



NEWSLETTER



Volume 3, Issue 2

November, 2015

Important Reminders:

- ◆ Nov. 12,13,14 - UHS Musical - 7:30 p.m.
- ◆ Nov. 13 - No School



- ◆ Nov. 25, 26, 27 Thanksgiving Break
- ◆ Dec. 21 - Jan. 3 Winter Break
- ◆ Jan. 15 - No School
- ◆ Jan. 18 - No School

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

As the first quarter has come to an end, I can safely say, "Thank goodness." This has been the most unique start of a school year we have ever seen. It is essential to keep all of the negative events our district faced in perspective and hopefully that is what this article will be about.

It is important to note that prior to any of the incidents occurring, our administrative staff, along with first responders and parents, were completing and submitting our district and building safety plans to the State of Ohio. Those plans became very useful in the process of what we were dealing with and we were also able to make some changes on what we learned. All of the safety plans were reviewed by Homeland Security and approved on the first attempt.

It is extremely difficult to deal with major safety issues without having the freedom to explain completely what is going on. I want to thank you all for your understanding of the situation and for all of the positive, helpful suggestions, assistance, and support we received throughout. As law enforcement has their way of dealing with situations, it is critical to keep in mind that the safety of all students, staff, and our community were our top priority.

The postponing of the homecoming football game, events and activities was not an easy decision, however it was the cornerstone of the entire event. We have been able to bring back everything that was cancelled except for the football game against Lakewood. Our students, academically, are getting caught up if not already there.

A special thank you to all of our staff who did an excellent job in keeping students safe, buildings locked, and education moving forward. Without such a dedicated group of professionals the situation we faced would have been more difficult.

We are currently well underway with the second grading period and I believe we are back on track with a normal routine for our students.

Scott Hartley
Superintendent

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 been studying what it takes 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. Our next topics will include “Online Safety,” “Fire Safety,” “Bicycle Safety,” and “Giving Thanks for Our School, Our Community, and Our Country.”

“Be a Friend, Not a Bully”

Newton and Utica Elementary students have been learning how important it is to treat others how they would like to be treated themselves. On October 20, 2015, Newton and Utica Elementary students received a visit from Knox County Sheriff's Deputy Zac Miller. The North Fork District “No Bullying Policy” was reviewed by Deputy Miller in his presentation **“Be a Friend, Not a Bully.”** The assembly was presented for students in third through sixth grades. The program will be presented to students in kindergarten through second grade at a later date in the school libraries.

Mix it Up at Lunch Day

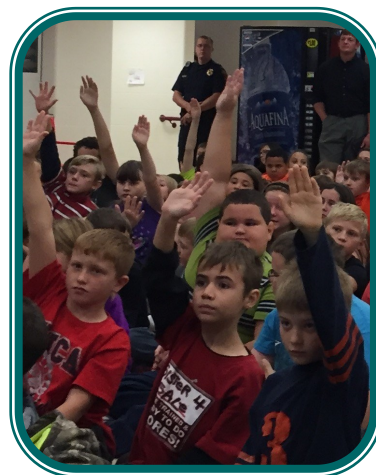
Newton and Utica Elementary students participated in the 14th Annual Mix it Up at Lunch Day on October 27, 2015. This national event encourages students to sit with someone new in the cafeteria for just one day. The event is sponsored by the Teaching Tolerance organization. More information about the national event may be found at tolerance.org.

THANK YOU, Utica Church of Christ

North Fork Schools have received a \$200 donation for our annual Elementary School Coat Drive. We extend sincere gratitude to Rex Stevenson and the Missionary Committee of the Utica Church of Christ. The Walmart gift cards will be used for this purpose and we thank the Utica Church of Christ very much for your kindness.



Thank you
Deputy
Zac Miller!



Newton Elementary News... Michele Gorius, Principal

Grandparent Lunches

Grandparents or a special friend were invited for lunch. Many students were treated to an outside purchased lunch. The weather was beautiful for outside recess and everyone enjoyed their time together. **Thanks to everyone** who attended.



