



Your Schools

Bedford Board of Education,
Bedford, Ohio

Superintendent's Message

Greetings,

It is hard to believe that half of our school year has come to a close. It has been so delightful spending time in our schools and our communities getting to know our stakeholders and most importantly, our students. Our team of administrators, teachers, and support staff has been working very hard on our district goals, which include:

1. All students will graduate on time and equipped to be successful in college and/or career.
2. All students will be exposed to real-world applications in a warm, welcoming, respectful environment.
3. There will be an increase in student achievement as measured by the state-administered assessments.
4. Through a targeted and specific communications and marketing plan, we will increase parent and community involvement.

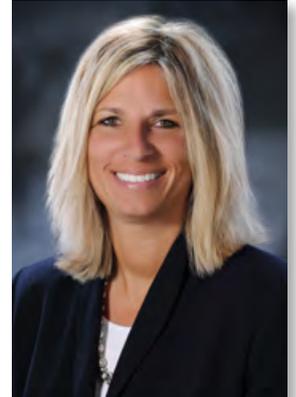


If you are interested in hearing about the progress made towards these goals and the work that has been taking place, please access my **First 100 Days**

presentation at <http://tinyurl.com/celico>, or look for it on BCS-TV, Time Warner Channel 22.

The second part of the school year brings a lot of excitement. One endeavor in which we will embark is strategic planning. We believe it is important to hear the feedback of our community partners and parents, so we are hosting 13 focus groups in January and February with different groups of parents, students, staff and community members. Two of these sessions that will be open to all

district residents will be on February 16, 2016; one from 9-10:30 a.m. and the other from 6-7:30 p.m. These sessions will be held in the Board Room at the Administrative Center, located at 475 Northfield Road in Bedford. The focus groups will be facilitated by a third-party entity that is helping us in the strategic planning process. In an effort to encourage open dialogue, school district personnel will not be present at these sessions. All feedback will remain anonymous. We would love for you to participate. Refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to Roxane Stenger by phone at 440-439-4777 or email at rstenger@bedford.k12.oh.us.



I look forward to the continued success of our students and welcome you into our schools to witness first-hand the greatness that our students have to offer. Each time I see them on the court, in the classroom, on the stage, or in the hallways, I can enthusiastically and proudly say that I am honored to be the superintendent of such a great school district. Not only am I proud to be the superintendent, but also I will soon be able to call myself a resident of the Bedford City Schools, as I will be moving to the district in the upcoming months.

NOTE

The school calendar has been revised due to the change of the Election Day for the primary election. The primary election will now be held on Tuesday, March 15, not May 3. **Therefore, there will be no school on March 15, 2016. School will be in session on Tuesday, May 3rd.** Please mark your calendars accordingly.

They're Not Just Morning Announcements Anymore!

Columbus Intermediate School Principal **Kimberly Sterlekar** was afraid that their school PA announcements had become mundane and many of the students weren't paying attention to the information that was shared. So she presented a challenge to the teachers to transition to digital announcements.



Columbus Intervention Specialist **Alison Duiker** accepted the challenge and quickly got to work researching digital editing programs. After choosing the WeVideo program, she distributed applications for positions on the newly formed News Team. From the 43 students who completed applications (which included two

teacher recommendation letters and an essay on "Why would you like to be on the news team?"), there were 12 selected to form the team.

"Those students are committed to doing whatever it takes to get the job done and have truly taken charge of this project," Mrs. Sterlekar said. "They have been staying after school every Tuesday until 5 p.m., sacrificing recess time on occasion, and sometimes coming to school early."

