



"A Tradition of Excellence"

# Upper Sandusky Exempted Village Schools

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November 2009

## *Superintendent's Message . . .*

### *Two Upper Sandusky Schools to Receive "Schools of Promise" Awards: Only 134 Schools in the State Qualify for This Distinction*

Union Elementary and South Elementary School were designated by State Superintendent Deb Delisle as two of only 134 schools in the state as "Schools of Promise." Although there are about 4,468 schools K-12 in the state of Ohio, only those schools with a 40 percent or more economically disadvantaged rate qualify for this award. Regardless, the reception of this award is undoubtedly both prestigious and distinctive.

The criteria for this award are many:

1. the school must serve 40 percent or more economically disadvantaged students for the 2008-2009 school year;
2. the school must meet state-set AYP (annual yearly progress) standards, standards which indicate collective advancement or progress on test scores from the previous year;
3. at least 75% of all students in grades 3 passed the 2008-2009 Ohio Achievement Test in reading or mathematics (or both);
4. at least 65% of all students in grade 3 passed the 2007-2008 Ohio Achievement Test in reading or mathematics (or both);
5. at least 75% of all economically disadvantaged students in grade 3 passed the 2008-2009 Ohio Achievement test in reading or mathematics (or both);
6. at least 75% of all racial subgroups (of 5 or more students) in grade 3 passed the 2008-2009 Ohio Achievement Test in reading or mathematics (or both); AND
7. the school received a "met" or "above" rating for the 2008-2009 Value Added Composite Score (another indicator of collective improvement on the scores from the previous year).

These criteria apply to students statewide in testing grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 12 as well.

If any one of the above seven criteria is not met, a school does not qualify, which explains why the award is so elusive and has only been achieved by 134 schools statewide based on last year's state test scores.

State Supt. Deb Delisle says, "High expectations and a strong system of learning supports can help student overcome high levels of poverty. These 'Schools of Promise' recognize the challenges students in poverty face and have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to helping their students succeed." "Courageous leadership, caring teachers, and a positive school environment," she said, "have contributed to the success of these schools and their students."

We wish to congratulate Laurie Vent, elementary principal at both of these buildings: our curriculum coordinator, Janine McMillan; the wonderful students we have who strive to achieve academic excellence; the supportive parents we have who encourage their children and send them to school ready to learn; the many volunteers and mentors we have, many who have helped prepare students for many years faithfully, quietly, and thanklessly without the recognition they deserve; the caring community we have which always supports its children and its schools commendably; and last but definitely not least, the strong and dedicated staff of teachers committed to the achievement of academic excellence for ALL students, regardless of gender, race, or economic background.

When we say it takes an entire community to educate a child, we mean that it takes all of us working together to be successful with our children. For this reason, all of us can rejoice in the reception of prestigious awards like these because with one part missing or not doing its part, academic excellence cannot be achieved.

Congratulations to all of you on a job well done! Seeing our students do well is great cause for joy for all of us!

**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.

## On the Financial Picture, I wish I Had Better State News to Report, But . . .

State Superintendent Deb Delisle's most recent projections shared with us on September 29, 2009 – released shortly after the Governor was informed that he would not be permitted to use VLT revenue to balance his budget – reflects a 10.31% DECREASE in funding projected for Ohio's schools across the board in FY2010 and a 15.74% DECREASE in funding for Ohio schools in FY 2011.

Contrast this with the Governor's original projections 6 to 8 months ago when we were told we would receive a 15% INCREASE in funding for FY 2010 and a 10.6% INCREASE in funding for FY 2011. (At the time, we jokingly said to ourselves we would believe it when we received it.)

The State Superintendent's most recent projections reflect a 25.31% shift to the NEGATIVE for FY10 and a 26.34% shift to the NEGATIVE in FY11, which equals a 51.65% shift to the NEGATIVE over the biennium, an absolutely irresponsible and inexcusable action unsurpassed in irresponsibility in my 30 years plus as an administrator! Don't we, in Ohio, deserve more responsible and accountable leadership?

