



ROAR!

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC RESULTS

CFCSD Dates To Remember:

- Sep 4 **Labor Day**
No School, All Schools
- Sep 9 **Zane's Foundation Walk**
Bolich, 8:00am - 12:00pm
- Sep 22 **Teacher PD Day**
No School, All Schools

Need more info? Check out cfalls.org

A Special Section Dedicated to Black Tiger Headlines & Achievements

Early September 2017

CFCSD: Welcome Back!

We'd like to welcome everyone back for the 2017-2018 school year! School officially started August 14 with the return of all staff. Wednesday, August 16 was scheduled as a transition day when our kindergarten students, all students in grades 1-5, all 6th grade students and all 9th grade students returned. On the 17th, the second half of our kindergarten students returned along with all other students in the district. The transition day was a huge success as it helped ease the tension of the first day in those all-important transition years (K, 6, and 9).

As we embark upon the 2017-2018 school year, CFCSD is faced with several decisions. Some decisions will impact us short-term while others will set our course for many years to come. The first critical decision is the question of a 4.95 mill Emergency Levy that would generate \$3.6M each year for five years. The additional funds would be used for necessary capital improvements/repairs, the razing of the Sill building, and would provide additional operating funds. Please stay tuned for more information as we will publish a comprehensive expenditure plan in the near future.

Each summer the administrative team reviews our progress relative to our five-year strategic plan: **CF Vision 20/20**. This summer, the team identified the following goals; we will provide quarterly updates with regard to our progress toward these goals:

CF Vision 20/20 Focus Area #1 – College Career Readiness (CCR)

1. By the end of the 2017-2018 school year, all teachers will participate in differentiated professional development.
2. By the end of the 2017-2018 school year, every student will utilize a web-based environment to create and submit student work.
3. By the end of the 2017-2018 school year, 50% of all staff will become a *Google Certified Level I Educator*.

CF Vision 20/20 Focus Area #2 – Culture of Excellence

1. By the end of the first quarter of the 2017-2018 school year, all buildings and departments will utilize a common calendar which will be hosted on the district website.

2. The 2017-2018 attendance rate of CFCSD students will be 96% as measured by the student average daily attendance rate.
3. During the 2017-2018 school year, all buildings in the district will engage in a proactive systematic approach to improving climate and culture.



CF Vision 20/20 Focus Area #3 – Community Engagement

1. During the 2017-2018 school year, every building will host an engagement event specifically involving community members who have no direct connection to the students in our district.
2. During the 2017-2018 school year, every new family will receive a symbol of **#BlackTigerPride** (t-shirt, yard sign, window decal, etc.)
3. During the 2017-2018 school year, we will engage in two community-wide spirit weeks, one in the fall and one in the spring.

CF Vision 20/20 Focus Area #4 – Resources

1. Over the 2017-2018 school year, we will achieve revenue over expenditures in the general revenue fund.
2. By the end of the 2017-2018 school year, we will increase our working *Chromebook* capacity by 500 units.
3. During the 2017-2018 school year, we will reduce utility cost per square foot by 5%.
4. During the 2017-2018 school year, CFCSD staff attendance rate will be 96%.

We are excited for the new school year and are prepared for the challenges that lie ahead. What we know is that the community of Cuyahoga Falls will come together to take care of our kids, present and future!

Gifted Program Enhanced & Aligned

We would like to clarify any confusion regarding the changes in programming as it relates to our gifted students. First and foremost, we are not eliminating the program; rather, we are attempting to enhance the program and align it with our acceleration program and our college credit plus program.

For example, in the past we pulled students identified as gifted in math and/or reading for 40 minutes once a week for enrichment in grades 3-5; now we are providing professional development

for teachers in grades 4-5 such that daily enrichment and intervention can be provided for these students. This will look different for every classroom and in every building based on the students' needs. We now have Gifted Intervention Specialists in four of the six elementary buildings and are hoping to expand to a gifted intervention specialist in each elementary building.

Students identified as superior cognitive were previously pulled one day per week for services at Lincoln and DeWitt; now we are working with

students weekly within their building thereby increasing instructional time previously lost to travel. To meet these students' social and emotional needs, we will be providing a quarterly enrichment experience for all 4-5 grade students identified as superior cognitive (33 students across the district).

Again, our goal is to enhance and align the gifted program. We have no intention to eliminate the program.

For more information: cf_dudones@cfalls.org

CFHS Teacher Lillian Meyer: Goes to Washington!



Lillian Meyer: CFHS
Social Studies Teacher

Lillian Meyer, an educator at Cuyahoga Falls High School from Warrensville Heights, Ohio was selected as one of only 53 participants of the *2017 National Gallery of Art Teacher Institute on Art of the Renaissance* held in Washington, D.C., in July of 2017. The six-day seminar brought together teachers of art, English, history, math, and related subjects from 22 different states. The program emphasized the social and cultural context of Renaissance art in Italy and Northern European countries between the 14th and 16th centuries. The term Renaissance, meaning “rebirth,”

refers to the humanistic revival of classical culture and learning with its underlying belief in the creative potential of humankind. Participants studied works by leading Renaissance artists as represented in the Gallery’s permanent collection, including the painters Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, and Titian. Participants learned about the development of oil-painting techniques, the role of prints in disseminating new ideas, using works of art as primary resources in classroom instruction, incorporating art into interdisciplinary teaching, and strengthening students’ visual literacy.

