

Bobcat Tales

Whiteford Agricultural Schools
6655 Consear Road
Ottawa Lake, MI 49267



POSTAL CUSTOMER

Whiteford School District
Ottawa Lake, MI 49267



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2021– 2022 SCHOOL HOURS / CALENDAR

Building	Starting Time	Ending Time	Early Dismissal Time
Elementary	7:55 AM	3:10 PM	11:10 AM
Middle/High School.....	7:55 AM	2:55 PM	11:00 AM

August 30MS/HS Registration Day

Sept. 1EL & MS/HS Open House
& 6th Grade Orientation

Sept. 7First Day of School
(students report at Noon)

Oct. 29EARLY DISMISSAL

Nov. 11-12EARLY DISMISSAL

Nov. 24.....EARLY DISMISSAL

Nov. 25-26NO SCHOOL
(Thanksgiving Break)

Dec. 22EARLY DISMISSAL

Dec. 23-
Jan. 3.....NO SCHOOL
(Christmas / Winter Break)

Jan. 12EARLY DISMISSAL
(Spring Break)

Jan. 17NO SCHOOL
(Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)

Jan. 20-21EARLY DISMISSAL

Feb. 21NO SCHOOL
(President's Day)

Mar. 16EARLY DISMISSAL

Apr. 1EARLY DISMISSAL

Apr. 4-8.....NO SCHOOL
(Spring Break)

April 13STATE TESTING DAY
.....NO SCHOOL K-7, 12

May 30NO SCHOOL
(Memorial Day)

June 9.....EARLY DISMISSAL

June 10*EARLY DISMISSAL
(Last day of school)
*pending weather delays/closings; parents
are reminded that additional days may be
added to the school year should we ex-
ceed our state limitation on number of
days/hours cancelled or delayed during
the school year.

Food Pantry Dates / Hours

Crossroads Church

1st Thursday of Month
4:30 PM—6:30 PM

St. Michael Lutheran Church

2nd Saturday of Month
9:30 AM—10:30AM

Zion Lutheran Church

2nd/4th Tuesday of Month

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY SCHEDULE

*1st Tuesday: 4:00—6:00 Nova Faith
5105 Glendale Ave., Toledo, OH 43614

*1st Thursday: 4:30—6:30 Crossroads
6960 Sylvania-Petersburg Rd., Ottawa Lake,
MI 49267

*2nd Tuesday: 3:00—5:00 St. Paul's Episco-
pal 798 S. Coy Rd., Oregon, OH 43616

*2nd Thursday: 4:00—6:00 SSFAC (Social
Services for the Arab Community) 3110 Tre-
mainsville, Toledo, OH 43613

*2nd Friday: 10:00—12:00 5 Points @ Augs-
burg Lutheran 1342 W. Sylvania Ave., Tole-
do, OH 43612

*3rd Thursday: 10:00—12:00 Lott Industries
3350 Hill Ave., Toledo, OH 43607

*3rd Friday: 2:00—4:00 Winterfield Acade-
my 305 Wenz Rd., Toledo, OH 43607

*4th Tuesday: 2:00—4:00 BGSU Health &
Human Services Building Bowling Green,
OH 43403 *BGSU Spring and Fall Only

*4th Thursday: 4:00—6:00 Indiana Ave
Missionary Baptist 640 Indiana Ave.,
Toledo, OH 43604

*4th Friday: 2:00—4:00 Agape Com-
munity Center 225 S. Irwin Rd., Hol-
land, OH 43528

WHITEFORD AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS Bobcat Tales

This newsletter is also available on the district's website: www.whiteford.k12.mi.us

December 2021

FAREWELL, PRINCIPAL SHEPHERD - YOU WILL BE MISSED!!!

Dear Whiteford Families and Community,

At the end of the month of December, I will be officially retired as a career educator at Whiteford Agricultural School District for over thirty years. I have proudly served as a classroom teacher and most recently the elementary school principal these past several years.