What makes matters worse is that despite our projected decreases due to the state's lack of responsible planning and its failure to get its act together in meeting the state requirement for a balanced budget, still, as part of Ohio law, are NEW STATE requirements which do not address ways for school districts to:

- \* fully (or even partially fund) the hiring of 10 to 15 ADDITIONAL OR NEW staff people (who, in my opinion, will do little, if anything, to truly improve the quality of education that our children will receive);
- \* fully (or even partially fund) all-day, everyday kindergarten;
- \* fully (or even partially fund) the equivalent of 3 mills for every school district in the state of Ohio as the charge-off is reduced from 23 mills to 20 mills;
- \* fully (or even partially fund) the lower pupil-teacher ratios, eventually to the level of 15 pupils to 1 teacher in grades K-3, let alone all the new classrooms that will need to be built to accommodate such ratios (8 classrooms for K-3 at Upper Sandusky alone) / and the 25 to 1 pupil-teacher ratios in all other classes and grade levels; and
- \* fully (or even partially fund) the proposed addition of 20 additional days to the school year.

As if the above were not enough, the state has made stimulus money part of the state's basic aid for education – something I strongly disagree with – because I am sure that all of us are smart enough to figure out the crisis that Ohio schools will face again in two years when the stimulus money runs out!

Isn't it past due when all of us stand up and say that we're tired of irresponsible mandates and spending at the state and federal levels because we are “on to you”? Isn't it past time when we say: First fund what we have before you mandate more because we know it all ultimately comes back to us in the form of new taxes AT THE LOCAL LEVEL? Isn't it time that we insist that government not determine what is best for us locally and especially when THEY cannot fund what THEY/WE currently have in place to produce a quality education?

If all of us do not take a stand and make our voices heard, each of us will be paying for the education of children in Cleveland, Cincinnati, Youngstown, Columbus, Toledo and Canton without doing one single solitary thing to improve education here in Upper.

I wish I had happier information to report, but you chose me to be your superintendent, so the honest but grim truth is what I will share with you.

Sorry to report this, but . . .

Yours for education,  
Ken Doseck, Supt.

## DISTRICT NEWS

### Measures of Academic Progress Testing

The week of October 12 through October 16 was used to find our sixth and seventh grade students' academic progress and provide a benchmark for their academic growth the rest of the school year and hopefully into next school year. Our district recently purchased, with the help of the Upper Sandusky Academic Boosters, an assessment program through Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA). We are able to give each student a computerized adaptive test called Measures of Academic Progress, or MAP. When taking a MAP test, the difficulty of each question is based on how well a student answers all the previous questions. As the student answers correctly, questions become more difficult. If the student answers incorrectly, the questions become easier.

MAP assessments are used to measure your student's progress or growth in school. You may have a chart in your home on which you mark your child's height at certain times, such as on his or her birthday. This is a growth chart. It shows how much he or she has grown from one year to the next. MAP assessments do the same sort of thing, except they measure your student's growth in mathematics and reading skills. The scale used to measure your child's progress is called the RIT scale (Rasch uniT). The RIT scale is an equal-interval scale much like feet and inches on a yardstick. It is used to chart your student's academic growth from year to year. Parents will receive copies of their child's scores by mail soon after the assessments are completed.

Parent letters were distributed on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> to all 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students explaining this test and what it measures. Growth results will be sent home in the spring after our second assessment. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be taking the assessments the week of October 19<sup>th</sup>.

For more information you can go to the NWEA web site at <http://www.nwea.org>. Take the tour available on the home page or do a keyword search for *Document Library* and open the *Parent Toolkit* document.

- Janine McMillan, K-12 Curriculum Coordinator

### PARENT EDUCATION MEETING

**Tuesday, November 17, 2009**

**“Holiday Make-It / Take-It” ADULTS ONLY**

Spend a relaxing evening making holiday crafts.

All supplies are furnished FREE!

