



November 2019, Issue 72

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# Purple Pride

Published to bring school news  
to the residents of  
East Knox Local School District

## East Knox Local School District From the Superintendent

Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

I hope you have been following the many successes our students experienced this fall. The football team galvanized the entire community. As I write this, they currently sit at 12-0 for the first time in school history and play in the regional final this Friday. The volleyball team won their first sectional crown in the District's history. The yearbook staff is nationally recognized for their work. Senior Drew Salyers golfed his way to state runner up and signed with Indiana University. And yet some of the biggest cheers we heard, especially from our students, was the passage of the bond issue on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

It is truly mind boggling to think of the turnaround East Knox experienced in just the last four years. It has been a real team effort to get where we are at this moment in time. Countless East Knox community members have done their part to make it all happen. Our staff works hard at all levels to ensure our students are safe, treated well and receive the education they need to be productive citizens throughout their adult lives. Our students do their part to be prepared and actively engaged in their educational journey. The East Knox School Board and Administration worked hand-in-hand to restore trust in regards to everything East Knox. Despite the importance of each group, it is because of our voters that our children will be educated in safe, clean and friendly facilities with top notch personnel in place for decades to come.

Thanks to you passing new operating money in 2016, East Knox is on firm financial footing. We finished the year with a positive balance of revenues over expenditures for the sixth year in a row. Thanks to you passing the bond issue, our students will have the facilities they need for decades to come as we renovate and build a new Grades 6-12 school building.

Speaking more to the bond issue, these next two years will be a journey that anyone involved will likely never forget. The Board is already in process of hiring the project architect, construction manager, commissioning agent, and owner's representative. We have also posted a request for proposals for the temporary modular classrooms that will be needed. I want to strongly emphasize that the Board and Administration will make every effort throughout the process to ensure that this community receives the best value for each construction dollar spent.

That's the news for now. Thank you for what you have done and continue to do for our children. Their future could not be in better hands than those found in this community. I hope you have a blessed holiday season!

Sincerely,

Steve Larcomb  
Superintendent of Schools

### Elementary (K-6 grades)

23081 Coshocton Road  
Howard OH 43028

Phone: 740-599-7000

Mr. Cody Reese, Principal  
Ms. Corby Frere, Director of Student Services/Asst. Principal, x1008  
Mrs. Donna Buckingham, Secretary, x3002



### Jr./Sr. High School (7-12 grades)

23227 Coshocton Road  
Howard OH 43028

Phone: 740-599-7000

Mr. Alan Keesee, Principal  
Mr. Aaron White, Asst. Principal/A.D.  
Miss Aspen Snow, Secretary, x2002  
Mrs. Fawnda Stahl, Attendance/Athletic Secretary, x2003  
Ms. Stephanie Whitesel, Guidance Counselor, x2008  
Mrs. Alicia Simmons, Guidance Secretary, x2004



### East Knox Board Office

23201 Coshocton Road  
Howard, Ohio 43028

Mr. Steve Larcomb, Superintendent  
Mrs. Jessica Busenburg, CPA, Treasurer  
Mrs. Tracy Beckett, Assist. Treasurer  
Mrs. Kim Grindle, Board Secretary  
740-599-7000 x1002

