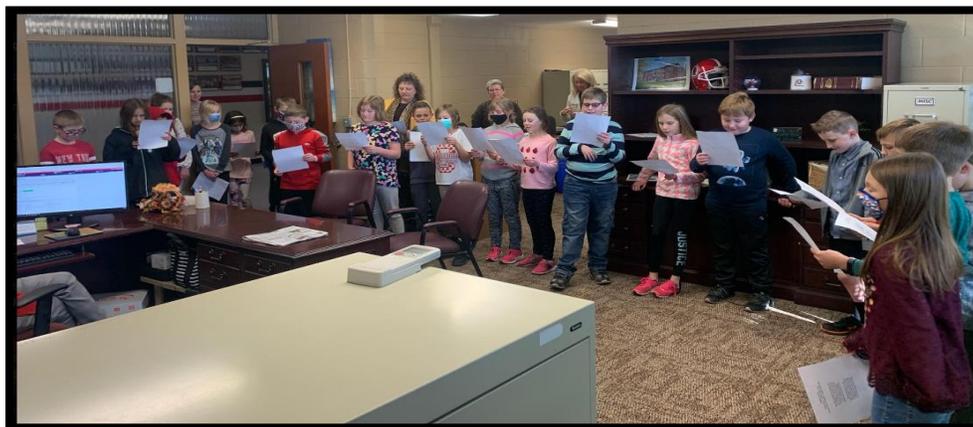
Another College Signing to Pass Along!!

On Wednesday, November 10, CHS Senior Alexa Black signed a Letter of Intent to join the Equestrian Team for Southern Methodist University (SMU). Alexa has had a tremendous career with her interest and equestrian pursuits, and while Cedarville does not have an equestrian team for the school, Alexa's accomplishments are definitely worth noting. *Congratulations Alexa and Good Luck at SMU!*



What are you Grateful For??

Recently, Elementary Guidance Counselor, Angie Curlette, took the time to work with the fourth grade as they composed a song illustrating their "Thankfulness" during the Thanksgiving Holiday. It is a great lesson for all of use to reflect on our blessings and we thank Mrs. Curlette for teaching the lesson to our elementary students as part of their learning process. Do you think you could write a song about and perform for all the reasons you have to be thankful?



Cedar Cliff Honors Retiring Board of Education Member

During the Monday, November 15th, Cedar Cliff Local School District Board of Education meeting, the board took some time to recognize the dedication and service of one of its own members. Mrs. Gail Martindale has served on the Board of Education at Cedar Cliff for twenty-four years. She has also served as the Cedar Cliff representative on the Greene County Career Center Board of Education for the last fourteen years. During that time, she has held the position of Board Vice President, Board President, and has dedicated her time to various committees for the district as well.

Her service does not stop there, Superintendent Chad Mason noted, “Mrs. Martindale has also served as a member of the Ohio Southwest District Board for the last fourteen years as well.” Mr. Mason continued, “Gail has received honorary awards from the Ohio School Board Association and even an Honorary State Degree from the FFA. She has done a great deal for the Cedar Cliff community and the Board of Education; I will truly miss working alongside her while leading the district.”

When asked about the highlights as she reflects on her time, Mrs. Martindale stated, “It has been a pleasure to work with many wonderful board members, superintendents, administrators, and teachers who have had a positive impact on the education of our students and I am extremely proud to have been a part of both the construction of the new Cedar Cliff Local Schools facility and Greene County Career Center during my tenure on both Boards of Education.”

Board of Education Vice President Matt Sheridan stated, “Gail has been instrumental as a board member in serving on board committees, holding offices, and traveling thousands of miles representing the interests of Cedar Cliff during her tenure. The district owes her a huge debt of gratitude.”

Mrs. Martindale will finish the 2021 year as a Board of Education member and President. Her position will then be filled by, just recently elected, Brittney Gillaugh when she is sworn in during the January, 2022, Cedar Cliff Local School District organizational meeting.



Pictured above: Mrs. Gail Martindale receives a copy of the Board resolution honoring her nearly 25-years of service to the Cedar Cliff Board of Education and community.

Looking for a Great Christmas Idea??

CedarCare Pharmacy is now, once again, stocking some wonderful Cedarville Indians Apparel for your holiday shopping needs. All proceeds benefit the Cedarville High School Athletic Department and the items have been garnering great reviews! So remember to stop by if you are in the need for some great gifts—or you could pass along the information to Santa if your child is asking for some school spirit items under the tree! Just another bit of information to pass along, the pharmacy will be open during “*Little Town of Lights*” for sales of all merchandise—see you there!



Vaccines Available for Elementary Students

Cedar Cliff is working with CedarCare Pharmacy and passing along information regarding COVID vaccines for our younger population. While it is the choice of every parent as to vaccinate their children, the district believes it is with the best of integrity that we pass along the information so every family can make the best decisions for their family.

The flyer below indicates the hours, times, and process for vaccines offered at the pharmacy.



