



"A Tradition of Excellence"

# Upper Sandusky Exempted Village Schools

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## Superintendent's Message . . .

November 2008

This month we wish to recognize the students, parents, and staff of South Elementary School for being recognized by State Superintendent Susan Tave Zelman as **1 of only 146 schools in the state to earn her "Schools of Promise" Award!**

To qualify for this award, a school must have an enrollment of at least 40% low-income pupils. South Elementary, despite a student poverty rate of over 40%, was able to exceed the 75% passage rate at every grade level (all students combined) on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade math tests on last year's Ohio Achievement Tests (OAT's). At least 65% of ALL students in each of the tested grade levels (all students combined at each level of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade tests) had also passed the 2006-2007 math tests of the Ohio Tests of Scholastic Achievement a year prior, making the meeting of these two criteria **for two consecutive years** a major qualification for this award.

Other criteria which needed to be met to qualify for this award include:

- \* when all 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade economically disadvantaged students at South were put into one group, at least 75% of this entire group passed the OAT math test in 2007-2008;
- \* when economically disadvantaged students at each tested grade level (grades 3, 4, and 5) were tested in math on the OGT, at least 70% of these students at each tested grade level passed the 2007-2008 OAT math test;
- \* when all 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in each of the major racial and ethnic groups at South were put into one group for each of these groups, at least 75% of each of these student groups passed the 2007-2008 OAT's in math;
- \* when students in each of the major racial and ethnic groups at each tested grade level (grades 3, 4, and 5) were tested in math on the OGT, at least 70% of these students at each tested grade level passed the 2007-2008 OAT math test;
- \* As a school, South Elementary School also had to meet the No Child Left Behind Act's criterion for annual yearly progress (AYP).

All in all, **EACH AND EVERY ONE of the over 16 criteria for this award** had to be achieved by South Elementary students, parents, and staff to qualify for this award. The fact that the award can be granted for either math **OR** reading at the above-specified grade and / or testing levels as well as the fact that **only 146 schools across this state were able to achieve this award** should be ample evidence of the tremendous honor it is to receive it!

While it is true that not all of Ohio's schools have a poverty rate of 40% or more to qualify for this award, there are over 4,700 schools in this state, and as Dr. Zelman, State Superintendent, puts it, "No one can deny the tremendous impact that poverty can have on student achievement. However, our *Schools of Promise* demonstrate that committed school building leadership and a positive culture can help all students succeed. . . . At a time when schools are being held more accountable for all groups of children, both statewide and at the federal level, these *Schools of Promise* are solid evidence that students from low-income communities can beat the odds. They provide hope and promise to students and teachers in all of Ohio schools."

Great going, South Elementary students, parents, and staff, on achieving this award!

Next, we have two award-winning teachers we would like to acknowledge this month: Mrs. Connie Miller and Mrs. Teresa Harris. Mrs. Miller was recognized by the Northwest District's Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics as the recipient of its Outstanding Teacher Award, and Mrs. Harris was one of 203 teachers in this state to receive the Governor's Award for Excellence in Youth Science Opportunities.

Of the over 4,700 schools in this state eligible to apply for and receive the award, **Upper Sandusky High School was one of only 73 schools in the state** to receive the Governor's Award for Excellence in Youth Science Opportunities Award for their accomplishments during the 2007-2008 school year.

Congratulations, students, parents, and staff at Upper Sandusky High School!

### Special thank you's also go out this month to:

- \* **Baseball Field Tiling Project Participants** - - those who put tile on the top of all the fences around all our baseball fields at the Athletic Complex: Jevon Cheney, Cody Gilliam, Dan Hildebrand, Mark Walton, Mike Walton, Tom Walton, Keith Miller, Pete Miller, Kenny Beamer, and Youth Baseball of Upper Sandusky;
- \* **All Donors to the Stadium Renovation Project** -- Our deepest thanks to all of you who have contributed to this project in any way to: (a) correct a long-standing liability issue for the school district, (b) to vastly improve the aesthetics and use of the stadium, and / or (c) to provide a long-overdue upgrade to these much-used school-community facilities. Your generosity and kindness are very much appreciated!
- \* **Middle School Principal Jim Wheeler** for his organization of Political Street Fair Day on October 10, 2008. Mr. Wheeler, thank you for securing the "high-roller" speakers for this day and for the provision of this a very worthwhile learning experience in civic education for the youth of our school district! It was a day we are sure your students will never forget!

Yours for education,  
Ken Doseck, Supt.

Mission Statement: The mission of the Upper Sandusky Schools is to provide a safe, child-centered and developmentally appropriate environment where learning is a positive, exciting, and dynamic lifelong process.

## DISTRICT NEWS

### AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR YOUTH:

Especially to any student who plays sports, performs community service, or participates in any type of extracurricular organization, activity, or sports team:

“IT” is not JUST about winning or losing.

“IT” is not JUST about me, my coach, my parents, my grandpa or grandma who used to play the sport, who used to do this or that, or even about my team.