Dictionaries

Morgan Grange recently donated dictionaries to every third grader. Mr. & Mrs. Hiltner, long time North Fork residents, were on hand to help pass out the dictionaries. Ask a third grader what the longest word is in the dictionary.
{pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanokoniosis – this word is 45 letters. It is a lung disease caused by breathing certain particles} **Thank you, Morgan Grange!**



Caught Beeing Good

Our three school rules are: **Be safe. Be responsible. Be respectful.**



Two names are drawn and announced daily as “**Caught Beeing Good.**” It is awesome to have so many names in the basket!



Conferences

Parent teacher conferences are Thursday, November 5, and Wednesday, November 11, from 4:00 p.m. - 7:30 pm. If you have not received information about a conference, please contact your child's teacher.

Fire Safety

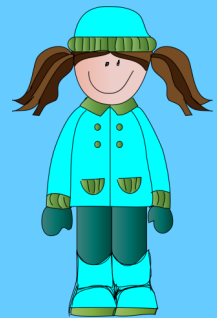
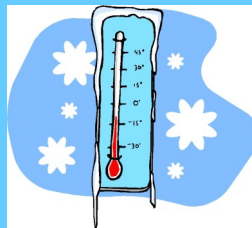
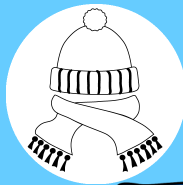
Newton Fire Department spoke to kindergarten and first grade students about fire safety. Students were reminded to have a safety spot outside. They were able to see and hear what a suited fireman sounds like and also practice stop, drop and roll.

Thank you, Newton Fire Department!



From the Desk of Jenn Wygle, District Nurse

Cold weather is coming!! Frostbite can happen when you are exposed to extreme cold. Did you know that when the temperature is below zero degrees Fahrenheit (including wind chill), your bare skin can freeze in five minutes and at wind chill temperatures between -20 and -69 degrees your skin can freeze in a minute? However, because of the wind chill factor, you can get frostbite even if the air temperature is above freezing, according to the National Weather Service. The most affected areas consist of your toes, nose, ears, cheeks, chin and fingers. As the weather changes don't forget to take into consideration if you or your child will be outside. Children are more likely to get frostbite because they lose heat from their skin faster than adults. Many students walk to and from school. Don't forget their coats, hats, gloves, boots and scarfs as the weather is changing to prevent any damage from frostbite.



UTICA JUNIOR HIGH INTERVENTION

Purpose: EXTRA, AFTER-SCHOOL HELP IN ANY ACADEMIC AREA
(Homework, Organization, Test Prep, etc.)

Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning November 3, 2015

Time: 2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Place: 7th Grade - Mrs. M. Williams' Room (317)
8th Grade - Mrs. Londot's Room (307)

**** Please be sure your child is picked up at 3:15 p.m. ****

Utica Elementary Events - Randy Nielsen, Principal

- October 5 Hoops for Heart fundraiser was held through physical education with proceeds going to cardio vascular research.
- October 7 A rapid release drill was held for evacuation practice.
- October 12 Beginning of "Active Fit" - Partnering with Licking Memorial Hospital to reward students who are reporting levels of physical activity outside of school.
- October 12-16 Baby Drive was held in conjunction with United Way Week of Caring and Luellen Deeds.
- October 20 "Be a Friend, Not a Bully" assembly took place for grades 3 - 6.
- October 22 All students wore pink in support of breast cancer awareness.
- October 27 Students participated in Mix It Up at Lunch.
- October 27 Honors Assembly was held honoring students for academic and social behavior during the first grading period.
- November 4 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- November 4-11 Book Fair - Scholastic books on sale in the library at Utica Elementary
- November 11 Parent-Teacher Conferences

***** Yearbook cover design contest is taking place. One winner will be selected! *****

North Fork Maintenance Department - Terry Wohlford, Supervisor

It's that time of year again...with the changing of the seasons come the cold and flu germs. In keeping in close contact with our local health department, the best way to combat the spread of these germs is to **wash your hands** frequently. There are also programs available for K - 5 to assist in training for the proper protocol of **hand washing**. Here at the schools we try to keep all surfaces clean and germ free using cleaning agents that not only work well in combating cold and flu germs, but also most of the other scary germs out there we may be spreading around. Please help us curb the spreading of germs by covering your cough and **washing your hands** at all appropriate times. If you are interested in a **hand washing** instructional training, please let me know.