I feel extremely lucky to have worked for such an amazing school, and the impact the district has had on shaping me is immeasurable. I learned to be a good listener, a patient teacher, empathetic to families and students, and also that when you work alongside your colleagues and the people you serve, the rewards are what a lifetime career is made of!

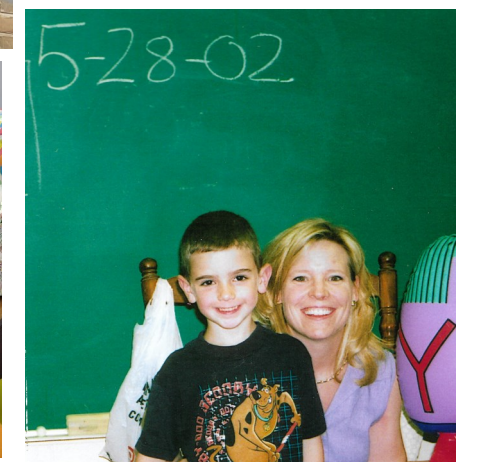


A big thank you to all of the students, families, and staff—past and present—who have supported me and my time at Whiteford. I will miss the smiling faces, the energy and laughter, and daily dose of self-esteem that I would get from the hugs, giggles, and positive rapport that we have built.

Thanks for all that you have given me, I will always be a Bobcat!

Love,

Mrs. Shepherd~





Superintendent
of Schools
Scott L. Huard

Board of
Education

President
Christine Bischoff

Vice President
Dave Dixon

Secretary
Mike Iott

Treasurer
Shane Hillard

Trustees
Kristi Mock
Janelle Young
Jeff Bunge

Upcoming
Board of
Education Meetings
6:15 PM

December 13

District
Mission / Vision

Engaged ...
in our learning
Encouraged ...
by our community
Empowered ...
for our world

We are Whiteford!

SUPERINTENDENT’S MESSAGE...

Dear Bobcat Family,

It is hard to believe that three months of school has already passed! Our Bobcats are fully Engaged in their Learning, Encouraged by their Community, and Empowered for their Future! As a newcomer to the district, I have been so impressed with the level of generosity shown by our students, staff, families, and community. During the month of November, our students and staff had the opportunity to participate in food drives at the elementary, middle, and high schools. The Thanksgiving Food Drives were sponsored by student-led groups in both buildings with the goal of providing food for those in need this holiday season. Donated items were given to our neighborhood food pantry at Zion Lutheran Church. They offer food pickup on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 10-noon. We were also able to provide a traditional Thanksgiving meal for a few families. At our Board of Education meetings each month, we recognize individuals and businesses that share generously by giving a monetary donation to our schools. These donations help support our outstanding programming at Whiteford that affords our students the opportunity to engage in innovation and discovery learning. I am grateful to all that have so generously contributed to our food drives or given monetary donations to ensure students and families are supported in our community!

With the start of December, we have an opportunity to highlight our students' talents with the many holiday concerts. Our Men's and Women's Ensemble and Band will be performing several concerts. If you want to catch our Whiteford Men's and Women's Ensemble they will be performing on Sunday, December 12 at Indian Creek Zoo in Lambertville at 6:00pm and Shelton Park Church of God at 7pm for a Christmas Cantata. They will also be caroling at Matthes Tree Farm in Ida on Saturday, December 18 from 12-1pm, and at the Toledo Zoo on Tuesday, December 21 from 5-6pm. The High School Band and High School Choir will be jointly performing on Sunday, December 19 at 3pm for a Christmas Concert in the HS Gymnasium, while the Middle School Band and Middle School Choir will perform on Monday, December 20 at 7pm in the HS Gymnasium. Lastly, our elementary students will be performing Christmas Concerts at the HS Gymnasium on Tuesday, December 14. K-2nd grades will be performing at 6pm, and 3rd-5th grades will perform at 7:15pm. The Elementary Christmas Concert has limited seating available and ticketing information was sent home in November with tickets being sent home in early December.