The team voted that the club would be named CIS News (Columbus Intermediate School News). The first digital announcement aired on October 12th. The team also produces a monthly Newscast, which includes special segments such as Community News, Sports Talk, Excellence in Action, and Updates to school-wide challenges. CIS News has interviewed Superintendent **Dr. Andrea Celico**, Patrick Whitley, a retired Fox 8 cameraman, Damon DeLeaver, a Bedford Heights Firefighter, and Bedford Mayor Stan Koci. The team has also been invited by WKYC Channel 3 traffic reporter Danielle Wiggins (a BHS alumna) to travel to Cleveland on January 29th to take a tour of the WKYC facilities and be part of the studio audience for the filming of *Live on Lakeside!*

"This news team exudes excitement," Mrs. Duiker said. "Students are confident, professional, and the product they produce is outstanding. Each day they learn more. It's amazing how far they have come in just a few months!" For a sampling of the team in action, please visit:

<https://www.wevideo.com/hub/#view/542955267>

<https://www.wevideo.com/hub/#view/519506760>



Row 1: Haley Davis, Dionna Lee, Austin Anderson & Jaden Wiley

Row 2: Kiyah Thompson, Aniaya Gibson, Tenille Foote & Mackenzie Cuff

Row 3: Cydney Harkness, Helen Needham, Emily Garberich & Amanda Adkins

Row 4: Columbus teachers Heather Spolarich and Alison Duiker & parent volunteer Jen Garberich

Missing From Photo: Colton Francis, Carmen Ningler-Farone, Cole Browning

Glendale Welcomes "HistoryMakers"

For the fifth consecutive year, Glendale Primary School has participated in the Back to School with the HistoryMakers program. This is a nationwide event in which hundreds of African American living legends, or "History-Makers," go out into the schools to tell their stories and raise awareness of the achievements of African Americans in communities across the country.

This year, Glendale was selected to have two HistoryMakers visit—**Steven Minter** and **Dr. Woodrow Whitlow, Jr.** Mr. Minter had served as president and executive director of the Cleveland Foundation, the nation's first community foundation and second largest, with assets of \$1.5 billion.



Pictured with Glendale Principal Nora Beach are Mr. Minter (left) and Dr. Whitlow (right).

Dr. Whitlow is a NASA aerospace engineer and federal government administrator. He served as Director of the NASA Glenn Research Center before being named the Associate Administrator for Mission Support at NASA Headquarters.

Marketing Students Connect with Community

Studies have shown that making real-world connections promotes student achievement and future success. At Bedford High School, real-world connections that are close to home are helping 43 students enrolled in the Marketing program. Marketing is one of the high school's Career and Technical Education programs that provide students a holistic education integrating academics, employability, citizenship and professional skill attainment.

"We seek to equip our students for skills for BHS, for college and for career," said marketing teacher **Melanie Kirin**. "The students are working side by side with industry professionals in digital marketing, retail, product development and sales/marketing. Community partners who are industry professionals have taken these students from the traditional classroom and placed them into the classroom of the real world, where they act as the students' teachers."

Community partners include Proximity Marketing, Art of Beauty, Tim Lally Chevrolet, TEMA Digital, Chipotle, Wendy's, Marc's and other local retail outlets and family-run businesses. Through these partnerships, students are learning a number of skills ranging from building an interactive, globally based online application called worldinteract.net, to production, warehousing and customer service skills.

Scott Froelich, the President of TEMA Digital, spent an entire day speaking to 100 students on entrepreneurship and digital marketing. He has hired three senior interns to write blogs and develop content marketing skills, and is working with these students every week to eventually get them Hubspot certified. The HubSpot Certification curriculum covers the 14 core concepts of the inbound marketing methodology and how

to apply them using the HubSpot software. Certification is a two-part process involving both an exam and a practicum.

"These jobs empower the students in so many ways," Kirin said. "The industry professionals come back and tell me that the students actually know quite a bit of marketing already and can talk marketing with the professionals. I am not surprised!"

Eleven Inducted into Heskett National Junior Honor Society

Eleven Heskett Middle School students were inducted into the NJHS during a ceremony on December 18, 2015. The inductees are **Shabrionna Fadzl, Jaize Hudson, Ian Jones, India Matthews, Anthony Merritt, Jr., Brayon Miller, Luke Mohnasky, Celeste Sanders, Anijah Slaughter, Jamir Sullivan, and Anja Van Huffel Gouldlock**. The NJHS advisor is Heskett math teacher **Jennifer Wolters**.