“IT” is not about ANY of these specifically, and yet it's about ALL of these.

Students who choose to get involved, then, might ask, “What IS “IT” all about?”

“IT” is about the EXPERIENCE AND WHAT IS LEARNED FROM “IT” what is isolated and learned by me as an individual, while at the same time what is learned by all of us collectively when we learn that we win together or lose together as a group or as a society by choosing to do our best or not do our best; by working together to accomplish something or never to work with others to achieve the extraordinary; to work half-heartedly or to work whole-heartedly; to pay attention to what is going on around us or to ignore the opportunities for growth around us; to get involved or not to get involved; to participate or to just sit around and complain; to be part of the problem or part of the solution.

KIDS WHO PARTICIPATE RECEIVE MY HIGHEST ADMIRATION AND PRAISE because they are willing to give of their time and abilities by courageously accepting opportunities and challenges as they arise. Students willing to participate are willing to learn and are willing to put forth the effort to hone their Creator-given talents. Far from lazy, they don't whine or complain, and because they use what they DO have, they will be the true leaders of tomorrow, and when adversity confronts them, they will not fold “like a two-dollar suitcase” the first time the wind blows unfavorably in their direction.

We often look for the leaders of tomorrow in the salutatorians and valedictorians of our graduation classes, and the world needs such people: their drive, their natural intelligence, and their persistence for excellence, BUT EVERY BIT AS MUCH, THE WORLD NEEDS those students willing to be part of band, the soccer team, the wrestling team, the tennis team, the swim team, the school musical, the choir, the scholastic bowl team, and a myriad of other extracurricular or service activities.

Just in case no one has told you, WE, the REST OF US IN THIS WORLD, NEED YOU BECAUSE YOU ARE THE FUTURE OF AMERICA, an America which suffers greatly today from gross apathy and the belief that involvement is something that someone else should do because: “I'm too busy with my own affairs. I don't have the time. I don't feel adequate. And that's for someone else.”

Involved youth, please know that our focus is fleeting upon the most intelligent because there can only be a select few who are the most intelligent, just the same as there can only be a select few who can win habitually, are the fastest runners, the highest jumpers, the greatest actors, the most skilled craftsmen, surgeons, musicians, artists, singers—the list is infinite—but my point IS that such experiences and accomplishments are momentary and fleeting. What is learned through YOUR persistent involvement, participation, and struggling; what is learned when struggling through the mud of life's preparation fields; what is learned by experiencing, especially when young, what are perceived by most to be worthwhile experiences— THIS IS WHAT IS IMPORTANT AND VALUABLE IN LIFE to most of us! YOU NEED NOT BE THE STAR OR WIN AT EVERYTHING ALL OR MOST OF THE TIME. The fact that you try—that you're willing to participate—puts you ahead of everyone without the “stuffins” to do the same!

**WHY? Because most of us realize that your participation in experiences and activities will breed in you hundreds of virtues and talents and skills that those who do not participate will never know.** What good are one's talents and gifts if they are

not shared with others? What fulfillment is there in the person who cares only about himself or herself or who keeps his / her talents within, never to be shared with others?

**MY student heroes** will always be found on stage; in the band; engaged in volunteer work; on a wrestling mat; on a tennis court; in the natatorium; on the track field; on the debate team; or involved in the FFA, FTA, Boys Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, or wherever youth are found working on projects.

You students who are willing to get involved, OUR WORLD NEEDS YOU, and it will always be YOU who have taken advantage of your EXPERIENCES who will have the knowledge, the skills, the persistence, the fortitude, the determination, and the courage to reach your goal of making this world a better place. YOU are the person we want to hire. And we will know where to look and why we are looking there for YOU!

Our dear youth: Be courageous. Take advantage of the opportunities around you. The world has enough apathy. We need those of you with the ambition, persistence, wisdom, and skills which come from your willingness to participate and from your willingness to give the world your best. Make a positive difference in the lives of others. “IT's” what a meaningful life is all about. There is no substitute for the experience you will gain, and the rest of us . . . in this often crazy and challenging world . . . definitely need you and the experience that your PARTICIPATION brings!

- Mr. Doseck, Superintendent

### ADULT EDUCATION EVENING CLASSES

#### SPONSORED VIA US COMMUNITY OUTREACH, INC.

It is that time of year to start thinking about Adult Education Classes to be offered this school year starting in February 2009. We had a good turnout last year and think we have many exciting classes to offer you. Some of the ideas for this year are: Money Matters, Yogo, Power Point and Word, Mr. Fix It, Genesis, Cooking Class, Herbs and Small Gardens, Ebay, Swing Dancing, Cake Decorating, Bridge, Acting, and Girls Night Out (nutrition and exercise class for women only). A complete list and schedule of classes will be in next month's newsletter.

If you have any ideas about classes you would like to see offered OR you would like to teach a class, please call Joy Wilson at 419-310-0077.

- Joy Wilson, Adult Ed Class Coordinator  
for US Community Outreach, Inc.