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

# South, Union & East Elementary News

## Using Reading Skills

Nocturnal means “active at night.” Are second graders nocturnal? Well... we hope not, but they have been learning about animals that are. Nocturnal animals are a little spooky but fascinating to study. The

bandit, the night watchmen, the sanitation engineer and the night flyer are all animals that sleep during the day and hunt at night. Can you guess who they are? By using their senses, students were challenged to think how night animals might hunt for food and travel at night in the dark. Students used all their reading skills to find a book they could read out loud to a partner and then dressed up as the main character in their book. What a fun time it was! They then drew pictures of themselves with some written clues to see if others in the building could guess their character. The class celebrated all their hard work with pink cupcakes, just like the little girl in the book Pinkalicious.

- Roxann Hufford, Teacher



In the end there were contraptions to feed the dog, capture a toy jaguar, put water into a bowl, and feed a gold fish. Who knew that Rube Goldberg and simple machines could be so interesting and so much fun? - Patty Niederkohr, Teacher



## Sweet Smells From South Third Grade

What are those smells coming from the third grade room at South School? Well, in September it was the smell of fruits and vegetables brought in for a science lesson by school helper, Al Newell. The third graders learned about being an investigative scientist by looking at fruits and vegetables with hand lenses and microscopes. They recorded data, drew pictures, and wrote about what they observed. The class tasted tomatoes, apples, carrots, onions, and raspberries. Mr. Newell's wife, Corinne, made the students chocolate chip cookies as a special treat.

In October the smells were the students themselves, who used their products they received from their class “Sweet Smellin’” program. The program was presented by Nurse Darlene Steward, who works at the Wyandot County Health Department. Darlene talked about her nursing career and the importance of staying in school and receiving a good education. Darlene then gave some tips about good personal hygiene. Each student received a bag of goodies which included soaps, shampoos, conditioners, body gels, deodorant, and even a shower cap. Who knows what smells will be coming out of third grade for November? We just hope they are as fun and sweet as the last two months have been!

- Cindy Constien, Teacher

## East Fourth Graders Make Rube Goldberg Machines

Have you ever made a Rube Goldberg machine? Well the fourth graders at East have. Mrs. Eyestone, the talented-gifted teacher, presented a unit about simple machines and Rube Goldberg. Having no idea who Rube Goldberg was, she introduced him to us by showing us the Mouse Trap game. What Rube Goldberg is known for is taking a simple task (the mouse trap) and making it very complex. She also showed a video of a type of Rube Goldberg machine that another child had made.



After dividing into groups, each group came up with what they wanted their machine or contraption, as it came to be known as, to accomplish. The next step was to incorporate a simple machine, such as a pulley, wheel and axle, inclined plane, and so forth into the machine. Mrs. Eyestone brought in her simple machine LEGO kits for students to use. Students were allowed to bring items from home to use in the construction of the machine as well as to embellish it. All students had a great time inventing, but getting their contraption to work was another story. Lots of LEGOS, dominoes, and balloons were used as well as plenty of imagination and frustration.

## DUKES

Union School's DUKES program (Dedicated Union Kids Exceeding Standards) is a program developed in 2005 by 4<sup>th</sup> Grade teacher Brad Kinnear to reward our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students for scholarship, behavior, and service.

Six students, one from each class, are chosen each month. On the last Friday of the month, rewarded students are selected to go to East of Chicago with their principal and one teacher to partake of the endless pizza buffet. The students also receive a t-shirt and get their picture on the 4th and 5th grade bulletin board for the month.

**This month's DUKES are:**

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

Nick Clark • Aspen Conley • Kyle Clintsman

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Dayna Thompson • Ethan Spaun • Alissa Anspach

- Jim Wheeler, Principal

# Middle School Happenings

## Cooperative Learning

"Hey kiddo," says the parent as his child walks through the door, "how was your day?"

"Great," the child says as he takes off his backpack and heads for food.

"What did you do in English?"

"We read a short story and answered some questions about it. Pretty cool story. We did it in group."