The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is the nation's premier organization established to identify outstanding middle level students. An offshoot of the high school National Honor Society, the National Junior Honor Society acknowledges middle school students who exemplify excellence in scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship.

"This extraordinary honor is indicative of students who have achieved significant success in the field of academics," said Principal **Virginia A. Golden**. "They are, in every respect, model students in whom we have the greatest of pride." Mrs. Golden also said that she congratulates the inductees' parents who have contributed so much to who they are and what they have accomplished. "I firmly believe that the guidance and encouragement of parents are vitally important in promoting academic success for all students," she said.



Back Row: Dan Brinson, 8th Grade Counselor, Luke Mohnasky, Ian Jones, Anthony Merritt, Jr. Anja VanHuffel Gouldlock, Braylin Miller, Jamir Sullivan, Jennifer Wolters, NJHS Advisor

Front Row: Mary Catherine Ratkosky, 8th Grade Assistant Principal, Celeste Sanders, Shabrionna Fadzl, Jaize Hudson, India Matthews, Anijah Slaughter, Virginia Golden, Principal



Children's Book Illustrator Visits Alma Mater

Central Primary School students were treated to a visit in November by **Barry Gott**, a successful children's book and greeting card illustrator. Gott graduated from Bedford High School in 1989 and attended Central from kindergarten through 6th grade.

Central students had been studying Gott's books for a month before his visit and had a contest in art class illustrating a page from one of his books, *What Do Teachers Do (After You Leave School)?* A winner was chosen from each grade, kindergarten through 3rd, and those students had their pictures signed by Gott and had a special lunch with him.

"He did a wonderful job of inspiring the students to maybe one day become illustrators and artists," said Central teacher **Mary Margaret Hilliard**, who coordinated the visit.

"I was always interested in art (throughout my school years)," Gott said. I remember loving going to the library at Central to see Mrs. Horvath and all the books. I spent my childhood nurturing a love of art and drawing, which lets you have worlds of fun when you can't catch a football to save your life."

Gott also signed books for the children while at Central. He illustrates children's books and greeting cards that are read around the world. His clients include Lerner Books, Dutton Books, HarperCollins, Random House, Scholastic, Harcourt, Albert Whitman & Co., Time Warner, Penguin Putnam, Kane Press, Recycled Paper Greetings, American Greetings, and more.

Barry Gott, Mary Margaret Hilliard, and past Bedford Board of Education member Merry Anne Hilty.

Teacher, Employee and Rookie of the Year

Congratulations to **Eleni Marron**, who was named the Bedford City Schools' 2015-2016 Teacher of the Year, to **Willie Morrison**, the Employee of the Year, and to **Levi Crozier**, the Rookie of the Year. Mrs. Marron has been with the district for 12 years, teaching science at Bedford High School, where she has also served as volleyball coach and sophomore academy leader. She was named

a Martha Holden Jennings Scholar in 2008. Mr. Morrison has been with the district since 2003, his first ten years working as a school bus driver before taking on his current position of district courier. Mr. Crozier is in his second year of teaching physical education at Columbus Intermediate School. He has overseen intramural sports at Columbus

and will coach baseball this spring at Bedford High School.

Pictured here are Transportation Department Supervisor Patrick Carney, Employee of the Year Willie Morrison, Assistant Transportation Supervisor Brian Prochazka, Business Manager Jerry Zgrabik, Superintendent Andrea Celico, Teacher of the Year Eleni Marron, BHS Principal Samuel Vawters, Rookie of the Year Levi Crozier, and Columbus Principal Kimberly Sterlekar





District Purchases New Corrosion-Proof Buses

Last school year, the District's transportation department took delivery of the first Lion School Bus ever to be sold in the state of Ohio. The Lion bus is unique in several aspects; the most notable being that the construction of the bus body is made entirely from material that will not rust or corrode. Northeast Ohio winters take their toll on conventional steel bodies and the expectation is that the life-cost of the Lion buses will represent a significant payback in the long run, saving the district money in body repair costs and fuel costs.

