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**Proud To be
A Black Knight!**

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Black Knight Community,

Winter is upon us! Our staff enjoyed a wonderful holiday season and some much needed time with family and friends. As we return from winter break rejuvenated, we will be finishing up the first semester and our staff will continue the work of providing a high quality, personalized education to all of our students. We have had a transformational year as we have rolled out a 1:1 initiative for our students in grades 3-12. This is a great step forward in the way we deliver education to our students and prepare them for the future. We have introduced new courses, such as Robotics and Science Now, and continue our vision of pride in excellence. When we return, we will begin planning for the 2017-18 school year as we finalize course offerings and introduce new opportunities for our students.

In 2017, I will begin my work in a new chapter of school-community partnerships as I invite local business owners to sit down with me and discuss ways our school and local businesses can partner for the benefit of our students and greater community. If you would like information on this or would like to be included, please contact my administrative assistant, Marcie Miller at 440.564.5501 or Marcie.miller@newburyschools.org.

In this newsletter, you will find some exciting news from our elementary school who received the PBIS Bronze Medal for the school's implementation of Positive Behavior Interventions. This research-based program reduces the amount of students who received negative responses for unwanted behaviors and increases the positive. We have seen a dramatic decrease in the number of referrals to the office and the overall climate of the building. Congratulations to the elementary team for their efforts!

Our Jr./Sr. High School has also received a plethora of accolades. In this newsletter, you will find information on our Robotics elective, Veterans Day Ceremony, Career Day, exciting information on Newbury students who will attend the Presidential Inauguration. Our athletic teams hit a high note this year with some of the best performances in recent Newbury history. Our football team was ranked as the most improved team in Ohio this year and seven of our 21 football players were recognized Division VII All-Ohio with two first-team mentions. Lastly, I would like to commend Newbury High School on being recognized again this year by U.S. News and World Report as one of America's Best High Schools.

We are proud of the accomplishments of our students and staff. So much to say, so little space! So much more is happening inside the walls of the *Small, but Mighty Newbury Local Schools*. Stay tuned for future updates and as always, you may visit our website to stay informed www.newburyschools.org.

We look forward to the second half of the school year and celebrating all the wonderful accomplishments of our students and staff.

Sincerely,

Michelle Mrakovich
Superintendent, Newbury Local Schools

Please join Ms. Mrakovich, Newbury Superintendent, for an informal coffee chat at DS Cakes and Sweet Café located at 11110 Kinsman Road, Newbury Township.

Coffee with the Superintendent takes place from 8am-9am on the following dates:

Thursday, January 12, 2017
Thursday, February 16, 2017
Tuesday, March 21, 2017
Tuesday, April 18, 2017
Thursday, May 11, 2017

Newbury Elementary School

Mrs. Cyndi Tomassetti, Principal



We have many exciting initiatives going on at Newbury Elementary this year. The first one is our 1:1 Chromebook initiative for all 3rd-5th grade students. Every student has been assigned a device for use during the school year. Students in grades K-2 will have access to a mobile cart of Chromebooks. The purpose of this initiative is to use modern technology tools to fully engage students and create a learning environment that fosters critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creativity.

With the use of Chromebooks, students will have the opportunity to:

- Research the internet;
- Draw conclusions from data analysis;

- Create new presentations of expressions for their creative works and ideas;
- Use digital tools for organization;
- Communicate and collaborate with teachers and peers both locally and globally

This initiative comes at a very exciting time as we strive to provide an even more individualized learning experience for all children. We are restructuring our academic day to provide technology enhanced personalized learning time every day. During this time, students will use the Chromebooks to further refine and master skills, as well as enhance and enrich individual personal areas of interest.



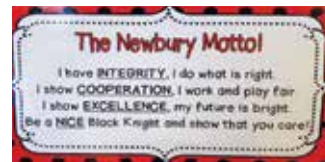
On November 3, 2016, Newbury Elementary School was honored by the Geauga Soil and Water Conservation for their Wet Labs Program and received the **Outstanding Environmental Education Program Award**. Newbury was selected for its effort and commitment to the program which has helped hundreds of students throughout the years to better understand and value Geauga County's natural resources. The program would not be possible without the help and support of parents and community members.



