

**Cedar Cliff Local Schools
Superintendent's Newsletter
May 2020**



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.”

As this school year winds down, I know we all can say there has been nothing like this in our lifetimes. Our students were told, on a Thursday afternoon, they would not be returning to school for some time, to get their belongings, and I began having conversations with staff members regarding remote learning.

I am so proud of the faculty and the administration. Our teachers were given one day's notice to begin preparing lessons for remote instruction—*one day!* Prior to this pandemic, it was quite common to hear of the ‘inefficiencies’ of public schools or how non-caring public school teachers can be. I think we have found quite the opposite in Cedar Cliff—truly caring and compassionate individuals who are going to great strides to make the best of a unique and stressful situation.

For the fall, we have been told to begin preparations for a school year with social distancing measures in place. Superintendents around the state are not certain exactly what a school in that situation looks like. How do we feed students at lunch and limit gatherings? How do we have a class with 25 students and limit their space to six feet apart? How will we blend the remote learning we experimented with this school year into what will be the new normal for a school year moving forward? We have no answers for those, and many other questions.

It does beg asking the question, what if Ohio moved away from the agrarian calendar which has dominated the public school setting for over 200 years? If the winter months are the most likely for pandemic health concerns, and the winter months are the most problematic for transportation issues, then why do we take June, July, and August off for a break? Why not start a nine-month school year at the beginning of March and end just before Thanksgiving, making the traditional “summer” break occur with December, January, and February?

I can hear the protests now, “Oh, we can't do that, we have the fair!” or, “We can't do that, what about summer employment and summer camps?” I am not encouraging a new calendar nor do I envision a new system ever emerging in the short time I have left in my educational career. I am just pointing out, this pandemic has forever changed a lot in our culture. I do not believe there will be whole-scale changes based on this pandemic; however, I do honestly believe if the United States encounters anything like this again, there will be changes—both in the outcomes AND in how we as a society react to the alarm bells.

I also believe in the power of my students. I have been quite impressed with their ability to adapt and maintain the best sense of normalcy they can despite the times. It was not merely the staff who displayed flexibility and intestinal fortitude during the past two months—our students lost a lot and displayed a great deal of resiliency—despite society’s stereotypical expectations for them.

I, like everyone with whom I speak, just wants to feel “normal” again. But moving forward, I often reflect and wonder exactly what normal is anymore. Will we have new schedules, new rules, new guidelines, or new manners to greet each other in public? I am not certain and honestly, only time will tell. I do wish all of our graduates a safe and healthy start to their futures and pleasant memories of the time cut short at the end of their educational careers.

Best regards,



Chad Mason, Superintendent

Thank you, Voters!

While it is early and the voting is not finalized, the “unofficial” results of the Issue 8 Substitute School levy seem to indicate support for the Cedar Cliff Operating Levy. On behalf of the Board of Education and the entire district, I would like to extend a sincere, “*Thank you!*”

We realize the votes will be coming in and continue to be counted through May 8th, but regardless of the final tally, the willingness of the Cedar Cliff community to support the school district and its programming is a vital component to the educational reputation and services provided to our students. The administration wants all community members to know, we fully understand the trust it takes for voter support and will do everything it takes to continue to honor and deserve that trust.

Thank you, again, as we cross our fingers and hope the final tally holds true to the unofficial results.



Open Enrollment Information

Open Enrollment applications will be taken beginning on May 15th at 9:00 am. ***We are changing the process this year due to social distancing guidelines.*** Applications will be available at 9:00 am on the front page of the website under the gray tab titled, “*Open Enrollment Information.*” Parents/Guardians should fill out the forms and scan/email back to Martha Campbell, in the Superintendent’s office at: MCampbell@ccliff.net. The date and time the electronic correspondence is received shall serve as the time stamp for Open Enrollment processing. Families may also complete the forms and send a photo taken with a cell phone to the same address, should a scanner be unavailable.