## South, Union & East Elementary News

### UNION SECOND GRADE!

Wow! What a great start we've had in second grade at Union! Our Science textbooks are new this year and they are full of new and exciting information, including facts and photos from Ohio! What a great way to help us meet state standards. Our first unit in science was Living Things. As you can see from the picture below we made our own living things from an old sock and some grass seed. After we drew a face (do they look familiar?), we added water and sunlight and watched them grow. We are really excited about the rest of the year and can hardly wait for Right-To-Read Week! We'll be researching a president and learning about the voting process.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year!

- Mrs. Ritter's  
2nd grade,  
Union Elem.



## THE STUDENTS AT UNION ELEMENTARY ARE REALLY AMAZING STUDENTS



Union RAMS is a new incentive program that integrates RAM Pride and Character Education. Students earn Ram slips for being Really AMazing Students. The slips are collected for a weekly drawing. Twelve RAMS winners are announced by third grade students over the PA system. Winners go to Miss Bluhm's room for a prize. The

remaining slips are put into a huge container for a drawing that will take place at the end of the nine weeks.

Each nine weeks there is a RAMS celebration. Classrooms share nine weeks goals and do many RAMS cheers. Every Friday is Orange and Black Day.

Union School Mission Statement: **I am here to learn and always do my best!**  
-Mindy Newell

## EXCELLENT SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS!

On September 26, Union Elementary students had an Excellent School Celebration in honor of earning the highest scores in the Upper Sandusky School District and earning the excellent school distinction from the state of Ohio. Students learned RAM Pride cheers from middle school cheerleaders.

Donna Swavel made over 400 cupcakes for all students, teachers, and guests to enjoy, which were served by school board members Hannah Kotterman, Russell Lee, and Neil Kinley, as well as Superintendent Ken Doseck.  
-Mindy Newell



## SOUTH CELEBRATES EXCELLENT RATING!



Ice cream and sprinkles were the perfect combination to celebrate South's EXCELLENT rating from the Ohio Department of Education. South students enjoyed the sweet treat on a warm day last month after a roof-raising pep rally. Mrs. Heilman's first grade class taught everybody an enthusiastic cheer to shout "CONGRATULATIONS" to all students, teachers and parents on this great achievement!! Students are now hard at work to repeat and improve on last year's rating.

- Sue Kitzler, South Intervention Specialist

## BUSY FALL AT EAST

East school's 4th graders have had a busy fall! To celebrate our country's constitution, we participated in a reader's theater. Many of the students chose to have speaking parts, which, in turn, explained Articles 4 and 5 of the Constitution. Mrs. Spoor taught everyone the Preamble song which we sang as an entire school! Learning about the Constitution was nearly an historical event in itself!

Testing anyone? In October the class took the Iowa Test of Basic Skills and the Cognitive Abilities Test. These tests not only

compare the 4th graders with all 4th graders around the country, but help to place students in the Talented and Gifted program.

Also, for Veterans Day each class member interviewed a veteran. After gathering information the students wrote a report using the information they gathered. The students learned some valuable interesting stories from many of our local veterans. We are proud of our veterans and are thankful to live in a country that provides us with the freedoms we have.

To show our appreciation and continued support for the Wyandot Historical Society, the 4th and 5th grade will be decorating a holiday tree at the Wyandot County Museum. Be sure to stop by and see the tree at the museum's Open House, December 5, 6, and 7, and enjoy our handiwork.  
-Patty Niederkoher

## 'TIS THE SEASON AT EAST SCHOOL



It seems a bit early to be thinking about the holidays, but students at East have a good reason. They are participating in "Operation Evergreen." Students make Christmas tree decorations, banners, garland, tree toppers, and cards to send to the troops overseas. In order to get there in time, we package and deliver them by Veterans' Day. This is our second year being part of Trees for Troops. Last year we took our decorations to Kaleidoscope Farms, and this year our projects are going with the trees from Cackler Farms. We appreciate FedEx providing free shipping and the hours of volunteer help getting trees cut and boxed and shipped. In

1995, it all began by sending 30 trees from Ohio to Bosnia. Now over 11,000 trees from all over the United States are sent to Kuwait, Qatar, Afghanistan, and Iraq. We hope this gives a touch of home for the holidays to our brave men and women serving and protecting our freedom.  
- Penny Case

## 99 TO 100 YEARS OLD AT EAST SCHOOL

Second graders are preparing for East's Lift Off/Kick Off year-long celebration for our school's 100th birthday! In November, Jeff Conley is inflating his hot air balloon and teaching the students about the science of ballooning. So students are decorating papier mache balloons and learning the parts of a hot air balloon by reading a diagram. Videos, a PowerPoint, books, and science experiments are also teaching them more about this type of beautiful flight. In December, Ashlie Webb and some wonderful board members from the Wyandot County Historical Society are also giving their time and talents to share their expertise about the early 1900's. Each will present a vignette set up around the gym. Classes will travel through time learning about jobs, communication, dress, transportation, entertainment, education, and more from each time period.

