

# NORTH FORK LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCOTT HARTLEY, SUPERINTENDENT

TONYA MICKLEY, TREASURER



## NEWSLETTER



Volume 5, Issue 3  
February, 2018

312 Maple Avenue  
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Utica, OH 43080

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We're on the Web!  
[www.northfork.k12.oh.us](http://www.northfork.k12.oh.us)

### Important Reminders:

- ◆ Feb. 5 - 15  
Parent/Teacher Conferences
- ◆ Feb. 7  
College Credit Plus Parent Meeting  
7:00 pm UHS Cafe
- ◆ Feb. 12  
Board of Education Meeting  
6:00 pm UMS
- ◆ Feb. 15  
Social Media Presentation  
UHS Cafeteria 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Feb. 16, 19  
No School
- ◆ Feb. 25  
Winter Band Concert 3:00 pm UHS Gym
- ◆ Mar. 9 & 10  
Spring Play 7:30 p.m. UMS Gym
- ◆ Mar. 14  
Think Tank Community Meeting 6:00 pm UHS Cafe
- ◆ Mar. 19  
Board of Education Meeting 6:00 pm UHS
- ◆ Mar. 21  
End of 3rd Grading Period
- ◆ Mar. 22  
No School/Staff Inservice
- ◆ Mar. 23 - Mar. 30  
Spring Break
- ◆ Apr. 2  
Return from Break
- ◆ Apr. 6  
UMS Spring Pictures
- ◆ Apr. 16  
Board of Education Meeting  
6:00 pm NE
- ◆ May 2 & 3  
Kindergarten Screening  
Utica Church of Christ

### *From the Superintendent...*

We have reached the halfway point of the 2017-18 school year. With the beginning of the second semester, we continue to engage our students academically. The second semester will bring with it the completion of the winter, state testing, and ultimately graduation for our seniors. This is an important part of the lives of all of our students.

Although the weather has been a little temperamental at times, keep in mind that winter is not over yet. The flu is hitting our district very hard, with several confirmed cases. Please remind your student to wash their hands frequently and to cover their mouth when coughing or sneezing. Our maintenance department is actively cleaning all areas of the buildings with disinfectant to help reduce the spread of the virus. If your child is experiencing any flu-like symptoms, *please* keep them home! Any help you can give us will be greatly appreciated.

State testing is coming up on us rapidly and the staff have been reviewing past tests, looking for common items, and ensuring we are covering all of the areas needed for our students to be successful. That is only one part of testing. The students have also been learning what they need to know to answer the questions posed to them. Everyone has been working hard to ensure the State standards are being addressed in the classroom. Parents can help by ensuring that students do not miss school and have a great breakfast in the morning.

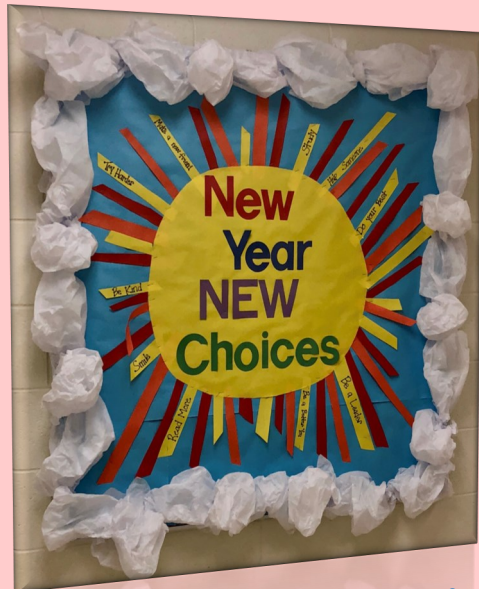
We are grateful to you for allowing us to educate your students. As administrators, teachers, and support staff we appreciate the time we can spend with all of the students in our care.

The culmination of any school year is the celebration of our seniors graduating from high school. It is a wonderful time of accomplishment for everyone. By keeping our students focused on their academics, we can help every student meet the requirements necessary to graduate.