Kindergarten parents wishing to open enroll should attend kindergarten screening in their home district of residence before completing the open enrollment paperwork. ***Parents of currently open enrolled children must fill out the intent letter and return to Mrs. Campbell in the Board Office if they have not done so already.***

Substitute Custodians Needed



Have you ever thought about helping out at the school? We are currently looking for substitute custodians who can be available on an as-needed basis. If interested in becoming a substitute custodian, please send an email to our maintenance director, Kris Williams: kris.williams@ccliff.net

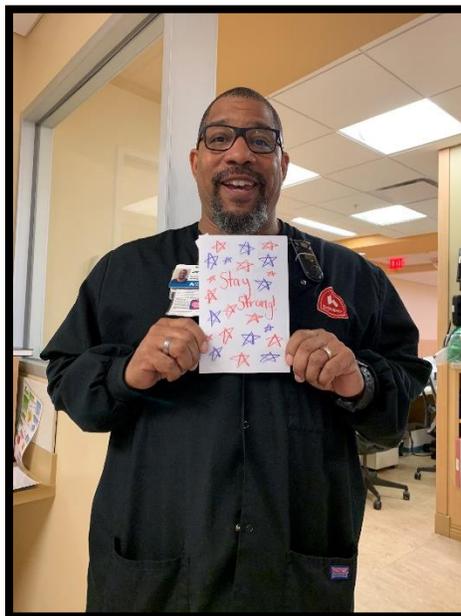
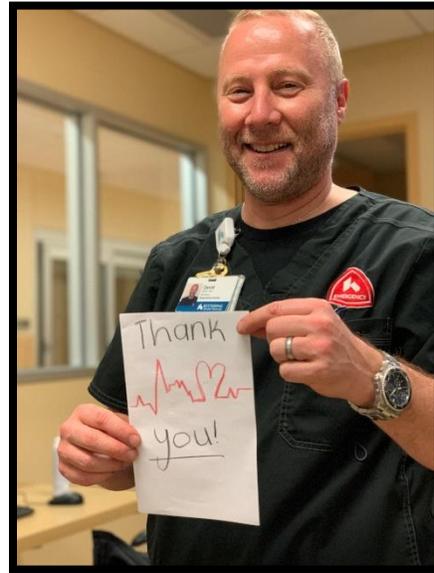
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College Credit Plus (CCP) Important Note!

This is just a reminder, ANY student who drops a College Credit Plus (CCP) course after 14 days will be required to reimburse the district for the cost of the course. Ohio funding allows colleges to charge the district for dropped classes after 14 days, *even if the student received no credit for the course.* Cedar Cliff Local School District cannot bear the cost of courses not completed by students. Please consider this if your son/daughter participates in the CCP program. We thank you for your understanding.

***Just something to make the Superintendent Proud!
(And you should be, too)***

During this pandemic shutdown, there have been several class projects and assignments that show the best of what our students and staff have to offer. Consider the Cedarville Middle School Service club sending letters to first responders and thanking them for a job well done or just a note of encouragement. From the reports of the folks who received these small gestures, it looks like *a little note goes a long way!*



Proud (cont.)

Just take a look at a social media post from a health care worker in New Orleans after getting some notes from our Middle School Service Club—As Mr. Statt stated, “*We just have great kids—period!*”

Last night was one of the hardest shifts I've ever worked as an ER nurse - top 5, easily. Night three of five-in-a-row is done and I feel just drained. NOLA got hit hard and in the plateau/recovery phase it's becoming difficult to find beds in house for ER patients since the COVID cases that need to be admitted are seeing longer hospital stays. So we have to rise to the challenge of handling our inpatients and manage other sick people arriving for any number of reasons. Not any different than usual, that's part of the job, and this ain't meant to complain by any means.

But I tell you what, the community support for HCPs has been so incredible.

And it's really the little things that mean something - restaurants open up their kitchens to make meals specifically for ER staff and bakeries donate cookies and treats.

The sun still comes up the next day, no matter what, and it's still just as beautiful - if not arguably more - reminding you that nothing is forever. All things come to an end - good or bad.

I came home this morning after a long shift and there was a package next to my door - it was filled with a bunch of handmade cards from kids in Ohio collected and sent by [Verity Uremovich Digel](#). They had so many encouraging things written on them, and while it really made me miss home, it totally took away all the stress and defeat from the night before.

I believe that while some things we experience in our lives can be terrible those things really make the

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I believe that while some things we experience in our lives can be terrible, those things really make the amazing parts about being human just shine. I have so many thank you notes to write when my experience is over and I feel so blessed to have the people in my life that have sent me care packages or made me masks to take with me or sent me scrub caps or even just sent me a message to say "Hello" and let me know they're safe and checking in to see how I am.

I don't know if I'm helping, or if I'm making a difference.

But I know I'm not alone.

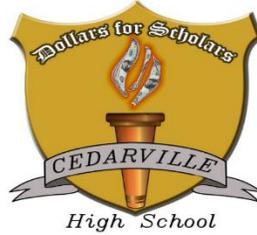
I'm only one, but I am one. ❤️❤️



Food Service Lunch Pick-Up Important Notes!

