Winter is in full swing. I hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas and let us hope 2020 is a great year for all of us. With winter comes early mornings with concerns of snowy, icy, and frigid weather. We take this process very serious at Gibsonburg Schools, as all the schools in Sandusky County and around the state. Superintendents and Directors of Transportation are active at 4:30a.m. on bad weather days. Many phone calls, text messages, and emails take place during a short window of making decisions to delay or close. We are always going to error on the side of safety for our children when we make a call to hold classes or not. We appreciate your patience and understanding of the tough decisions we have to make when it comes to closing school. Delaying/Closing is not an easy decision, as we know it disrupts everyone’s schedule. We hope that we do not have to do it much this winter, but from the prediction in the Farmer’s Almanac, we could have a rough winter.

It is time to start thinking about state testing again. We will actually start a long list of tests in February when our Juniors take the ACT. After that, it will be a consistent stream of testing across the district. Our staff works very hard in putting together a testing schedule that disrupts as little as possible and ensures the best scenario for our students’ success. We ask all of our students to give it their best effort on these exams and establishing a testing schedule that is educationally sound for our students is the first step in that process. Our testing committee actually begins meeting in September to put together our schedule. Thank you to all of those on the testing committee and all the hard work they put into this process.

We would like to thank the Village of Gibsonburg for their donations from the Ugly Sweater Run/Walk held on December 14th. The Village hosts this event annually and with large participation. Participants donate perishable food items or toys for children/families in need. We always have a large selection of gifts that we share with our community. This donation is the true meaning on Christmas, giving to others. Thank you to Marc Glotzbecker and the Village for doing this for our community and most importantly for our children, it is greatly appreciated!

In closing, we will be having our 2019-2020 state of the schools informational night on January 29, 2020. We have done this annually, except during levy campaign years. We will hold this at 6PM on Wednesday, January 29th, at Hilfiker Elementary. We hope you can join us!
Praises to…

⇒ Leslie Gerwin for her donations of books and bookmarks to Hilfiker.
⇒ Everyone who purchases Neon Shirts. Mr. Sworden and the Senior class would like to say Thank You and hope you wear them with pride! The Class of 2020 appreciates your support. Go Bears!!

EXERCISE CLASSES
Gibsonburg Elementary School Jan.-Jun. 2020

**20/20 Savings Program or $3** Free to any Gibsonburg student

MONDAY - Polar Opposites - 6:30-7:00pm
This interval style class gives you exactly what you need to burn calories and strengthen your body. We alternate between HIIT and CRE training exercises to give you two cardio workouts that will surely enhance your fitness level! All fitness levels welcome. Jan 6-June 1

After-Burner - 7:05-7:30pm
The more muscle mass you have, the higher your resting metabolic rate. Thus, the reason for this class. Strength training helps you to continue burning more calories for up to 72 hours after exercise is over through a process known as afterburn. Participants will feel the burn with this whole-body strength training class. All fitness levels welcome. Participants who do not participate in Polar Opposites are encouraged to at least walk for 5-10 minutes in the school before class for their warm-up. Jan 6-June 1 - 20/20 Savings Program or $3

Yoga & Tai Chi for Stress Relief - 7:35-8:00pm
This class is ideal for stress relief, overall relaxation and restoration of body, mind and spirit. Participants will learn to gradually unwind tight joints and tension through the presence of breath and moving through a series of gentle postures. Standing and balancing postures included to enhance overall stability and pose. Jan 6-June 1 - 20/20 Savings Program or $3 Free to any Gibsonburg student

Wednesday - FireLife - 6:30-7:00pm
Every Wednesday participants will receive a fun and inspiring interval workout with or two of these 4 influences: Zumba®, Blast Off, Kickboxing and Mixxed/Fit Dance. Zumba-inspired dances use Latin rhythm as the source of inspiration. Blast Off is an interval class will help you burn those extra calories through the use of a 1lb. bar in combination with dancing! Have fun with various dance styles that combine invigorating body movements and creative toning routines to help burn fat. Kickboxing is flexible enough to get beginners into shape, as well as challenge advanced athletes! MixxedFit has been referred to as a “people-inspired fitness program” that weaves together various dance-inspired elements, all of which are designed to tone, strengthen, and increase endurance. Jan 8-May 27 - 20/20 Savings Program or $3

Chisel My BB&G! - 7:05-7:30pm
Participants will focus intensely on the glutes and core muscles. Strong belly, back and glutes can help improve posture, alleviate lower back, hip and knee pain, enhance athletic performance, reduce bone density loss and even eliminate that stubborn abdominal pooch. What’s more, because muscle burns more calories at rest than fat does, increasing lean muscle mass via B, B & G training can accelerate fat loss and help to keep it off. Come and feel the burn! Jan 8-May 27 - 20/20 Savings Program or $3