*Scott Hartley, Superintendent*

# News from Newton Elementary

Michele Gorius, Principal



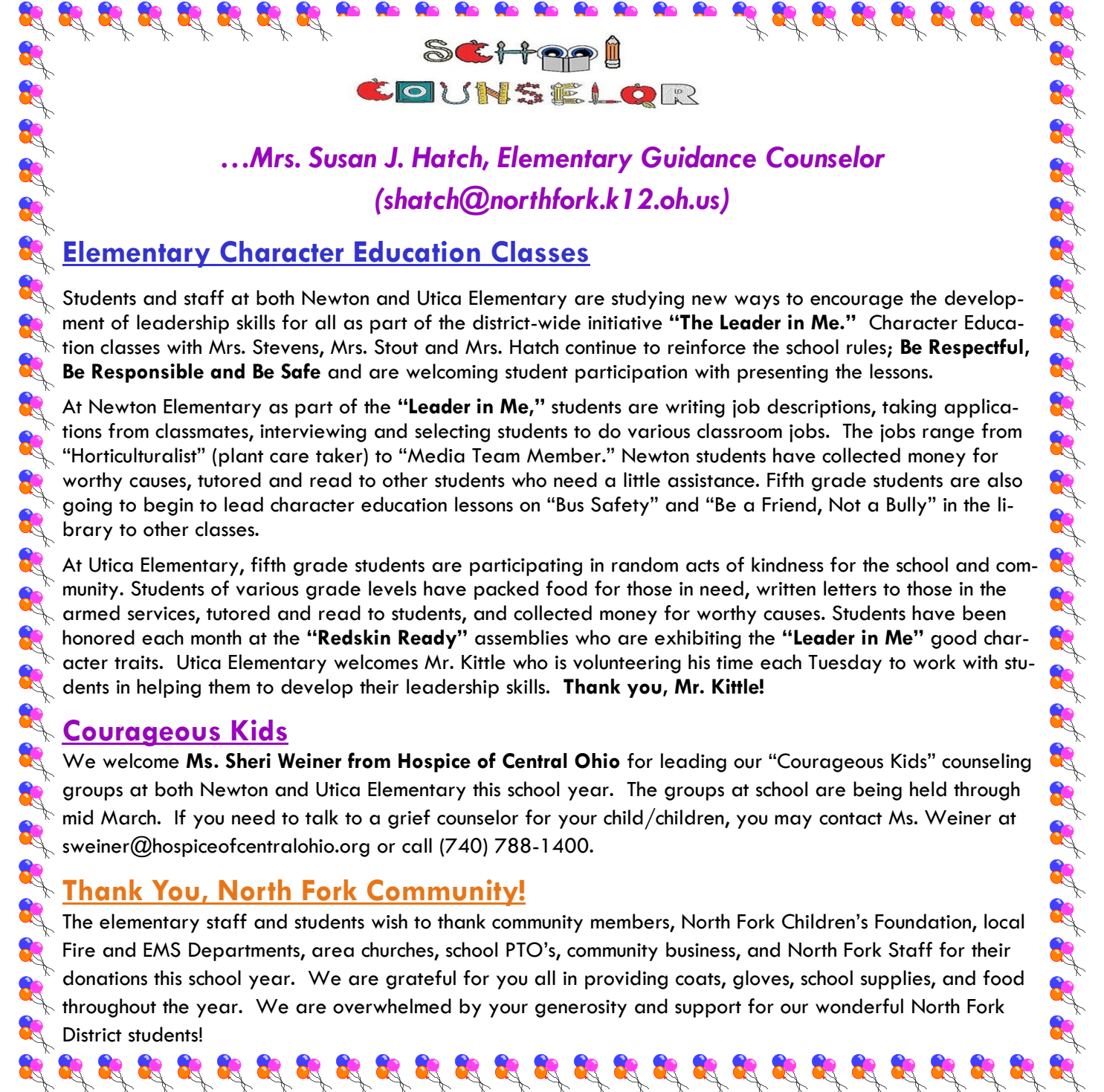
Parent-Teacher Conferences are  
Feb. 8 and Feb. 13. Please call  
the school to schedule a time.

740-745-5982

Newton's kindergarten and first grade classes have been working hard on practicing their shoe-tying skills! Those who successfully completed tying a shoe with no help, got their name put on **Pete the Cat's** shoe-tying wall. Great job to all!



Students at Newton in fourth and fifth grade worked on a math movie incentive in November and December. They were able to earn a movie ticket, popcorn, soda, and candy, based on the amount of math facts they had mastered.