The Cedar Cliff Food Service Department will be providing breakfast/lunch pick up on Tuesday from 8:00-10:00 am through Tuesday, May 12. **The 12th will be the last day the district will be able to provide those food items.** Again, if you would like to be a part of this program for the last two weeks, feel free to let Gay Christian or Terry Satchell know of your desire by email at: GChristian@ccliff.net or TSatchell@ccliff.net.

Please Consider Donating!



The Cedar Cliff Educational Endowment Program

Over the years, many talented and hard-working Cedarville High School graduates have furthered their education and gone on to accomplish great things. Additionally, many of those students were fortunate to receive financial assistance or scholarships to offset the cost of a college education and achieve their future goals.

Typically, financial assistance is provided either to families whose income is insufficient to supply resources for a graduate's continuing education *or* to those students achieving exemplary grades and a standardized test (ACT/SAT) score. We are often asked, "What about those students whose parents earn just enough to prohibit needs assistance or the graduate who did well in school academically, but just below the cut-off for academic awards?" In essence, what about the student who earns a 3.0 or better GPA whose middle-income family works hard struggling to provide the help for the dream of a college education?

Thus, the idea of the Cedar Cliff Educational Endowment was formed. The administration and Board of Education saw the need and expressed the desire to help *ALL* graduates earning a 3.0 or higher regardless of need and/or final academic standing. Quite frankly, the desire was to assist any student, regardless of their background or testing results, who simply meets one criteria—that of a 3.0 GPA. It is our goal to provide financial assistance with a check issued to any graduate who provides proof of college enrollment who meets the GPA requirement.

This endowment program cannot achieve its goal without your support! Endowment programs such as this exist only with donations and support from community members and donors. It is our goal to "grow" these funds so the original principal remains and the interest earned is distributed to those qualifying graduates. It is our hope by publicizing this program, donors and community members will remember the Cedar Cliff Endowment Program when searching for altruistic and charitable locations for wills, estates, and tax purposes. All donations are tax deductible as the program is recognized under the *Greene Giving Community Foundation*.

For additional questions see Mrs. Joy Kitzmiller, Treasurer Cedar Cliff Local School District.

Tribute to the class of 2020!

Cedarville High School, like many other districts around the state, participated in the “20 for 20” honor for the class of 2020. On April 20, at 8:20 pm, the high school football stadium lights were lit up to acknowledge the sacrifices made by the students of this year’s graduating class.



If you are interested....Free Summer Book Program!



Sign up for Free Books in Ohio with the Imagination Library!

The Ohio Governor’s Imagination Library is working to put more books in the hands of Ohio’s children and ensure that every student enters kindergarten ready to succeed. Imagination Library was started by country singer Dolly Parton and offers age-appropriate books to children from birth to age 5, regardless of parent income.

The Ohio Department of Education Office for Early Learning and School Readiness is encouraging all preschools, Head Start/Early Head Start programs, and childcare settings to share information about the Ohio Governor’s Imagination Library and encourage families to enroll into the [free monthly book program](#).

Seniors need help with the cost of college?

Graduating seniors looking for assistance with the high cost of college tuition may want to consider the armed forces reserves as an option—below is a flyer distributed as a reminder. If you are interested, this could be a great way to graduate with a degree and a lot less debt.

100% College Tuition Paid

The **Ohio National Guard Scholarship**

pays 100% tuition at any Ohio public university.

4-Year Institutions

- Bowling Green State University
- Central State University
- Cleveland State University
- Kent State University
- Miami University
- University of Akron
- University of Toledo
- Youngstown State University
- Shawnee State University
- Ohio State University
- Ohio University
- University of Cincinnati
- Wright State University

2-Year Institutions

- Cuyahoga Community College - Metro
- Edison State Community College
- Jefferson State College
- Lakeland Community College
- Lorain Community College
- Northwest State Community College
- Owens Community College
- Rio Grande Community College
- Terra Tech College
- Stark State Community College
- Belmont Tech College
- Central Ohio Tech College
- Cincinnati State Tech College
- Clark State Community College
- Columbus State Community College
- Hocking Tech College
- James A. Rhodes State College
- Marion Tech College
- Muskingum Area Tech College
- North Central State College
- Sinclair Community College
- South State Community College
- Washington State Community College

Private Institutions

The Ohio National Guard Scholarship will also pay the average cost of Ohio public university tuition to private universities in the state of Ohio. For a complete list of eligible institutions talk to your local Army National Guard recruiter, or download the Ohio National Guard mobile application.

