

NORTH FORK LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCOTT HARTLEY, SUPERINTENDENT

TONYA MICKLEY, TREASURER



NEWSLETTER



Volume 4, Issue 2

November, 2016

Important Reminders:

- ◆ Nov. 1 - 10 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- ◆ Nov. 10, 11, 12 - UHS Musical - *Footloose* - 7:30 p.m. JH Gym
- ◆ Nov. 11 - No School
- ◆ Nov. 23 -28 Thanksgiving Break



- ◆ Dec. 21 - Last Day Before Winter Break
- ◆ Jan. 4 - Return from Winter Break
- ◆ Jan. 13 - No School
- ◆ Jan. 16 - No School

Inside this Issue

<i>Utica Elem.</i>	2
<i>Elem. Counselor</i>	3
<i>Newton Elem.</i>	4-5
<i>District Nurse</i>	6
<i>Testing Coord.</i>	6
<i>Technology</i>	6
<i>UJH</i>	7-8
<i>Treasurer</i>	9
<i>UHS</i>	9-10
<i>Volleyball</i>	12
<i>Winter Sports Schedule</i>	13



We're on the Web!
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From the Superintendent...

The 2016-17 school year is well under way. As we approach the end of the first quarter, it is nice to say thank you to all who made the start of a new school year so successful. I might say what a difference a year makes.

As we keep the school year and the upcoming activities in mind, we want to continue to stress our desire to provide a safe environment for all of our students. Our staff completed Active Shooter Training and will be conducting safety drills in the next couple of weeks. Remember, safety is everyone's concern; if you see something or hear anything please let someone know.

The winter months will be starting soon. Notification of school closings, delays, or emergency situations will be sent through the One Call system and placed on our web page. This is a good way of getting information through a phone call. Please be sure your contact information is up to date. If you need assistance, please contact the building your child attends.

Our staff and administrators take pride in the achievements we have made over the last several years. I know it doesn't always come across that way in the media, however, our students have continued to increase their ACT/SAT scores year after year. Our third grade reading guarantee has reached 98%, and our graduation rate is 93.3%. We have made great strides in our special education areas meeting all of the requirements to date. All of that is impressive, however, there are areas that we can focus our attention on and have already started the process of enhancing those weaknesses that we believe are needing help. So as you can see, the quality of education in our district continues to shine.

We are continuing our planning for the sixth grade move to the Junior High and have updated the information on the web page. We will continue to keep you updated so as to make sure everyone is informed of the upcoming move. We are also in the beginning stages of replacing the old bus garage and will be working to get the project up and running over the next few months so work can begin over the summer months.

Thank you all, again, for your patience while we work through trying to figure out how to keep the buses from being overloaded when we transport students who are in town during bad weather months.

*Scott Hartley
Superintendent*

The UHS Drama Club will present *Footloose* on November 10, 11, and 12, at 7:30 p.m., in the UJH gymnasium. Ticket sales each night will open at 6:30 p.m. and the doors will open at 6:45 p.m. Hope to see you there!

Utica Elementary News

Brett Ballinger, Principal

The kickoff of our character education program titled **"Redskin Ready"** was one of the many highlights of the first quarter. Each month we will be highlighting a particular character trait and recognizing students that display those qualities at an assembly where we will be introducing the next month's character trait. On October 13th, we had the privilege of honoring fifty of our students that went above and beyond in their efforts to model our first character trait, **Respect. Responsibility** is our second character trait and the NED Show was at Utica Elementary to promote the significance of responsible actions in our daily lives. We will be honoring another fifty students in November as we advance forward with **Gratitude.**



Other Highlights ~

- ⇒ A special **thank you** to **Adam Reynolds** and **Mike Garven** for mowing the flat land on top of the hill behind our school. We now have a grass lot for our students to expend some energy.
- ⇒ **Thank you** to the **fire department** for presenting fire safety to our kindergarten through third grade classes.
- ⇒ Susan Hatch and Alan Fordham spent the day with our students on October 18th discussing **bus safety**. The Works, out of Newark, also presented a science lesson to our fourth grade students that afternoon.