The conversation was flowing pretty well – I imagine right up until the parent heard the word "group." Group work has negative connotations for some parents and rightfully so. Many of us were in groups in school, and we may not have had a good experience with group work. Some people may feel as if they were stuck doing all the work. Some may not have liked the people they were with in the group, and some may have received a bad grade based on how little others in the group did.

The aforementioned are all good reasons to not be in favor of "group work."

The better term for group work, however, is "cooperative learning." And while it doesn't seem like a huge difference in terminology, it is.

First of all, the term cooperative denotes that everyone in the group will be cooperating to achieve a goal. Secondly, the word learning sounds a lot more conducive to the educational process than work.

One thing teachers must do is to ensure everyone in the group is engaged in the project. I taught high school English for nine years and frequently utilized cooperative learning. I found it worked best when I assigned everyone in the group a role. I always had groups of four, because I thought more than that would lead to some horseplay, so there were four roles.

One role was that of a **taskmaster**, or someone who was in charge of keeping the group on task and not allowing the group to drift off into conversations about something other than the topic at hand. Another role was that of **timekeeper**, who kept track of how much time was left not only on the topic but also the class. A third role was a **put down monitor**, or someone who made sure all ideas were heard and no one was rejected or "put down." That is a very critical role for middle-school-aged children. Finally, someone was assigned the role of **scribe** and took the official notes for the group. This person was also the designated speaker when the teacher asked questions.

Each group was assigned a different question or task about whatever we had read and were asked to discuss it in their group. When time was up, the speaker had to share what the group had discussed. There is an important distinction between a teacher being a "sage on the stage" and handing control over to the class. Think about it for a second. Who do other 12-year-olds want to listen to? Parents or their friends? It's really no different in school. They would rather listen to their friends, but their friends need to say the right things.

That is where the teacher comes in. The group can have the information, and it may or may not be right. If the information is erroneous, the rest of the class is getting faulty information. Teachers must pay attention to what the groups are saying and either add to it or correct it.

People tend to look at cooperative learning as the teacher taking the day off. If you, the teacher, is doing cooperative learning right that teacher will be more tired at the end of the day than ever. It is a teacher's responsibility to walk the room and ensure that each group is not only on target with the information but also to ensure that everyone is working cooperatively.

So the next time your child comes home and says he did

group work...you know the real deal!

- Jim Wheeler, Principal

## Students-of-the-Month

Each month teachers at USMS select one boy and one girl from each grade level as a Student of the Month. These students are selected based upon several criteria, including:

- Scholarship;
- Work ethic;
- Service;
- Behavior

At the end of the year, all students selected are invited to chaperone the Union Kindergarten classes to a Toledo Mud Hens baseball game. We affectionately refer to these students as Muddy Buddies.

### Muddy Buddies Selected for September

Grade 8	Dermot Garza	Keely Stover
Grade 7	Luis Ayala	Jaime Calvin
Grade 6	Sam Duress	Shelby Passet

## Celebrating E.A. Poe

Edgar Allan Poe was a very misunderstood and under-appreciated author who did not receive the accolades he deserved while he was alive. Poe died 160 years ago at the age of 40. His death was mysterious, and despite his great talent, he died penniless. The city of Baltimore recently held a proper funeral for him on the anniversary of his death, as his first one was only attended by seven people.

To go along with the anniversary of Poe's death and the fall season, the eighth grade students in Mr. Zeller's reading class recently finished a unit on Poe that culminated with each student doing a project on a selected work by Poe. Students were to select a work by Poe, write a paper, provide a visual aide that represented their chosen work, and then give a short presentation on their story or poem. Students were very creative and did a great job representing their interpretation of Poe's work.

- Jason Zeller, 8<sup>th</sup> Reading

## ... And Some Fiction on the Side, Please

Readers in the class of 2014 are pleased to bring you this book news from the Union Middle School Cafeteria.