Through lectures, gallery talks, and hands-on activities, participants analyzed Renaissance artworks and focused on interdisciplinary teaching strategies. Activities were designed to meet teachers’ personal and professional enrichment needs. A demonstration of Venetian painting techniques and a site visit to a printmaker’s studio at Georgetown University rounded out the Institute’s course of study.

Generous support for the *Teacher Institute* was provided by the *Park Foundation*, the *William Randolph Hearst Foundation*, the *Sara Shallenberger Brown Fund*, the *PaineWebber Endowment*, and the *Annetta J. and Robert M. Coffelt Sr. and Robert M. Coffelt Jr. Endowed Fellowship*.

To learn more about the Teacher Institute, visit www.nga.gov/teacherinstitute.

To learn more about other educational resources of the National Gallery of Art, visit the Gallery’s Web site at www.nga.gov/content/ngaweb/education/learningresources.html.

CFCSD: E.L. Parents Hosted

Prior to the start of the 2017-2018 school year, the CFCSD hosted a parent night for the English Learner (EL) student population of the **Black Tiger** family. Throughout the evening all seven EL teachers were in attendance to work with families to complete forms required for all students each year as well as review any other paperwork pertinent to their student’s education. To assist with the evening, interpreters were in attendance that covered four different languages. School supplies for students and food, including Nepali cuisine from *Everest Restaurant* were provided for attendees.

As of this writing, the CFCSD is now home to 195 EL students at various schools throughout the District.

Free adult ESOL classes for English Language Learners will be available through *Project Learn* at CFHS. The classes will run Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning on September 12. To attend these classes there is a required orientation on Thursday, September 7. For more information on these classes, contact ESOL Coordinator Rebecca Jenkins at 330-434-9461, ext. 9940 or by email at rjenkins@projectlearnsommit.org.

Treasurer’s Message:

As many of you are aware, the Summit County reappraisal is underway for 2017. You can expect a letter from the *Summit County Fiscal Office* in the next few weeks describing the new value associated with your property. Property values are taxed based off their “assessed” value, which is 35% of real value. For example, if you own a \$100,000-dollar home, the taxable value on your home is \$35,000.

There are two types of millage under Ohio’s property tax system: inside millage and outside millage. Inside millage is defined by the Ohio constitution which states property taxes shall be assessed at no more than 1 percent (10 mills) unless approved by the electorate or provided in a city charter. This means that the Ohio constitution requires a taxation of 10 mills without voter approval, also described as “unvoted” millage. Inside millage is distributed between the local government (i.e. city, parks, libraries, schools, etc.)

Outside or voted millage is millage that has been approved by the voters before it could be applied to a tax bill.

Cuyahoga Falls City Schools property taxes in 2016 were levied based on a total of 69.96 mills, including; 64.18 mills of continuing outside millage; 4.9 mills of continuing inside millage; 0.88 mills of bond millage which will expire December 2017; and three separate five-year operating levies totaling 22.62 mills.

The three 5-year operating levies generate nearly \$16,356,630 annually and will end collections without voter re-approval or replacement in the following years;

7.90 mills with last collection of \$5,787,136 in 2020;

9.97 mills with last collection of \$7,303,513 in 2021; and

4.75 mills with last collection of \$3,265,980 in 2022.

Revenue is not directly controlled by school districts, but instead by Federal and State laws, and support from local residents. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) uses the Local Tax Index to compare means-adjusted taxpayer support between school districts in Ohio. This index reflects the extent of effort the residents of a school district make in supporting public elementary and secondary education in relation to the ability to pay. A local tax effort of 1.0 represent the State-wide average of all school districts. Cuyahoga Falls CSD local tax effort was 0.8926 for FY 2015-2016 while the average for the 17 other districts in Summit County, excluding CFCSD, was 0.9157; signifying Cuyahoga Falls receives 2.53 percent less means-adjusted local taxpayer support compared to Summit County and 12.0 percent less than the State-wide average.

For any questions that you may have for CFCSD Treasurer, Justin Klingshirn, he can be reached at cf_klingshirnj@cfalls.org.

CFCSD and Zane’s Foundation: Annual Special Needs Awareness Walk & Fun Day

On September 9, *Zane’s Foundation* and the CFCSD are co-sponsoring the *8th Annual Special Needs Awareness Walk & Fun Day* at Bolich. This year the inaugural *Go the Distance 5K* with Zane’s is also taking place that morning!

Registration for the walk and 5K are open until the day of the event. You can register on-line at: RunSignUp.com/Race/OH/CuyahogaFalls/ZanesFoundation5k.

Volunteers are needed! This event supports the mission for Zane’s to provide resources to children and adults with special needs.

For more information, check out the District’s site at cfalls.org.