



# dividends

## of Learning in Northridge Schools



### Polar Bear Cafe

Northridge Local Schools is excited to announce a partnership with Children’s Hunger Alliance which will provide weekend and holiday meal packs for qualifying students. Forms were sent home with all students the week before fall break. Sign up remains open throughout the school year.

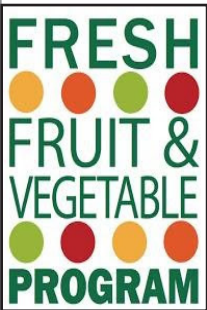
Meal packs include ready-to-eat components and do not require refrigeration, packaged into two breakfast meals, two lunch meals, and two dinner meals. Food items include a variety of kid-friendly options such as juice boxes, crackers, meat sticks, fruit cups, and chips and salsa.



Meal packs will be sent home with registered children at the end of each school week.

“The Snack” is coming back! After taking time off due to COVID-19, the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program returns to Northridge Elementary in December! Fondly known by the polar bears as “The Snack”, this program provides more opportunities for students to try fresh produce. Since 2011, younger students have enjoyed a fresh vegetable or fruit 2-3 times

a week in the classroom. From apples and bananas to bell peppers and jicama, the goal of the program is to encourage kids to try these nutrient rich foods often and develop a taste for them. The program helps achieve the mission of the Polar Bear Cafe to prepare appetizing school meals and promote healthy eating choices to Northridge students and staff. This fuels them to learn today and teaches them to make positive food choices for lifelong wellness.



### Weather Delays/Closings

Inclement weather during the winter months can result in school cancellations because of unsafe travel conditions. The primary considerations in the decision to delay, dismiss, or cancel school are:

- safety of students and staff.
- street conditions.
- current weather and forecasts.
- status of bus fleet.
- condition of buildings and grounds.
- consultation with police, township road department, and other schools.

The delay/closing options for the Northridge Schools are:

- **two-hour delay** - ALL schedules are adjusted two hours. (Breakfast will NOT be served.)
- **closed** - ALL buildings are closed.

The decision to close and/or delay school is usually broadcast by area TV, radio stations, and the district one-call system by 6:30 a.m. **In order to be sure you receive the district one-call, please contact your child’s school to make sure they have your correct phone number on file.**

### Jackson Awarded Community Leader of the Year



Northridge Superintendent **Dave Jackson**, pictured with Washington Township Trustee **John Morris**, was awarded the Montgomery County Township Associations Community Leader of the Year Award. The Association stated that Superintendent Jackson is a shining example of a true leader!

He was nominated by Harrison Township Trustee **Georgeann Godsey** and community member **Tina Fiore**. Photo credit to **Ken**

**Jarosik**, Harrison Township Communications Manager.



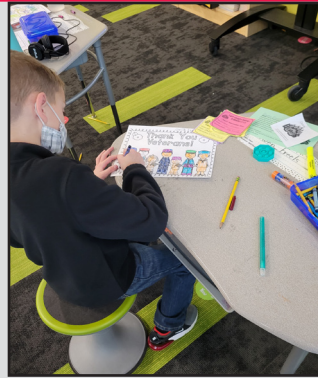
We’re on Facebook!  
**Northridge Local Schools**

# Northridge Community NEWS

## Care Packages for Soldiers



Nicholle Fiore's second grade class spent some of their time during Veteran's Day lessons to help a group of local community members, headed by community member **Teresa Scott**, prepare for the holidays. Teresa is a proud mom of an enlisted soldier. For years, she has adopted 10 soldiers to send care packages to at Christmas time.



This year there was an increased need. Teresa was asked to adopt 20 soldiers, which she did so willingly. The cost for each box shipped was around \$20.00, not including the contents. She reached out to other community members for help with this project. Many were happy to help!

During group discussions, Miss Fiore offered to have her students make the soldiers pictures to thank them for their service. As the discussion continued, one of the group members shared that her husband's unit members always loved it when they received boxes that were decorated. Miss Fiore's class volunteered to do this as well. The class used this time to talk about what a soldier was and what they did. Several of the students had an opportunity to share about the soldiers in their lives and what their experiences have been as a family member of enlisted personnel. It was a great time for the students to learn, share and serve!

## Knitted Hats



Every year, **Sandi Loring** knits hats for the combined second grade classrooms of **Chelsea Smith** and **Trisha Baxter**, aka *the Smaxters*, making sure all students have a hat to wear outside at recess!

Thank you, Sandi Loring!



## Polar Bear Initiative

(Excerpted from the Northridge Optimist Club e-flyer 11/22/2021)

The Northridge Polar Bear Foundation Fund is a fund administered by The Dayton Foundation for providing grants that support educational enhancements for Northridge students (K-12). The Northridge Optimist Club supports this fund with donations, and also in an advisory capacity in the grant selection process. Four grants totalling \$2500 have been awarded for the first of three grant cycles for the 2021-2022 school year. These grants cover educational support for student leadership opportunities, reading and comprehension activities, and career exploration. Over the past 10 years, the fund has provided over \$53,000 in grants supplementing Northridge educational programs.

The club is reaching out to friends of Northridge, Northridge alumni, area businesses, and community members to help support these efforts for the coming school year, and beyond. Donations can be made directly to The Dayton Foundation (Northridge Polar Bear Foundation Fund #3451) from a link on the Polar Bear Donation page on the club website. You may visit that page to learn more about the fund and how you can help.