***MONEY TALKS* ~ Tonya Mickley, Treasurer/CFO**

Great things are happening at North Fork Local Schools! We have been able to take on and complete some projects this past year. Some of these include:

New High School Gym Bleachers

New Roof over the Junior High

Purchase of a New Bus

New Windows, Siding and a Handicapped Ramp at the Administrative Offices

We are also currently working on making the Junior High building completely handicapped accessible.

None of these projects would have been able to be completed without the support and assistance of the wonderful staff at North Fork Local Schools, as well as our supportive community.

Mr. Hartley and I have been working with the Board to create a short term and a long term list of district needs. A lot of the items are on the list because in recent history, the district was having financial difficulties and had to postpone these projects. We have turned the corner, and are becoming more fiscally sound. If we remain frugal and mindful of how we spend district money we will be able to tackle a few of the items on the lists each year, and work on developing plans to pay for some of the larger items over the next few years.

It is very important to be very forward thinking of the future needs of the district. If we can make financial plans now to save money for those larger items that will be needed in the future, we should be able to remain fiscally sound.

The district website has been updated with the Board of Education's most recently approved five-year forecast for your review. (<http://northfork.k12.oh.us/District/FiveYearForecast.pdf>)

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

- ⇒ In preparation for the state online testing, the technology department has completed running the necessary updates on all district computers that will be accessed for online testing. We will be conducting a network, system check on November 17, 2015 to check for potential technical issues with the online testing.
- ⇒ Over the past several months, twenty LCD projectors have been replaced throughout the district.
- ⇒ iPad carts were added at Utica Elementary, Newton Elementary, and a second cart was added at Utica Junior High. Teachers can sign the carts out and use the iPads with the students in their classes.
- ⇒ The district has implemented a new technology curriculum in grades K-8. Students access the new Easy Tech Curriculum through Learning.com during their computer classes. Ask your student(s) what new things they are learning as part of the Easy Tech Curriculum.
- ⇒ As a result of the technology security breach at Newton Elementary, the computer teachers reinforced the importance of password safety. They discussed the importance of students logging

off their computers correctly, not sharing their password with others, and not letting other students use the computer while under their personal login.

Friendly Reminders

- ⇒ Parents can access their student(s) grades online through Progress Book. If you do not have an account already created or if you are having trouble accessing your created account, please contact klwatson@uhs.laca.org for further assistance.

Upcoming Testing Dates

- ⇒ **Nov. 17** District wide AIR Practice Testing
- ⇒ **Dec. 1 and 3** Third grade Reading
- ⇒ **Dec. 4 and 5** Make-ups
- ⇒ **Jan. 19 - 22** Third grade Terra Nova and Inview
- ⇒ **Ohio's State Tests (AIR-American Institutes for Research):**
April 11 - 29, 2016 Grades 3 - 8 English Language Arts
 Grades 5 & 8 Math and Science
 Grades 4 & 6 Social Studies
 High School End of Course Exams
- ⇒ **May 4, 5, 10, 11, 12** AP Testing

North Fork Transportation - Allan Fordham, District Services Coordinator

North Fork Local School Closings & Delays Procedures - Our district staff understands that our decision to open or close schools, offer a two-hour delayed start, or resort to an early release in bad weather has a big impact on families. Also, we understand that our students are better served by being in school – both academically and socially. As always, our top priority is the safety of our students and staff. When bad weather affects the area, we make the decision to open or close schools or modify the school day schedule based upon a careful analysis of all relevant factors, such as information on road conditions from transportation staff and from local law enforcements and road crews. We must give careful consideration to the most dangerous roads in the district; they can be treacherous, even if your street looks clear. Although we do our absolute best in this process, we know that often no perfect decision exists. If you as the parent or guardian do not feel that it is safe for your child to get to school, use your best judgment as to whether or not he or she should attend. Contact the building office to inform them that you believe the conditions are too dangerous to send your son or daughter. Also, please discourage teenagers from driving in bad conditions and offer them alternatives as weather conditions worsen.



THANK YOU to the *Osica Serboma* for their donation to purchase programs for the North Fork Speech Department.