Left to right:  
Walker Karg,  
Gannon Ritter,  
Seth Sprang,  
Cohl Gagnon,  
and  
Beth Ogden



**Walker Karg** gives Anthony Horowitz's *Evil Star* a four-out-of-five-star rating because "it always makes me wonder what is going to happen next."

*Evil Star* is the second book in Anthony Horowitz's *Gatekeepers* series. Horowitz, the author of the very popular Alex Rider series, sticks with what he knows best through *Gatekeepers*: kids with super-talents (but not super-powers) who are charged with the care and safety of the entire world. In *Evil Star*, Matt and Pedro must keep the second gate closed to keep the Old Ones from destroying humanity.

**Gannon Ritter** escapes from his busy football practice and Spanish-homework-filled-life by diving into *Star Wars*, *Darth Bane 2: Rule of Two*. In this second book of the *Darth Bane* series, *Darth Bane* has found an apprentice in the way of darkness: Zannah, a talented young child whom *Darth Bane* trusts to assist him in the destruction of the Jedi. But Zannah and *Darth Bane* don't know about Jedi *Johun Othun*, who is out to avenge the death of his master who died in battle on the planet *Ruusan*.

**Seth Sprang** is up to his eyeballs in James Patterson's *Maximum Ride* books. Although *Seth's* family listened to the fifth book together in the car and effectively destroyed much of the suspense *Mr. Patterson* establishes through the first books, *Seth* is working his way through book four, *The Final Warning*. Max and the rest of the human-bird hybrid teens are hiding out in Antarctica, where they stay with a group of scientists who are studying global warming. These kids have more to worry about than the harsh environment of Antarctica, though; they have to battle the bio-engineered bad guys, too!

**Cohl Gagnon** is working through the *Twilight* saga. Even though *Mrs. Hayward* mentions her hatred of *Twilight* at least three times a week, he's enjoying the books very much. *Cohl* is currently reading book two of the four book series *New Moon*. In *New Moon*, beautiful vampire *Edward* isn't around very much (which makes it *Mrs. Hayward's* favorite in the collection). While *Bella* and *Edward* are separated, *Bella* reconnects with her werewolf/Native American friend, *Jacob Black*. Who will *Bella* choose in the end?

**Beth Ogden** might be a picky reader, but when she finds a book she likes, there's no stopping her. This week, *Beth* added her name to the long list of eighth grade girls who have read *Natasha Friend's Perfect*. Thirteen-year-old *Isabella*, *Perfect's* protagonist, is quietly grieving her father's death. Actually, the whole family is, but no one is talking about it. *Isabella* turns to the one thing she feels she can control – her own body image. When her little sister *April* finds *Isabella* forcing herself to throw up, she tells their mother, who sends *Isabella* to group therapy, where *Belly* learns that even the most seemingly perfect people have their own hurt.  
- Sarah Hayward, MS Language Arts

## Veteran's Day

On Friday, November 13, USMS will celebrate Veteran's Day again with local veterans. Each year we work with the local Veteran's Administration and gather those across the community who have served in our Armed Forces. We celebrate with a lunch at noon and then we ask the veterans to speak with various student groups in the building. It's a day when our children get to interact with real heroes – heroes who gave freely of themselves so that we may live in the greatest country in the world.

If you are a veteran or know of any veterans who would be willing to attend our event, please contact the office at (419) 294-5721.  
- Jim Wheeler, Principal

# High School Events

## High School News

The first grading period ended on October 23, 2009. Grade reports for the 1<sup>st</sup> nine weeks should be to your home. Please discuss grades with your student and contact their high school

teacher or guidance counselor if you have questions. Here are important dates for November 2009:

