



April 2022

## Purple Pride

Check us out at:  
[www.ekschools.org](http://www.ekschools.org) and Facebook

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

# East Knox Local School District

## From the Superintendent

1 April 2022

Greetings!

As is typical of Ohio weather, we have seen the promise of spring only to be reminded that cold weather still has its occasional grip on us. I have yet to see Forsythias in bloom. I am hopeful that we will not see three snows per the old saying. As you may recall, January and early February were fairly brutal in regards to temperatures. Fortunately, I timed lambs to arrive at the Larcomb farm closer to Easter this year rather than the late January/early February timeframe that we usually see their arrivals. I certainly did not miss lambs born on zero degree mornings this year! However, I would take a moment to brag a little that we typically do not lose lambs for any reason due to vigilance and good stewardship.

Speaking of good stewardship, our \$19-million-dollar Junior/Senior High School project is nearing completion ahead of time and under budget. The academic wing is complete. The only major pieces left are replacing the gymnasium floor and bleachers this summer as well as landscaping and paving parking lots.

As you may recall through many conversations through the years, the current Elementary building was originally built as a Grades 5-8 building that opened in time for the 2007-2008 school year due to the generosity of East Knox voters through a bond issue. The design was such that an addition would be added to the west end of the building at a future date when it was possible to do so. The Bladensburg building closed at the end of the 2012-2013 school year for financial reasons. Grades K-6 staff and students have been housed in what is now the Elementary building since that time.

East Knox received federal monies through COVID-19 initiatives since 2020 along with schools across the United States. The bulk of these monies came through three rounds of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER). The District received just over \$3.2 million last summer/early fall in ESSER III funds from the federal government. The Board is able to use \$2.6 million of these funds towards a \$5.4 million project to build additional Elementary educational space without any additional cost to our taxpayers. How is the Board able to do that without asking for more money? Voters approved a continuing Permanent Improvement fund years ago that the Board utilizes for expenses allowed by

### Elementary (K-6 grades)

23081 Coshocton Road  
Howard OH 43028  
Phone: 740-599-7000  
Mrs. Melissa Moreland, Principal  
Mrs. Amanda Wilson, Secretary,  
X3002  
Mrs. Krista Reese, Secretary/Aide X3003

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

23227 Coshocton Road  
Howard OH 43028  
Phone: 740-599-7000  
Mr. Cody Reese, Principal  
Mr. Scott Brickner, Asst. Principal/A.D.  
Mrs. Fawnda Stahl, Building Secretary,  
x2002  
Ms. Mattea Forshey, 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

Mr. Ben Snedeker, Director of Student  
Services/Spec. Ed. Coord., x1008  
Ms. Kathleen Herrmann, Student Services/  
Spec. Ed. Secretary x1088

School District Nurses x2006 or 3006

Transportation Supervisor  
Ms. Angela Wells, x1016

### East Knox Board Members

Derrick Steinmetz-President  
Lindsay Bush-Vice President  
Larry Campbell  
Randy Reese  
Matt Schwartz

*Continued on next page...*



...continued from front page

law including such things as new construction (i.e. a permanent improvement). The Board will use those monies in coordination with the ESSER III monies to ensure our students' needs are met for decades to come.

The Board continues its work with the architect firm Fanning-Howey and Elford Construction in planning the proposed Elementary project that will commence upon final Board approval that may occur as early as their May Board meeting. The project will include eight new classrooms that will greatly alleviate current overcrowded conditions within the building. The new addition should be ready for students and staff at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year if the Board moves forward with the project.

Once again, it continues to be an exciting time for our East Knox community. Our students will continue to thrive thanks to the generosity, foresight and thoughtfulness of this incredible community that makes us all proud to be Bulldogs!

Sincerely,

Steve Larcomb, Supt.