The holidays can be a joyful time as we reconnect with family and friends. The holidays can also be stressful! You may feel pressure with the expectation of buying and giving gifts, worried about money, or just running from one event to the next. I always have the best of intentions each holiday season to take it slow, enjoy each moment, but I end up feeling overwhelmed by it all! For this holiday season, please consider with me how we can reduce stress by focusing on a couple of important things. These things might include: understanding a spending limit, sharing tasks (decorating, gift wrapping, preparing holiday meals, etc.) with others, learning to say "no", being realistic by not creating pressure to create a perfect holiday, take time for a break, keep a regular sleep, meal, or exercise schedule, and ask for support if needed. We may not be able to avoid all the stress of the holidays, but we can certainly respond in a healthy way. I wish the entire Bobcat Community a Merry Christmas, and a safe and joyous Happy New Year! We are better together - We are Whiteford!

Sincerely,

Scott L. Huard

Scott L. Huard
Superintendent

Elementary School Honor Roll (1st Quarter)

4th Grade
All A's

Andrews, Mylee
Billau, Josie
Blaisdell, Ava
Bub, Lucas
Carlson, Hadley
Chiotti, Brennan
Cousino, Joshua
Falk, Keilee
Grosteffon, Grace
Hawkins, Brayden
Kastel, Luke
Kemritz, Oliver
Krieger, Brent
Lievens, Lauren
Malcom, Autumn
McClain, Micayla
Parsons, Kaitlyn
Raker, Kira
Russeau, Maya
Sager, Cody
Snyder, Aden
Taylor, Henry
Tyrrell, Madison
Walerius, Autumn
Warren, Weston
Weiser, Charlie
Workman, Kasey

4th Grade
All A's and B's

Cousino, Jacen
Felder, Liam
Ingram, Avree
Jurkiewicz, Olivia
Lake, Logan
Lenhart, Logan
Miller, Evan
Oloshove, Alivia
Palfalvi, Willow
Schroyer, Laney
Smith Emerson, Lane
Speweik, Caden
Wolniewicz, Karlie
Young, Vivian

5th Grade
All A's

Dietz, Ella
Dubendorfer, Drew
Gillette, Mason
Hill, Addison
Iott, Clara
Jimenez, Ethan
Johnson, Aubrey
Krueger, Jaxton
Masters, Kate
Menard, Peyton
Ovall, Macy
Puhl, Aiden
Rasor, Kaia
Sanjur, Noah
Scott, Raelynn
Swy, Ava
Taylor, Lauren
Zink, Gabriel

5th Grade
All A's and B's

Allen, Brenna
Bieber, Murphy
Carpenter, Susan
Chalmers, Cadence
Donbrosky, Amelia
Ellis, Austin Judah
Hill, Oliver
Lehberger, Kendra
Mahnke, Allianna
May, Makylee
McCullough, Nathan
Meinert, Grayson
Oxley, Zahna
Pawson, Carter
Perez, Stafani
Peterlin, Wyatt
Rasor, Grant
Russeau, Wesley
Sanjur, Logan
Saylor, Jacob
Soss, Colton
Van Aken, Hailey
Wood, Cody
Zink, Samuel

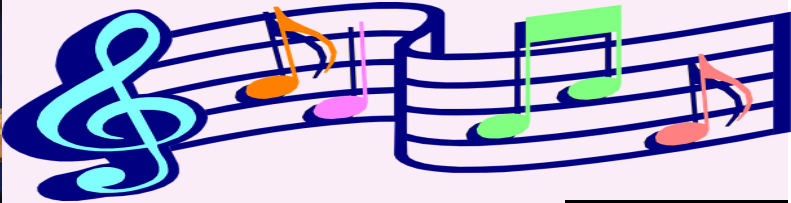
*Please note that, due to issues with our new Student Information System, the MS/HS Honor Roll will be featured in the next Bobcat Tales issue.