School District Nurse x1011

Transportation Supervisor  
Ms. Angela Wells, x1016

### East Knox Board Members

Dustin Buckingham-President

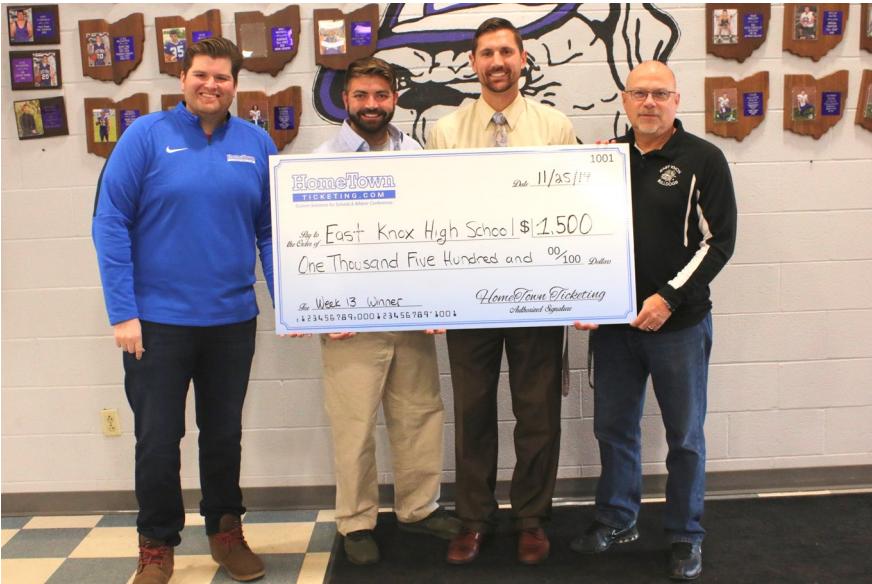
Matt Schwartz -Vice President

Larry Campbell

Kathy Frere

Derrick Steinmetz





Every school in the playoffs receive a portion of pre-game sales sold online on behalf of their school. The company, HomeTown Ticketing, that runs pregame sales for the OHSAA has a contest to award an additional \$1,500 to the school whose fans bought the most pregame tickets. Our fans have been incredible in their support at so many levels including this area. The result is HomeTown Ticketing presented a check to East Knox this morning for \$1,500! Well done Bulldog fans!

*East Knox Local Schools  
Office of the Superintendent*

To All Parents and Students,

I hope you enjoyed our beautiful fall weather as much as I have. Despite our good luck to date, approaching temperatures and the cold reminder in mid-November serve as a reminder that it is indeed time to consider the possibility of school delays and closings due to inclement weather.

As a parent, I know all too well the disruption that occurs at home with delays or cancellations because of bad weather. I try to minimize those disruptions as safety permits. Cancel, delay or have school on time? It's rarely an easy decision. The bottom line is whether or not it is safe for our buses to transport students.

Parents have the ultimate decision whether it is safe for their child to travel to school. This is an especially critical decision with teenage drivers. I urge you to consider all factors (age, experience, weather, etc) when determining whether your child drives to school or rides the bus.

I try to use the phone notification system on mornings when there's fog, snow or ice. However, you may also check our school's website, Facebook page, listen to the radio, or watch Columbus television stations.

I hope each and every one of you has a great holiday season and a Merry Christmas!

*Steve Larcomb, Supt.*



**A sign made by and signed by each elementary student presented to the football team, wishing them good luck.**



## 2019 Jostens' National Yearbook Program of Excellence



Submitted by:  
Chip Pozderac, MEd

Jostens, the leading producer of yearbooks and student-created content, announced that East Knox's yearbook program has been named a **2019 Jostens' National Yearbook Program of Excellence**. Of the 18,000 books published each year, only 200 are chosen for this honor.

The East Knox High School award winning yearbook program is led by **Libby Herschberger, Ashley Mast, Brenna Remy, Chloe Ketron, Addison Crouch, Jaclynn Mahle, Ed Aeppli, Jonah Auck, Sydney Biggs, Eli Carter, Alivia Elliott, Kitara Folk, Shane Knepp, Peyton Lester, Hannah McCoy, Izzy Schlaegel, Carson Steinmetz, Kylie Adkins, Lexi King, Cami Bailey, and Jaclynn Mahle**, under the direction of Chip Pozderac, East Knox yearbook adviser.

"Our goal was to make a book our school would love, that showed some of the great things that happen here. This award is an amazing accomplishment for our staff, after only two years of publication. Our district was forced to cut the program years ago, and fortunately our administration was able to bring it back with the support from our community. My kids worked incredibly hard on this book, I am glad to see their efforts being acknowledged. East Knox students are doing amazing things and it is wonderful for them to be recognized."

### East Knox 2019/2020 Career Center Students





# A Special Day—Veterans' Day



The East Knox Junior/Senior High School observed Veterans' Day on November 11<sup>th</sup> in our gymnasium with another well-received program. Prior to the program, veterans and their families were treated to a very nice breakfast prepared by Crystal Gallwitz and her kitchen staff.

The ensuing program included some wonderful music from our choir and concert band. Veterans received beautiful letters and colored pictures from our Elementary students.

Our guest speaker was Warrant Officer Robert Moledor (retired), father of East Knox teacher Miss Megan Moledor. Sgt. Moledor spoke of his time in the service and correlated his service to the service of each of our veterans present for the ceremony.

Warrant Officer Robert Moledor joined the Army in May 1983 as a military police officer. He became a Special Agent with the US Army's Criminal investigation command in 1985. He left active duty in 1988 and joined the Army Reserve until his retirement in 2004. Sgt. Moledor served on the protection details of every U.S. Secretary of Defense from Casper Weinberger to Donald Rumsfeld as well as numerous Chairman's of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and service secretaries. He served two combat deployments following 9/11. His awards and decorations include a Meritorious Service Medal and a Bronze Star.