FFA American Degree 2021 Award Recipients



**Kindergarten Registration** for the 2022-23 school year is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 26**, and **Thursday, April 28, 2022**, at the elementary building. If you have a child or know of a child within our district who will be **five years old on or before August 1, 2022**, please notify the elementary school by calling **(740) 599-7000 ext 3002** or sending an email to [awilson@ekschools.org](mailto:awilson@ekschools.org) Registration packets will be sent to parents or guardians. The scheduled time for your child's screening will be mailed to you.

**December  
Student of the Month**

- K: Maxwell Keirns
- 1: Elijah MacIver
- 2: Charlie Cooper
- 3: Kendall Schwartz
- 4: Dixon Weaver
- 5: Kelsey Jensen
- 6: Alexia Wine

**January  
Student of the Month**

- K: Owen Warner  
Silas Butler
- 1: Jobey Hawkins
- 2: Jillian Hawk
- 3: Owen Snider
- 4: Summer Ellis
- 5: Paizley Barner
- 6: William Foote

**February  
Student of the Month**

- K: Garrett Brooks
- 1: Abigail Thomas
- 2: Adalyn Keirns
- 3: Jeslyn Oswalt
- 4: Morgan Graham  
Kaydenlee Henderson
- 5: Isabella Rine
- 6: Bristyn Guthrie

**BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS!**

The elementary will be having a spring book fair during the week of May 2-May 6. This is a great opportunity for your student to obtain new books to read.

May 2-May 6 is Teacher Appreciation Week.

The elementary students had a great time celebrating St. Patrick's Day. Students used various resources and their imagination to build traps to try and catch these silly Leprechauns. The students had a great time showing their creativity with these projects. Students enjoyed the writing activities that went along with the activities as well.

Kindergarten graduation will take place this year on Wednesday, May 25th at 9:30. Seating will begin at 9:00 with the ceremony beginning promptly at 9:30. We are so proud of these students and the accomplishments they have made this school year!

Students worked extremely hard this school year with state testing and did an amazing job with the school fall fundraiser. As a result, students in grades Kindergarten through sixth grade will enjoy a day filled with fun activities and inflatables. Kindergarten through third grade will have their fun day on Thursday, May 19th and grades fourth through sixth grade will have their day of fun on Monday, May 23rd.



On February 12, 2022 at the Mount Vernon Memorial Theater building—**Lucas Colopy** was honored for having the 1st place essay for Knox County 5th graders for the DAR essay contest. Lucas' winning essay was about the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. *Pictured above:* Lucas reciting his essay and posing with Principal Moreland and Teacher Ms. Campbell with his award.

# 3rd Quarter

# Honor Roll and Principals Roll

## Third Grade

### **All A's**

Jordon Adams  
 Zach Besancon  
 Mileyah Brady  
 Savannah Brady  
 Jace Daugherty  
 Ava Hoobler  
 Jillian Kelley  
 Jaxson King  
 Elaina Koontz  
 Karsyn Pauley  
 Jolene Rice  
 Tristen Reese  
 Emma Ridenour  
 Kennedy Smith  
 Owen Snider  
 James Thomas  
 Shawn Wears  
 Audrey Williams  
 Kalivia Wythe

### **A's & B's**

Rylee Black  
 Jackson Boyd  
 Matthew Carpenter  
 Brayden Davis  
 Noah Davies  
 Raylee Dunn  
 Cambria Ellis  
 Jaiden Frost  
 Bryson Good  
 Kaelynn Grennell  
 Brayden Jackson  
 Pyper Kelley  
 Samuel Kinsey  
 Kora Logan  
 Gaige Loudon  
 Kennedy Maidel  
 Jordyn Murphy  
 Jeslyn Oswalt  
 Jameson Perry  
 Ashlynn Saulsberry  
 Hunter Schwartz  
 Emily Schwartz  
 Kendall Schwartz  
 Daniel Smith  
 Kaylana Smith  
 Ajia Warth

## Fourth Grade

### **All A's**

Collin Beltz  
 Marissa Claggett  
 Vincent Frazee  
 Morgan Graham  
 Allison Guinsler  
 Hanley Harrmann  
 Liam Houston  
 Keagan Knepp  
 Lilly Larner  
 Callie May  
 Will McDowell  
 Haley Page

