Superintendent’s Message...

...from Mr. Tim Murray, Superintendent

Welcome to Fall! Fall is the best time of year. Weather cools down, color changes, and we gear up for the Holiday Season. It is great to be back in a routine and as always an awesome feeling when students are in the building. They create a tremendous amount of energy and remind all of us why we do what we do.

Congratulations to Sidnee Hornyak and Theo Hernandez as Homecoming Queen and King for 2019. We are happy for both of them as well as the entire Homecoming Court. Our students are the best around and Homecoming week is done the right way in Gibsonburg. Thank you to all that participated in activities in all buildings.

Congratulations to Sydney Leyerle for qualifying for the third year in a row for the OHSAA golf tournament. Sydney shot a 148 at the OSU Gray Course over the two day tournament and finished in 8th place overall. Great job Sydney! We are all proud of you.

On a business note, we have recently received two grants that Steve Gruner and Joe King wrote for our district. The first grant we received was a security grant through the Bureau of Workers Compensation. We received $40,000 to upgrade our security camera system. We have upgraded all of our current cameras in all of our buildings. We will also be adding some outside security cameras in the coming months. We needed to get this done and thanks to Steve and Joe, we could do it sooner than we had planned. We also received a grant from Sandusky County Community Foundation for $8,000 to install new playground equipment at Hilfiker Elementary. Our playground is used constantly, which I recently learned, as my grandson enjoys playing on the equipment here at Hilfiker. We will be making improvements in the coming months to all of our equipment and look forward to providing this to our students. Grant writing is an art, and Steve and Joe have a knack for being awarded grants. We are thankful for their efforts as both a school and community.

We are off to a great start in 2019-2020. Students and staff are eager to continue our strong traditions here at Gibsonburg Schools. We continue to graduate ready to become quality citizens in our society. Our students are consistently recognized in every aspect of education, but most importantly, they are known to be respectful and polite. Currently, this is a vital characteristic to instill in our students. We do this as a school and as a community. You all should be extremely proud of your children!

Veteran’s Day Assembly - November 8, 2019

Please join us in the high school gymnasium for our Veteran’s Day assembly at 1:15 p.m. on November 8th. Everyone, including all veterans, are welcome!

Community Service Day

Once again, Gibsonburg High School students will be out in the Gibsonburg School District area helping senior citizens and disabled persons with their fall clean-up. Community Service Day will be held on Friday, November 15th, with a make-up date of November 22nd. Students and faculty members will go to homes of senior citizens and disabled persons in the school district from noon until 2:00 p.m. to help with raking leaves, window cleaning, and various other outdoor tasks.

If you would like to be included this year, please call the High School at 419-637-2873, by FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8th.
Praises to:

◊ Ideal Bakery for their donation of donut boxes for each of our kindergarteners. The boxes will be used to collect and store some of their memories from this school year. We are excited to revisit our donut theme all year long!
◊ Jim and Becky Sworden for their donation of waters for the Girls Golf Team during August!
◊ The family of Mike Pratt for their donation of the SBC team banners going up in the middle school gymnasium.
◊ To everyone who donated to the football card fundraiser. Thus far the team has purchased new Porta-phone headsets, a Hudl Sideline package, three wall mount fans for the locker room and weight room, 2 laundry holders & 4 bags, a portable hard drive, a camera battery & charger and uniform cleaning.
◊ Class Advisors: Kayla Burg, Bri Gosche, Andrea Graber, and Mark Sworden for your guidance during voting, hall decoration and parade duty for homecoming week.
◊ Innovations Portrait Studio, Swais Flowers, Beeker Imaging, Connie Davies, Mike Tornow, Jay Morelock, Melody Morelock, Amanda Weaver, Sonia Herman, Matt Castillo, Mike Schoch, Andrea Graber, Emily Sisco, Kim Hockenberry, Shari Wilson, Annette Tille, Shelley Boldman, Diane Gerwin, Devon Stevens, Scott and Bethany Widmer, Danna Myerholtz, Melissa Coe, the car owners and drivers and float drivers for your support and time for the homecoming festivities and the parade.
◊ Retired Chief Paul Whitaker for visiting Mr. Weigman's CCP Government class to discuss issues concerning Constitutional Law.
◊ The Greider family for their donation of books to the Hilfiker library.

Money & Sense

...from Mr. John Kahmann, Treasurer

Keeping the Books

Every month the Board of Education approves the Financial Report presented by the Treasurer. The reports contain detailed information on the financial state of Gibsonburg Schools, including revenue, expenditures, and fund balances. But, maybe you didn’t know the financial accounting of the school district is watched very closely by the Auditor of State?

Every year a team from the Auditor of State’s office perform a comprehensive audit of the District’s financial statements for the prior fiscal year. The Audit Team spends 4-6 weeks at our school district going over our books with a fine tooth comb. The objective of the Auditor of State is to express their opinion concerning whether the financial statements and related notes present fairly the District’s financial position, changes in financial position, and required budgetary comparisons and cash flows. The audit also ensures conformity with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

It is the Auditor’s responsibility to conduct the audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require the audit to assure that the financial statements are free of misstatement. Because the Auditor of State leaves no stone unturned, it is my job, as Treasurer, to design, implement and maintain controls which insure compliance and present financial statements that are free from material misstatement.

