

# NORTH FORK LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCOTT HARTLEY, SUPERINTENDENT

KELLIE BREEHL, TREASURER



## NEWSLETTER



Volume 6, Issue 3  
February, 2019

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

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### Important Reminders:

- ◆ Feb. 4 - 14 Parent Teacher Conferences
- ◆ Feb. 11 - Board of Education Meeting 6:00 pm UMS
- ◆ Feb. 15, 18 - No School
- ◆ Feb. 20 - "Think Tank" Community Meeting 6:00 pm
- ◆ Feb. 24 - Winter Band Concert 3:00 pm UHS gym
- ◆ Mar. 8, 9 Spring Play Performance 7:30 pm UMS gym
- ◆ Mar. 14 MS/HS Choir Concert 7:00 pm UMS gym
- ◆ Mar. 18 - Board of Education Meeting 6:00 pm UHS
- ◆ Mar. 21 - End of 3rd grading period
- ◆ Mar. 22 - No School/ Staff In-service
- ◆ Mar. 25 - 29 Spring Break
- ◆ Apr. 1 - Return from Spring Break
- ◆ Apr. 15 - Board of Education Meeting 6:00 pm Newton Elementary
- ◆ Apr. 17 - No Late Start
- ◆ Apr. 19 - Holiday/No School
- ◆ Apr. 20 - Jazz Festival 5:00 pm UHS Cafeteria
- ◆ Apr. 24 - No Late Start

### *From the Superintendent ~*

We have reached the halfway point of the 2018-19 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 the winter is not over yet. As we face the upcoming forecasts, we will make the best decision we can for all of our students' safety concerning school closings. We do have information on our webpage that explains how we make the decision to delay or close under the quick link section. Always remember that as a parent you need to make the best decision on whether your children will be driving in weather that may be dicey.

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. We will place the testing schedule on our webpage so that you know when the tests will be administered. 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 children. 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*

## Utica Elementary School ~ Mr. Brett Ballinger, Principal

### Utica Elementary Spring Testing Schedule

Our Ohio State Air Assessment schedule is now set for third, fourth and fifth grade. We feel it is important to release this information early, so appointments or vacations can be scheduled around your child's testing dates. We understand that unplanned absences occur, but it significantly benefits a student to test with their classmates as opposed to being pulled during instructional time to assess with other grade levels.

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

April 15 - Science  
April 23 - ELA  
April 29 - Math

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

April 22 - ELA  
April 30 - Math

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

April 16 - ELA/Weldy  
April 17 - ELA/Ewing  
April 18 - ELA/Forster  
April 25 - Math/ All classes

### Welcome Back

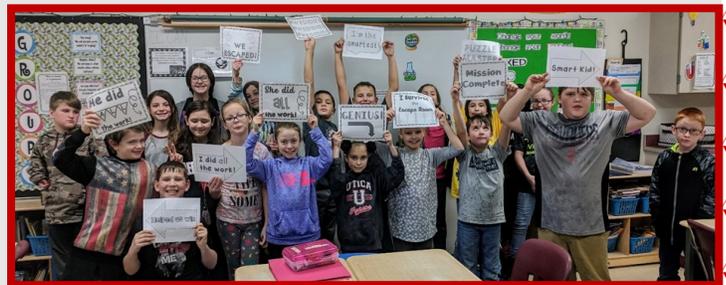
We are happy to welcome two of our related arts teachers, Mrs. Mowery (Art) and Mrs. Stoner (Music), back to Utica Elementary. Our "specials" have changed for the second semester. Students will now be receiving art and music instruction in place of physical education and library time. Computer technology with Mrs. Brown and Mrs. George will remain as part of your child's academic instructional plan.



### Classroom Spotlight-

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies-Mrs. Kearton

Understanding and interpreting old documents can be a challenge for any student. Recently, Mrs. Kearton's students analyzed four excerpts from the Declaration of Independence through a collaborative, escape room style activity. Students decoded the modern meaning of the text through the practice of hands-on, practical problem solving challenges, all while learning about the Declaration of Independence. With *Mission Impossible* themed music playing in the background, students were given their "secret mission" and began working their way around the classroom, breaking translation codes which required the use of their critical thinking skills. After breaking each code, the students uncovered a secret number. The numbers from each secret code breaking activity were then used as a combination to conquer each group's secret mission.



### Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on **February 12 and 13**. Conference times will run from 4:00 pm to 7:30 pm. Please contact your child's teacher if a conference is needed and one has not already been established.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ~ Jenn Wygle, District Nurse

In the past year alone, **vaping** among **high schoolers** has increased **78%**



How much **do you know** about the epidemic?

E-cigarettes, also known as "vapes," are becoming increasingly popular among teens.<sup>1,2</sup>

In fact, they are the most commonly used tobacco product among both middle and high school students. You may have already seen or heard about students vaping in your school, but it is important to know that certain types of vapes can be used very discreetly.

**SOME TEENS REPORT USING E-CIGARETTES IN SCHOOL BATHROOMS AND EVEN IN THE CLASSROOM.**

Learning more about the different types of e-cigarette products is an important first step in addressing youth vaping.

## DID YOU KNOW:

E-cigarettes come in a variety of shapes and sizes and may not look like a tobacco product, which can make them hard to spot.<sup>3</sup>

Some devices popular among teens—like JUUL and myblu—are as small as a USB flash drive and even look like one.

Certain products emit very low amounts of aerosol or "vapor," which makes them easier to use discreetly than combustible cigarettes.

Most e-cigarettes contain nicotine, the same highly addictive drug in cigarettes.<sup>4,5</sup> Some e-cigarettes may contain as much nicotine as a pack of 20 regular cigarettes.<sup>3</sup>

## A Big Problem... A SMALL DEVICE



Over **10.7 million** youth aged 12-17 are at-risk for using e-cigarettes.<sup>6,7</sup>

Many teens have **dangerous misperceptions** that lead them to believe that vaping is harmless.

## Common myths believed about vaping, along with the facts.

- "It's just water vapor."** But it's not. Vaping can expose the user's lungs to harmful chemicals like formaldehyde, diacetyl and acrolein, as well as toxic metal particles like nickel, tin and lead.<sup>8,9,10,11</sup>
- "It's just flavoring."** Vapes get their flavors from chemicals. While these flavorings are safe to eat in food, they're not safe to inhale. Inhaling flavor chemicals can harm your lungs.<sup>11</sup>  
Want an example? Some buttery-flavored vapes like caramel contain diacetyl and acetoin. Inhaling diacetyl has been linked to popcorn lung, a lung disease that doesn't have a cure.<sup>11</sup>
- "I don't have an addictive personality—I won't get hooked on vapes."** Vaping delivers nicotine to the brain in as little as 10 seconds.<sup>14,15</sup>  
A teen's brain is still developing, making it more vulnerable to nicotine addiction.<sup>14</sup>
- "My vape says it's nicotine-free. There's no way I'll become addicted."** Some vapes that claim they are nicotine-free are not.<sup>8,17,22</sup>
- "Nicotine isn't that bad for me."** Nicotine exposure during the teen years can disrupt normal brain development. It can have long-lasting effects, like increased impulsivity and mood disorders.<sup>24,25</sup>
- "Just because I vape doesn't mean I'm going to smoke cigarettes."** Research shows teens who vape are more likely to try smoking cigarettes.<sup>24</sup>

**FDA's Efforts to Curb Youth E-Cigarette Use**

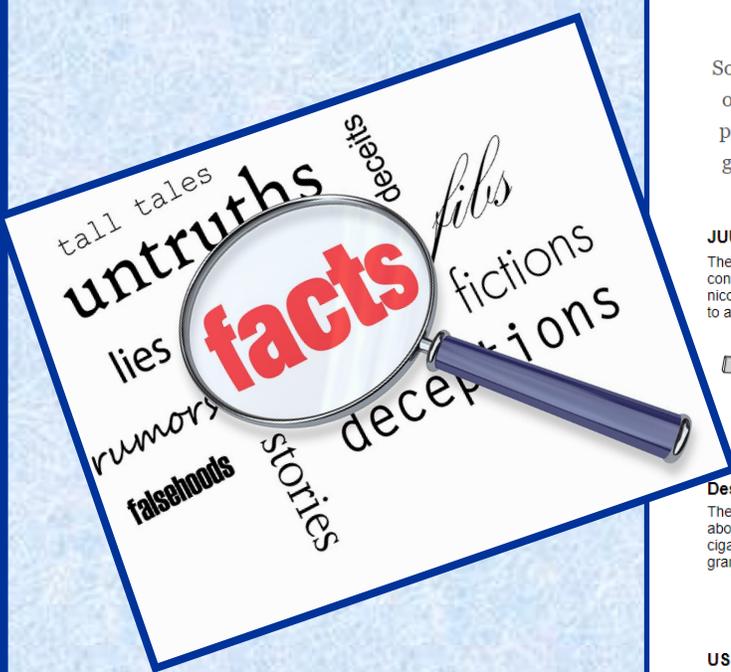
FDA is committed to protecting youth from the dangers of e-cigarettes. In addition to our national peer-to-peer public education campaign called "The Real Cost," we're joining forces with Scholastic to provide teachers and school administrators with the resources they need to educate their students about e-cigarettes.