Upcoming Events ~

November 2nd and 9th Evening Conferences

November 4th Honors Assemblies:

9:30 Fifth Grade

10:10 Sixth Grade

10:50 Third Grade

2:30 Fourth Grade

Fire Safety



SCHOOL COUNSELOR

....Mrs. Susan J. Hatch, Elementary Guidance Counselor (shatch@uhs.laca.org)

Elementary Character Education

Our wonderful Newton and Utica Elementary kindergarten through sixth grade students have studied and practiced what it means to **“Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe.”** We extend a huge **Thank you to librarians Mrs. Stacy Stevens and Mrs. Bonnie Stout** for their assistance in presenting the Character Education Lessons. We also thank our guests who have presented assemblies at our elementary schools regarding school rules and safety at home, safety at school, safety while online and bullying prevention.



Bus Safety

We wish to thank Mr. Allan Fordham (North Fork Transportation Director) for taking time out of his busy schedule to spend two school days with our elementary students. Mr. Fordham presented a “Bus Safety” program to students in grades kindergarten through sixth in both elementary buildings.

Thank you, Mr. Fordham!

Hospice of Central Ohio

Ms. Sherri Weiner from Hospice of Central Ohio will be leading our “Courageous Kids” counseling groups again soon at Utica and Newton Elementary Schools. If you have lost a loved one and need assistance before the “Courageous Kids” group starts this school year, please email Ms. Sherri Weiner at: sweiner@hospiceofcentralohio.org or call (740)788-1400.

Mix-It-Up at Lunch Day

National **“Mix-It-Up Day”** at lunch was observed on October 25, 2016. The event was sponsored by the National Teaching Tolerance Organization. Each school year on the last Tuesday of October, our district asks students and adults to invite someone new to their lunch table. **Thank you, Mrs. Amy Keller**, for your assistance in organizing this event at the elementary level.

Coats, Clothing and School Supplies Drive

As winter approaches, we will once again be holding a drive for warm coats, mittens, and gloves for our kindergarten through sixth grade students. The items can be dropped off at either elementary school. The elementary staff and students wish to **thank all** of the area churches, school PTOs, businesses, and community members for their donations!



NEWTON NEWS... MICHELE GORIUS, PRINCIPAL

October has been a busy month!

Pumpkins were part of math lessons in kindergarten and first grade. Students predicted, measured, and counted seeds.



Thank you to the Newton Fire Department! They spoke to kindergarten, first, and second grade students about fire safety. Have you reviewed your fire safety plan at home?

Mr. Fordham and Mrs. Hatch spoke to all grade levels about bus safety.



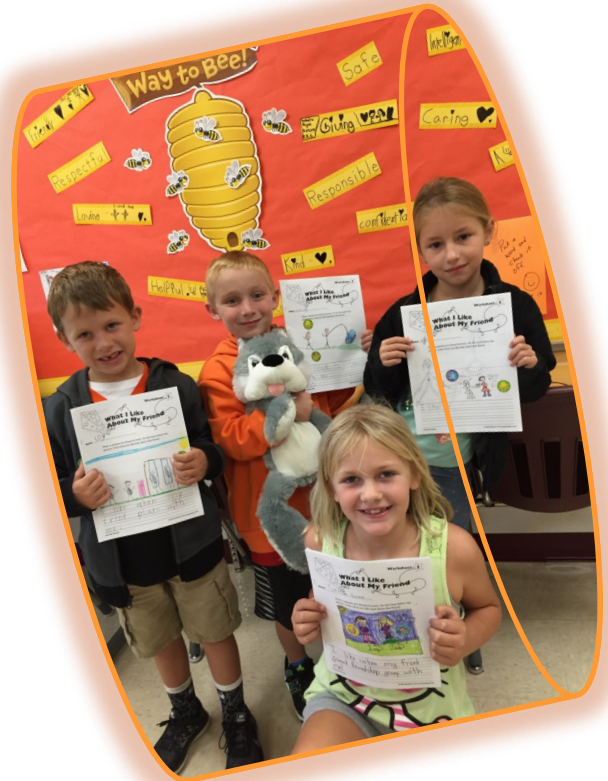
Grandparents or a special friend joined students for lunch and recess. What a great time!



NEWTON NEWS... CONTINUED

NOVEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER ~

- NOV. 3 PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES
- NOV. 9 PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES
- NOV. 10 VETERAN'S DAY ACTIVITIES
- NOV. 11 NO SCHOOL
- NOV. 18 PICTURE RETAKES



Flu Season Precautions ~ Jenn Wygle, District Nurse

Flu season is among us! Make sure you are taking precautions to not spread germs. Washing your hands is the number one way to stay healthy and is the "do it yourself vaccine".

How to wash your hands:

- Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
- Lather your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Be sure to lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
- Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice.
- Rinse your hands well under clean, running water.
- Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.