PBIS Bronze Medal Award Winner

Newbury Elementary was honored in December at the Ohio Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Showcase in Columbus, Ohio for Newbury School District's successful implementation of PBIS. PBIS emphasizes proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create a positive school environment. This behavioral approach has been implemented in all areas of the school including classroom and non-classroom settings (such as hallways, buses, and restrooms). In order to be a recipient award winner, we had to demonstrate extraordinary leadership of implementation efforts, creative problem solving and innovative strategies. The purpose of the Ohio PBIS Recognition Award System is to identify schools that exemplify the highest levels of Systems, Data and Practices in their implementation of PBIS. PBIS Award level schools have easily identifiable characteristics and are consistent in their methods of:

- Maintaining organized team based planning
- Maintaining high levels of administrative involvement and support
- Systematically collect, review, and apply data using problem-solving processes



As part of our PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Supports), Newbury Elementary has a new friend, Mike the KNIGHT. Mike has spent the month of December going on many wonderful adventures with our staff that include visiting Ohio State, Florida, and New York; as well as going bowling, attending jiu-jitsu, and attending a dog birthday party!

Students will have the opportunity to take Mike the KNIGHT home with them if their name is drawn from the "Caught Being Good" drawing held each month. During a visit at a student's home they will have the opportunity to take a picture and write an entry in the journal that travels with Mike. When Mike the KNIGHT returns from his journey, we will share information on his travels on the building bulletin board for all students and staff to see and enjoy.

School Breakfast

Newbury is happy to announce that we are offering breakfast this year. We know that we are all busy and sometimes it is difficult to sit down long enough in the morning to eat a nutritious breakfast. Research confirms that breakfast is the most important meal of the day for children's health, academic achievement, cognitive development and mental health.

Unfortunately, many children regularly skip breakfast each morning, depriving them of the important benefits associated with the morning meal. Children who eat school breakfast are more likely to:

- Reach higher levels of achievement in reading and math
- Concentrate better
- Be more alert

- Retain more of what they learn
- Participate in class

This year there is only ONE menu for the entire year. It is available online at Newburyschools.org on the Nutrition Services page. This menu has the breakfast menu and color coded lunch cycle menu for the year, as well as pricing and other information.

Breakfast costs \$1.75. Students who are on free and/or reduced meals for lunch will be included for breakfast.



Athletic Department Updates

Mr. Anthony Forfia, Athletic Director



Fall Varsity Sports

Newbury School District Fall Sports Season was one of great accomplishments. As a member of the Northeastern Athletic Conference, student athletes participated in cross country, football, soccer and volleyball. The cross country team also ran as part of the Suburban League, providing runners with challenging new courses and opponents.

The 2016 football team received numerous recognition and awards – one specific highlight was being recognized as the overall most improved team in the State of Ohio.

Our varsity soccer team continued their success on the field this past fall as well. Head coach Bob Fitz and assistant coaches Taylor and Ray Voelker led the soccer team to a 11-2-1 NAC record, a second place finish in the league, and a 12-3-1 overall record. The team fought hard in sectional level competition vs. Wickliffe but did not advance.

The volleyball team continued to show growth this past season finishing with three wins and a thrilling first round sectional win. We look forward to continued growth and next year's season.

Head Coach Justin Lesesky and Assistant Coach Mona Lieblich did a great job of guiding the Cross Country Team in the new Suburban Conference. Newbury ran in several new races including: McDonald, Brookfield and Jackson-Milton. The athletes truly enjoyed competing in the new locations. The Girls Cross Country Team captured a first place finish and the Jackson-Milton Invitational and second place at the prestigious Sim Earich Invitational. Hannah Lewandoski qualified for the Regional Meet and Max Reardon finished 27th at the State Junior High Meet in Columbus.

Northeastern Athletic Conference “All-Conference” Selections for Fall Sports 2016

Congratulations to the following Newbury student athletes who were recognized with the following honors from the Northeastern Athletic Conference.

Cross Country

Hannah Lewandoski - *Honorable Mention NAC*

Football

Johnny Chambers - *All Conference*

Thomas McKale - *All Conference*

Kade Marker - *All Conference*

Joe Ule - *All Conference*

Mak Sanders - *All Conference*

Cody Hamilton - *Honorable Mention*

Soccer

Julian Surckla - *All Conference*

Mario Puletti - *All Conference*

Tino Johnson - *All Conference*

Volleyball

Caleigh Hamby - *Honorable Mention*

Haley Hamilton - *Honorable Mention*

Winter Sports

Newbury Local School District winter sports teams are competing...come out and support the teams. Please take a look at our hard working, dedicated student athletes on the Newbury Athletic website at www.newburyschools.org/athletics.

