



# dividends of Learning in Northridge Schools



## 2nd Annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner



In a true spirit of togetherness, the Northridge community came together on November 20, 2023, for a Thanksgiving meal that warmed hearts and fostered a sense of unity. The Second Annual Northridge Community Thanksgiving dinner was held in the Northridge Schools Cub Cafe, inviting students, families and community members for a day of gratitude and connection.

The event, organized by dedicated volunteers and community leaders representing Northridge Local Schools, Butler Community Church, and New City Church, aimed to ensure that everyone enjoyed a Thanksgiving meal. From families to individuals, the gathering welcomed everyone with open arms.

The Northridge Cub Cafe was transformed into a hub of joy, shared laughter, stories, and, of course, a delicious Thanksgiving feast. The aroma of roasted turkey, baked ham, mashed potatoes, and pumpkin pie filled the air while volunteers worked tirelessly to serve meals, ensuring that everyone felt not just full, but also valued and appreciated.

*"It's heartening to see our community come together like this,"* remarked **Andrea Townsend**, Director of Human Resources, Special Education and Communications for Northridge. *"In these times, it's important to appreciate the bonds we share and support each other."*

The event received overwhelming support from community members and leaders alike, reflecting a collective commitment to building a strong, connected Northridge. Superintendent **Dave Jackson** expressed his gratitude saying, *"This Thanksgiving gathering exemplifies the true spirit of our community—a place where everyone is welcome, and everyone matters."*

As the evening concluded, the sense of unity lingered in the air, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended. The Northridge Community Thanksgiving meal not only filled stomachs but also hearts, as Northridge Local Schools leaders delivered left over meals to first responders at the Harrison Township Police and Fire, Butler Township Fire, and Troy Fire Department.

As the holiday season kicks off, the Northridge Local Schools proudly works to realize the vision of One Family United with the Northridge community as we empower our students to succeed and our community to thrive by providing exceptional instruction and compassionate support to prepare tomorrow's leaders. The Northridge Schools family wants to give special thanks to everyone who helped make the Second Annual Northridge Community Thanksgiving possible!







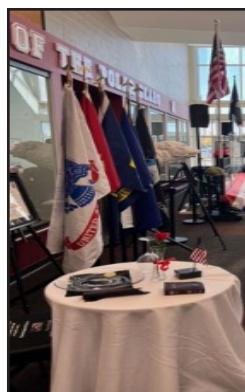
# Northridge Community NEWS

## Remembering Veteran's Day with The Chained Eagles



In remembrance of Veteran's Day, November 10th, the Chained Eagles of Ohio visited Northridge Local Schools and shared their memorial display with students, staff and community members. Throughout the day, classrooms of students visited the exhibit to learn

more about those who have been lost to war and the quest to find them and ensure they return home. The day began with some time for community members and veterans to view the exhibit and remember those who served, while students visited with members of the Chained Eagles for the remainder of the day.



The Chained Eagles of Ohio is a veterans' motorcycle organization that focuses on supporting and honoring American veterans. Their mission includes raising awareness of issues and providing support for American prisoners of war (POW) and those missing in action (MIA). They are committed to ensuring that their memory is kept alive and that efforts continue to be made to bring closure to their families. Northridge is honored to partner with this organization to increase awareness and demonstrate support for our veterans.



## Coats for Kids



*Amad Allen, 5th grader at Northridge Elementary, is pictured with a portion of the donation received.*

Winter weather is approaching quickly, and with the help of amazing community partners, the Northridge clinic staff have been able to give out over 100 winter coats to students this year. A HUGE thank you to Elementary Student Success Administrator **Derrick Thomas**, along with his fraternity, **Richard Costello**, **Deb Neal**, **Ronnie Wilson**, and the *Coats for Kids* organization-including their partnerships with *WDTN*, *Rush Transportation and Logistics*, *Cintas*, *Walmart* and *LCNB*, for their generous coat donations. Northridge is blessed to have the continual support from the community for students.



*"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."*  
~ Coretta Scott King



## Northridge Elementary Receives First Buddy Bench



Thanks to Nurse Shane's cap collection competition, Northridge has collected several hundred pounds of plastic bottle caps! The *Ohio School Safety Center* partnered with *Plastics R Unique, Inc.* to help Northridge turn these caps into a Buddy Bench. Buddy Benches were invented to combat lone-

liness and bullying in schools. These awesome seats, sometimes called a "friendship bench", are provided on school playgrounds as a way for students to signal to others that they are feeling lonely and isolated and need a friend to play with or someone to talk to.