The District's entry into the Lion bus market did not go unnoticed. *School Bus Fleet*, a trade magazine with international subscribers, took note when other school districts in Ohio purchased Lion buses this year and contacted Transportation Supervisor **Patrick Carney** for a comment. The relevant portion of that article is reprinted below.

Bedford City School District was the first district in the state to purchase Lion school buses. Bedford recently ordered two more Lion buses for

delivery this month. "Since we've only had them a year, we have yet to reap the benefits of Lion's composite, no-rust bodies," said Patrick Carney, Bedford's supervisor of transportation. "Enough to say we have three-year-old buses that are already rusting. We spend so much money to repair rust every year, so we're looking forward to the savings of having a bus body that will go four, five, even 10 years without a rusting issue."

Two BHS Seniors Secure Athletic Scholarships



Cameron Odom signed a NCAA National Letter of Intent to attend Ohio University on an athletic scholarship for football. He will enroll at OU this January and will participate in the 2016 spring football practices. Cameron signed his letter during halftime at a BHS basketball game. His mother is pictured next to him.



Lamont Rhodes signed a letter of intent to play basketball with the Lake Erie College Storm. He received a full tuition athletic scholarship. He is pictured here with his great grandmother, grandmother and mother, and Coach Pete Priola, Senior Class Principal Karla Robinson, and Athletic Director Mark Zofka.



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Your Schools is a publication for residents of the Bedford City School District, including the communities of Bedford, Bedford Heights, Oakwood, and Walton Hills. To request additional copies or for more information; contact **Beth A. Russell**, Communications Coordinator, at 440-439-4520. No material may be reprinted without written consent of the Bedford City School District. ©2015.

The Bedford City School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the District's non-discrimination policies: **Richard Dillman**, Director of Pupil Services, 475 Northfield Rd., Bedford, OH 44146.

Administration

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 Linda A. O'Neill, *Assistant Superintendent*
 Janet M. Pavl c, C.P.A., *Treasurer*
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Carylwood Sixth Graders Participate in GE Girls STEM Program

Carylwood was asked to participate in GE Girls, a GE Lighting created and sponsored invite only program for local Northeastern Ohio schools, designed to increase girls' interest and participation in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The program is in partnership with Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Playhouse Square.



The yearlong program was launched at Carylwood in October and is led by GE young professional volunteers who visit the classroom monthly to conduct hands-on, project-based programming. Participating Carylwood 6th-grade girls include **Yolanda Foster, Zoie Goudlock, Nina Harvey, Alyssa Henriquez, Nevaeh Houston, Mackenzie Jones, Jaya McDonall, Andrea Okocha, Lanyah Terry** and **Anna Vlk**. Their advisor is Carylwood teacher **Shena Hill**.

The students work in teams learning special lessons in life sciences, electronics, chemistry, computer science, architecture and physics. Each lesson is essential to solving the fun, top-secret biofuels mystery and leads to an End of Year Summit in May. In December, the students built and tested a burglar alarm (pictured above), learning electronic fundamentals.

GE Girls is a GE Women's Network Initiative to excite and retain the interest of middle school girls in the STEM fields in which they share GE's technology brand and facilitate interactions between career role models and students. This year, 170 sixth grade students from 16 schools are participating in the program, which started in 2010.

Directory of Services

Schools

- Carylwood — 440-439-4509
- Central — 440-439-4225
- Columbus — 440-786-3322
- Glendale — 440-439-4227
- Heskett — 440-439-4450
- Bedford High — 440-439-4848

Administration

- Superintendent — 440-439-4777
- Assistant Superintendent — 440-439-4377
- Business Manager — 440-439-4333
- Treasurer — 440-439-4670

Departments

- Athletics — 440-439-4588
- Curriculum & Instruction — 440-439-4412
- Pupil Services — 440-439-4363
- Transportation — 440-439-4234
- Nutrition Services — 440-439-4530

For a department or service not listed above, please call 440-439-1500.