### **A's & B's**

Zachary Adams  
 Lane Baker  
 Kayden Burke  
 Braxton Crouso  
 Brayden Davis  
 Addy Delagrange  
 Ella Doane  
 Summer Ellis  
 Lola Fratangelo  
 McKaylee Garman  
 Teanna Goodman  
 Alexis Horlacher  
 Ava Hughes  
 Greyson Layne  
 Reecie Lowe  
 McKenna May  
 Olivia McNeil  
 Mason Oliver  
 Aubry Phillips  
 Addison Riffle  
 Addison Schillinger  
 Ellie Schonauer  
 Zoey Shelley  
 Adalynn Shepard  
 Caleb Stein  
 Merin Stone  
 Brayden Sturgeon  
 Dixon Weaver  
 Bentley Wellman  
 Kora Willis

## Fifth Grade

### **All A's**

Ellie Clark  
 Kiren Grigsby  
 Reem Ezzarouali  
 Noah Beckley  
 Dylan Keirns  
 Camden Muncie  
 Lucas Colopy  
 James Keith  
 Brent Link  
 Robbie Passwaters  
 Owen Undercoffer

### **A's & B's**

Paizley Barner  
 Seth Sapp  
 Don Crouch  
 Justice Irwin  
 Mason Williams  
 Jaxson Roush-Nichols  
 Colin Russell  
 Delaney Schlaegel  
 Ella Duncan  
 Kelsey Jensen  
 Reagan Beatty  
 Jaxon Graves  
 Carter Hammond  
 Mckenzie Schwartz

## Sixth Grade

### **All A's**

Curtis Divan  
 Alex Guinsler  
 Brooklyn Kahoe  
 Colton Kidwell  
 Rhyan Williams

### **A's & B's**

Avri Bocock  
 Ellie Cly  
 JD Price  
 Mason Savage  
 Kendall Griffith  
 Bristyn Guthrie  
 Peyton Hull  
 Bryce Knepp  
 Nealie Oliver  
 Hailey Osborn  
 Erica Sapp  
 Parker Schwartz  
 Alivia Scoles  
 Tanner Severt  
 Addison Smith  
 Aaron Snider  
 Savannah Trager  
 John Tucker  
 Kylie Willis  
 Alexia Wine



MRS. BUCKINGHAM'S CLASS  
 LAB ON DIFFUSION





## Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Mr. Cody Reese

### ELEMENTARY...continued

#### Perfect Attendance

Austin Anderson  
Paizley Barner  
Makenna Blanton  
Landon Boyd  
Lorenzo Capodicasa  
Henrik Clester  
Ellie Cly  
Dharma Collins  
Braxton Crouso  
Madelyn Dale  
Aria Dunmire  
Marcus Dunn  
Raylee Dunn  
Cambria Ellis  
Bryson Good  
Kaelynn Grennell  
Bristyn Guthrie  
Carter Hammond  
Kohan Hempfield  
Adeline Heston  
Jagger Hite  
Nichole Holcomb  
Mason Holt  
Ava Hughes  
Ellouise Kidd  
Marcus Link  
Gannon Liptak  
Grace McDonald  
Marley Moore  
Rylei Moran  
Elliot Morgan  
Olivia Murphy  
Elijah Osborn  
Waylon Ott  
Aubry Phillips  
Nina Athena Rabanes  
Tristen Reese  
Collin Rhinebolt  
Emma Ridenour  
Logan Schmidt  
Lincoln Smith  
Bentley Studer  
John Tucker  
Dixon Weaver  
Bryar Wilson

#### Band

The band will be traveling to Orlando, Florida over Spring Break. We will be marching in a parade on Monday. The band participated in concerts on Thursday, March 24th and on Thursday May 5th with the art show.