SCHOOL  
COUNSELOR

...Mrs. Susan J. Hatch, Elementary Guidance Counselor  
([shatch@northfork.k12.oh.us](mailto:shatch@northfork.k12.oh.us))

### Elementary Character Education Classes

Students and staff at both Newton and Utica Elementary are studying new ways to encourage the development of leadership skills for all as part of the district-wide initiative “**The Leader in Me.**” Character Education classes with Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. Stout and Mrs. Hatch continue to reinforce the school rules; **Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe** and are welcoming student participation with presenting the lessons.

At Newton Elementary as part of the “**Leader in Me,**” students are writing job descriptions, taking applications from classmates, interviewing and selecting students to do various classroom jobs. The jobs range from “Horticulturalist” (plant care taker) to “Media Team Member.” Newton students have collected money for worthy causes, tutored and read to other students who need a little assistance. Fifth grade students are also going to begin to lead character education lessons on “Bus Safety” and “Be a Friend, Not a Bully” in the library to other classes.

At Utica Elementary, fifth grade students are participating in random acts of kindness for the school and community. Students of various grade levels have packed food for those in need, written letters to those in the armed services, tutored and read to students, and collected money for worthy causes. Students have been honored each month at the “**Redskin Ready**” assemblies who are exhibiting the “**Leader in Me**” good character traits. Utica Elementary welcomes Mr. Kittle who is volunteering his time each Tuesday to work with students in helping them to develop their leadership skills. **Thank you, Mr. Kittle!**

### Courageous Kids

We welcome **Ms. Sheri Weiner from Hospice of Central Ohio** for leading our “Courageous Kids” counseling groups at both Newton and Utica Elementary this school year. The groups at school are being held through mid March. If you need to talk to a grief counselor for your child/children, you may contact Ms. Weiner at [sweiner@hospiceofcentralohio.org](mailto:sweiner@hospiceofcentralohio.org) or call (740) 788-1400.

### Thank You, North Fork Community!

The elementary staff and students wish to thank community members, North Fork Children’s Foundation, local Fire and EMS Departments, area churches, school PTO’s, community business, and North Fork Staff for their donations this school year. We are grateful for you all in providing coats, gloves, school supplies, and food throughout the year. We are overwhelmed by your generosity and support for our wonderful North Fork District students!



North Fork Local School District  
**Kindergarten Screening**

(Child must be 5 years old on or before August 1, 2018.)

May 2 & 3, 2018

Utica Church of Christ

More information will be available on the North Fork website at a later date.

[www.northfork.k12.oh.us](http://www.northfork.k12.oh.us)

# Utica Elementary Updates

Mr. Brett Ballinger, Principal

## Parent/Teacher Conferences and Scholastic Book Fair

Parent/teacher conferences at Utica Elementary will be held on the nights of February 7 and February 13 from 3:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's academic performance, please contact their teachers and arrange a time for a conference. Our PTO will be sponsoring the spring **book fair** from February 7 – 13. The book fair will be open on both conference nights for your convenience.

## In the Giving Spirit

Over the past few months our students have participated in several charitable events. Our fifth grade staff and students partnered with the Mt. Vernon Winter Sanctuary to collect valuable winter items and created "Christmas Care Packages" and cards to give to those in need. Kambra Ridgeway and Student Government organized our first annual "Dance out Homelessness" campaign. Over the course of a week, Utica Elementary raised \$218 for the Licking County Homeless Coalition through song requests and afternoon dance sessions. Susi Basista spearheaded our Hoops/Jump Rope for Heart drive. As a school we raised \$1,965 for the American Heart Association. These were all excellent displays of generosity by the Utica Elementary community.

## Literacy Night

On January 31, Utica Elementary hosted its inaugural **Literacy Night**. The goal of hosting such a night was two-fold. First, we wanted to create an opportunity for our families to share in an educational bonding experience. Secondly, we wanted to model strategies and techniques we feel are important when working with young children on literacy content. Everyone participated in a story telling activity where proper questioning techniques were modeled. There was a period of time during the night that families could break off and read a book together. The night concluded with families creating book marks and a reading bag, that included a glove representing the five elements of literacy and pamphlets with suggestions for helping children read at home. Thank you to those that attended this event. We look forward to making this a new tradition at Utica Elementary.