We are also proud and pleased to have our own local artist, Dianna Swartz, working on a pictorial of our school. Those who know her work, know that this will be a wonderful piece of art, a real tribute to our building! Thank you to Mr. Paul Guthrie, Eric Gottfried, Dianne Grafmiller, and the Community Library for helping us research our past.

More activities are being planned for each month. Remember, anyone who has photos or memories is invited to share them with us to celebrate 100 years of learning.

- Penny Case



# Middle School Happenings

## OUR THANK YOU!

Many people contribute to the success of our building. Recently we have received generous gifts and donations from local individuals.

**SUBWAY** - The local Subway donated a sandwich platter during the first week of school for our teachers.

**CHRIS ROSE** - Big thank you to Chris Rose for his donation of a striper machine to assist our Cross Country program.

- Jim Wheeler, Principal



## DUKES

DUKES is a reward for 4th and 5th grade students at Union School. These students show the following characteristics: self control, respect, compassion, and fairness.

Each month qualifying students go to East of Chicago on the last Friday of the month for an all-you-can-eat buffet

with their teacher and their principal.

This month's winners are:

**4th Grade:** Candice Plott      Joey Brown      Sarah Ogden  
**5th Grade:** Makayla Morgan      Trinity Wampl      Cody Gabriel

## BUILDING OUR OAT SCORES

Last month I highlighted a number of things that teachers are doing to further enhance our OAT scores. As the year progresses, I see more and more evidence that this staff has taken these scores personally this year.

In 8th Grade Reading, Mr. Zeller is doing many things to help prepare his kids' for continued success not only on the reading strand, but also in other areas. Mr. Zeller, as have other teachers, has spent time discussing with students HOW to take a multiple choice test.

When a multiple choice test is developed properly, test takers can eliminate one answer that is definitely false. That knocks the answers down to three. From there, they can then eliminate one more, leaving them with two to choose from.

Mr. Zeller also asks his students to predict the outcome of a story after a brief introduction to the story. This is critical because one of the strands we struggled on in Reading was just that. Our students need to read a little more in depth and judge how the author is developing the story.

During the month of October, our 6-8 grade students are also taking NWEA tests via the computer to give teachers a better idea of where each student is and how we can better serve them.

- Jim Wheeler, Principal

## HOW CAN YOU HELP US?

Parents are instrumental in this endeavor. A few ways you can help us are:

- When you are watching television or movies with your kids, have a conversation during the show or after. During the show, ask them small things like, "What do you think is going to happen next?" Shows like CSI are great for this, because students have to watch very carefully. After the show, you can talk about what you thought WAS going to happen, but were wrong. Discuss why you were wrong. This may not be reading, but it is a simple way to get them into the practice of predicting what will happen next based on information they already have.

- We are also experiencing a little trouble with Literary Text in our Reading strands. This can be easily explained as students understanding various fictional aspects such as character development, etc. This can also be enhanced at home with forms of media. One thing I liked to do when I taught was to ask my students to do a writing assignment about the characters. The prompt was, "Pretend you are the casting director for filming a movie version of this book. Who would you choose to play the roles and why?"

You could do the same type of thing after watching a movie with your kids. They don't have to write, but just have conversation with you.  
- Jim Wheeler, Principal

## PE GRANT

In August, 2008, USMS PE teacher Pete Miller was invited to participate in a grant program at Bluffton University. For his participation, USMS received a grant from the Ohio Wildlife Department to purchase more archery equipment for USMS. The Wyandot County Wildlife Club also donated an additional \$2,800.

We believe physical education is an important part of the curriculum. We believe it builds strong, healthy bodies to go with the minds we are helping to create. Archery is yet another way to enhance our children's minds. Activity such as archery is a lifetime sport that students can practice and appreciate into their adult lives.

- Jim Wheeler, Principal

## UNION MS NEWSPAPER "RAMPAGES"

"Rampages" is the title of the Union Middle School newspaper. The staff is composed of 6th through 8th graders who meet weekly to compose articles for the paper that are of concern to them. The students write poetry, take photos, and conduct interviews. The content of the paper is predominantly student designed, including the artwork. Mr. Wheeler contributes an article for each issue that focuses on student social issues in the middle school. Rampages writers make use of the Union School computer lab to type their articles for the newspaper and insert clip art and photos. Rampages issues are published four times yearly: October, December, February and April. The newspaper advisor is 8th grade Language Arts teacher, Mrs. Wood.

### *The 2008-2009 Rampages Staff includes:*

Grade 8	Rowan Ritchey	Angela Massara
	Sierra Miller	Brennen Miller
	Luke Miller	Chris Swartz
	Marissa Clinger	Brittany Vent
	Cory Frey	Shyanne Downing
	Alexis Schwilk	Miranda Wagner
	Jacob Klavinger	
Grade 7	Sarah Rall	Jenna Mundy
	Amanda deJonge	Anna Massara
	Mandy Kear	Taylor Dilley
Grade 6	Tim Griffin	Kate Huston

## USMS CROSS COUNTRY

The 2008 USMS Cross Country team has finished another season. They have worked hard all season from August to October 14. The weather cooperated, and again this year, as we had beautiful days to run.

