

From the Nurses - Immunization Requirements

The Ohio Department of Health has recently released new immunization requirements for Ohio 7th and 12th graders starting the 2016-2017 school year.

The meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4), currently referred to as Menactra or Menveo is now required for grades 7 and 12 at the start of the school year. Seventh graders must now have both the Tdap and MCV4 vaccines. Twelfth graders must have 2 doses of MCV4 prior to entry, with the guidelines as follows: 2 doses if the first dose was administered prior to their 16th birthday or 1 dose if administered after the 16th birthday to enter their senior year.

No new mandates have been issued for kindergarten entry. Those requirements are as follows: 5-Dtap, 4-Polio, 3-Hepatitis B, 2-MMR and 2-Varicella.

Immunizations are mandated by the State and one of the roles of the school nurse is to oversee that these requirements are met within the schools. If you have concerns or questions please contact your child's school nurse.

Teays Valley High School

Key Club making a difference in the Community

The Key Club has been busy working on various community service projects this school year. According to its mission statement, the Key Club is an international student-led organization which provides its members with opportunities to provide service, build character and develop leadership. It is sponsored by Kiwanis.



One project that they have focused a lot of their time on this school year has been planning various activities for the residents at Louise Terrace. Some of the activities include exercise sessions twice a month, fun nights once a month and various holiday parties sponsored in conjunction with Kiwanis.

According to Key Club advisor Kellie Wolfe, the club decided to form this relationship with Louise Terrace as a way to reach out to seniors in the Teays Valley area.

"I hope the residents see that this generation is generous with their time and talents and that they care. It is clear that they absolutely love the students, love the interaction and appreciate their sense of humor and perspective," she said.

Louise Terrace manager Judith Klein agreed. "The residents really love being around the young people and they look forward to the activities and visits," she said.

Wolfe said the students are gaining a lot from the visits as well.

"The students definitely have a mutual respect and appreciation for where the residents are in life, their wisdom and knowledge, and they have fun together," she said. "I hope they are learning that each person, regardless of age or circumstance, has a unique perspective and that they gain an appreciation for that. I also hope that they learn that investing in other people's lives is makes their lives more full. I think they enjoy it so much because they realize giving back can be both fun and rewarding."

Key Club member Keegan Williams is pictured with some of the residents during the Christmas party.

~If you have questions about "The Talk at Teays" or if you would like to submit information for the next edition, contact Julie DeLisio, Director of Communications, at 740.983.5048 or at jdelisio@tvsd.us.

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The Talk at Teays

Teays Valley welcoming Brooks-Yates School

Teays Valley will have several new faces joining us next school year. The Brooks-Yates School will be moving from its current location on South Pickaway Street in Circleville to Teays Valley. Brooks-Yates is a school operated by the Pickaway County Board of Developmental Disabilities that serves children with special needs.

Many of the students that attended Brooks-Yates over the years are now being served in their home district. Teays Valley currently has only one student that attends Brooks-Yates. Other students that could be served by them are now being served here at Teays Valley. With a declining enrollment, Brooks-Yates asked surrounding schools if a partnership could be developed. Since Teays Valley had resources available, we opened the door for discussion. After a year of planning, this new collaborative relationship has begun and the students from Brooks-Yates will be included with Teays Valley students next school year.

Teays Valley will share space, while Brooks-Yates will share their expertise and resources with our staff and students. Brooks-Yates will bring some staff that they will share with Teays Valley, such as an administrative assistant and nurse. Many of our students will be able to benefit from the services that Brooks-Yates offers.

Teays Valley has been very inclusive of our special needs students for many years. This collaborative effort with Brooks-Yates is just one more avenue in which we can better serve some of our students. It is obvious that Teays Valley and Brooks-Yates share a philosophy that puts the benefit of students as the highest priority.

I am also hopeful that this new partnership will lead to some opportunities for our Teays Valley students to spend time with the Brooks-Yates students. It is a chance for our students to interact with a diverse population, which I hope will not only be positive for our students, but for the Brooks-Yates students as well.

In an effort to make a smooth transition, the Brooks-Yates students have visited our campus to have lunch and visit their new classrooms. The staff has also begun training in their new space in our building. We look forward to this new relationship and what it can do for our kids.

Robin Halley, Superintendent

Continuous Improvement Plan

On February 4, a mid-year review of the district CIP was conducted. The mid-year review forum included board members, building administrators, members of the Teays Valley Teaching and Learning Council, as well as parents representing all seven buildings in our district.