Utica Elementary fifth grade students partnered with the Mt. Vernon Winter Sanctuary and made "Christmas Care Packages" for those in need.



THANK YOU  
UTICA ELEMENTARY  
FOR YOUR  
GENEROSITY!

## ***MONEY TALKS*** ~ Mrs. Tonya Mickley, Treasurer/CFO

The finances of the District have remained pretty solid in the last few years. The Board of Education is very conscientious of all the costs that go into running a school district. Obviously the educational needs of the students are the highest priority, however the board also recognizes it also takes a lot of capital needs such as buildings, buses, and other equipment to operate smoothly, and they have taken proactive steps to try to budget these items, and include them in the 5-year forecast. As a result, the Board has been able to provide funding for several different areas in the last year. Some of these areas include: updating the restrooms at the football field, making repairs to the MS cafeteria roof, and updating the phone equipment in all buildings so that there are phones in all rooms in case of an emergency.

We are also very excited about our upcoming bus garage project. Our current bus garage is aging, and safety codes are beginning to become a real issue. A little over a year ago the Board began working with an architect to draw up a new garage and to get estimates. Based on the numbers at that time, the Board determined that the estimates came back higher than they were comfortable with spending. It was determined to hold off on the project and to send it out for official bids in December of 2017. Luck was with us, and we had favorable bid conditions. We had many companies bid on the project, and the Board has accepted the bid of the lowest bidder, which was actually well below even what the architect anticipated. We are currently working through the contract process with them, and have high hopes to have a newly functioning bus garage for the start of the next school year!

As always, if you have any financial questions please contact the treasurer's office.

### **Important Information from the TECH DEPARTMENT:**

→ **This year, the district moved to online access for both interims and report cards. Biological parents and/or legal guardians can access this information through the ParentAccess portion of ProgressBook. If you have not created your ParentAccess account, you will need to obtain directions and a registration key by contacting Mrs. Watson at [klwatson@northfork.k12.oh.us](mailto:klwatson@northfork.k12.oh.us).**

→ **Paper copies of interims and report cards are available by request only. All requests must go through the building secretary.**



If your child attends North Fork Schools through open enrollment and you would like them to be considered for **open enrollment** for the 2018-2019 school year, please complete the Open Enrollment application and return to the North Fork Local School District, Attn: BreAnn Blubaugh, P.O. Box 497, Utica, Ohio 43080 no later than **April 30, 2018**. An application must be completed and approved each year. A copy of our Open Enrollment Policy can be found at [www.northfork.k12.oh.us/SchoolBoard.aspx](http://www.northfork.k12.oh.us/SchoolBoard.aspx) under Board Policy.

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND:

**NORTH FORK LOCAL SCHOOLS PRESENTS:**  
**WHAT EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW**  
**ABOUT SOCIAL MEDIA AND**  
**THEIR CHILD!**



Come hear the latest information on how children are using social media and how to keep them safe:

Thursday, February 15, 2018

High School Cafeteria

6:00 p.m.

If your child uses an electronic device for any reason, you need to be at this presentation!

*Guest presenters:*

Mrs. Jenny Gonzales – Assistant Prosecuting Attorney – Juvenile Division

Captain Chris Slayman – Licking County Sheriff's Office

Mr. James Quinif – Parent and board member of North Fork Local Schools

Mr. Scott Hartley – Superintendent, North Fork Local Schools



Program sponsored by North Fork Communications Committee

North Fork Local Schools – 312 Maple Ave, Utica, Ohio 43080  
740-892-3666

# UTICA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mrs. Marcia Rutherford, Principal

**U**tica Middle School staff and students have settled in to a great rhythm. We are grateful that the sixth grade has joined our family and I know the group has impacted our school in a positive manner. We all continue to work hard with lessons in preparation for the State assessments coming up in April. The students are not only being exposed to new and challenging work, but are also learning how to be independent learners.

Winter Conferences will be held on February 5,  
and February 8, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Please call the office to schedule a time to meet  
with your child's teacher(s).  
740-892-2691

Please feel free to call or stop by with questions or concerns.