Ticket prices for Newbury Junior High School events are \$2 for students and \$4 for adults. Tickets to Newbury High School events are \$4 for students and \$6 for adults. We welcome senior citizens to attend all home sporting events for free. Discounted presale tickets are available for all varsity events and can be purchased in the high school office during normal school hours. Student presale tickets for varsity events are \$3 and adult presale tickets are \$4.

All middle school contents begin at 4:30 p.m., Junior Varsity contests begin at 5:30 p.m. and Varsity events begin at 7:00 p.m. Schedules are subject to change - please check the website for the most up-to-date information or call the Athletic Department at 440.564.2281.



Purchase Your Winter Varsity Season Tickets

Attention Newbury Sports Fans: Season tickets for Newbury JV/Varsity Winter sporting events are on sale in the Newbury Jr/Sr. High School Office. A package of 24 student tickets can be purchased for \$50 and a package of 24 adult tickets is available for \$100. If you have questions, please call the Athletic Department at 440.564.2281.

Remind Cancellation/Notification System

Northeastern Ohio winters are unpredictable. We survived last season with a full schedule for all of our sports teams because of the mild winter. While we hope to have the same luck this year, we have to be prepared for the uncertain Ohio weather. Please consider joining our Newbury Athletics Remind Account. You can sign up to receive a text or email alert when our schedule changes. Be the first to know if a game has been postponed due to weather. To receive alerts, text the message @njshssport to 81010. You will receive a message saying that you have been added to the Newbury Sports Remind Account.

Newbury Jr./Sr. High School

Mr. Michael Chaffee, Principal



Artwork created by Jr./Sr. High School students currently on display at DS Cakes and Sweet Café.

It has been an eventful 2016-17 school year so far. The addition of Chromebooks for each of our students in grades 6-12 has provided a tremendous tool for our teachers and students. The ability for each student to research and submit assignments electronically has allowed us to make huge steps both educationally and technologically. It is also great preparation for our students as they continue their education beyond high school and as they join the ever-changing employment market. The 1:1 initiative provides Newbury students equal access to advanced learning - keeping them competitive with surrounding school districts.

Robotics Elective

Under the guidance of Mr. Steve Ingrassia, we have introduced an entry-level Robotics elective for our students. Our robots are based on a Legos Platform and allow students to build and program their units to perform a variety of tasks. Recently the class visited the elementary students to demonstrate how their robots could draw shapes, write numbers and letters, and perform various other commands. This class is the first step in developing an expanded curriculum for robotics and technology and ensuring outstanding educational programming for Newbury students.

Sports

I would like to echo Mr. Forfia's report on the many successes our athletes experienced this fall. I would like to also commend the Newbury Marching Band and Newbury Cheerleaders for their contributions this fall. Our school spirit continues to grow and grow stronger.

Newbury Bands

The Newbury Bands had an eventful first 5 months of the 2016-17 school year. Below you will find some of the highlights:

- The Marching Band performed the National Anthem at a Lake County Captains game.
- They spent two weeks in band camp preparing for the football season and performed the songs, *Don't Stop Believin'*, *Sweet Caroline*, *Shut Up and Dance*, *Lets Groove*, and *Twist and Shout*.
- They also took part in the Great Geauga County Fair's annual Band-o-Rama, even showcasing some of their dance moves for the packed grand stands.
- The Junior High Band took the field with the marching band to perform *Hang on Sloopy* at halftime.
- The band students enjoyed cheering on The Black Knights Football team and had the fight song memorized by the end of the season due to the team's success. After football season the marching band helped dedicate Newbury Veterans Park Memorial on Veterans Day.
- The Junior High and High School Bands held their Holiday Concert on December 7th, performing a variety of holiday selections and one piece included an electronic accompaniment.



- The high school band ended 2016 by joining the junior high and high school choirs to carol for the elementary students. The students are looking forward to 2 concerts, March 15 and May 10, Pep Band for some basketball games and Jazz Band.

Veterans Day Ceremony

On November 11th, Newbury Jr./Sr. High School hosted the annual Veterans Day Ceremony. We would like to extend our gratitude to all veterans and to those who attended. The event included the raising of the U.S. flag by the Burton Legion Honor Guard, guest speakers Ron Samnik, U.S. Army Vietnam Veteran, Major Russell Whitlock, USAF Reserve, and Master Sergeant Jason Corradi, USAF Reserve. The Newbury American Legion Post 663 presented the Newbury Local School District with the ceremonial flag and display case, which is proudly displayed in the main entrance.