NATIONAL GUARD
We Live Here | We Work Here | We Serve Here

For more information contact
Staff Sgt. Christopher Topel
(937) 231-3140
christopher.a.topel.mil@mail.mil

Download the Ohio National Guard app for Android and iPhone

Message us on Facebook at [facebook.com/oharmyguardrecruiting](https://www.facebook.com/oharmyguardrecruiting)

Or visit: [NATIONALGUARD.com/ohio](https://www.nationalguard.com/ohio)



Graduation for the Class of 2020 is set!!



The graduation ceremony for the class of 2020 is set for May 28, 2020. Due to social distancing rules and guidelines, the ceremony will be a combination “virtual” and “drive-in” ceremony and will take place in the High School parking lot. All ceremony procedures were approved by Greene County Health Department officials and will be very limited in public participation. Each graduate will have a limited number of family/guests permitted to attend so, unfortunately, the general public will not be permitted.

More information will soon be forthcoming to all seniors and their families, but we wanted the date and time to be communicated so these graduates and their families can prepare.

Information on Kindergarten Registration

This year, the annual kindergarten registration will be held in a virtual manner to address social distancing guidelines established by the Governor and the Ohio Health Department. If you refer to the front page of the district website, you will notice a tab an informational video regarding the kindergarten registration. If you click on the link at: <https://www.cedarcliffschools.net/> you will be able to access an informational video and a listing of information pertaining to this endeavor.

We are asking all parents to view this video and contact the elementary office for any questions that may arise.

STOP THE SPREAD

Calendar of Events
Cedar Cliff Schools Public Calendar
Today ← → Thursday, April 30

Thursday, April 30
Shut Down
4:30pm CANCELLED: V B T
5:00pm CANCELLED: MS B
Friday, May 1
Shut Down
5:00pm CANCELLED: V B B
5:00pm CANCELLED: V G S
Saturday, May 2
9:00am MS BG TR Away We
11:00am V B BB Home Beth
Sunday, May 3
Shut Down
Monday, May 4
Shut Down
5:00pm V B BB Away Green
5:00pm V G SB Away Green

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time - New York + Google Calendar

Parent/Student Resources
Click here for more info on Kindergarten registration.

- Online Registration
- Attendance
- Parent Access Gradebook
- Yearbook for Sale
- Cafeteria Menus

Message from Superintendent Chad Mason:
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.

We are glad you are visiting our site. Feel free to peruse the information as well as check out the promotional video created by our CHS students highlighting our district and community. I am sure you will agree, Cedar Cliff Local Schools are the perfect place to educate your child!

Best regards,

Chad Mason - Superintendent

Parent/Student Resources
Nondiscrimination Statement

PaySchools Central Info
PayForIt is now PaySchools Central. Click on the PaySchools title above to create an account or the links below to add money to your PayForIt lunch account or to pay school fees.