#### FCCLA

FCCLA members completed their FACTS (Families Acting For Community Traffic Safety) project. They sent out a survey for students and staff to take about wearing a seatbelt whether they were the driver or passenger. They also made a PSA about properly fastening a seatbelt when you get in your car and they were posted on the FCCLA Facebook page (East Knox FCS) and also their Instagram page (East Knox FCCLA/FCS).

Students also conducted a seat belt check with several area people including the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Danville Police Department, Knox County Sheriff's, Eastern Knox County Joint Fire District, and Law Enforcement Liaison with Ohio Traffic Safety Office. The students then took their information they gathered from the seat belt check and made a chart of the data.

FCCLA members-**Chloe Baker, Elizabeth Aeppli, and Brenna Remy** made it to State competition that will take place in April.



# Principal's Roll (All A's)

## 7th Grade

Isabelle Bostic  
Savannah Crawford  
Miranda Fawcett  
Madison Huffman  
Olivia Huffman  
Jayden Kirk  
Wyatt McDowell  
Madelyn Mezie  
Ava Page  
Ryan Peck  
Caden Ridenour  
Angel Smith  
Malena Streby  
Cloe Tucker  
Imogen Winkler  
Hayden Wright

## 8th Grade

Lily Bentz  
Jacob Blakely  
Addyson Bocock  
Bella Brady  
Zoey Huffman  
Samuel King  
Brooklyn Morand  
Carver Stephens

## 9th Grade

Aubrey Breckler  
Zandria Carson  
Parker Kimball  
Sydney Opfer  
Gabriel Rine  
Reese Todd  
Reagan Tokasz  
Logan Whitney

## 10th Grade

Aidric Bocock  
Baylee Comer  
Hiba Ezzarouali  
Jordan Hull  
Joshua Keith  
Bryce Phillips  
Ethan Rine  
Ella Vannatter

## 11th Grade

Hailey Baker  
Riley Cree  
Hailey Frazee  
Ethan Phillis  
Lily Rine  
Dustin Springer  
Mitchell Williams

## 12th Grade

Lucas Barnard  
Taylor Breighner  
Trenton Comer  
Jesse Fawcett  
Abigail Griffey  
Nataley Hull  
Shane Knepp  
Alexandria Magers  
Taylor Mann  
Leah McAvoyn  
Anjel Montgomery  
Kiley Sayers  
Caiden Slone  
Jonathan Smith

# 2nd Quarter



# Honor Roll (A's & B's)

## 7th Grade

Michael Brady  
Dakota Cooper  
Robert Downes  
Jared Elswick  
Reese Ferenbaugh  
Quinten French  
Nathan Gardner  
Kayden Gordon  
Peyton Harris  
Eleanor Hayes  
Shaymus Lashley  
Serenity Lemley  
Kali Marshall  
Lily May  
Steven McElroy  
Jazmaine Murphy  
Alaina Nastasi  
Alexis Neighbarger  
Zachary Rhinebolt  
Quentin Rose  
Hunter Schrienk  
Ashlyn SESCO  
Grace Shank  
Aiden Stapleton  
Rylan Winkler

## 8th Grade

Anthony Baxter  
Macy Cotsamire  
Jaxon Crawford  
Landen Davis  
Logan Fawcett  
Macie Fawcett  
Wyatt Frost  
Kellen Grigsby  
Carson Hammond  
Ethan Kapper  
Beau Keller  
Gavin Kidwell  
Kyla Kidwell  
Gabrielle Lause  
Jaxon Lester  
Emma Metcalf  
Miles Mitchell  
Zoey Parker  
Charlie Pratt

## 8th Grade (cont.)

Peyton Riel  
Aidan Riggle  
Brayden Savage  
Jasmine Smith  
Gracie Wengerd

## 9th Grade

Elizabeth Aeppli  
Ella Divan  
Nicholas Ely  
Peyton Finch  
Shane Gardner  
Alexzander Higgins  
Jala Hogan  
Aidan Holabaugh  
Bryer Korosec  
Sarah Landis  
Hayden Merritt  
Kadence Mickley  
Ashton Priest  
Elise Robertson  
Dylan Springer  
Molly Totten