The forum began with an update on the progress of our current CIP. More importantly, committee members participated in two breakout sessions that solicited ideas and input that will be valuable in helping form new goals and objectives to include in the 2016-17 CIP. A follow-up survey was sent to all participants and feedback is being collected that will help the district prioritize ideas generated in the mid-year review.

"A great deal of time and effort went into developing the new CIP for this school year. One of the goals that we set during the process was to review it often to ensure that we are being held accountable to the goals that we set in the CIP. It was wonderful to share it with some of our teachers and parents to get their feedback, as well as to hear their thoughts about goals they would like to see included in next year's CIP. We will consider all of their suggestions as we begin developing our new CIP," curriculum director Beth Keplar said.

Important Dates

February

22 Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

March

21 Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

28 Spring Break Begins—No School March 28-April 1

April

4 Classes Resume

22 Two Hour Early Release Day

25 Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

30 TVHS Prom, 8 p.m.

May

6 No School

13 No School

20 No School

22 HS Commencement @ Viking Stadium, 3 p.m.

23 Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

25 Last Day of School & End of 4th 9 Weeks

26 Teacher Work Day

June

30 Board of Education Meeting, 7:30 a.m.

Board of Education

Karen Karshner, Pres.

Charlie Morrison, V.P.

Kevin Archer

Jimmy Gloyd

William McGowan

Ashville Elementary School

Second Graders Celebrate Dr. Seuss's Birthday with Guest Readers

In honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday and Read Across America Day, the second grade students enjoyed listening to a number of Dr. Seuss books throughout the day read by guest readers superintendent Robin Halley, assistant superintendent Kyle Wolfe, principal Gretchen Weiler and former superintendent Jeff Sheets.

The second grade teachers annually invite guest readers to celebrate this day with their students. According to second grade teacher Erin Wilson, they plan this each year because they believe it is important to celebrate reading.

"We try to show the kids the importance of reading and encourage them to be lifelong readers. Dr. Seuss was a successful author who has helped many kids find a love for reading. His books are timeless and are books parents and children can enjoy together," she said.

Leading up to that day, they taught the students some background information about Dr. Seuss.

"We hope they understand how Dr. Seuss impacted the world with his famous books. The students really enjoyed the guest readers this year. All of them did an excellent job interacting with them and asking for student participation," Wilson said.

"I enjoyed reading to the students and seeing their love of Dr. Seuss books. I am glad that the teachers make a point to celebrate this important author with our students each year. As a classroom teacher, reading to my students was my favorite thing to do, and I still enjoy it every opportunity I get," Weiler said.

Superintendent Robin Halley is pictured reading to the students.



Scioto Elementary School

Students celebrate the Fourth of July in March through Classroom Lesson



Throughout the school year, preschool and kindergarten students participate in several "trade days." These days give teachers the opportunity to present lessons in a creative way. Their most recent trade day focused on the Fourth of July, which allowed teachers to work on the social studies standard that states "Heritage is reflected through the arts, customs, traditions, family celebrations and language."

During trade day, each teacher had a special activity in her room to provide opportunities for students to learn about this American holiday. Students made firework art, ate hot dogs, chips and apple pie, participated in a parade with instruments, played carnival games and learned about American symbols. Some symbols included the American flag, the bald eagle, the White House and Mount Rushmore, just to name a few. The students were then asked to use this

information to write about American symbols and include details about what they learned.

"The students love the different activities and the chance to go to another classroom and to have a different teacher. They enjoy the multi-sensory, hands-on experience this provides. It makes a big impression in many ways," kindergarten teacher Becci Branson said.

"I love watching the students learn through a creative way. I appreciate that the teachers go out of their way to present the lesson in a way that the students enjoy, while learning important lessons at the same time," principal Beth Dill said.

Some of the students are pictured during the parade.

South Bloomfield Elementary School

Active Parenting Class to be held at South Bloomfield

Starting in April, South Bloomfield will host a weekly class for parents of children ages 5-12 known as Active Parenting. This program is fully funded by the Ohio Child Trust Fund in an effort to support positive parenting practices across the state of Ohio. Pickaway County Family and Children First Council is collaborating with Teays Valley to offer this parent program to families at no cost to the district. While it is being held at South Bloomfield, parents from all Teays Valley schools are invited to take part in it.

According to Pickaway County Family and Children First executive director Kim Martin, the Active Parenting curriculum is an interactive video curriculum that encourages parents while challenging them to add new techniques to their skill set.