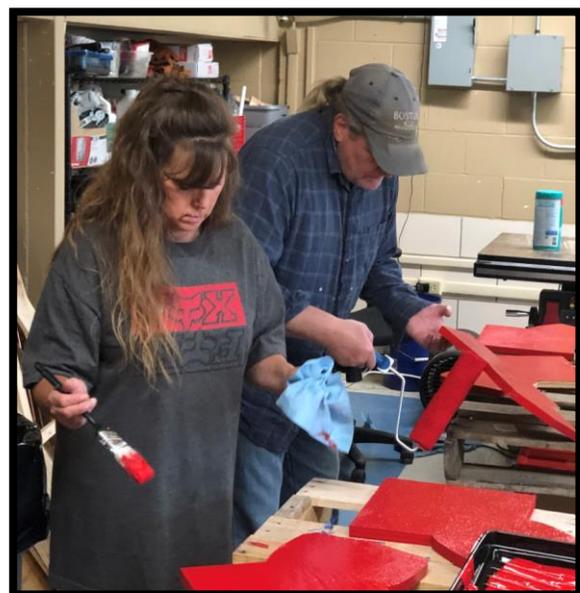
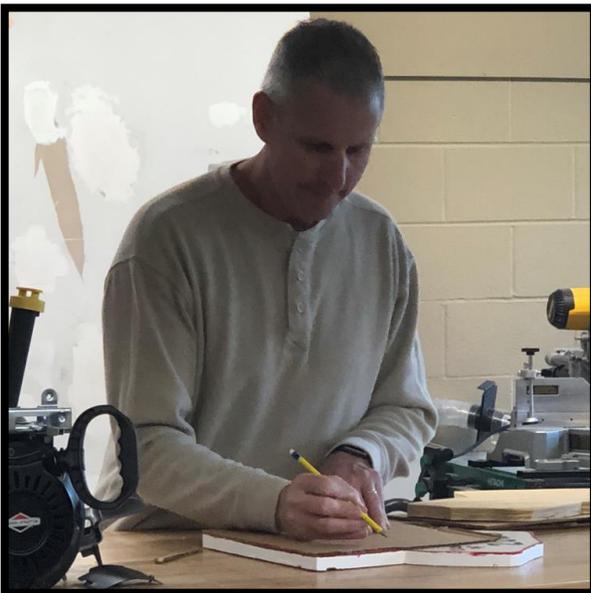
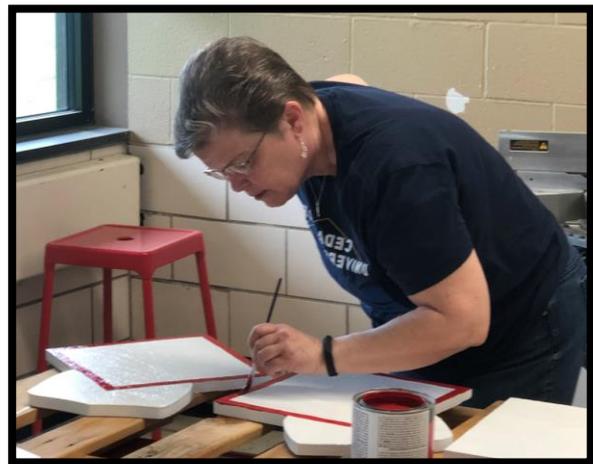
Manage Lunch Account
PaySchools Central

Athletics Calendar

Superintendent's School Closure Update

Honoring our Graduates

While the class of 2020 has been impacted the most by the Corona-virus pandemic, members of the administration, the support staff, and the faculty took the time to do something a little “special” to acknowledge graduate success. Below you will see pictures of faculty and staff painting ‘graduation boards’ to display through town to acknowledge their accomplishments. We thank the employees for their desire and willingness to give our students an extra little “pat on the back!”



Information for Parents Regarding Cancelled Field Trips!

Parents of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. If your student was signed up to attend Midnight Mania (\$20), you can either receive a refund or apply their event payment to their student fees. If you decide on a refund, these funds will be available for pick up the week of May 18th when students return to check out for the year. If you want a refund, you must contact Cheryl Sims at 937/766-5633 or csims@ccliff.net by **Friday, May 8th**. **If we do not get a response**, we will apply the refund to your student's fee account.

Parents of 9th, 10th, 11th graders. If your student was signed up to attend the Creative Expressions Field Trip (\$25), Midnight Mania (\$10) or the Spanish Field Trip (\$15), you can either receive a refund or apply their event payment to their student fees. If you decide on a refund, these funds will be available for pick up the week of May 18th when students return to check out for the year. If you want a refund, you must contact Cheryl Sims at 937/766-5633 or csims@ccliff.net by **Friday, May 8th**. **If we do not get a response** we will apply the refund to your student's fee account.

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Additional Cancellations



Due to the Corona-virus outbreak, the Cedar Cliff Local School District was trying to come up with alternative plans for several events that were cancelled at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Those events include:

- MS Midnight Mania
- Elementary Field Day
- CHS Prom

While we tried to develop alternative celebrations and concepts, ultimately, the ability to hold ANY school events was dependent on the school campus being open for students and community social gatherings.

Recently, the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Education closed K-12 campuses through the end of June 2020. As such, it is no longer possible to continue attempting to schedule these events so far into the summer months when all planning for the 2020-2021 school year will be in full effect. We apologize to everyone for this news, as we know how much the students look forward to these important and traditional endeavors.

Return Week Scheduled for May 18-22!

The Cedar Cliff Local School District has scheduled a Textbook, Chromebook, and Materials “Return Week” for May 18-22. To honor social distancing guidelines, families will be given a return “window” of time whereby they have 20 minutes to come into the building, return all school property and clean out any items from lockers or classrooms which students may have left behind prior to the mandated shut-down period.

We are trying to honor everyone’s schedule so building principals will be putting an electronic sign-in sheet for families to reserve their place in line. Staff members will be available to assist with collecting all materials and dispense other items to students such as academic/athletic awards, completed projects, and to assist in collecting any outstanding school fees due at the end of the year.

If you have any questions about this week or how it will work in a safe and social distancing manner, please contact your child’s building principal.