Something to Sing About!



Congratulations to Rylyn Wing (Alto 1) and Olivia Cossins (Alto 2) for being chosen to participate in the Region C Honors Choir on December 4th at Monroe High School! Way to go, ladies! We are very proud of your accomplishment—it's music to our ears!!



Homecoming 2021



Homecoming Queen, Ellie Simmons



Senior Queen Candidate, Berlynn Keller



Senior Queen Candidate, Zoe Bauman



Junior Class Representative, Ava Hillard



Sophomore Class Representative, Rylie DeSilvis



Freshman Class Representative, Emily Rasor



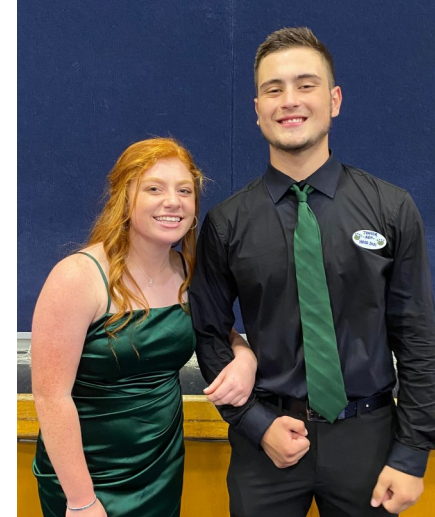
Homecoming Princess, Payton Delmotte & Homecoming Prince, Bryce Hubbard with last year's Whiteford royalty!



Homecoming King, Jack Andrews with Queen Ellie



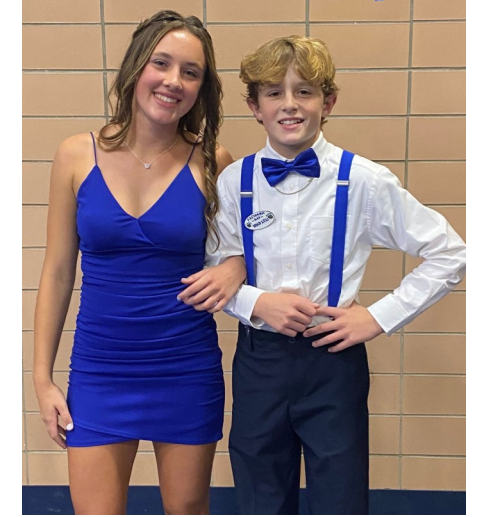
Homecoming King and Queen Candidates, from left to right: Levi Hillard, Ty Ruddy, Zoe Bauman, and Berlynn Keller (there were no pictures taken of these seniors all gussied up together at the Homecoming Dance, so they graciously posed for this informal pic in the halls of Whiteford!)



Junior Class Representative, Shane Suchora with Ms. Hillard



Sophomore Class Representative, Keegan Masters with Ms. DeSilvis



Freshman Class Representative, Rylan Joerin with Ms. Rasor



*Our Bobcat Varsity Football Team fought hard and clinched a Homecoming victory over the Sand Creek Aggies with a final score of 58-30. GO BOBCATS!!!



Honoring Our Military, Remembering Our History

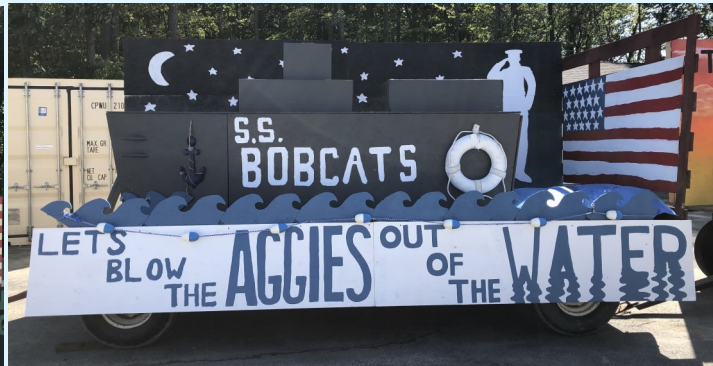
This year's Homecoming theme was extraordinarily special, and it really showed based on the outstanding effort given by each class in constructing their floats. From the exceptional craftsmanship of the floats to the celebration of past, present, and future United States military members that continued throughout the entire Friday night Homecoming football game, this year's Homecoming celebration was a truly memorable occasion for all!