"It is our hope that parents will learn positive parenting techniques that eliminate family stress and empower parents to enjoy their children while guiding them into responsible young adults," she said.

The program will be held every Tuesday from April 5 through May 10, from 3-5 p.m. Attendance at every class is not required. Registration is encouraged, but not required. To register, contact Jaymi Brumfield at 740.983.5052 or jbrumfield@tvsd.us with your name, your child's name and the school he or she attends. Free childcare will also be provided by TVHS National Honor Society students.

"I think the program will benefit Teays Valley by actively involving our parents in the education of their students. One of the things that makes Teays Valley a great district is the strong home school connection. Part of the program will be 'Seven strategies for school success,'" special education administrator Jaymi Brumfield said.

"I am excited that South Bloomfield will be hosting this program. We are always striving to provide our parents with more tools to help their children be successful at school and at home and the lessons shared through this program will be a valuable resource for them," principal Bruce Bryant said.

Walnut Elementary School

Students learn lessons through Therapy Dogs

Some Walnut students have been learning lessons from a unique teacher. A therapy dog, accompanied by trainer and Teays Valley graduate Audrey Livingston, has been visiting Walnut classrooms.

Intervention specialist Alley Voris has them visit her students monthly. Students must earn their time with the dogs by achieving their monthly behavior goal. This helps to reinforce with them that they are held responsible for their actions.

"My hope is to have my students make a connection with the animals that they may not be able to make with other peers. Interacting with the therapy dogs promotes social interaction and is a stress and anxiety reliever," she said.

The students do various activities with the dogs, such as read books to them, play with them, or simply pet them, depending on their comfort level.

"My students really enjoy having the therapy dogs come out. The look on their faces is priceless and full of excitement. They listen to directions, take turns, and love interaction with the dogs," Voris said.

The kindergarten students have had visits from the dogs as well. The visits gave the students an opportunity to see that not only can they help dogs, but that dogs can help people as well.

"I hope they learned the importance of service dogs and the therapy they can provide for people. I hope they also gained compassion for people with different needs than their own, as well as a respect and appreciation for animals," kindergarten teacher Jenni McNeal said.

Some students are pictured with Livingston and one of her therapy dogs.



TV East Middle School

Students and Staff show off Creative Talents at Annual Art Show



The East students recently got to show off their creative sides during the annual Art Show. Awards were given out for everything from ceramics, to printmaking to colored pencils, just to name a few. According to art teacher Jody Hall, one category that had a very large turnout was the individual entry category.

"This category was for student artwork that is completed outside of the classroom. Students painted, sculpted, did photography and mixed media artworks. I was very impressed with the amount of

students who had the courage to exhibit individual entries that showed their unique interests," she said.

There was also a staff section for East staff to exhibit some art that they make or have made.

"It showed the students that many of their teachers have artistic interests outside of the classroom," Hall said.

The artwork was voted on by people who attended the art show during opening night, as well as some students staff members.

"Although the art show takes a lot of time to assemble, the cohesive body of artwork is always impressive. Students are proud to see their work exhibited and they can build ideas upon seeing their peers' artistic perspective. Many students conquer insecurities and fears about public exhibitions with the art show and realize that their art has value amongst their peers and in the community," Hall said.

The winners are pictured with their pieces of art.

TV West Middle School

Book Madness takes over the West Library

While college basketball teams were taking part in "March Madness," the students and staff at West were participating in their own bracket tournament, which they referred to as "Book Madness." Fiction books were selected based upon the books that have circulated the most since August 2015. Titles were then placed into brackets, similar to brackets that are filled out during the NCAA basketball tournament, to compete against each other. Titles were paired based first upon genre, such as realistic fiction, science fiction, etc., then based upon content within the genre, such as sports fiction, romance, etc.

The students voted on the winners using a Google survey that they could access from West's Destiny homepage. Signage was posted with the dates of each of the five rounds.

Many teachers incorporated it into their classrooms as well. Librarian Jennifer Seebauer shared data and information with them so they could use it to discuss various topics such as probability, ratios and genres.

"The goal of this activity is to have students not only discuss the literature they are reading, but to expose students to titles that they may not be familiar with," Seebauer said.

"Students visiting the library are very excited about Book Madness and many took part in voting," librarian assistant Marty Bethel said.

Bridget McGuire and Sebastian Danna are pictured discussing titles during the first round of the tournament.