Stretch Essentials - 7:35-8:00pm
Shown your body some love. Whether you’re looking to reboot post-workout or just in need of a tune-up, this class will help you power down to power further. Reset properly with guided self-massage as well as mobility and flexibility training for a restored range of motion, enhanced flexibility, and reduced stress. All levels. Jan 8-May 27 Free to any Gibsonburg student - 20/20 Savings Program or $3

Thursday - Thirty-Flat Cardio Challenge - 6:30-7:00pm
You’ll love spending a half an hour doing cardiovascular training! Every second counts with this supercharged steady state-higher intensity interval class. Participants will use a variety of equipment to blaze their way up and down innovative sequences that will crush their personal best! This is a complete cardio challenge for any fitness level because it demands everything you’ve got and incinerates your goals in thirty-flat, regardless of your fitness level. Jan 9-May 28 - 20/20 Savings Program or $3

Chisel It! - 7:05-7:30pm
This class strengthens your entire body! We all need help with toning up our trouble areas and this class will work each one! Each week we will use different equipment to tone your upper body, lower body, and of course your abs. All fitness levels welcome! Jan 9-May 28 - 20/20 Savings Program or $3

Roll & Release - 7:35-8:00pm
Foam Rolling is a highly effective, proven method for releasing muscles to improve flexibility, manage muscle pain, increase muscle recovery, and maximize muscle performance. Experience the benefits of myofascial release during Roll & Release. Your body will thank you. Jan 9-May 28 - 20/20 Savings Program or $3

High School Students of the Month

October - Caleb Holcomb
![Caleb Holcomb](image)
Caleb has a GPA of 4.028 and is ranked 7th in his class. He is a member of the Spanish Club, FFA and the Basketball Team. Caleb is also active in community service. Caleb is the son of Kyle and Jennifer Holcomb. He plans to attend college and major in Mechanical Engineering.

November - Austin Biddle
![Austin Biddle](image)
Austin has a GPA of 4.090 and is ranked 7th in his class. He is a member of both the basketball and baseball teams. Austin is the son of Kim and Brad Biddle. He plans to attend the University of Akron and major in Nutrition and Dietetics.

December - Emma Widmer
![Emma Widmer](image)
Emma has a GPA of 4.201 and is ranked 2nd in her class. She is active in Cheerleading, Key Club, International Thespian Society, Tri-Music Honor Society and the National Honor Society. Emma serves as President of the senior class and FFA. She is also active at Cedar Creek Church, Dolly Madison 4-H Club, and was the 2019 Sandusky County Jr. Fair Queen. Emma is the daughter of Scott and Bethany Widmer. She plans to major in biochemistry and pursue a career as a large animal veterinarian.

Middle School October Students of the Month

6th- Emily Henderson - 7th– Drew Crispin - 8th– Jake Hall

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**
Spring 2020 District Testing Schedule

Hilfiker Elementary

April 1 & 2    GRADES 3 & 4  English Language Arts
April 7       GRADE 5       English Language Arts
April 17      GRADE 5       Science
April 22 & 23 GRADES 3, 4, 5  Math

Gibsonburg Middle School

March 25 & 26 GRADES 6, 7, 8  English Language Arts
April 2       GRADE 8       Science
April 21 & 22 GRADES 6 & 7   Math
April 21 & 22 GRADE 8       8th Grade Math or 8th Grade Algebra I

Gibsonburg High School

EOC Test Administration is approximately 8-9:30 (9:45 for ELA)
(High School will use late arrival (9:30 a.m.) for students not testing.)

February 25  Mandatory ACT at St. Michael’s Parish Hall (Grade 11 only)  8:00-12:00
March 25 & 26 ELA II - Grade 10
(Freshmen will take vocational assessments on these dates)  8:00-9:45
April 2       American History (Grade 9)  8:00-9:30
Biology (Grade 10)
Am. Government (Grade 11/12)**
April 21 & 22 Algebra I or Geometry*  8:00-9:30

* Sophomores enrolled in Algebra II will NOT test and will be permitted to arrive at 9:30.
** Juniors not enrolled in High School American Government will not test on April 2nd, and are permitted to arrive at 9:30.
** Seniors who ARE CURRENTLY ENROLLED in High School American Government ARE ALSO REQUIRED to take the Government test on April 2nd.

Attention Class of 2020

...from Mr. Mark Sworden, Advisor

In January, we will begin submitting baby pictures and senior pictures for use at the graduation ceremony. Please watch your email for details.

Second Grade Music Program

...from Mr. Joe Kaiser, Teacher

On Tuesday, February 25, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., Hilfiker Elementary Second Grade will present “Singin’ in the Rainforest” by Jill and Michael Gallina in the Multipurpose Room at the elementary building.

Come explore all the layers of the rainforest with this swingin’ collection of songs filled to the canopy with facts about many of the wonderful creatures that dwell inside this fascinating habitat!
Dollars and $ense

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.