OSSC buddy benches will be rolled out to:

- combat loneliness and social isolation.
- foster opportunities for friendship and connections.
- prevent bullying.
- create a climate of inclusion and solidarity.
- create connections to improve mental health.
- help others and be a positive influence.
- provide inspiration and acceptance.
- be a source for strength and help.
- be supportive.



NES 4th graders were the clear winners in the cap collection competition and were in attendance at the big bench reveal! Members of the *Ohio School Safety Center* helped celebrate this new arrival. We are so proud of these young people and are excited to work together to create a safe way for students to express their emotions at school and specifically on the playground!

If you would like more information about how you can contribute to future Buddy Benches at Northridge, please reach out to **Emily Stewart**.

Students pictured below: **Lucas Gibson, Logan Gibson, Lillith Bryant, Makinna Stansell and Jonathon Florence.**



## EVENTS

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

*Happy Holidays!*



**December 25 -  
January 5**

**Winter Holiday  
Break**

**No School**

## December Sports

### Varsity Boys Basketball

Game time 7:30 p.m. unless noted.

- 2 Middletown\* - 6:15 p.m.
- 8 Miami East\*
- 12 Riverside
- 15 Covington
- 16 Oakwood\* - 7:15 p.m.
- 19 Bethel\*
- 22 Troy Christian\*
- 23 MVNU Classic - 5:00 p.m.  
at Newark
- 29 Dixie Tournament - 4:30 p.m.
- 30 Dixie Tournament - TBD

### Varsity Girls Basketball

Game time 7:30 p.m. unless noted.

- 2 Miami East\* - 1:30 p.m.
- 7 Riverside
- 9 Covington - 12:30 p.m.
- 14 Bethel\*
- 16 Troy Christian\* - 12:30 p.m.
- 28 Dixie Tournament - 3:00 p.m.
- 29 Dixie Tournament - TBD

### Bowling

Home games are held at  
Poelking Lanes on Wilmington Pike.

- 7 Bethel\* - 4:30 p.m.
- 14 Riverside\* - 4:00 p.m.
- 21 Trotwood\* - 4:30 p.m.

### Wrestling

- 9 Xenia - 10:00 a.m.
- 16 Tipp City - 9:00 a.m.
- 30 Gallia - 10:00 a.m.

\* Home

## 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:

- 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. Champions Preschool A.M. Session will be closed. (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 receive the district one-call, please contact your child's school to make sure they have your correct phone number on file.**

## ODEW Changes Graduation Requirements

The State of Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) issued new graduation requirements for high school students beginning with the Class of 2023.

Students need to take End of Course exams, called EOCs. Students are required to score a minimum 684 on the Algebra I and English Language II EOCs to graduate. If students do not pass tests, they are required to retake them once, and can repeat them as many times as necessary. A student who is unable to attain a competency score after two attempts may demonstrate competency by completing foundational and supporting options.

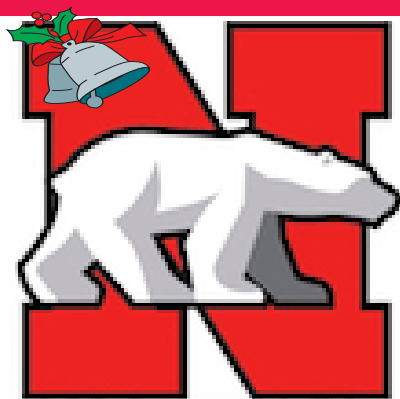
Additionally, the state introduced graduation "seals." Students can earn a variety of seals over different areas of education. Students must earn two seals out of a choice of 12 state and local seals. The requirements for state seals are designated by the state, while the specific requirements for local seals are chosen by the school. Of the two seals necessary, students must get at least one state seal. Some of the seals can be earned through the EOC tests. For example, students can earn the science seal by scoring 700 or higher on the Biology EOC, or earn the citizenship seal by scoring 700 or higher on the American History and American Government EOCs.

Northridge High School will be offering retake opportunities beginning Monday, November 27th and ending December 15th. Students who are retaking an EOC assessment have met with Guidance Counselor **Trisha Engle** and have received a testing schedule specifically made for them.

Please feel free to reach out to **Trisha Engle** or Testing Coordinator **Kimberly Harnett** if you have any questions or concerns regarding EOC retakes. Results for Algebra I, Bio, American History and American Government will be available January 17th and ELA II on February 12th.

We are looking forward to supporting your child as they participate in the Fall EOC retake opportunity.

dividends  
of Learning in Northridge Schools



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