The Senior Class represented the Army and did a fantastic job decorating all sides of their float, which earned them second place in the float building contest.



The Junior Class represented the Marines, and their time and effort payed off as their beautiful and patriotic float captured first place this year!



The Sophomore Class secured a third place standing in the float building contest with their tremendous sea-inspired representation of the Navy.



The Freshman Class finished fourth this year and did a terrific job representing the Air Force.



Pictured above: The Bobcat Trail, with its traditional pictures and quotes from football players, was also decked out in bright gold stars with the names of Whiteford's past, present, and future members of the U. S. Military. Pictured left: Military members of the Bobcat community were honored during halftime of Friday night's game. Pictured right: Among the honored was the son of our very own Elaine Thieman, Elementary Admin. Assistant, who shared what a proud moment it was to see her son in uniform!



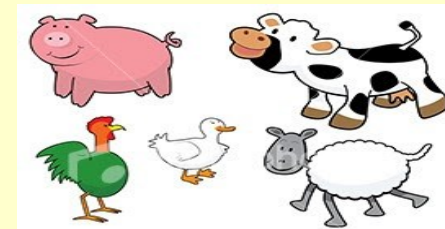
Region 2 Fall Bash

SUBMITTED BY KINZIE KOHLER, FFA REPORTER



Whiteford High School FFA members enjoyed participating in the annual FFA event, Region 2 Fall Bash! This fun and educational trip was hosted at Gust Brothers Pumpkin Farm and consisted of team bonding activities, scavenger hunts, line dancing, painting, and the meeting of FFA members from all over the region!

This event has been one of the first the Bobcats have been able to experience post-pandemic. The Whiteford FFA looks forward to going again next year!



Little Buddies

SUBMITTED BY KINZIE KOHLER, FFA REPORTER

Whiteford FFA members love spending time with the younger Bobcats! The high school students have been introducing their "little buddies" to the fun perks of being a part of the FFA. They've done plenty of fun activities together like petting and learning about baby chicks and painting pumpkins for Halloween!

Our Whiteford FFA strives to create a fun learning environment for younger students, as well as make lots of enjoyable memories! Both the younger and older Bobcats always look forward to these interactions.



HALLOWEEN TRICKS-N-TREATS IN BOBCAT COUNTRY!

Students and staff in the elementary building had loads of fun during the last week in October with Red Ribbon Week dress-up days along with all the traditional Halloween festivities! From the looks of things, Mrs. Shepherd and all her sheep had a fantastic time!



FFA NEWS

SUBMITTED BY JAKE GUST, AG-SCIENCE TEACHER/FFA ADVISOR & ALI BAUMAN, FFA REPORTER

Broiler Contest: Whiteford's 8th grade Agriculture Explore and High School Zoology classes competed in the Michigan FFA Broiler Contest at Munsell's Poultry Processing in Fowlerville, Michigan on Thursday, November 4th. Students in these classes raised groups of 25 chickens from just a couple days old up to 6 weeks. During that time, students were in charge of feeding and caring for their birds and keeping accurate records of feed consumed, as well as the weight of their birds.