Together, we've created a **free lesson plan and research activity** for teachers to educate their students on the health risks of e-cigarette use. Please visit the [Scholastic youth-vaping-risks](#) site to access these resources.

**Share This Information**

Please share this infographic with other teachers and school administrators. In addition, if you'd like to learn more about e-cigarettes, check out these resources:

- Surgeon General Fact Sheet - E-cigarette use among youth and young adults
- Parent Tip Sheet - How parents can talk with their teen about vaping
- CDC Infographic - E-cigarette ads and youth infographics
- Smokefree Teen - If you know a teen who is addicted to any tobacco product, including cigarettes and e-cigarettes, there are resources to help them quit



## JUUL e-cigarettes

Some e-cigarette critics are calling the JUUL e-cigarette the "Apple of vaping" or the "iPhone of vaping." With its relatively low entry price, sleek portable design, ease of use, and nicotine head rush it generates for users, JUULS are catching on with younger people.

**JUUL flavor pods**  
The juice-flavored pods contain 50 milligrams of nicotine, roughly equivalent to a pack of cigarettes.

**Design**  
The design of the e-cigarette is about the same size as a cigarette and weighs a couple of grams.

**USB charging dock**  
It looks like a USB thumb drive

**Mouthpiece**  
**Flavor element**  
**Body**  
Most of the e-cigarette's body is designed to contain a built-in battery.

SOURCE: juulvapor.com JAMES ABUNDIS / GLOBE STAFF



# Utica High School



Mr. Mark Bowman, Principal

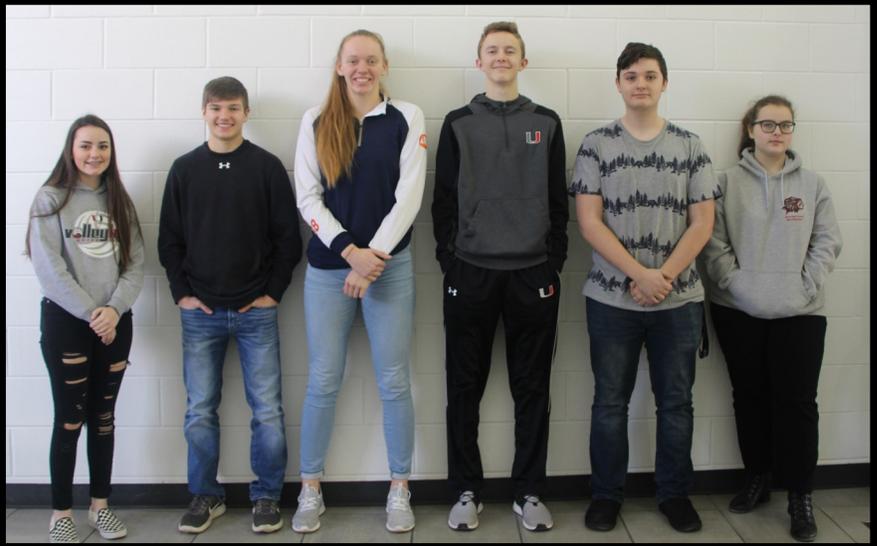
## Parent-Teacher Conferences

Dear Parents & Guardians,

What a great first semester! As we move to the next 9 weeks, please be aware that Parent-Teacher conferences are coming up on Wednesday, February 6 and Monday, February 11 from 3:00 PM - 6:30 PM. Please call the high school office at 740-892-2855 to schedule time with teachers.