District Testing Update ~ Stephanie Kimpel, Testing Coordinator

The district is continuing to realign required assessments to best meet our goals to prepare our students and maximize their learning opportunities. Students in grades 3 - 8 will continue to take the Next Generation Assessments, "Ohio's State Tests." High school students in Classes 2018 and beyond will take End of Course exams to meet requirements for graduation.

We have made the following changes to our district testing calendar this year:

NEW: 2nd grade will administer the Terra Nova and Inview complete battery of assessments in Reading, Math, Science and Social Studies to ensure students are on track in academic content as well as identification for gifted services in February.

****Note:** For this academic year ONLY, 2nd and 3rd grade students will take the Terra Nova and Inview. Beginning with the 2017-18 school year, Terra Nova complete battery will only be administered in second grade. The district will use the Terra Nova for third grade only if needed for third grade reading guarantee opportunities.

Upcoming Testing Schedule:

November 14-18: Third Grade Students - Third Grade Reading Guarantee (TGRG)

December 5-16: High School End of Course Retakes

Spring Testing Schedule will be available in January 2017.



Important Information from the Tech Department ~ Mrs. Kimberley Watson

*This year the district rolled out the use of **VirtualClassroom** as a way for teachers to create online activities, discussions, and quizzes for students to access through their **ProgressBook** Student Access Accounts. Parents have the ability to see a read only copy of these online activities by logging in using their **ProgressBook Parent Access Accounts**.

*The district is in the process of implementing the use of *Office 365* for the staff and our high school students. As part of this process, staff email addresses will be changing. **Please watch for notifications of those email address changes.**

*The tech department is in the process of evaluating the K-1 laptops to see if we can update them to Windows 7 so that our K-1 students are working on a newer operating system.

*We are waiting on the release of the new testing app so that we can evaluate the possible use of iPads for testing this school year.

Friendly reminders:

Parents can access their student(s) grades online through **ProgressBook**. If you do not have an account already created or if you are having trouble accessing your created account, please contact klwatson@northfork.k12.oh.us for further assistance.

Utica Junior High - Marcia Rutherford, Principal

Every Friday in our 8th grade Language Arts classes we will be showing a short video that teaches a life lesson. We find videos that share inspirational stories of real people who have overcome great obstacles. Students are then asked to write a one sentence impact statement about how the video impacted/influenced them. As a class we then discuss possible themes contained in the story. We decide which one is the most influential, and students write it under their impact statements. These papers are kept in their writing portfolios. At the beginning of each nine weeks' students will then choose one video to analyze more deeply for a short essay.



Using Office 365, students in 8th grade Informational Technology learned how to create a shared PowerPoint presentation illustrating the implied meanings of different font colors. Students were paired, each creating their own part of the presentation, and were able to produce a combined PowerPoint presentation.

Gretchen Griffith recently completed a two-week STEP externship with Bionetics in Heath, Ohio. Gretchen is employed by CTC of Licking County as a satellite teacher; she teaches **Career Connections** at Utica Junior High.

STEP is the Summer Teacher Externship Program which is run by the Licking County ESC.

Bionetics is the manager and operator of The United States Air Force Primary Standards Laboratory.

Gretchen will be using her experiences and knowledge gained in the various labs of Bionetics to introduce her 7th and 8th graders to the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) career cluster. She plans on working with her students to complete projects, in class, which will allow them to experience a scavenger hunt for lengths, and develop and build communication skills.



Book Club

Utica Junior High has a new **Book Club**! Eighteen students, along with Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Almendinger, and Mrs. Hughes, met for the first meeting last month. The first book was called "The Testing" by Joelle Charbonneau. If you are a fan of dystopian novels like "The Hunger Games" and "Divergent," this may be a book you would enjoy, too. The Book Club meets once a month on Mondays in Mrs. Williams' room. Anyone can join! Hope to see you there!