We are in a rebuilding process this year and it looks as if it will continue for the next couple of years. We are looking for athletes to compete in Cross Country, and without athletes coming out, the program will struggle. So consider coming out for the team next year, and help yourself and the program continue its success.

The Cross Country team has struggled this year with students coming out late and keeping numbers to compete at meets. Each team must have at least five members to compete as a team. This

year there were 8 boys and 6 girls that participated. The boys' record was 33 wins and 98 losses. They placed 4th in the NOL. The girls' team had 15 wins and 92 losses, placing 6th in the NOL. Even though our record does not show it, there were many bright spots to the season. One athlete improved tremendously, cutting his/her time by 11 minutes from the beginning of the season to the end. This is the most an athlete has improved in my 18 years as a CC coach. At our last invitational one USMS female athlete (Allie) gave her medal to another female athlete because she said she deserved it for all the hard work she had done over the season. This is true sportsmanship and a selfless deed.

The most improved male athlete for the 2008 season is Miles Mitten and the most improved female athlete was Kaitlin Rowe.

The antics of the team kept the season interesting - chasing snakes as they ran, stepping on snakes as they ran (live and dead), seeing a bald eagle and various other animals, losing a shoe ten meters from the finish line, meeting new people, making friends, etc.

The parents were very supportive and tried to make it to all the meets even with the high gas prices. I would like to thank all of the parents for all they have done over the season and to those in the community who have supported us or acknowledged us as we came through town.

We are always looking for new and upcoming talent to keep the program successful. Remember, there is no bench and everyone participates and gets better throughout the season. If interested, contact Coach Fett at Upper Sandusky Middle School.  
- Coach Jeff Fett

### STREET FAIR THANKS

USMS wishes to deeply thank the following people for participating in our Political Street Fair on Friday, October 11.

Hannah Kotterman, USEV School Board Member  
 Carolyn Frederick, Wyandot County Treasurer  
 Charlotte Leeth, Marseilles City Council  
 Dianne Grafmiller, Poll Worker  
 Ernest Hoover, Wyandot County Board of Elections  
 Mike Wheeler, Wyandot County Commissioner  
 Steve Walton, Commissioner Candidate  
 John Schaadt, Mayor, Harpster, Ohio  
 Scott Swinehart, Upper Sandusky City Council  
 Scott Washburn, Mayor, Upper Sandusky, Ohio  
 Jeff McClain, Candidate, 82nd Ohio House  
 Kate Aubry, Common Pleas Judge, Wyandot County  
 Ken McDonald, Wyandot County Democratic Chair  
 Tom Mennigen, Wyandot County Republican Representative  
 Becky Vaughn  
 Judge Robert Cupp, State Supreme Court Justice  
 Brent Fahle  
 Steve Seitz, Commissioner Candidate  
 Joyce Morehart, Commissioner  
 Wanda Sharrock, Candidate, 82nd Ohio House  
 Bob Latta, Congressman, Ohio 5th  
 Betsy Corfman, Political Activist  
 Bill Phillis, Educational Lobbyist  
 Jonathan Miller, Wyandot County Prosecutor  
 Sue Westendorf, State Board of Ed, District, at-large  
 Judge Richard Rogers, Ohio 3rd District Court of Appeals  
 Joe Kraus, Candidate for Wyandot County Commissioner  
 Steve Phillips, Candidate for Wyandot County Commissioner  
 Jennifer Economus, OSBA Lobbyist  
 Rosie Craig, Lobbyist  
 Sherrod Brown (Rep from office), US Senator  
 Wade Rakes, Dir. of Public Liaisons, Gov. Strickland's Office  
 Jim Wheeler/Bill Aubry, Why I Believe in My Party  
 Judith Lanzinger, State Supreme Court Justice  
 Karen Gillmor, Candidate, Ohio Senate, 26th  
 Steve Reinhard, State Congressman, Ohio 82

Each Home Base got to hear 4 speakers and as you can see our speakers ran the gamut from local to state. It was a very valuable experience to hear from those serving the public.

To the speakers, thank you for taking time out of your busy lives to enrich our lives!  
- Jim Wheeler, Principal

## High School Events

### HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

The first grading period ended on October 31, 2008. Grades will be completed on November 5. Students will be receiving grade reports by November 7. Please discuss grades with your student and contact their high school teacher or guidance counselor if you have questions. Here are important dates for the month of November:

November 3-7	OGT Make-up
November 12	Picture Day Retakes
November 13	Plan Test: 10th graders: 8:00-11:00 a.m.
November 14/15	Fall Play: 7:00 p.m.
November 16	Fall Play: 2:30 p.m.
November 19	Wyandot Co. Leadership: 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
November 24	Parent/Teacher Conferences: 1 p.m.- 8:20 p.m.
November 25	Parent/Teacher Conferences: 10 a.m.-5:20 p.m.
	Endowment Basketball Games: Varsity Girls/Boys @ 6:00 p.m.
November 26-28	NO SCHOOL-THANKSGIVING VACATION
November 29	Craft Show
December 1	Financial Aid Information Night: 5:30-7:00 p.m

### USHS STUDENTS-OF-THE-MONTH

Our congratulations go out to the students who have been selected by the high school staff as students of the month. These students are chosen for outstanding qualities, such as positive attitude, improved academics, academic achievement, and community and school involvement. Each student receives a certificate from the Lions Club and coupons from area businesses.

