



CFCSD Dates To Remember:

Feb 17 *No School - President's Day* All Schools, All Day

Feb 20 *Parent Teacher Conferences* Check Schools' Website for Details

Mar 3 Black Tiger Cub Club CFHS Gym, 5:30am - 7:00pm

Need more info? Check out cfalls.org

A Special Section Dedicated to Black Tiger Headlines & Achievements

Mid-February 2020

New Course Collaboration **Helps Make It Happen!**

As modern day media continues to change, the Cuyahoga Falls and Hudson School Districts are working together to bring modern opportunities to our students.

Beginning in the fall of the 2020-2021 school year, a new, two-year course called *Modern Communication through Media Production* will be offered to students from the six participating districts. This program will prepare students to publish, effectively, relevant and timely information. As they explore career-related and post-secondary fields, they will create and produce broadcasts to share with their peers, schools, and community. Students will examine the foundations of media, film, journalism, and broadcasting by utilizing the latest in interactive technology, social media, and software to gain real-world experience and build a professional portfolio.

This new program will offer students unique experiences in creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, problem solving, leadership, initiative, and adaptability.

While students are taking courses at CFHS, they will focus on the audio aspects of media arts writing and audio broadcasting. While at Hudson, they will be focusing on the aspects of writing for video media as well as video production and broadcasting.

As with all *Compact* programs, the majority of eligible students will be juniors in Level I (although sophomores are allowed to apply). Level II will be implemented in 2021-2022.

According to CFCSD Coordinator of Teaching & Learning, Julie Dudones, "The collaboration began when both districts submitted a proposal to the Compact for a media program, and as discussions continued, we liked the idea of combining what we already have in place for a great experience."

The various professional pathways include:

- · Video directing, planning, and management
- Video production editing
- Live production
- · Video engineering
- On-air and voice-over announcing

Areas of concentration for audio and video are:

- Developing technical understanding of master control and automation
- Understanding recording and editing equipment, with software for creating stories, spotlights, PSA's, Station ID's, donor acknowledgments, and podcasts
- Managing production and deadlines
- · Learning the business and ethics of media and communications

As the program continues to evolve, there are still details regarding college credits that are in the process of being determined.

Bolich Middle School: Media Explorations



Students Lucas Wilbanks, Gavin Hively and Ethan Adams from Bolich's Digital Media Explorations class cover the City Hall Mural reception.

As you read above, a new *Modern Communication* & *Media Production* class will soon be offered to students throughout the *Six District Compact*. Well, some of our students are getting a jump on that class and participating in the *Digital Media* & *Explorations* class at Bolich Middle School. This is a course designed to give students an opportunity to be creative and to experiment with the digital media art form.

This class started two years ago when *CTIS*, Mr. Oris, *Media Specialist*, Mrs. Gedeon, and teacher for this class, Mr. Ortopan, applied for a *GAR Foundation* grant to fund the opportunity and education for establishing a digital creation studio

that also included video equipment. Now in year two, they are striving to create an environment that fosters a student-centered experience that goes beyond instructional technology and incorporates business management. "This year, we strengthened our studio and relationships. With the support of *Audio-Technica*, we have been able to establish a professional podcasting studio!" said Ortopan.

Currently, there are 17 students that have expressed interest and are participating in this class. Some of the projects being worked on include producing podcasts and videos where students utilize graphic design, photography, and video editing.

Most notably, students produce a bi-weekly news show for the Bolich students and staff to enjoy. This show covers upcoming school events and conducts investigative journalism on topics of interest to students. In addition, they also create fun skits such as "Where In The World Is Mr. McIntyre" or "The Ghost Of Harvey Bolich."

One of the projects that the students work on and are very proud of is their podcast called *Tigercast* where students cover a variety of subjects ranging from sports and culture, as well as current issues

in the school or from around the world. They also produce episodes with Superintendent, Dr. Nichols and discuss topics relevant to the District and community. These will be airing this spring and made available to the community.

Students from Mr. Ortopan's class said, "We work very hard to make our class fun and keep the school up to date."



Show Your Black Tiger Pride!

As a part of the CFCSD's goal to embrace all newly enrolled students to the District, *Black Tiger Pride* signs are free and available to kindergarten parents and students who register at the central office. A limited number of these signs are also available at the main office of each of the schools throughout the District.