Career Awareness Day & College/Career Readiness

The Geauga Growth Partnership continues to be a valuable asset to Newbury students. In October, 8th graders participated in a Career Awareness Day by visiting local business to learn about various careers. We are supported by many and recognize the Geauga Park District, ASM International, and Bonitas for providing an exceptional experience for Newbury students. Newbury High School seniors participated in a College Fair at Kent State and this spring juniors will attend a College Fair at the University of Akron.

Our Guidance Department hosted a very successful College Fair and Application Day for Newbury seniors and students from neighboring school districts. We had nineteen colleges and universities attend and assist students in the application process. Newbury seniors participated in a College Fair at Kent State Main Campus in October. Newbury juniors will attend a large College fair this Spring at the University of Akron.

Theatre, Music and Art

Congratulations Newbury students who produced and performed *Alice In Wonderland* to rave reviews. Thanks to Jack Tayak and Lauren Tokarsky for their leadership with this play. The Spring Musical

is scheduled for early May. Congratulations to the Melissa Cheek, Haley DeMeo, Owen Otto and Josh Fingerhut who represented Newbury in the OMEA Honors Choir Concert at Cleveland State University. Also, congratulations to Niamh Field who represents us in the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Chorus and Greg Bullis and Julia Weber who represent us in the Cleveland Orchestra Children's Chorus. Recently, Newbury Junior High School students participated in an Art Display at DS Cakes based on the artwork of Tebo Thiebaud. Five Newbury student winners were: Aaron Fenrich, Dana Medley, Olivia Bartlett, Brandon Pike, and Hannah Gilbert. Thank you to DS Cakes for sponsoring this project.

Caucuses

In the month of January 2016, a group of 12 Newbury students experienced first-hand the political process when they traveled to Iowa for the Caucuses. Many of those students were invited to attend the Presidential Inauguration in Washington, D.C. on January 20, 2017. We are excited to announce that 12 Newbury students will attend the Presidential Inauguration this January in Washington D.C.. Newbury students will travel with students from Lordstown High School for the four day tour and will culminate with the Presidential Inauguration.



Newbury High School nationally ranked in U.S. News' Best High Schools for 2016

We are pleased to announce the exceptional recognition recently awarded to Newbury High School as Bronze Award Recipient by **U.S. News and World Reports** 2016 Edition of America's Best High Schools. We are proud of what we are accomplishing and appreciate the support of the Newbury Community.



Please continue to follow us on our website www.newburyschools.org, on **Facebook - Newbury Jr./Sr. High School** or on **Twitter @NJSHS_pncpl**



A PUBLICATION OF
THE NEWBURY LOCAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dates to Remember

January 2017

16 No School -
Martin Luther King Day

24 Elementary School Spelling Bee

February 2017

08 4th & 5th Grade Band Concert -
6pm

16 Elementary School Conferences -
3:30pm- 7:30pm

20 No School - Presidents' Day

23 Junior High Science Fair -
6pm-8pm

28 Jr./Sr. High School Conferences -
3:30pm- 7:30pm

March 2017

08 Kindergarten Orientation -
6:30pm

15 Kindergarten Screening &
Registration - 9am- 2pm
Jr./Sr. High School Band &
Choir Concert - 6pm

24 End of third grading period

27-31 No School - Spring Break

April 2017

08 Jazz Concert - 7pm

21-23 Senior Trip to Toronto

May 2017

03 Elementary Band &
Choir Concert - 7pm

10 Jr./Sr. High Band Concert -
7pm

17 Jr./Sr High Choice Concert -
7pm

18 Top Ten Dinner - TBA

29 No School - Memorial Day

30 Senior Breakfast/Practice -
8am

31 Commencement -
6:30pm, Auditorium

Newbury Board of Education

The Newbury Local School District Board of Education will hold its Annual Budget Hearing and Organizational Meeting on **Monday January 9, 2017 at 6:00 pm** in the Former Library, 14775 Auburn Road, Newbury, Ohio 44065. The Regular Meeting for January will immediately follow the Organizational Meeting.

14775 Auburn Road
Newbury, Ohio 44065

Board of Education
Phone : 440.564.5501
Fax : 440.564.9460

Newbury Elementary School
Phone : 440.564.2282
Fax : 440.564.9690

Newbury Jr./Sr. High School
Phone: 440.564.2281
Fax: 440.564.9788

Transportation Department
Phone: 440.564.5501

Board of Education
Mr. Guy Munn, President
Mrs. Susan Arnold, Vice President
Mrs. Anne Kolenic, Member
Mr. Martin Sanders, Member
Mr. Kirk Simpkins, Member

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