From time to time we hear criticism such as “the school has money” or “they are hiding money”. Please know, the Auditor of State does a great job making “hiding money” impossible.

Keeping the books is very complex, full annual audit reports are available on the Auditor of States website. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Treasurer’s office.

Student Advisory Board

.....from Sonia Herman, High School Principal

Thank you to the Gibsonburg Businessmen Association for the donation of $750 to the High School. This money will be used to fund our Student Advisory Board. Members of this board are: Alex Dawson (9th), Brianna Montgomery (9th), Alivia Pietrowski (10th), Aidan Farmer (10th), Mason Tille (11th), Mitchell Tille (11th), Logan Boldman (11th), Emma Widmer (12th), Amanda Rupke (12th), and Theo Hernandez (12th). The purpose of this committee is to come together monthly to collaborate and discuss ideas, concerns, and district initiatives. Thank you to the Gibsonburg Businessmen Association for partnering with our students to make Gibsonburg Schools the best that it can be!
Hilfiker Music Programs
... from Mr. Joe Kaiser, Music Teacher

On Tuesday, November 19, 2019, at 9:30 a.m. for the grandparents and 7:00 p.m. for the rest of the family, the Hilfiker Elementary kindergarten classes are presenting “The Three Piggy Opera” by Carol Kaplan-Lyss and Sandi Becker. The performance will take place in the Multipurpose Room of the elementary building.

Applause! Applause! Let us all go to the opera…. The Three Piggy Opera, that is, full of the usual song types: Overture, Aria, Recitative, and a Finale. The story of the three little pigs has never been heard in such a way before. Join us for this time of storytelling with a little extra surprise.

On Tuesday, December 10, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., the Hilfiker Elementary fourth grade will perform “Around the World at Christmas Time” by Paul and Teresa Jennings in the Multipurpose Room at the elementary building.

Today, Christmas is celebrated on or near December 25 in countries all over the world. The season that surrounds it is filled with a sense of joy and warmth unlike that of any other time of the year. Christmas customs and traditions from one country to the next may vary greatly, or may be very similar indeed. Some are quite old and have been passed down from one generation to the next. Others are more recent and may be adapted into something else by next year. Whatever the custom, wherever it came from, and whatever it may become, one thing is the same in all celebrations of Christmas, that is, the Christmas spirit. Love, joy, family, friendship, warmth, giving, hope, and peace are all parts of that spirit, a spirit that is felt around the world at Christmas time. The fifth grade band will play their first performance with some of their favorite songs as well as some holiday favorites.

Elementary Picture Retakes

Hilfiker Elementary will have picture retakes on Monday, November 4. For those who wish to have their photo retaken, please bring your picture package along that day. If you missed picture day in September, you can have your picture taken and place an order on retake day as well. Orders may also be placed online at mylifetouch.com using picture day ID EVTXV9SMK.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Veronica (Rona) Knieriem

Rona Knieriem is the new PreK-5 Intervention Specialist at Hilfiker. She received her education degree from Bowling Green State University and Mount St. Joseph University. Rona is glad to be back at Hilfiker and says everyone has been very welcoming and child-centered. She says it is refreshing to be in a place that truly puts the students first. When not at school, Rona enjoys spending time with her family, including husband, Greg, daughter, Meranda, son-in-law, Wil, and baby Liam, and son, Nathan. Rona and her family have a place on a small lake where they relax while fishing and boating. They are also a Nascar family and attempt to catch as least one live race each season!

Marc Diels

Marc Diels is the new high school business teacher teaching courses such as personal finance, computer technology, accounting and sports nutrition. Marc graduated from Old Fort High School and earned his education degree from Bowling Green State University. He says he feels very fortunate to be a part of this great school district! In his spare time Marc loves watching college baseball and hockey and spending time with his sons, Dillon and Dalton, and grandkids, Rhett and Mya.
The Gibsonburg FFA will begin their Annual Holiday Fundraiser which includes the sale of Potted Holiday Plants as well as Cheeses and Meats for the Holiday Season. The sale will begin October 21st and orders for the Plants, Cheeses, and Meats will be accepted through November 30th.

The available plants for sale include Poinsettias (red, white, pink, marble, and jingle bells) at $9.00 each, 6 inch Norfolk Island pine for $15.00, Cyclamen for $11.00, and Christmas Cactus for $7.00 each. Most of the plants will be in the standard 6” pots. The plants are grown/purchased from Lakewood Greenhouse in Northwood.