Collecting Community Art & Memories Through the CF Postcard Project

CFHS Senior Katy Spinner is an art advocate, a Girl Scout, and a local who loves her community.

For her *Girl Scout Gold Award* and Senior Capstone, Spinner is inviting the Cuyahoga Falls community to participate in the *CF Postcard Project* now through April. Spinner explains that the goal of this project is "to inspire us to find our inner-most treasured memory of Downtown Cuyahoga Falls and share it with others." Spinner acknowledges the importance of taking

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time to pause and reflect, put our devices down, appreciate where we live, and be creative.

Spinner's goal is to get as many completed postcards from people from the City of Cuyahoga Falls—or those who love Cuyahoga Falls—to participate as possible. To take part, anyone may pick up a blank postcard from one of the designated locations: Cuyahoga Valley Art Center, Quirk Cultural Center, The Social Dept., Metropolis Popcorn, the CF Library, or Western Reserve Hospital. Participants are being asked to recreate (draw, paint, design, write) their favorite memory or image of Downtown Cuyahoga Falls. Postcards can be returned to one of the above designated locations or mailed to the pre-printed address on the card by March 15. The community is invited to join in viewing and celebrating the finished project on Saturday, April 18 at 1:00pm at a Downtown location to be determined. More details and updates can be found at https://cfspostcardproject.weebly.com/ or on Facebook at "CF Postcard Project."

Spinner's project is supported by teacher and advisor at CFHS, Mrs. Jennifer Schulman, as well as the *Downtown Cuyahoga Falls Partnership*, the *Cuyahoga Valley Art Center*, and *Collide: Cuyahoga Falls*.

CFHS Career Night



Just three of the 68 organizations that participated in this year's Career Night at CFHS.

On Tuesday, February 4, 68 business and community members participated in the annual Career Night at CFHS. According to this year's event coordinator, Mr. Craig Wargowsky, this is eight more than last year's attendance of 60 different organizations.

This event is primarily geared to sophomore students, but the other high school grade-level students are also welcome to attend. An estimated 285 - 310 students took part in talking with and learning more about the businesses and organizations and the potential pathways into certain career fields. Some of the organizations commented that they were impressed by the thoughtfulness of the questions being asked by the students as well as the follow-up conversations that resulted.

This year the participating businesses/organizations ranged from representatives from the Cuyahoga Falls Chamber of Commerce, Western Reserve Hospital, the U.S. Army, accountants, attorneys, insurance agencies, banks, and Realtors to name just a few.

Each year, the goal is to improve the experience for both the students and participating organizations; all the feedback is taken into consideration. The main point of improvement needs seemed to revolve around more communication. According to Wargowsky, in addition to improving the communication, some of the other action steps they will implement will be reaching out to more nonprofits to participate to increase the variety of organizations represented. They are also looking at getting the date set soon for next year's event so businesses have more of an opportunity to plan and get it on their calendars.

Educating Business



Shane Parker presenting at the January luncheon for the Cuyahoga Falls Chamber of Commerce.

As the CFCSD continues its efforts to bring businesses in to help create unique educational opportunities for our students, members of the District are going out into the business community and sharing their knowledge too.

As an example of this, at the January Cuyahoga Falls Chamber of Commerce luncheon, Black Tiger Social Studies/Criminal Justice teacher and head football coach, Mr. Shane Parker, was the guest speaker to approximately 50 business leaders. Parker spoke on the topic E+R=O. (Something we covered in a previous edition of the ROAR.)

When asked if he thought it was important for the schools to get out into the business community, Parker responded, "Absolutely! I think it's vital to have strong working relationships between a school and business community. There are so many things that each can offer one another; it's a much more mutualistic relationship than a lot of people think. Especially in my role, where a lot of those places are, or could be, employing our students/graduates."

Future Black Tigers!

Cuyahoga Falls City School District invites you to participate in an early childhood learning event. Explore PreSchool and Kindergarten readiness and fill your Black Tiger bag with free books, teacher approved take-home games, and school supplies. Get ready for school with us and take the first steps to become a part of the *Black Tiger Family!*

Who: Anyone with a child from birth to age six who wants to learn about getting ready for PreSchool, Kindergarten, and beyond within Cuyahoga Falls/Silver Lake communities.

When: March 3, 2020; 5:30pm - 7:00pm.

Where: Cuyahoga Falls High School Gym: 2300 4th Street, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