#### **September 2008**

Senior: Meagan Rhodes	Junior: Ben Bennett
Sophomore: Jeana Hill	Freshman: Toshia Moore

### JUNIOR AND SENIOR NEWS

The last several weeks have been very busy in the guidance office. We have had a number of different colleges and university representatives visiting to meet with interested Juniors and Seniors. It is great to see students taking advantage of these opportunities. There are still several more representatives coming in November, so please encourage your student to come meet with them! Check out the list of representatives on Channel 22.

Hopefully, you had an opportunity to review your student's interim grades a few weeks ago. The first grading period has now come to a close, and grade cards have been distributed to students. Please contact me if you would like a copy of your student's grade card. Remember that you can also check your student's grades at anytime with the online tool, Progress Book. Contact USHS if you need login information for this program.

We recently gave the PSAT to thirty-five Juniors. This was a huge increase over last year! The PSAT is a practice test for the SAT and also serves as the qualifying exam for National Merit Scholarships. If your junior took this test, you can expect their score report in December. College-bound juniors and seniors should also be signing up to take or re-take the ACT and/or SAT. Students should take at least one of these college entrance exams by spring of their junior year.

I have received many college applications in the last several weeks. This is terrific! Please be aware of application and

scholarship deadlines for the colleges that your student is interested in. Many colleges have scholarship & application deadlines of December 1st. This means that students should try to get their applications in BEFORE Thanksgiving break. Also, make visits to those colleges whenever possible! New scholarship information is coming in as well, so be sure that your student is checking the guidance office regularly. We have planned a Financial Aid Information Night for Monday, December 1st at 6:00 p.m., and we are also in the process of planning FAFSA Completion Nights. More information on these will be coming soon! As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 419-294-2308 or cara\_s@treca.org.

- Cara Stevens, Guidance

## FUTURE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS VIEW SURGERY

The Anatomy and Physiology classes at USHS recently experienced a real time surgical procedure and never left Upper Sandusky. Distance learning technologies allowed students to view a minimally invasive hernia repair surgery taking place in operating room #58 at the Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Steven Rosenblatt repaired an incisional hernia which resulted from a previous operation, (a gall bladder removal or cholecystectomy). USHS students were prepared prior to the experience by examining online resources that explained the laparoscopic procedure. During the surgery, students interacted with Dr. Rosenblatt and other members of the surgical team with questions.

Senior Miriah Wilson explains, "There were many other schools from around Ohio and even from Alaska, viewing with us. As everyone from these schools entered the O.R. virtually, the techs that handled all the electronics were giving us a great introduction. Once our "technical bugs" were caught by Mr. (Jim) Frye (district's tech coordinator), we were straight into a real operation. The patient had been under the knife 2 times already for a hernia and this third time, the surgeon used laparoscopic surgery to cut loose the hernia sac, which was mainly scar tissue from the previous surgeries. There were many interesting parts of the surgery – for instance when the surgeon showed us the heart beating from the abdominal cavity."

When students were asked what surprised them most about the virtual field trip, their responses were varied. Senior Chrissy Gatchell comments, "It's unreal how they can operate on a person without creating a huge incision to get to the problem; instead, they were able to make a small cut for the camera and operating tools."

In response to the work of the surgery team, Junior Riley McQuown says, "I was surprised at how many people it takes to run one operation smoothly." "I was a bit surprised that it wasn't so uptight; there were some jokes and things to relieve tension," added Junior Bandon Linhart.

The students were also asked if the experience influenced their potential career choice in the health field. Junior Kaylina Schneider enthusiastically says, "Watching the hernia surgery today made me want to go into the medical field even more." Junior Amber Clinger reflects, "At first watching the surgery, I began to second guess my career choice (veterinarian medicine) but my doubts were quickly diminished. It was nice to hear the doctor speak. He encouraged us to pursue a medical career and even assured us that it was normal to be a bit queasy and squirmish at first."

Senior Abby Warfel concludes, "(The surgical broadcast) was very educational not only because I was able to view a hernia and how it is taken care of, but I was also able to look at several other parts of the body's organs as well. I was able to get a better picture of what the actual organs looked like opposed to a picture in a book." The classes will have a second long distance experience at the end of October with a CSI approach to an autopsy.