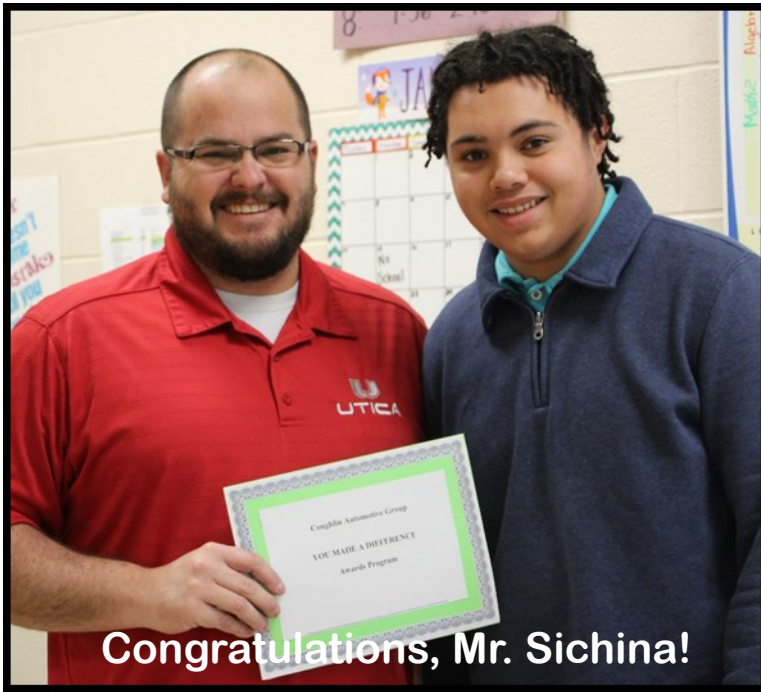
**CONGRATULATIONS** to the Utica Middle School **SPELLING BEE** champion and runners-up. Pictured are runner-up, Waylon Fogle, 6th grade; champion, Emilee Ellis, 6th grade; and third-place contestant, Jesse Fink, 8th grade.





# Utica High School

## "You Made a Difference"



**Congratulations, Mr. Sichina!**

This winter, students had the opportunity to nominate teachers for the "You Made a Difference" Award, presented by Coughlin Auxiliary, with the winner selected by the Student Government. Jaden Collins (pictured) nominated Mr. Sichina, saying that, "Mr. Sichina always keeps a positive attitude and wants nothing more than to see students pass and succeed. No matter what, he is willing to help kids for the better!" Congratulations, Mr. Sichina, and thank you for all of the hard work that you do for our students! The award will be formally presented to Mr. Sichina at C-TEC on February 28th.

## UHS Drama Club ~ Spring Play

Wouldn't it be great fun to direct William Shakespeare's "Hamlet"? That was what Margo Daley always thought...until she is hired to do just that by the Peaceful Glen Memorial Players in their theater, a renovated funeral home. They DO have a couple of conditions, however. Margo has to make the play a melodrama, so the audience will know when to throw the popcorn. And they can't be too loud because the lady who lives under the theater bangs her cane on the stage. Oh, and Margo has to insert the sponsors' names into the play and, by the way, has to take place in the Old West. "And make sure the actors talk real loud because of all the noise the audience makes sucking their fingers," states one of the council members, an occupational hazard brought about by them selling barbecue before the show. All kinds of eccentric characters come out of the woodwork in this riotous tribute to life on the community theater stage. Even the pizza delivery boy is given parts - several since Margo only has four actors to portray the five-act tragedy. Fast lines and even faster exits punctuate this farce as Margo and her troupe of misguided actors find out what it's like when they begin **"Barbecuing Hamlet."**

Performances will be at 7:30 p.m. on **March 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>** in the UMS gym. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and seniors, and are available at the door. Cast members include Emily Dunn, Bryan Waites, Jaycelyn Paulsen, Seth Blake, Greta Buckenberger, Emily Murnane, Rese Rauch, Dawson Smith, Lauren Cummons, Rachel Geiger, Brook McLaughlin, and Matthew Geiger.