All of us thank our veterans and their families for the many sacrifices they made throughout the years in service of this great United States of America!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### December

- 5 Special Board Meeting 6 p.m. BOE Office
- 5 HS and 5th Grade Band Concert 7 p.m. HS Auditorium
- 12 6th and 8th Grade Band Concert 7p.m. HS Auditorium
- 16 K-4 Holiday Concert 6-9 p.m. HS Gym
- 19-
- 31 Winter Break

### January

- 1 New Years Break
- 9 Board of Education meeting 6 p.m. HS Library

### February

- 13 Board of Education meeting 6 p.m. HS Library.
- 13 District wide Parent-Teacher Conferences, evening
- 14-
- 17 No School for Student and Staff
- 18 Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 19 Jr/Sr High Parent-Teacher Conferences

# Elementary Update

Bulldog Family,

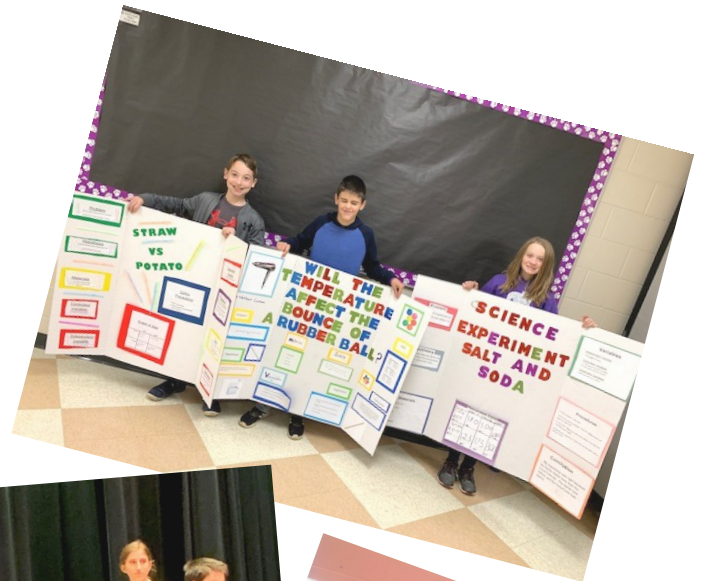
It seems as time sure is flying through this school year as the holidays are already upon us! This year has been a busy, but very good time to be a Bulldog! We started out the school year with our annual fundraiser in which students had brought in the most money this year than they ever have! We truly appreciate your support as these funds go right back to the students for field trips, fun day, and other students activities that take place.

The last week of October saw Grandparents Week come once again in which grandparents were able to visit students in their classrooms, eat breakfast and go to the Book Fair with them. It was a joy for all who were able to participate as it always is. This year we will once again be having a K-4 Christmas Program in the High School Gymnasium on Monday, December 16th, at 6:00. More details about the program will be coming soon.

There is a buzz in the air as we have passed the levy to build a new Junior/Senior School building! As always, we thank you so much for your love and support for our students! Our elementary students will one day reap the benefits of your support this November! May we continue forward together doing the very best we can for the students in our community!

Go Bulldogs!

*Cody Reese, Elementary Principal*



The East Knox Elementary had their Spelling Bee on November 14th in the gym. There were 17 Fifth graders and 18 Sixth graders who participated in the Spelling Bee. The 5th grade winner was **Quentin Wilson** and the runner up was **Peyton Harris**. The 6th grade winner was **Zachary Lowe** and the runner up was **Jasmine Smith**.

The winners will compete in the Knox County Spelling Bee on January 9, 2020 at the Mount Vernon Middle School at 7:00 p.m.

**Quentin Wilson**, 5th grade TAG member, presents his Independent Study research project on Pokémon to his 5th grade homeroom class.

**Ryan Peck**, 5th Grade TAG member, presents his Independent Study research project on color blindness to his TAG group.

**Jaiden Frost, James Thomas, Matthew Carpenter, Shawn Wears, Tristen Reese, Owen Snider, Emma Ridenour, Jordyn Murphy, Kennedy Smith and Jacob Goble** have all read over 2,500 words. Lunch with a Buddy!





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OHIO

East Knox Local School District  
23201 Coshocton Road  
Howard OH 43028  
**EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER**

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

CAR/RT  
HOWARD POSTAL CUSTOMER  
HOWARD, OH 43028

## East Knox Local School District

THE EAST KNOX SCHOOL BOARD WOULD  
LIKE TO THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR  
CONTINUED SUPPORT.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES—**This publication, a report to the residents of the East Knox Local School District, fulfills the requirements of section 3313.94 of the Ohio Revised Code. Suggestions or questions should be directed to the Board of Education Office, 23201 Coshocton Road, Howard, OH 43028.

### The Safe School Helpline

Let us know anonymously when you know of anything that threatens the safety of our school.

1-800-418-6423 ext 359  
Text: 66746, then type TIPS

Web: [www.safeschoolhelpline.com](http://www.safeschoolhelpline.com)

Safe School Helpline Mobile link to our Free Android and Apple Apps:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.safeschoolhelpline.mobile>  
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/safe-school-helpline/id1110429738?mt=8>