- Teresa Harris, USHS Science

## QUIZ BOWL 2008/2009

The Upper Sandusky High School Quiz Bowl team started their 2008/2009 season by hosting Fostoria St. Wendelin (defending Seneca/Wyandot/Put-in-Bay Quiz bowl League Champs), Carey, and Hopewell Loudon. The Rams, continuing with their recent success, defeated Carey in round 1, 115-85. In round 2 the Rams took on powerful Fostoria St. Wendelin and won in dramatic style by answering the final question in double overtime. The final score was Upper 160, St. Wendelin 150. The final match of the day for the Rams was against one of the leagues two new members, Hopewell Loudon. Hopewell is returning after a 3-year absence from the league. The Rams were able to get some first-year players valuable experience and walked away with a 70-15 victory. The Rams, now 3-0, will travel to Fostoria High School in November to continue their quest for a 4th league championship in the last 5 years. The quiz bowl team would like to thank the Academic Boosters for their outstanding support of our team and our school. The Boosters pay all of the entry fees for the league and tournaments the Rams participate in. Members of this year's Ram Quiz Bowl team are:

**Seniors:** Vince D'Ettorre, Clint Richey, Brittany Walton, David Maltsbarger, Eric Shafer, Moriah Wilson, Jenna Karg, and Cat Smith

**Juniors:** Becca Gierhart, Jacob Beach, Tia Sines, Riley McQuown, Lauren Miller, Jakob Searfoss, Jerrika Born, Tyler Billeg, Brandon Linhart, Danny Brown, Lisa Anderson, Alec Stansbery, Megan Mooney, Hannah Riele, and Aaron Kline

**Sophomores:** Kelsey Swavel, Kane Johnson, Dylan Waggy, Nick Fagan, Theresa D'Ettorre, Chelsea Frey, Alex Frey, Heath Hawkins, Ashley Clark, and Kaleb Raymond

**Freshmen:** Brice Arnold, Trevor Barth, Garrett Huston, Cayla Richey, and Chase Perry.  
- Steve Sturgeon

## MARKETING STUDENTS COMPETE AT ONU

Eighteen Upper Sandusky High School marketing education students were among nearly 150 students from across westcentral Ohio who competed at the recent DECA District 16 marketing competition, held at Ohio Northern University in Ada.

Five senior students brought home trophies for their accomplishments, including Brad Miller and Zach Scofield, second place, marketing management team; Fernando Salinas, fourth place, male public relations; Brandy Adkins, fifth place, parliamentary law, and Jessica Brown, fifth place, female public relations.

Also representing their Upper Sandusky DECA marketing chapter in competition were Heather Taylor, parliamentary law; Sara Kennedy and Katie Otto, job interview; Josie Brown and Corinne Stansbery, team management; Keegan Gillen, Logan Gillen, Brandon Lemaster and Luke Shoemaker, marketing test; and Justin Boucher, Labraea Daff, Stephanie Hawk and Tyler Steward, marketing math test. DECA is an international association of marketing students.  
- Wayne Thomas



DECA District 16 marketing competition trophy winners (L to R) Jessica Brown, Brandy Adkins, Brad Miller, Zach Scofield and Fernando Salinas.

# NOVEMBER 2008

## District Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Saturday, November 29</b> <u>Annual Craft Bazaar</u> Sponsored by the Music Dept. Held at the High School from 9:00 am- 3:00 pm Over 80 vendors selling many different crafts, doll clothes, kitchen supplies, candles, sewing and embroidery, speciality ornaments, Christmas wreaths, decorations, Ram Wear, food items and more! <i>Lunch Stand with homemade soups.</i>				<b>Looking Ahead . . .</b> On December 1 <sup>st</sup> there will be a Financial Aid Information Night for those interested in attending college next year. It will be from 5:30-7:00 p.m.		<b>1</b> USHS TBA C BO XC @ State
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> USHS OGT Make-up	<b>4</b> USHS OGT Make-up	<b>5</b> USHS OGT Make-up	<b>6</b> USHS OGT Make-up	<b>7</b> USHS Grade Cards	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> USHS Picture Day Retakes	<b>13</b> USHS Plan Test - 10th graders 8-11:00 a.m.	<b>14</b> USHS Fall Play 7:00 p.m.	<b>15</b> USHS Fall Play 7:00 p.m.
<b>16</b> USHS Fall Play 2:00 p.m.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> USHS Wyandot Co. Leadership: 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Vacation  Parent/Teacher Conferences  Academic Boosters 6:30 pm, HS Library	<b>25</b> NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Vacation  Parent/Teacher Conferences  USHS 6pm G V BKB Leipsic  7:30pm B V BKB Dayton Dunbar	<b>26</b> NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Vacation	<b>27</b> NO SCHOOL  HAPPY THANKSGIVING! NO SCHOOL	<b>28</b> NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Vacation  USHS 6 pm G BO (both) BKB @ Wynford	<b>29</b> USHS Annual Craft Bazaar 9:00 am- 3:00 pm  6 pm B FR BKB Rossford  6 pm B BO (both) BKB Rossford
<b>30</b>						

### PARENT EDUCATIONAL MEETINGS

Sponsored by the Seneca-Wyandot Parent Mentor Program of The North Central Ohio Educational Service Center and The Seneca Co. "Help Me Grow" Family Support Specialist.