## 2018 Spring Sports High School Schedule

**UTCA HIGH SCHOOL**  
 BOX 677 260 N. JEFFERSON ST. UTCA, OHIO 43080  
 Hs: 740.892.2865  
**MARK BOWMAN - H.S. PRINCIPAL**  
**BRIAN RADABAUGH - H.S. ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/AD**  
**MARCIA RUTHERFORD- M.S. PRINCIPAL**  
**SCOTT HARTLEY - SUPERINTENDENT**

### V/JV Baseball

17-Mar	A	Northmor (scrm)	11am
19-Mar	H	Centerburg (scrm)	4:30pm
20-Mar	A	Northland-no JV (scrm)	5pm
22-Mar	A	West Jeff (scrm)	4:30pm
24-Mar	A	Grandview	12/2pm
29-Mar	A	Highland HS	5pm
30-Mar	A	Mt. Gilead	5:15pm
31-Mar	H	Philo (easter weekend)	12/2pm
2-Apr	H	Johnstown	5pm
4-Apr	H	Licking Valley	5pm
5-Apr	H	Northland (no JV game)	5pm
6-Apr	A	Heath	5pm
10-Apr	A	Danville (no JV)	5pm
11-Apr	A	Licking Heights	5pm
13-Apr	H	Northridge	5pm
14-Apr	H	Sheridan	2/4pm
16-Apr	A	Newark Catholic	5pm
18-Apr	H	Lakewood	5pm
20-Apr	A	Johnstown	5pm
21-Apr	H	East Knox	12/2pm
23-Apr	H	Heath	5pm
25-Apr	A	Granville	5pm
27-Apr	H	Worthington	5pm
28-Apr	H	Centennial (JV only)	10/12pm
30-Apr	A	Northridge	5pm
2-May	A	Watkins	5pm
3-May	H	Wellington (no JV)	5pm
4-May	H	Newark Catholic	5pm

**JV plays opposite site listed Unless stated otherwise**

### V/JV Softball

17-Mar	A	Granville Christian V-Only (scrm)	11am
20-Mar	A	Mount Vernon JV&V* (scrm)	5pm
22-Mar	A	Newark HS JV&V* (scrm)	5:15pm
27-Mar	A	Lancaster HS JV&V*	4:30pm
28-Mar	H	Cardington-Lincoln	5pm
30-Mar	H	Reynoldsburg HS	5:15pm
31-Mar	H	Philo HS	12/2pm
2-Apr	H	Johnstown-Monroe	5pm
3-Apr	H	Worthington Christian (No JV)	5:15pm
4-Apr	H	Licking Valley HS	5pm
6-Apr	A	Heath HS	5pm
7-Apr	A	Bishop Ready@Central Crossing JV&V*	12/2pm
10-Apr	A	Danville HS	5:15pm
11-Apr	A	Licking Heights	5pm
13-Apr	H	Northridge HS	5pm
14-Apr	A	Fredericktown	12/2pm
16-Apr	A	Newark Catholic HS	5pm
18-Apr	H	Lakewood HS	5pm
20-Apr	A	Johnstown-Monroe	5pm
21-Apr	H	East Knox HS	12/2pm
23-Apr	H	Heath HS	5pm
25-Apr	A	Granville HS	5pm
26-Apr	A	Highland HS	5:15pm
30-Apr	A	Northridge HS	5pm
2-May	A	Watkins Memorial	5pm
4-May	H	Newark Catholic HS	5pm

**JV plays opposite site listed Unless stated otherwise**

**\*JV and V @ same location**

### HS TRACK and FIELD

7-Apr	Newark Catholic Invitational	10am
10-Apr	Rt. 62 Tri @ Johnstown	4:30pm
14-Apr	Loudonville Invitational	10am
17-Apr	@ Highland with Centerburg	4:30pm
21-Apr	Bloom Carroll Invitational	10am
23-Apr	@ Newark Catholic	4:30pm
27-Apr	Ariel Invitational (Home)	4:30pm
1-May	@ Northridge	4:30pm
4-May	Spectractorial (Mt. Vernon News all-star meet)	4:30pm

**\* May 9 and 12 LCL's -Location TBD**  
**\* Districts May 17th @ Westerville South**

### MS TRACK and FIELD

3-Apr	Johnstown @ Licking Valley w/Northridge and	4:30pm
9-Apr	@ Granville w/Northridge	4:30pm
13-Apr	Heath Invitational	4:30pm
17-Apr	@ Northridge w/Johnstown	4:30pm
20-Apr	Licking Valley Invitational	4:30pm
24-Apr	Clete Beam Invitational @ Johnstown	4:30pm
28-Apr	Ariel Invitational (Home)	10am
5-May	LCL (location TBD)	TBA