## 10th Grade

Jayden Annett  
Lauren Campos  
Bracen Davis  
Devin Garrett  
Jackson Garton Bryar  
Householder  
William Jensen  
William Kirk  
Lane Lashley  
Seth Madden  
Dacia Robinson  
Taylor Severt  
Caleb Smith  
James Smith  
Caden Wengerd  
Lillian Wires  
Jesse Wolford



# Honor Roll (A's & B's) Continued

## 11th Grade

Edward Aeppli  
Alivia Elliott  
Devondra Heistand  
Joshua Henwood  
Lucas Hornsby  
Kameron Lause  
Arianna Mayle  
Natasha Rine  
Landon Spearman  
Carson Steinmetz  
Savannah Thomas



## 12th Grade

Chloe Baker  
Autumn Brust  
Haley Cochran  
Mann Gualnam  
Dominik Kimball  
Breece Looney  
Brenna Remy  
Autumn Seldon  
Paige Stover



## Girls Basketball

The Girls basketball program improved greatly throughout the course of the season finishing 10-11 overall (5-6 in the KMAC), with the team winning a Sectional title at home vs. Delaware Christian by the score of 59-23. The Bulldogs fell to Berne Union in the District Semifinal game, but the progress this season was evident and our players were rewarded with many post-season honors:

**Alexandria Magers**---1<sup>st</sup> Team All-KMAC, District 11 1<sup>st</sup> Team, Central District 3<sup>rd</sup> Team

**Laura Keith**---2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-KMAC, KMAC All Academic, District 11 2<sup>nd</sup> Team, Central District 2<sup>nd</sup> Team, Honorable Mention All-Ohio

**Anjel Montgomery**---KMAC Honorable Mention

**Shanda Melick**---District 11 Honorable Mention, Central District Honorable Mention

## Wrestling

Our lone wrestler **Blake Elliott** had an outstanding freshman season, finishing the season at the 190 weight class at 30-10. Blake won the KMAC Championship at the 190 weight class, then won a Sectional Title, and then finishing as District Runner-Up at his weight class, which meant a trip to the State Championship! Although Blake was unable to make the podium at State, it was a remarkable run in his first year of varsity competition. As a result, Blake earned:

**Blake Elliott**---KMAC Champion, KMAC 1<sup>st</sup> Team, Sectional Champion, District Runner-Up, State Qualifier

## Swimming

Our lone swimmer, **Hiba Ezzarouali** swam her season in cooperation with the Mount Vernon team and consistently improved her times throughout the season. This culminated in Hiba swimming in the 50 Free and 100 Free at the OHSAA Sectional Meet at Columbus School for Girls on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Hiba set personal records (PR's) in BOTH events, but was unable to advance to the District round. She will be swimming again next year, and looking to continually improve her times so she can advance in the playoffs next year!

## Bowling

The Bowling team had a remarkable season, with numbers for both the girls and boys programs higher than ever before, allowing for both teams to have both Varsity and JV teams. The girls team improved as the season progressed, but had a 2-12 record for the season, however, most of the girls team returns next year, so the future looks bright. The boys team had an excellent season, finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the KMAC and finished 10-4 on their season. In addition, the boys team WON the KMAC Tournament at the end of the year, the first time East Knox has done that! The success carried over into the playoffs, as the boys team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Sectionals to advance as a team to the District Championship. In addition, on the girls squad, Senior **Paige Stover** and Freshman **Chloe Stevens** advanced to the District competition. Both groups were unable to advance to the State Championship, but nothing can take away from an outstanding season for our bowlers, which also resulted in **Head Coach Chip Pozderac** being named the KMAC Boys Bowling Coach of the Year! Awards were:

**Chloe Stevens**---KMAC 2<sup>nd</sup> Team

**Olivia Nastasi**---KMAC Honorable Mention

**Will Jensen**---KMAC 1<sup>st</sup> Team

**Dylan Reed**---KMAC 1<sup>st</sup> Team

**Lucas Barnard**---KMAC All-Academic

**Chip Pozderac**---KMAC Boys Bowling Coach of the Year

**Will Jensen, Dylan Reed, Jordan Hull, Aiden Keirns, Lucas Barnard, Lane Lashley, Colin Baxter,**

**Wyatt Ary**---KMAC Winning Boys Tournament Team



Winter Sports Continued...