## FAFSA Event

On Tuesday, October 26th, financial aid advisors from Sinclair Community College helped seniors and their families complete the FAFSA. The FAFSA is used to provide college students with financial aid for their post secondary education.

For those students who were unable to attend, Northridge High School will host another FAFSA event in February. The date and time will be announced soon.





## Student Recognition

On November 15th, the Northridge Board of Education honored outstanding students in grades 4 and 5 who have demonstrated one or more of the Northridge Core Values. These district developed attributes represent characteristics that guide daily interactions, goals, and mission. The Core Values of Northridge Schools focus on:

**H**onest, Consistent, and Appropriate Communication; **E**ducation as Our Calling; **A**lways Improving; **D**istrict is Family; **S**tudent Success; **U**nderstand and Meet Legitimate Needs; and **P**ersonal Responsibility and Behavioral Integrity.

Students are nominated each month by teachers or administrators. Northridge Elementary School students who received recognition at the meeting were: **Maliyah Horrell**, **Robert McComb** (not pictured), **Chelsie Cline**, and **Jayden Ramey** (not pictured).



## Holiday Food Drive

*Kiwanis Club of Northridge*, in collaboration with *Northridge High School Key Club* and the *Northridge Teachers Association*, will continue the tradition of providing Christmas baskets to the families of 75 Northridge students this holiday season.

Christmas baskets include food, gift cards, and wrapped Christmas presents. Families will be contacted by the Kiwanis Club during the week of December 6th in order to schedule a basket pick-up time during the week of December 13th.

Thank you Kiwanis, Key Club, and NTA for your service and generosity as you spread holiday cheer!

## Your #1 Fans

The second grade classes of **Chelsea Smith** and **Trisha Baxter**, aka *the Smaxters*, wrote letters and created posters for the varsity football team to cheer them on in the playoffs. Go Bears!



# EVENTS Calendar

- 9 Board of Education Meeting  
- 5:30 p.m.



## December Sports

### Varsity Boys Basketball

Game time 7:15 p.m. unless noted.

- 3 Miami East\*
- 4 National Trail - 7:30 p.m.
- 10 Riverside
- 11 Bellbrook
- 14 Covington
- 17 Bethel\*
- 21 Troy Christian\*
- 30 Northeastern\*

### Varsity Girls Basketball

Game time 6:00 p.m. unless noted.

- 2 Riverside
- 4 Covington - 1:15 p.m.
- 9 Bethel\*
- 11 Troy Christian\* - 1:30 p.m.
- 14 Bradford
- 16 Milton Union
- 18 Lehman Catholic - 1:00 p.m.
- 23 Northeastern\*

### Wrestling

- 4 Norwood Inv. - 10:00 a.m.
- 8 Tri-Meet\* - 6:00 p.m.
- 11 Tipp City Inv. - 8:00 a.m.
- 27 Gallia Skyline Inv. - 10:00 a.m.

\* Home



## Bringing Computer Science to Life



Northridge Local Schools added Project Lead the Way (PLTW) courses for students in 2021-2022 to increase college and career pathways learning opportunities. At a time when computer science affects how we work and live, the PLTW Computer Science curriculum empowers students in grades 9-12 to become creators instead of merely consumers of the technology all around them. Northridge's PLTW high school instructor, **Joe Miller**, facilitates the interdisciplinary course to engage students in compelling, real-world challenges. As students work together to design solutions, they learn computational thinking – not just code – and become better thinkers and communicators. Students engage in opportunities to gain in-demand

knowledge and skills they will use in high school and for the rest of their lives on any career path they take.

PLTW middle school course, Computer Science for Innovators and Makers, is led by Northridge's **Walt Petroski**. The course allows students to discover computer science concepts and skills by creating personally relevant, tangible, and shareable projects. Students learn about programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development throughout the unit. Students design and develop a physical computing device, interactive art installation, or wearable, and plan and develop code for microcontrollers that bring their physical design to life. Physical computing projects will promote student awareness of interactive systems, including Internet of Things (IoT) devices, and broaden their understanding of abstract computer science concepts through meaningful and authentic applications.

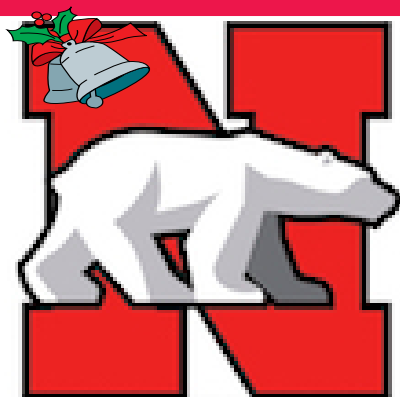


Fifth Grade students participate in the PLTW Robotics and Automation with course instructor **Colleen Biers**.



Students have the opportunity to explore the way robots are used in today's world and their impact on society and the environment. Students learn about various robotic components as they build and test mobile robots that may be controlled remotely and are tasked with designing a mobile robot that can remove hazardous materials from a disaster site. Students are then challenged to design, model, and test a mobile robot that solves this design problem—focusing on elementary science standards, critical thinking, problem-solving, and developing a basic understanding of how robots and automation are a critical part of society.

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