<b>November 2-6</b>	<b>OGT Make-up</b>
<b>November 13/14</b>	<b>Fall Play: 7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>November 15</b>	<b>Fall Play: 2:30 p.m.</b>
<b>November 16</b>	<b>Board of Education Meeting at USHS</b>
	<b>Academic Boosters Meeting at USHS</b>
<b>November 18</b>	<b>Wyandot County Leadership:</b>
	<b>8:00 a.m. to 12:30</b>
<b>November 19</b>	<b>PLAN TEST</b>
<b>November 23</b>	<b>Parent/Teacher Conferences:</b>
	<b>1:00 p.m.- 8:20 p.m.</b>
<b>November 24</b>	<b>Parent/Teacher Conferences:</b>
	<b>8:00 a.m. - 3:20 p.m.</b>
<b>November 25-27</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING</b>
<b>November 28</b>	<b>Craft Show at USHS</b>
<b>November 30</b>	<b>Scholarship Handbooks Available</b>

## 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 2009

Senior: Justin Boucher

Junior: Patrick Smith

Sophomore: Haley Miller

Freshman: Brad Sammet

- Jim Clifford, Principal

## Parent/Teacher Conferences at USHS

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be Monday, November 23 and Tuesday, November 24 at USHS. Monday Conferences will be 1:00 p.m. to 8:20 p.m. Teachers will break for dinner from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday Conferences will be from 8:00 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. Teachers will break for lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We encourage parents to attend our conferences to meet teachers and discuss the academic progress of their student.  
- Jim Clifford, Principal

## Guidance Information

This September the Wyandot County Leadership program began with the selection of ten sophomore students. Students selected were: Brice Arnold, Trevor Barth, Tayler Daughenbaugh, Adam Duress, Alyssa Funkhouser, Haley Miller, Caitlin Sprang, Mark Walton, Jay Clinger, and Brittany Fletcher. The program was developed under the leadership of Chris Bruynis, OSU Extension Educator. Topics explored are:

- \* Leadership Team Building;
- \* Civic Responsibility;
- \* Critical Issues;
- \* Effective Communication;
- \* Diversity and Leadership;
- \* Leading Effective Meetings; and
- \* Ethics in leadership.

Seven sessions will be held throughout the year, and the program will end in March with a public forum and graduation.

- Barbara Norman, Guidance 9 & 10

## PLAN Testing

On December 1, 2009 the PLAN test will be offered to sophomores. Sign-up will begin the week of October 20th in the Guidance secretary's office. The cost is \$9.50 and is due at the time of sign-up. The PLAN test is recommended for sophomores planning to attend college, as the content is closely tied to the ACT test, which is broadly used for college entrance and placement decisions. For a small cost, students are exposed to a pre-ACT format. Students are tested for academic achievement and their ability to apply their knowledge in English, mathematics, reading, and science. Students will receive a PLAN student score report containing information about skills, interest plans, and goals. This information can be used to make decisions about selecting remaining high school courses for college and to consider options after high school. Parents or students who wish to view PLAN information online may go to [www.act.org](http://www.act.org), then type PLAN in the Search window at the upper right. - Barbara Norman, Guidance 9 & 10

## Junior and Senior News

All during October, college representatives have met with juniors and seniors and will continue to do so in November. Please encourage your student to meet with selected representatives.

Since grade cards have been sent out, please contact me if you would like a copy of your student's grade card. Also remember that you can check your student's grades at anytime with the online tool, Progress Book. Contact USHS if you need login information for this program.

College-bound juniors and seniors should 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 the junior year. USHS will be offering an ACT-Prep workshop on December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2:45-4:00. Students should see the Guidance Office to sign up!

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 1<sup>st</sup> which means that their applications should be submitted WELL BEFORE Thanksgiving break. Since new scholarship information is coming in constantly, please encourage your student to check with the guidance office regularly. We have planned a Financial Aid Information Night for December and we are also in the process of planning FAFSA Completion Nights. More information on these will be forthcoming. As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 419-294-2308 or [cara\\_s@usevs.org](mailto:cara_s@usevs.org).

- Cara Stevens, Junior & Senior Guidance Counselor

## Marketing Students Compete at ONU

Eighteen Upper Sandusky High School marketing education students were among nearly 150 students from across west central Ohio who participated in the recent DECA District 16 marketing competition at Ohio Northern University. (DECA is an international association of marketing students.)