## Boys Basketball

The boys basketball team had an amazing run this season, with a 16-6 regular season record (8-4 KMAC) and a 2<sup>nd</sup> place standing in the conference. This is the most wins in a season EVER for an East Knox Boys Basketball team, and during the run Head Coach Ryan Powell also became the winningest coach in East Knox Boys Basketball history. The playoffs are where our Bulldogs really shined, starting off with a Sectional Title at home over Patriot Prep (44-28), followed by a District Semifinal win over Berne Union (49-39), followed by a District Championship beating Grove City Christian (51-36). This was the FIRST ever District Championship for East Knox Boys Basketball! The Bulldogs played in the Regional Semifinal at Kettering Fairmont HS vs. New Madison Tri-Village HS who ended their postseason run, but nothing can take away from the incredible season the boys basketball team had. As a result, the team received many honors:

**Shane Knepp**---KMAC 1<sup>st</sup> Team, 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-District 11, District 11 Player of the Year, 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Central District, Central District Player of the Year, selected to play in the North-South All-Star game.

**Dillon Moreland**---KMAC Honorable Mention, All-District 11 2<sup>nd</sup> Team, Central District Honorable Mention

**Peyton Lester**---All-District 11 2<sup>nd</sup> Team, Central District 3<sup>rd</sup> Team

**Samuel Whitney**---KMAC All-Academic, All-District 11 Honorable Mention

**Ryan Powell**---All-District 11 Head Coach of the Year

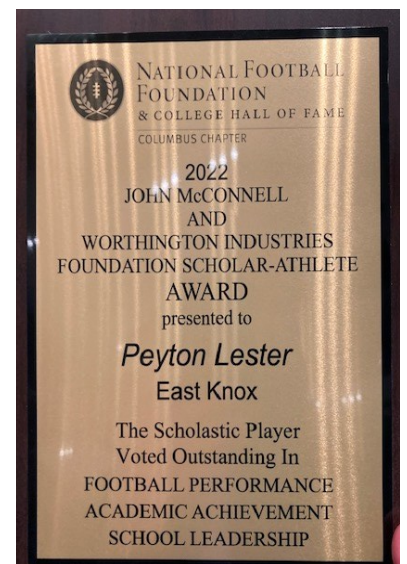
## Junior High Basketball

The Junior High teams competed hard throughout the season, and saw some very positive results. 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys finished 8-7 overall, 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys finished 9-6 overall, 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls finished 1<sup>st</sup> in the KMAC with an 11-5 overall record, while our 7<sup>th</sup> grade team which was low on numbers went 0-10 on a limited schedule. In the postseason, it was the 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the KMAC tournament, while the boys 8<sup>th</sup> grade team took home the gold, winning the KMAC tourney by beating Northmor in the Championship game at Mount Gilead HS.

Great job by all of our Junior High Sports teams!



Congratulations to **Peyton Lester** who was celebrated by the National Football Foundation Central Ohio Chapter with a Scholar-Athlete Award for this past football season. The award is given to a small number of athletes in Central Ohio who best represent the values of academic achievement, school leadership and football performance. Former Ohio State Buckeye and NFL Running back Keith Byars presented Peyton with his award. Congratulations Peyton, we are proud of you!



## FEDERAL FUNDING FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE



### ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND (ESSER)

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) federal grant funding is intended to help states and school districts safely reopen schools, measure and effectively address significant learning loss, and take other actions to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the students and families who depend on K-12 schools.