Congratulations to Tyler Adkins, Demitri Lowry, and Dakota Woodard on their acceptance into the Ariel Manufacturing Fundamentals Program.

## UHS Student News

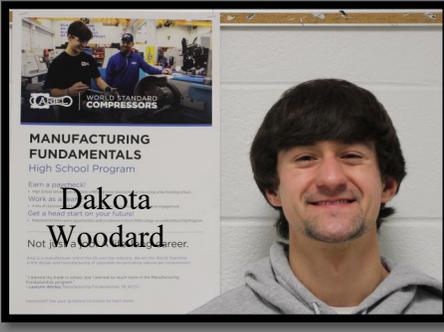


Emily Lambert (9), Ethan Adams (11), Emily Londot (11), Sean McCutcheon (10), Brandon Ross (9), & Hannah Walsh (10)



## Ambassador Program

Six 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students participated in the Licking County Ambassador program this past month! Students traveled to Newark High School and spent the day with NHS students. Next week, the host students from Newark High School will visit Utica High School. We look forward to new experiences, new friendships, and new opportunities to visit and learn about other schools.



*Utica High School continued...*

## UHS Students to Travel to the Dominican Republic

Article by: Lily Wall, Spanish Teacher

During spring break this year, a group of eight Utica High School students will be traveling to the Dominican Republic for an educational tour of the country. While on tour, students will have the opportunity to get to know the culture, history, ecosystems, and people of the Dominican Republic over eight days. They will take part in activities such as walking tours of various cities, a whitewater rafting excursion, a pottery-making workshop, a mangrove and snorkeling tour, a tour of an environmental school to learn about restoration efforts, dance lessons, and more! Naturally, students will get to practice their Spanish and try some delicious food through the trip, as well.

Students attending the trip have been working hard to raise money. Many found jobs after school to help pay for this experience. Additionally, they have been working hard with various fundraisers through Utica High School, such as hosting a staff volleyball game involving both high school and middle school teachers and the Winter Semi-Formal.



UHS Staff during the volleyball game.



UHS team huddle!



### **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Utica High School junior, **Emily Londot**, on scoring her 1,000<sup>th</sup> point in her high school career!



Once again we will be using the One Call Now messaging system for parent notification of school delays, cancellations and other information. From the North Fork homepage just follow the link under the parents tab to update your information.

## CLOSE?? DELAY?? What should we do?

When bad weather affects the area, we make the decision to open/close schools, or modify the school day schedule based upon a careful analysis of all relevant factors. **Some** of these factors are:

- \* Information on road conditions from transportation staff and local law enforcement. Careful consideration is given to the most dangerous roads in the district; they can be treacherous, even if your street looks clear.
- \* Amount of accumulated snow and/or ice
- \* Is precipitation expected to continue throughout the day?
- \* Temperature and wind chill
- \* Building conditions such as whether there is electricity and heat
- \* What other districts are doing



## *Important Information From the Tech Department... Mrs. Kimberley Watson*

- ⇒ As a reminder, both interim reports and report cards are being posted online. 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.
- ⇒ In order to access interim reports and report cards online, school fees must be paid in full.



# Newton Elementary

Michele Gorius, Principal



## Shoe Tying Challenge

All kindergarten and first grade students are practicing their shoe tying skills. Once students can independently tie their shoes, their name is added to the **I CAN TIE MY SHOES** bulletin board.

## Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled for **Thursday, February 7**, and **Wednesday February 13**. Please contact your child's teacher if you would like to be scheduled for a conference.

## Book Fair

PTO is hosting a book fair **February 6 - 13**. Students will visit the book fair with their class. Parents are invited to stop in the night of conferences. The book fair will be located in the art room.

Newton Elementary continued...

## THANK YOU PTO!

A huge THANK YOU to our PTO for purchasing *Leader in Me* shirts for every student! Please ask your child about the *Leader in Me* program. We have started guest announcers, buddy readers, greeters, and other opportunities for students to be involved with Newton Elementary.



Newton Elementary grades 3 - 5



Newton Elementary grades K - 2

## Utica Middle School—Marcia Rutherford, Principal

Great things are happening at UMS! Our students ended the 2nd quarter strong! Please see the district home page or our Utica Middle School web page for the comprehensive list of Honor and Merit roll recipients. We are so proud of their hard work! The Honor Merit Assembly will be on Friday, February 1, 2019. The specific times are also on the Utica Middle School web page.