Utica Junior High ... continued

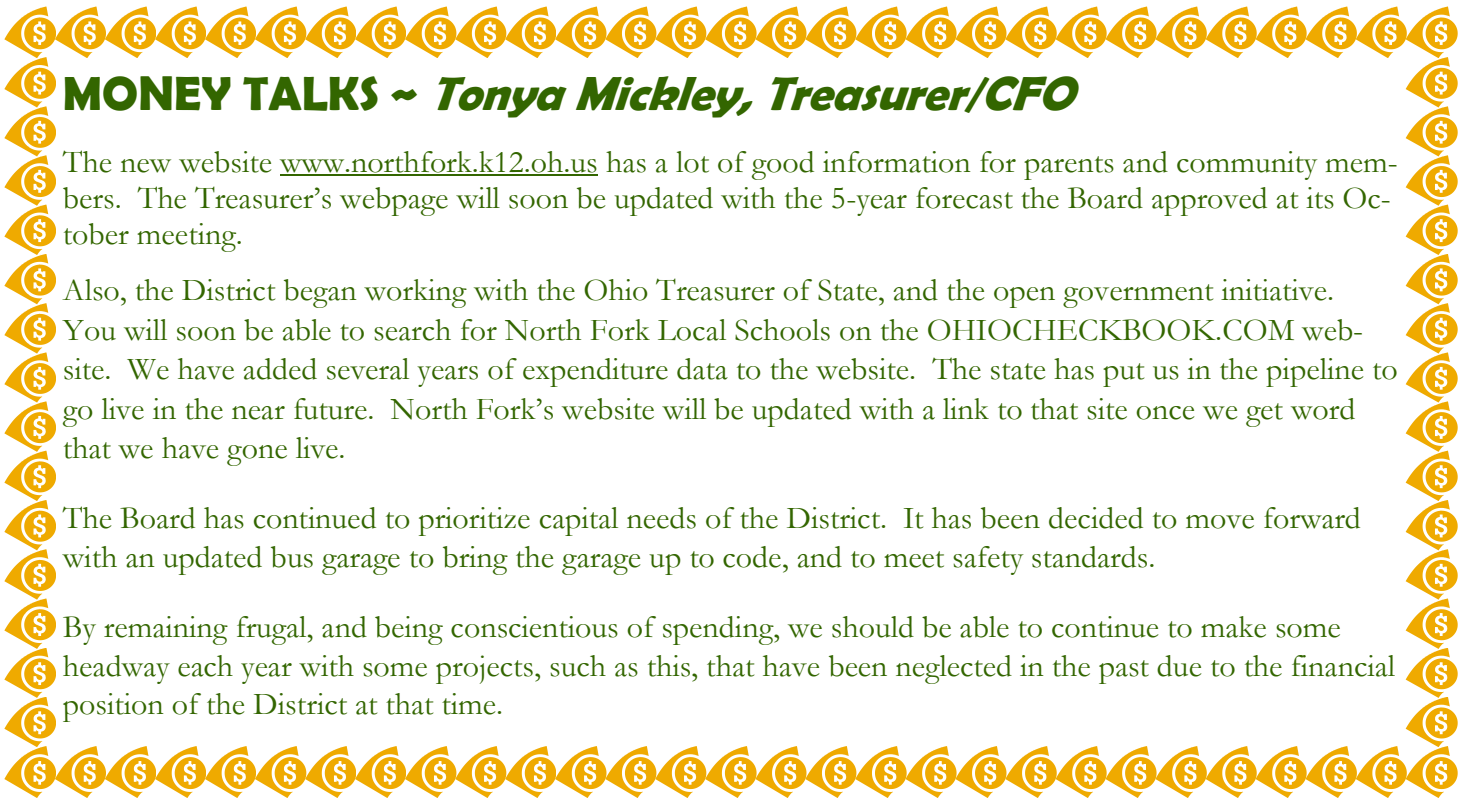


Ms. Barbara Almendinger was presented with a plaque for recognition for inspiring our students and for the book she recently published. In her book, she walks through how she dealt with the loss of her daughter, Mary. **We are proud to have Ms. Almendinger on our staff!**

The Junior High participated in its annual *Mix It Up Day* at lunch on October 26. *Mix It Up Day* is a national campaign designed to break down social barriers and encourage students to sit with someone new and encourage new conversations.



We continue to work with outside agencies and school personnel to plan the 6th grade move. Teachers welcomed Dru Tomlin, from AMLE, in October! We learned how to support our middle grades differently, and what specific needs they have. It is an exciting time!



MONEY TALKS ~ *Tonya Mickley, Treasurer/CFO*

The new website www.northfork.k12.oh.us has a lot of good information for parents and community members. The Treasurer’s webpage will soon be updated with the 5-year forecast the Board approved at its October meeting.

Also, the District began working with the Ohio Treasurer of State, and the open government initiative. You will soon be able to search for North Fork Local Schools on the OHIOCHECKBOOK.COM website. We have added several years of expenditure data to the website. The state has put us in the pipeline to go live in the near future. North Fork’s website will be updated with a link to that site once we get word that we have gone live.