UHS Students in Action

Students in Mr. Londot's and Mr. Schultz's classes recently completed a science lab to display students' knowledge of how to calculate speed and acceleration. Steel marbles were rolled down wooden ramps at various distance intervals and times were recorded. Students then used the data to calculate average speed and acceleration. After analyzing the data, students revealed all of the different forces acting on the marble as it rolls and those forces influence motion. A special thank you to Mr. Hofacker and the UHS Science Department for the use of their supplies.



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MARK BOWMAN - H.S. PRINCIPAL

BRIAN RADABAUGH - H.S. ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/AD

MARCIA RUTHERFORD-J.H. PRINCIPAL

SCOTT HARTLEY - SUPERINTENDENT



2015-2016
Winter Sports
High School Schedule

BOYS BASKETBALL

8-Dec	A	Highland	4:30/6:00/7:30
11-Dec	A	Watkins	4:30/6:00/7:30
15-Dec	A	East Knox	6:00/7:30
17-Dec	A	Cardington	6:00/7:30
19-Dec	H	Northridge	4:30/6:00/7:30
22-Dec	H	Licking Valley	4:30/6:00/7:30
30-Dec	H	Columbus Academy	4:30/6:00/7:30
5-Jan	H	Newark Catholic	4:30/6:00/7:30
8-Jan	H	Johnstown	4:30/6:00/7:30
12-Jan	H	Granville Christian	7:30
13-Jan	A	Licking Heights	4:30/6:00/7:30
16-Jan	A	Heath	4:30/6:00/7:30
19-Jan	H	Centerburg	4:30/6:00/7:30
22-Jan	H	Lakewood	4:30/6:00/7:30
23-Jan	H	Linden McKinley	4:30/6:00/7:30
27-Jan	A	Northridge	4:30/6:00/7:30
30-Jan	A	Newark Catholic	4:30/6:00/7:30
2-Feb	A	Granville	4:30/6:00/7:30
5-Feb	A	Johnstown	4:30/6:00/7:30
6-Feb	A	Fredericktown	4:30/6:00/7:30
9-Feb	H	Heath** (sr. night)	4:30/6:00/7:30
11-Feb	A	Licking Valley	4:30/6:00/7:30

Date Location Bold=League Game 9th/IV/V

GIRLS BASKETBALL

21-Nov	A	Highland	6:00/7:30
24-Nov	A	Liberty Union	6:00/7:30
1-Dec	H	Watkins	6:00/7:30
3-Dec	H	Bishop Hartley	6:00/7:30
5-Dec	A	River View	1:00/2:30
9-Dec	A	Northridge	6:00/7:30
15-Dec	H	Newark Catholic	5:00/6:30
18-Dec	A	Johnstown	6:00/7:30
21-Dec	H	Worthington Christian	6:00/7:30
28-Dec	A	Centerburg	6:00/7:30
6-Jan	H	Licking Heights	6:00/7:30
9-Jan	H	Heath	6:00/7:30
14-Jan	A	Cardington	6:00/7:30
15-Jan	A	Lakewood	6:00/7:30
20-Jan	H	Northridge	6:00/7:30
21-Jan	H	Fairfield Christian	6:00/7:30
26-Jan	H	Granville	6:00/7:30
29-Jan	H	Johnstown	6:00/7:30
1-Feb	A	Newark Catholic	6:00/7:30
3-Feb	A	Heath	6:00/7:30
6-Feb	H	Granville Chr. *(sr. night)	6:00/7:30
10-Feb	A	Licking Valley	6:00/7:30

Date Location Bold=League Game 9th/IV/V

WRESTLING

5-Dec	A	Granville Inv.	8:00am
18-Dec	A	Waterloo DIII Classic	5:00pm
2-Jan	A	Tri Valley Duals	9:00am
12-Jan	A	Whitehall	6:00pm
16-Jan	A	Amanda Clearcreek	10:00am
20-Jan	A	Cambridge	6:00pm
23-Jan	A	Hamilton Twp.	8:30am
30-Jan	H	Utica Inv.	10:00am
6-Feb	A	LCL Tournament	10:00am

Date Location Tournament Time



On August 6, 2015, Utica welcomed back Mr. Jerry Paisola, former principal at Utica Elementary School. Several retired and current staff members met at Watts Restaurant to reminisce about the good old days. Do you see any familiar faces?