Each team created mixed rations with different proteins and fat levels for their chickens to test growth. At the end of the project, teams made a 15 page report of their project including graphs, pictures, answers to written questions, and figured project statistics. Finally, each team chose their best 5 birds to be judged on the contest date. Below are the results:

In the middle school division, "KFC To Be" was the **State Winner** and earned a Gold Award. Team members included Jenna Frye, Grace Burke, Briar Wing, Addeson Cousino, Nina Bauman, Sarah Hamid, Kailee LaVoy, and Rory Shingleton. "The Larry Birds" earned **State Runner-Up** and a Gold Award. Team members included Caden Schroyer, Brody Hillard, Nate Andrews, Cooper Diesing, Zayne Emch, Blake Mills, Gabriel Speweik, Tyler Welker, and Luke Henegar.

In the high school competition, of 163 teams competing, Whiteford's teams placed as follows: "The TEAM" placed 33rd and earned a Silver Award. Team members included Tori Brace, Jacob Henry, Jakub Diesing, Andrew Boxell, Chelsea Peacock, Lexi Tammerine, and Samuel Murphy. "Farmer Fierce" placed 35th and earned a Silver Award. Team members included Avery Cousino, Abigail Johnson, Bailey Vance, Keegan Pitney, Hanna Olson, Cole Parker, Riley Davis, Casey Brady, and Jacob Cousino. The "Hot Chicks" group placed 36th, also receiving a Silver Award. Team members included Megan Butz, Sophie Cox, Ava Fielder, Haley Luse, Jasmine Ryan, Angel Shafer, and Libby Simmons. Our last team to earn an award was "Dino Nugs", who placed 44th. Team members included, Savanna Briem, Jacob Harder, Rylan Joerin, Owen Lievens, Quinn Speweik, Nathan Stevens, and Emma Wernet. Congratulations to all of our FFA members!



WHITEFORD PARENTS ASSOCIATION (WPA) NEWS

SUBMITTED BY JACLYN WARREN

Merry Christmas season, everyone!! I hope everyone stocked up on Otis Spunkmeyer cookies—thank you to everyone who ordered, helped your kids sell, and helped make our biggest fundraiser of the year a success! We also are very sorry for the delay in the cookie delivery this year, as is Otis Spunkmeyer. We appreciate the continued support every year so we have the funds to continue to support our kids. If you're not really a cookie person, you'll get another chance at food when we have our Little Caesar's Pizza fundraiser in February!

For our November meeting, we made a departure from our usual time and held an evening meeting for the first time in...seems like forever! While meetings will remain on the 3rd Tuesday of every month (but no meeting in December) we are trying to be flexible on the time and would love to hear your thoughts on what works for you.

***Follow us on Facebook—simply search for Whiteford Parents' Association! You can also email us at whiteford.parents@gmail.com. Already following us? Please invite your Whiteford friends to like our WPA Facebook page, too! Keep a close eye on the page for meeting info, contests, and other school-year fun!

FFA National Convention

SUBMITTED BY ALI BAUMAN, FFA REPORTER



Students from the Whiteford FFA chapter traveled to Indianapolis to participate in this year's National FFA Convention. Mr. Gust, Whiteford's Ag Teacher, and Ms. Luck, our Student Teacher, brought a group of eight outstanding members of the FFA. In just three days, October 26th through the 29th, the group attended many events in what was a fun and educationally packed itinerary. Karis Thomas, Erica Holup, Anna Schober, Aubrie Simmons, Kenzie Gray, Margo Thomas, Reagan Wing, and Savanna Brown were the FFA members on the trip. Among the activities, they attended a student workshop on entrepreneurship, saw the national Ag Issues contest finals, toured a botanical garden and an orchard, attended a career show and EXPO, as well as the National FFA Opening session. Of course, the trip had its entertainment, too, which included CINCH's World's Toughest Rodeo and a Brett Young concert. Karis Thomas, a senior attending the trip said, "We had so much fun, and I made so many memories that I will never forget."

ATHLETIC BOOSTER NEWS

Kroger Community Rewards Program

If you are not currently supporting an organization through the Kroger Community Rewards Program, please take a few minutes to register today and help support Bobcat athletics. Go to www.kroger.com, log into your account and follow the links to the Community Rewards page. Select organization number **PV787** as the donation recipient. Remember, this is free money and will not affect your fuel points!