Have some parties or family gatherings to attend this holiday season? If so, why not take a tasty cheese tray? The chapter is selling meats and cheeses for the Holiday season. The cheeses are being sold in 12 oz. blocks or wheels and are available in the following types, Mild Swiss, Marble, Farmers Cheese, Muenster, Lacy Baby Swiss, Sharp Colored Cheddar, Bacon, Gouda, Pepperoni, Horseradish Cheese, Chipotle, Pepper Jack, and Super Hot Jumpin Jack. The price of the cheese is between $5.50 and $6.75 each depending on the type of cheese. To go along with your cheeses for your holiday celebrations, why not add some cheeseballs or meat. We are also selling freshly made cheeseballs in 3 different flavors, Dried Beef, Cheddar Cheese (has horseradish sauce in it), and Bacon Cheddar Cheese. To finish off your cheese platter nothing can beat adding a couple of Ohio produced meats. We will have several meats to choose from to hopefully satisfy your taste buds. The meats that we will have available include 1 lb. packages of beef/pork snack sticks available in Original, Beef & Swiss, Sweet BBQ, and Pineapple Teriyaki seasonings (7-8 sticks ½” x 6” sticks), Beef Log, Summer Sausage, Jalepeno Summer Sausage, and Trail Bologna Ring. Prices are $7.00 for the cheese balls, $7.50 for trail bologna, $10.00 for the snack sticks, and $7.00 for the 3 meat logs. All of the product are proudly made here in Ohio. The cheeses will be coming from Pearl Valley Cheese, and the cheese balls and meats will be coming from Tank’s Meats and Ohio Meats.

The final items of this year’s sale are Brinkman Farms canned meats and soups. There will be 11 different products from their line that we are selling. Each item comes in a 28 oz. can. All of their products are raised and processed just outside of Findlay, Ohio. Prices range from $4.55 to $9.10 per can.

The pickup and delivery days for the product will be on Wednesday, December 11th and Thursday, December 12th. You may place an order by calling the Gibsonburg FFA Agricultural Education Dept. at 419-637-2873 ext. 1167 or by contacting a member of the Gibsonburg FFA. Payment is due upon the receipt of the product. Proceeds from the event will assist in covering expenses for FFA camps, conventions, leadership conferences, judging contests and various other Gibsonburg FFA chapter activities.
The drama department presents our first ever One Act Festival this November! We will be presenting three short one act plays that will feature a variety of students in three varying shows. Our first show is *The Southfield Stories* by Alec Strum, produced with special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Inc. In it, the pilgrims of the medieval classic, *The Canterbury Tales*, get a modern facelift! Inspired by Chaucer’s characters, *The Southfield Stories* re-imagines some of the more well-known stories, but now the pilgrims are teenagers in the suburb of Southfield!

Our second show is *Boxes* by Kendra Thomas, produced with special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Inc. In this unique drama about coping with pressures and expectations from others, Jack is curious when he receives his box as a birthday present. His confusion about the cubed oddity quickly turns to concern when his family, friends, and teachers begin filling his box with their expectations for him. The heavier Jack’s box gets, the more burdened he feels by it and the more Jack considers following his friend Chris’s lead and throwing his box away. Before Jack casts away his own ambitions to relieve him from the stress of needing to please others, a strong supporting cast of friends helps Jack sort through what matters most.

The final show is *21 Guaranteed Ways to Get Detention* by Ian McWethy, produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc. In this show, the principal of McKinley Grove High School and his two new assistants can’t give out more than twenty detentions per year. But this student body breaks the rules in such ridiculous ways, they might hit the maximum in just one day! Meet the world’s most obvious cheater, a ruthless Girl Scout cookie mogul, the captain of the Cat Football League, and many more in this cavalcade of hilariously bad behavior.

Participating in many roles are the following students.


Show dates are Friday, November 15th and Saturday, November 16th starting at 7:00 pm and Sunday, November 17th starting at 2:00 pm. Tickets are $8 for adults and $6 for students and seniors. The show will be presented at Gibsonburg High School in the Cafetorium. Doors will open 45 minutes prior to the performance. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Kohman at kkohman@gibsonburgschools.org with any questions!
Walk to School Day!

...by Sarah Halbeisen, Director of Health Services

What a blast! Hilfiker Elementary celebrated their 11th Walk to School Day event on October 16th at Zion Lutheran Church. This event has become quite the community tradition! Students were able to learn ways to stay healthy and safe from a variety of our community members. There was dancing, giveaways, education, and even an obstacle course! This year we had the following community members join the event: Gibsonburg Fire Department, Gibsonburg Police Department, Sandusky County EMS, Eye Centers of Northwest Ohio, Gibsonburg Library, Sandusky County Park District, Sandusky County Health Department, Mentoring Program, Middle School Asset Team with Mr. Jackson, and a large group of our High School athletes and band members. The High School Cheerleaders boosted our school spirit with their performance and Nikki Willis from SCHD made us sweat as we grooved to the beat. Hilfiker Elementary Parents (HEP) provided a snack for every student upon their return to school from the walk! Thanks also to the University of Toledo Clinical Nurse Leader graduate students. They do a clinical with Nurse Sarah and lend a helping hand for this event. Thanks to all for another successful Walk to School Day. We can’t wait to do it again next year!