Four students brought home trophies for their accomplishments, including Brianne Giacalone, second place, marketing math test; Michaela (Chae) Emerine, fourth place, female public relations; Levi Bash, fifth place, male public relations; and Kayla King, fifth place, job interview (blue).

Also representing their local DECA marketing chapter at ONU were Erica Blankenship and Heather Taylor, parliamentary law; Chase Ray, job interview (gold); Justin Boucher and Brad Daniel, team management (blue); Zach Morris and Felix Salinas, team management (gold); Morgan Kennedy, Logan Meddings, Caleb Perkins, and Mitch Sigler, marketing test; and Austin Miller, Cale Sandridge, and Nikole Stansbery, marketing math test.

Twenty-nine juniors and seniors are enrolled in the USHS marketing education/DECA program, which is offered through the cooperation of the Vanguard-Sentinel Career Centers. DECA advisor is Mr. Wayne Thomas, marketing instructor/coordinator. - Wayne Thomas, Teacher

Four USHS marketing students captured trophies at a recent competition at ONU. They are (L to R): seniors Michaela (Chae) Emerine, Kayla King and Brianne Giacalone and junior Levi Bash.



Upper Sandusky High School's marketing education program sent 18 students to the DECA District 16 marketing competition at ONU.

## USHS Boys Basketball Reserved Seats

2009-10 USHS boys basketball reserved seat tickets are now on sale! Good seats are still available. Order forms are available in the information rack outside the USHS office. Complete the order form, attach a check and return to the USHS office. Tickets will be mailed to you later in November. Don't miss out on an exciting season of Ram Basketball as our boys basketball team looks to repeat as NOL Champions!

- Brad Ehrman, Athletic Director

## OHSAA Mandatory Preseason Parent Mtg.

The Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) is requiring all member schools to conduct a mandatory preseason parent meeting prior to the start of each sports season. All Upper Sandusky High School winter sport coaches will hold a meeting for their individual sport prior to their team's first contest. All student-athletes who wish to participate in a winter sport and their parents are expected to attend. This meeting will consist of a review of the OHSAA eligibility brochure, USHS Athletic Code of Conduct, as well as team rules and guidelines. See your coach for the date, time, and place of your winter sports meeting. - Brad Ehrman, Athletic Director

# NOVEMBER 2009

## District Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Sacred Concert 7 pm Transfiguration of the Lord	<b>2</b> Grade cards should be out	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> USHS TBA - C BO XC @ State
<b>8</b> Jazz Show HS Chorus - Kenton HS Music Festival, 2:30 pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> USHS Fall Play - 7 pm	<b>14</b> USHS Fall Play - 7 pm
<b>15</b> USHS Fall Play - 2:30 pm	<b>16</b> Board of Education Meeting Academic Boosters 6:30 pm, HS Library	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> USHS Wyandot County Leadership 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	<b>19</b> USMS 4:30 pm, B BKB, Scrim, Wynford - A 4:30 pm, G BKB, Scrim Wynford - A USHS Plan Test	<b>20</b> USHS Jazz in the Fall - 7 pm HS Auditorium \$5 admission	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Students - NO SCHOOL  DISTRICT Parent/Teacher Conferences 1:00 - 8:20 pm	<b>24</b> Students - NO SCHOOL  DISTRICT Parent/Teacher Conferences 8 am - 3:20 pm USMS 4:30 pm, B BKB, Scrim New Riegel - H 4:30 pm, G BKB, Scrim New Riegel - A USHS 6 pm, G BO BKB @ Leipsic 7:30 pm B BO BKB @ Leipsic	<b>25</b> NO SCHOOL	<b>26</b> HAPPY THANKSGIVING  NO SCHOOL	<b>27</b> NO SCHOOL  USHS G BO BKB Wynford, 6:00 pm	<b>28</b> Music Parent's Annual Christmas Crafts Bazaar 9am to 3 pm at USHS  USHS G BO BKB Wynford, 6:00 pm
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> USMS 4:30pm, G BKB, Shelby - H USHS Scholarship Handbooks Available					