WHITEFORD ATHLETICS

SUBMITTED BY JASON MENSING, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Winter sports are here and we are excited about Whiteford's basketball and cheer season. Our Boys Middle School Basketball and Cheer season ends prior to Christmas break, and it is our goal for our boys to participate in 15 games this winter. It is obvious that basketball remains a very popular sport here at Whiteford considering the great turnout again this year. Our JV and Varsity Boys and Girls Basketball Teams have begun practices, both opening their seasons hosting rival Blissfield. Coach Nick Abolos returns for his 4th season as our boys' coach this year building on a very competitive team from last year, with every participant returning. Coach Manley returns for his 7th season as our head Girls Varsity Basketball Coach with over 20 years of coaching experience. We are grateful for the wisdom and leadership he brings to our coaching staff. As our young teams grow and mature throughout the season, we anticipate having energetic and aggressive teams to support, so we encourage you to come help fill the gym and cheer on our kids! Additionally, we plan to host our winter Homecoming on February 4th during which we will be hosting Britton-Deerfield in a Junior Varsity and Varsity Basketball game. Bleed Blue!!!



SUBMITTED BY RYAN DUBENDORFER

Football season finished up at the end of October. It was fun watching the players improve as the season went on, and the kids had a blast!

Boys' basketball season is now underway and goes through December. Then 1st and 2nd grade co-ed, kindergarten clinic, and girls' 3rd – 6th grade basketball all start after Christmas break. If you haven't signed up yet, there is still time. Please turn your form into the office as soon as possible so teams can be formed. Coaches are needed for all teams; please sign up if you are interested.

WRC meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm in the high school library. Board members and all parents are encouraged to attend.

Please follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/WhitefordRec>.

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS UPDATE

SUBMITTED BY JASON MENSING, DIRECTOR OF STUDENT ADVANCEMENT



Although this academic year has presented some challenges, our college and career readiness program has been able to offer ways to overcome any adversities. Ken Groch, our Dean and Career Coach, Jen Head, our MS/HS Counselor, and Administrative Assistant, Malinda Luzier, put together a tremendous plan to support our senior students with the next steps. They met with each Senior in small groups and discussed college, career, and military options. At that time, they provided information on their parchment accounts, (transcript request account), helped complete the student portion of the FAFSA, and worked with students in completing an application so they had first-hand experience in filling one out. Mr. Groch continues to work with students and follow up in case they need additional support. Our students are so fortunate to have this team of people working with our Seniors in hopes to help them overcome the natural anxiousness that comes with these next steps in life. If you have a student who is nervous, excited, or just eager for more information about career pathways or college opportunities, please encourage them to talk with me or anyone on this team so we can share with them the information we have been provided.

How to Contact Us

MAIN PHONE
734.856.1443

PHONE PROMPTS

- 4 Elementary Office
- 5 MS/HS Office Athletic Dept.
- 6 Transportation Superintendent/ Business Office/ Maintenance

ADMINISTRATION / SUPPORT SERVICES

Superintendent

Scott L. Huard
ext. 101 or 401

Elementary Principal

Michael Shepherd
ext. 104 or 110

MS/HS Principal

Jeremy Fielder
ext. 102 or 108

Director of Student

Advancement/AD

Jason Mensing
ext. 103 or 109

Dean of Student

Services/Career Coach

Ken Groch
ext. 240

El. Counselor

Lauren Ehman
Ext. 309

MS/HS Counselor

Jennifer Head
ext. 216

Director of Transportation, Buildings & Grounds

Charlie Butz
ext. 107 or 401

Chief Financial

Officer

Michelle Strick
ext. 105

Asst. Dir. Of Fin. & Business Services

Marisa-Tebbe-Cousino
ext. 106

OFFICE FAXES

Elementary Office

734-856-4724

MS/HS Office

734-856-2564

Superintendent / Business Office

734-854-6463