ESSER	\$246,939
General Instruction	\$104,937
Remote Learning	\$86,931
Medical Supplies	\$6,802
Sanitizing/Preventative Supplies	\$14,096
Instructional Technology	\$34,173
<b>Total Spent</b>	<b>\$246,939</b>

ESSER II	\$1,449,172
General Instruction	\$31,960
Remote Learning	\$42,091
Summer School	\$6,666
Furniture for Distancing	\$989
Instructional Technology	\$3,060
Athletic Revenue Loss	\$21,369
<b>Total Spent</b>	<b>\$106,135</b>

**\$246,939**  
AMOUNT AWARDED

**\$246,939**  
AMOUNT SPENT

**\$1,449,172**  
AMOUNT AWARDED

**\$106,135**  
AMOUNT SPENT

### CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND (CRF)

Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) federal grant funding is intended to finance expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19.

**\$59,938** AMOUNT AWARDED

**\$57,688**  
AMOUNT SPENT

CRF	\$59,938
Remote Learning	\$1,233
Medical Supplies	\$9,826
Sanitizing/Preventative Supplies	\$1,860
Instructional Technology	\$28,773
Sanitizing Equipment	\$15,996
<b>Total Spent</b>	<b>\$57,688</b>



- ◆ What federal grant has the district been awarded during COVID?

Answer:

- ◇ There are specific, restricted spending requirements for each grant.
  - ◇ \$246,939 in ESSER I
  - ◇ \$1,449,172 in ESSER II
  - ◇ \$3,277,062.98 In ESSER III/ARP
  - ◇ \$59, 938 in Coronavirus Relief Funds.

- ◆ How did the district use the ESSER I funds?

Answer:

- ◇ Paid for the salary and benefits for three classroom teachers during the period of loss of state funding
- ◇ Paid personnel to coordinate remote learning students during the 20-21 school year, purchased online programming for remote learning, and technology devices for remote learning
- ◇ Purchased medical and cleaning supplies due to COVID

- ◆ How did or will the district use the ESSER II funds?

Answer:

- ◇ Continued to pay for the salary and benefits of four classroom teachers for the 21-22 and 22-23 school years. The district hired
- ◇ Hired two reading specialists at the elementary to provide reading interventions and a tutor at the JR/SR High to provide intervention.
- ◇ Providing summer school and after school tutoring for the 21-22 and 22-23 at both buildings
- ◇ Offset athletic fund revenue loss for 20-21 due to reduced capacity for events
- ◇ Purchased technology devices and display boards for instruction
- ◇ Purchased online programming for remote students or students who need credit recovery

- ◆ How will the district use the ESSER III/ARP funds?

Answer:

- ◇ 20% of the funding will be used for learning loss coordinators and supplemental tutoring. Note: 20% of funds are mandated to be used on learning loss.
- ◇ 80% of the funding will be used to partially fund the elementary addition.

- ◆ How is the district paying for the K-6 building addition?

Answer:

- ◇ \$2,616,000 in ESSER III/ARP funding that the Ohio Department of Education has approved
- ◇ \$2,800,000 in a tax anticipation note from the permanent improvement fund levy. Note: The permanent improvement fund is a continuing levy last passed in 2008 that can only be used to repair and improve buildings, vehicles, grounds, furnishings, and equipment or purchase additional vehicles, furnishing, and equipment.
- ◇ Over \$700,000 in excess funds from the JR/SR 7-12 construction project

- ◆ Is the JR/SR 7-12 construction project under budget then?

Answer:

- ◇ Yes, the project has consistently seen bids/costs come in lower than anticipated for a savings to the district. It is important to note that the project was budgeted out pre-COVID and bid out during the height of COVID. Fortunately, as labor and supply costs have gone up recently, the majority of the pricing was already locked in.

- ◆ Will any of this cost me more in property taxes?

Answer:

- ◇ No, this will not raise school property taxes.

# Purple Pride

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

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

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

CAR/RT

HOWARD POSTAL CUSTOMER

East Knox Local School District

“I cannot live without books.”

~~Thomas Jefferson~~

**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)