### 2009-10 Membership Categories

\$10.00	Orange
\$25.00	Black
\$50.00	Silver
\$100.00	Gold
\$500 or more	Platinum

## ACADEMIC BOOSTERS

The Academic Booster Club has been in existence for over 10 years. The purpose of our club is to provide support and recognition to students in all areas of academic achievement. Below are some of the items the Academic Boosters provide support for in the Upper Sandusky Schools:

1. High School Chenille Academic Letters
2. Elementary Proficiency Test Breakfast
3. Muddy Buddy Program
4. High School Quiz Bowl
5. 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grade NWEA Testing Program
6. Enrichment Robotics Program
7. Valedictorian & Salutatorian Scholarship
8. 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Incentive Programs

**Officers:** President Connie Hildebrand, Vice President Toni Courtright, Secretary Tammy Clifford, and Treasurer Elaine Tschanen

## Please Support the Upper Sandusky Academic Boosters



*Please complete and return the form below  
along with your donation.*

Yes, I would like to make a donation to the Upper Sandusky Academic Boosters.

Yes, I would like to serve as a committee member.

\* Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\* Please list name as you would like it to appear in the High School Honor's Program

Address \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to:*  
**Upper Sandusky Academic Boosters**

**Mail to:**  
US Academic Boosters  
Upper Sandusky High School  
800 N. Sandusky Ave.  
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351

# Upper Sandusky Exempted Village Schools

800 North Sandusky Ave., Suite A  
Upper Sandusky, OH 43351

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Upper Sandusky  
OH 43351

## Local Postal Patron



For more information about school events and activities, please watch Channel 3 or visit our web site at [www.uppersandusky.k12.oh.us](http://www.uppersandusky.k12.oh.us)



### Band Night Features Nearly 200 – Spotlights Senior Marchers

On October 23, 2009, the Ram Bands combined at our annual Band Night. Featuring nearly 100 6th, 7th, and 8th grade band members as well as the 85-piece USHS Marching Band, the bands had a great time and shared a season's worth of hard work with a great crowd. After beginning the night with the middle school bands, the Ram Bands combined to recognize the hard work of our senior band members with selections from each of their years in high school.

Congratulations to the senior class of 2010, including Zac Baaske, Ben Bennett, Amanda Conley, Jameson Curtis, Timo Domores, Joel Duress, Kayla Foust, Becca Gierhart, Tim Giles, Nicole Haubert, Chelsea McGuire, Riley McQuown, Lauren Miller, Megan Mooney, Justin Outland, Samantha Ruttman, and Nicole Swavel for completing their last marching season!

- Jason Morris, Band Dir.

### Ram Band Performs at Ohio Stadium

On October 3, the Marching Ram Band traveled to Columbus for the Buckeye Invitational hosted by The Ohio State University. The event, sponsored by the Ohio Music Education Association, featured over 30 bands in both competitive and festival performance. While our crowd wasn't 100,000 like you see on TV for games, we did have a great group of parents from Upper Sandusky in attendance as well as many parents, directors, administrators, and band enthusiasts from other schools across the state. After the performance, the band members spent time in the OSU Band's stadium rehearsal room where they received feedback from Dr. Jon Woods, Director of Marching and Athletic Bands, and then returned to the stadium to see the other bands, culminating with The Ohio State University's Marching Band performance of both a halftime show and Script Ohio. Comments from the judges and other schools' band directors/personnel were all positive with many compliments on our students' powerful sound and entertaining performance.

- Jason Morris, Band Director



### Christmas Crafts and Concerts Are Just Around the Corner!

Be sure to mark your calendar for the Music Parent's Annual Christmas Crafts Bazaar on Saturday, November 28, as well as the USHS Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 13. These two events give you a chance to get a jump on Christmas shopping with the great homemade gifts available at USHS on November 28th and to celebrate the season with the students of the music department at the Concert on December 13th. Mark your calendars now, and plan to join us for an afternoon full of music and song with your family, friends, and neighbors!