We are gearing up for the last fundraisers of the year for 8th grade and 6th grade. Both classes are offering a raffle. We will post both on the website and on our UMS Facebook page.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank two Utica organizations. La Sertoma and The Spring Hills Baptist Church, Utica, through the “Be Generous Campaign,” have provided cash donations. These donations will be used to build a PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support) structure for our students. We are so very grateful for these most generous gestures. Someone told me that, “Our little Utica has the most giving people in Ohio.” I agree! Thank you!



Mrs. Lenell's 6th grade Spanish students translated, spoke and acted out nursery rhymes practicing all sorts of skills!



Mrs. Wahle's class read "A Fish in a Tree" and learned that each has individual and important gifts worth fostering!



UMS staff celebrating the holidays with interesting outfits!!!



Our holiday door decorating effort was exciting and well received. The effort brought out the artist in ALL of us! Look for more inspired doors during Right to Read Week!

## UMS... From the Counselor's Corner - Miss Cullums and Mrs. Kimpel

Happy New Year!! There are a lot of upcoming events happening as we prepare for next school year!! Please contact us should you have any questions. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your child's education. They are truly a gift to us!

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Parent Scheduling and HS Information Night: Tuesday, Feb 5 6:00 pm HS Cafeteria  
Course Scheduling in History Classes: Wednesday, Feb 13<sup>th</sup>

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Scheduling and Course Information in Science Classes: Wednesday, Feb 13  
Student scheduling forms are due Tuesday, Feb 19. Students will schedule classes in the computer lab during science class.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Course Scheduling in Science Classes: Friday, March 1;  
Scheduling forms due on or before Friday, March 8.

ANY 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade student who is interested in learning about College Credit Plus (CCP) is invited to attend an informational meeting on Thursday, Feb 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm in the HS cafeteria. There will be representatives from MVNU to discuss the process and opportunities our students have to take college courses and earn college credit.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Washington DC

Detailed trip information will be sent home with students going on the trip during the week of February 4<sup>th</sup>, including student balances and installment payment dates. Students will have the opportunity for one last fundraiser to help offset the cost of their trip. The final fundraiser is a raffle and includes these donated prizes: a Smart TV, Roku Stick, \$100 Best Buy gift card, Utica All Sports Pass packages. Tickets are \$1 with sale dates beginning February 19<sup>th</sup> - March 20<sup>th</sup>. The drawing for prizes will be on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Winners will be contacted via phone. *There will also be a mandatory parent meeting on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.* *At least one parent must attend* as we will discuss final trip itinerary and complete necessary paperwork. More information on the parent meeting will be sent home as we get closer to the date.

# District Testing Calendar Update

*Stephanie Kimpel, Testing Coordinator*

**High school juniors** will take the ACT exam, provided at no cost to the student, on February 20, 2019. High school counselors will be meeting with students prior to the test date to complete necessary paperwork prior to test administration. If you have questions regarding the ACT, please contact the high school guidance office.

Our state testing window dates have been scheduled from April 15 - May 6, 2019. All students in grades 3 - 8 will participate in the annual Ohio's State Tests in English Language Arts, Math and Science. High school students will take End of Course Exams in English I, English II, Algebra I, Geometry, Biology, American History and American Government.

We would appreciate any assistance with scheduling any appointments on days when your student is not scheduled for testing.

There will be no late start, district wide, on **Wednesday, April 17**, and **Wednesday, April 24**, in order for the middle school and elementary buildings to complete testing.

## District Testing Dates

**Utica High School** will operate on a 3 hour testing schedule on the following dates for students needing End of Course Exams in these areas:

April 18- ELA I and II  
April 23- Biology  
April 25- History  
April 30- Math

### Utica Middle School

April 15 - 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade ELA  
April 16 - 6<sup>th</sup> grade ELA  
April 17 - 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade ELA  
April 18 - 8<sup>th</sup> grade ELA

April 24 - 8<sup>th</sup> grade Science  
April 29 - 7<sup>th</sup> grade Math  
April 30 - 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Math  
May 1 - 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Math  
May 2 - 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math

### Utica and Newton Elementary

April 15 - May 6  
Testing dates will be provided by building principals.