Cedar Care
Village Pharmacy

PEDIATRIC COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC

Cedar Care Village Pharmacy will offer the Pfizer pediatric COVID-19 vaccine to children 5 to 11 years old at two upcoming clinics:

Saturday, December 11 | 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
Saturday, January 8 | 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Cedar Care Village Pharmacy
63 N. Main St., Cedarville, OH 45314

**SIGN UP FOR THE CLINIC AT
CEDARCARERX.COM
OR SCAN THE QR CODE.**

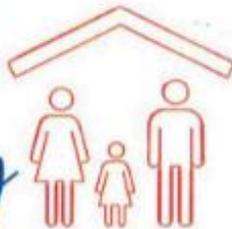


Additional Information to Pass Along

**LOOKING FOR A
BETTER JOB?
WORRIED ABOUT BILLS?**
Create a Brighter Future
for You and Your Family



United Way of the
Greater Dayton Area



**Strong
FAMILIES**

helping families navigate and
prevent financial crisis

Get the support you need to earn more.
We offer your family:

- Individualized assistance
- Support in working with landlords
- Referrals for community resources and benefits
- Education resources for both parent and child
- Support in gaining and maintaining employment
- Possible financial assistance

Improve your family's financial stability through the Strong Families program, call Ariel Lee **(937) 519-0272** today! Or email ariell@homefull.org



1 in 5

households in our region
are behind on rent

34%

of students will fall behind
due to changing schools

To afford fair market
rent for a two
bedroom, a minimum
wage earner must work



**74 hours
per week**

99%

of families in the program stayed
in their homes or received a
supported transfer

The poster features a repeating pattern of pancakes with syrup and butter in the background. The central text is contained within a brown rectangular box with a dotted border at the top and bottom. The text is as follows:

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

Cedarville FFA

PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

DECEMBER 11TH FROM 7-11AM

IN THE CAFETERIA AT CEDARVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

COST: FREE-WILL DONATION THAT
WILL GO TOWARDS OUR FFA SENIOR
SCHOLARSHIPS

Want it to-go?

THIS YEAR WE WILL HAVE A DRIVE THROUGH AVAILABLE!

Upcoming December Events

Wednesday, December 1

Fifth Grade Gifted Testing
5:30pm--MS Girls' Basketball (H) vs. Greenon
6:00pm—HS Girls' Basketball (A) vs. Southeastern HS

Thursday, December 2

Fifth Grade Gifted Testing
Quick Recall @ Greeneview (4:00)
5:30pm--MS Boys' Basketball (H) vs. Southeastern HS
5:30pm--MS Girls' Basketball (A) vs. Southeastern HS

Friday, December 3

Fifth Grade Gifted Testing
10th Graders going to GCCC
6:00pm—HS Boys' Basketball (A) vs. Catholic Central High School

Saturday, December 4

12:00pm—HS Girls' Basketball (A) vs. Catholic Central High School
6:00pm—HS Boys' Basketball (H) vs. Bellefontaine HS

Monday, December 6

Athletic Boosters Meeting A114 (7:00)
Quick Recall @ Mechanicsburg (4:00)
5:30pm--MS Boys' Basketball (A) vs. Madison-Plains
5:30pm--MS Girls' Basketball (H) vs. Madison-Plains
6:00pm—HS Girls' Basketball (H) vs. Greenon Jr/Sr. High School

Tuesday, December 7

5th Grade Field Trip to Ohio Statehouse (8:30-12:30)
6:00pm—HS Boys' Basketball (H) vs. Southeastern HS

Wednesday, December 8

5:30pm--MS Girls' Basketball (H) vs. Greeneview
6:00pm—HS Girls' Basketball (H) vs. Greeneview HS

Thursday, December 9

Elementary Christmas Concert (6:00 in HS Gym)
Middle School/High School Christmas Concert (7:15 -8:30 in HS Gym)
Quick Recall @ Southeastern (4:00)

Friday, December 10

6:00pm—HS Boys' Basketball (H) vs. Greeneview HS

Saturday, December 11

10:00am--MS Boys' Basketball (H) vs. Catholic Central
10:00am--MS Girls' Basketball (A) vs. Catholic Central
6:00pm—HS Girls' Basketball (H) vs. Madison-Plains High School

Monday, December 13

Middle School Spelling Bee (8:00 am)
Quick Recall – Home vs. Greenon (4:00)
Regular Board Meeting (7:00)

Wednesday, December 15

K-12 Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.
4th Grade Field Trip to Wright State Nutter Center (8:30-1:45)

Thursday, December 16

K-12 Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.
Quick Recall – Home vs. West Liberty (4:00)
5:30pm--MS Boys' Basketball (A) vs. Northeastern
5:30pm--MS Girls' Basketball (H) vs. Northeastern

Friday, December 17

K-12 Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.
6:00pm—HS Boys' Basketball (H) vs. Madison-Plains High School

Saturday, December 18

10:00am--MS Boys' Basketball (H) vs. Fairbanks
10:00am--MS Girls' Basketball (A) vs. Fairbanks
6:00pm—HS Boys' Basketball (A) vs. Fairfield HS (Leesburg)

Monday, December 20

Christmas Break Begins-- No School
5:30pm--MS Boys' Basketball (H) vs. West Jefferson
5:30pm--MS Girls' Basketball (A) vs. West Jefferson

Tuesday, December 21

6:00pm—HS Boys' Basketball (A) vs. Northeastern High School

Wednesday, December 22

6:00pm—HS Girls' Basketball (H) vs. Fairbanks High School

Wednesday, December 29

6:00pm—HS Girls' Basketball (A) vs. Triad High School

**** All Administrative Central Offices Closed:
December 23, 2021--January 2, 2022**