The Board has continued to prioritize capital needs of the District. It has been decided to move forward with an updated bus garage to bring the garage up to code, and to meet safety standards.

By remaining frugal, and being conscientious of spending, we should be able to continue to make some headway each year with some projects, such as this, that have been neglected in the past due to the financial position of the District at that time.

North Fork Visual Arts ~ Mrs. Julie Zimmerman

High school art students are creating 12 murals that will be displayed on the **American Legion’s ‘Wall of Honor’** located in Utica, Ohio. Students are working alongside veterans to create paintings that will be photographed and displayed on banners. The American Legion honor wall is reserved for honoring individuals who have served our country by placing their name on a brick. While in waiting, there are large spaces that are available for a mural. Each space is a great challenge for students who love the arts and want to get involved. The east side of the honor wall is dedicated to veterans, and students will be creating paintings inspired by the different branches of military and their service. The west side of the honor wall is dedicated to first responders, and will be paintings that are inspired by their dedication to the community and service. Students will be working diligently over the course of the year to complete these large 12 mural paintings by the end of May 2017. Each student will also receive a certificate of involvement for this community service project. All students are welcome to join and help create some eye-catching murals for Utica, Ohio.



Utica High School... Mark Bowman, Principal



We appreciate our heroes! In preparation of Veteran's Day on Friday, November 11, Utica High School students wrote letters to troops, veterans, wounded heroes, and new recruits through Operation Gratitude. Operation Gratitude annually sends 200,000+ care packages filled with food, entertainment, hygiene, and handmade items, plus personal letters of appreciation to those who serve or have served our country.

This opportunity was open to all UHS students. This activity also counted as a service learning hour for students in need of credit. ~ Ms. Aubry Vonck, English Department

Aero-Solar Max Makes Donation to the Utica FFA Chapter

On October 5, 2016, Utica FFA members Trina Orr and Emily Wesley attended the Utica Merchants Meeting to present what the Utica FFA chapter has been up to and what we plan on doing. During this meeting, they met Chris Sanese, Founder and CEO of Aero-Solar Max. He was very impressed that as an FFA chapter, we are working with students at Utica Elementary and teaching them monthly lessons about agriculture. Mr. Sanese has graciously donated \$500 to the Utica FFA Chapter. "We are a small FFA chapter and funds to do some of the activities we would like can be hard to raise." Mrs. Gina R. Neff, Utica FFA Advisor says. "This donation has been a huge help to the 12 students who are attending the National FFA Convention."

Thank you Aero-Solar Max for believing in the Utica FFA Chapter and helping us attend the National FFA Convention! ~ Mrs. Gina R. Neff, Utica FFA Advisor





*CONGRATULATIONS to the UHS Volleyball team!
Licking County League Co-Champions
District Champions*



*The VOLLEYBALL TEAM will play on Thursday,
November 3, at 6:00 p.m., in the Regional
Semi-Final at Kettering Fairmont High School.
Good Luck Lady Redskins!*



Utica Redskins
2016-2017 Winter Sports



UTICA HIGH SCHOOL
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SCHOOL COLORS - RED & GRAY
740.892.2855
MARK BOWMAN - H.S. PRINCIPAL
BRIAN RADABAUGH - H.S. ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/AD
MARCIA RUTHERFORD - J.H. PRINCIPAL
SCOTT HARTLEY - SUPERINTENDENT

VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL

12-Nov	Sheridan (Scri)	Away
16-Nov	Mount Vernon (Scri)	Away
19-Nov	Loudonville (Scri)	Away
22-Nov	Danville (Scri)	Away
1-Dec	Licking Valley	Home
6-Dec	Highland	Home
8-Dec	Carlington	Home
10-Dec	Watkins Memorial	Home
14-Dec	Fredericktown	Home
17-Dec	Northridge	Away
21-Dec	Licking Valley	Away
29-Dec	Gahanna Christian Holiday Tour.	Away
30-Dec	Gahanna Christian Holiday Tour.	Away
4-Jan	Newark Catholic	Home
6-Jan	Granville Christian	Away
7-Jan	Johnstown	Away
11-Jan	Licking Heights	Home
12-Jan	Udlen-Mickinley	Home
17-Jan	Heath	Home
24-Jan	Lakewood	Away
27-Jan	Northridge	Home
31-Jan	Columbus Academy	Home
3-Feb	Newark Catholic	Away
7-Feb	Granville	Home
10-Feb	Johnstown *SN	Home
17-Feb	Heath	Away