**Tuesday, November 11, 2008**  
**"Holiday Make-It / Take It"**  
 Adults Only!

This parent meeting will be held at  
 The Family Learning Center at Sentinel  
 797 E. Twp. Rd. 201, Tiffin, Ohio - 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.  
**Questions, call Paula Frey, Parent Mentor, (419) 294-3445.**



### USHS BOYS BASKETBALL RESERVED SEATS AVAILABLE

There are a limited number of Upper Sandusky High School boys basketball reserved seats still available for the 2008-09 basketball season. These remaining reserved seats will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Order forms are available outside the USHS office. Please complete the order form, attach a check and drop off at the office. The reserved seat tickets will be mailed to you later in November.

- Brad Ehrman, AD

## 2008 MARCHING RAM BAND CDS AVAILABLE

The 2008 USHS Marching Ram Band will be releasing it's most recent CD very soon. The recording, done at the Marching Band Concert, will include all of the music from this year's football season including "Alive and Amplified," "The Time Warp," "Mr. Roboto," "How Far We've Come," and "Long Train Runnin'" along with stadium favorites like the USHS Fight Song, "Hang On Sloopy," and "Crazy Train." CDs are \$16.00 and orders can be placed through any band member or by contacting the band department. Call (419) 294-2308 or email [jason\\_m@treca.org](mailto:jason_m@treca.org) Orders should be placed immediately to ensure early-December delivery.

- Jason Morris, HS Band Director

## CONGRATULATIONS RAM BAND SENIORS

On Friday, October 24, senior members of the USHS Ram Marching Band and their parents were honored for their service and commitment to our outstanding band program. Congratulations again to the following students and their families: Sarah Adelsperger, Vince D'Ettore, Sam Ebert, Jacob Hartschuh, Dana Haubert, Jenna Karg, Madison Scott, Eric Shafer, Cat Smith, Seth Tschanen, and Mariah Wilson. We'll miss you in the marching band next year - but look forward to seeing you back for the 2009 Alumni Band!

- Jason Morris, HS Band Director

## LADY RAM BASKETBALL AND SPECIAL FORCES BUTTON SALES

Special Forces are again working with the girl's basketball team to produce spirit badges. Call the high school if not contacted by a basketball player to show your support for the team. You may also contact Coach Graham Treadway if you see him out and about.

The \$5.00 badge gets you in to the Hopewell-Loudon Girls Basketball game on December 12 free of charge. One Team - One Dream - Go Lady Rams!

- Coach Graham Treadway

## OHSAA FOUNDATION BASKETBALL GAMES

The Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) has announced that each member school will be able to participate in one Foundation Basketball Game between November 21st and December 6th. This basketball game, which replaces one of the school's five allotted scrimmages, would be tied to a community service cause or charity. Proceeds from this regulation game,

which will not count against a team's record, would be used to benefit a chosen service project.

Upper Sandusky High School will participate in its first Foundation Basketball Game on Tuesday, November 25th with a varsity girls and boys basketball doubleheader at USHS. At 6:00 p.m. the Lady Rams will take on Leipsic High School while the USHS varsity boys will battle 2005 and 2007 state tournament foe, Dayton Dunbar High School, in a 7:30 p.m. match up.

Upper Sandusky High School has chosen the Hospice of Wyandot County and the Upper Sandusky Food Pantry to be the recipients of the proceeds from this game. Admission will be \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students. A ticket will admit fans to both games. No passes of any kind will be accepted. All seating will be general admission and there will be no reserved seating. Doors will open at 5:00 p.m. the night of the game. All fans are also encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to the game to support the Upper Sandusky Food Pantry.

Please come out on November 25th to watch two great basketball games and support the Hospice of Wyandot County and the Upper Sandusky Food Pantry. We are excited to host this great event and support two outstanding organizations that do so much for our citizens of Wyandot County.

- Brad Ehrman, AD

## PROM DRESSES!

John Stewart Church is accepting gently used prom or bridesmaid dresses (along with accessories)

Dresses may be brought to  
**John Stewart Church**

130 W. Johnson St., Upper Sandusky  
Monday thru Friday - 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

or

**Community First Bank**

101 North Sandusky Ave., Upper Sandusky  
Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon

*During the months of December & January*

*\* For more details call 419-294-2867*

Dresses will be donated to girls in Wyandot County who would like to go to prom but can't afford a dress.

Call 419-294-9305 to schedule an appointment to try on dresses.

*\* Appointments available during the months of March & April*



For more information about school events and activities, please watch WRAM TV 22 or visit our web site at [www.upper sandusky.k12.oh.us](http://www.upper sandusky.k12.oh.us)



Upper Sandusky  
Exempted Village Schools

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