*** Freshman Starts at 4:30
*** JV starts at 6:00
*** Varsity starts at 7:30

JH BOYS BASKETBALL

14-Nov	Lakewood (scri)	Away	5/6:30
21-Nov	Licking Heights (scri)	Home	5/6:30
28-Nov	Licking Valley	Away	5/6:30
1-Dec	Newark Catholic	Home	5/6:30
8-Dec	Granville	Away	5/6:30
12-Dec	Watkins Memorial	Home	5/6:30
15-Dec	Heath	Home	5/6:30
19-Dec	Johnstown	Home	5/6:30
5-Jan	Lakewood	Home	5/6:30
9-Jan	Licking Heights	Away	5/6:30
12-Jan	Licking Valley	Home	5/6:30
19-Jan	Newark Catholic	Home	5/6:30
23-Jan	Northridge	Home	5/6:30
26-Jan	Granville	Home	5/6:30
30-Jan	Watkins Memorial	Home	5/6:30
2-Feb	Heath	Home	5/6:30
6-Feb	Johnstown	Away	5/6:30

VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL

10-Nov	East Knox (Scri)	Away	7:00
12-Nov	Newark (Scri)	Away	10am
14-Nov	William V. Fisher Cath.(Scri)	Away	6pm
29-Nov	Highland	Home	7:30
2-Dec	Watkins	Away	7:30
9-Dec	Northridge	Home	7:30
12-Dec	Carlington	Home	7:30
13-Dec	Licking Valley	Home	7:30
16-Dec	Newark Catholic	Away	7:30
20-Dec	Johnstown	Home	7:30
22-Dec	Worthington Christian	Away	7:30
3-Jan	Centerburg	Home	7:30
6-Jan	Licking Heights	Away	7:30
10-Jan	Heath	Away	7:30
13-Jan	Granville Christian	Away	7:30
17-Jan	Fredericktown	Away	7:30
18-Jan	Lakewood	Home	7:30
21-Jan	Northridge	Away	2:30
23-Jan	Liberty Union	Home	7:30
25-Jan	Newark Catholic	Home	7:30
31-Jan	Fairfield Christian	Away	7:30
1-Feb	Granville	Home	7:30
4-Feb	Johnstown	Away	2:30
8-Feb	Heath	Home	7:30
11-Feb	River View *SN	Home	2:30

*** Time indicates Varsity start time

JH GIRLS BASKETBALL

14-Nov	Lakewood	Home	5/6:30
21-Nov	Licking Heights	Home	5/6:30
28-Nov	Licking Valley	Home	5/6:30
1-Dec	Newark Catholic	Home	5/6:30
5-Dec	Northridge	Home	5/6:30
8-Dec	Granville	Home	5/6:30
12-Dec	Watkins Memorial	Away	5/6:30
15-Dec	Heath	Home	5/6:30
19-Dec	Johnstown	Away	5/6:30
5-Jan	Lakewood	Away	5/6:30
9-Jan	Licking Heights	Home	5/6:30
12-Jan	Licking Valley	Away	5/6:30
19-Jan	Newark Catholic	Home	5/6:30
23-Jan	Northridge	Home	5/6:30
26-Jan	Granville	Away	5/6:30
30-Jan	Watkins Memorial	Home	5/6:30
2-Feb	Heath	Away	5/6:30
6-Feb	Johnstown	Home	5/6:30

VARSITY WRESTLING

3-Dec	Granville High School	Away	10am
9-Dec	Quad-Tri-Valley	Away	5:00pm
16-Dec	Liberty Classic Tourn.	Away	5:00pm
17-Dec	Caldwell Dual	Away	10am
4-Jan	Tri-Valley	Away	5:00pm
14-Jan	Tri-Valley	Away	10am
19-Jan	Whitelhall-Yearling	Home	5:00pm
21-Jan	Jeff Arndt Classic	Home	10am
26-Jan	Utica Tournament	Home	10am
18-Feb	LCL@Northridge	Away	10am

JH WRESTLING

3-Dec	New Albany	Home	10am
10-Dec	Licking Valley	Away	10am
17-Dec	Heath	Away	10am
4-Jan	Caldwell Dual	Away	10am
7-Jan	Whitelhall	Home	10am
14-Jan	New Lexington	Home	10am
18-Jan	Buckeye Valley	Home	5pm
21-Jan	Newark Catholic	Home	10am
4-Feb	LCL	Home	10am