

LIBERTY UNION - THURSTON

LOCAL SCHOOLS

621 WASHINGTON ST
BALTIMORE, OH 43105

LION
REPORT

www.libertyunion.org

Ohio Department of Education: www.ode.state.oh.us/

To view the "Lion Report" in color, refer to www.libertyunion.org.
Under recent updates, click on "District Lion Report."

March, 2009



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THE MISSION OF THE
LIBERTY UNION - THURSTON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
IS TO PROVIDE OUR STUDENTS WITH THE TOOLS
FOR LEARNING AND THE SKILLS FOR LIVING,
THROUGH QUALITY EDUCATION.

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Message from the Superintendent:

The Village of Baltimore, in partnership with the Liberty Union-Thurston School District, has received a grant for the purpose of participating in a program called "Safe Routes To School". The grant is funded by the Federal Highway Administration, and administered by the Ohio Department of Transportation. This program supports projects and programs that enable and encourage "active transportation" like walking and bicycling to and from school. One of the important components of the program is to create a "School Travel Plan". This is a written document which outlines community intention for enabling students to travel to and from school by means other than a motorized vehicle. The program targets students in kindergarten through eighth-grade, which fits very well with plans to build our new middle school in close proximity to the elementary school. The school travel plan is intended to create:

- Greater community awareness and involvement in travel issues
- A prioritize set of needs and targeted resources
- A way to secure funds for projects and programs
- Close working relationships between the school, families, local officials, transportation professionals, police, health advocates and the community at large

In order to create a vision for the future through the "School Travel Plan", public input is needed. In addition to information such as demographics and the current travel situation, public input regarding any "barriers" that exist for walking and bicycle travel will be important to document. All students in grades kindergarten through eighth-grade have been given parent survey forms requesting such information. (The survey is also on the district website.) Input from other community members is also sought. I invite you to participate in a face-to-face discussion on this topic, which will be held as part of our District Wellness Committee meeting on March 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the high school library. I also invite community members to contact me this month by Email or telephone with comments or suggestions. With this information, we will work with the Village of Baltimore in an attempt to eliminate obstacles to walking and bicycling, and seek ways to provide for safe walkways and bike paths leading to the schools, for the benefit of everyone in the community.

Again this month, I invite you to have the *Lion Report* e-mailed directly to your computer. Simply forward your e-mail address to district secretary, Alice Bondurant: bonduranta@libertyunion.org

7:00 p.m. in the High School Library
Strategic Planning Committee Meetings
Tuesday, May 21st

Paul Mathews

SEUSSICAL THE MUSICAL TICKET SALES

Tickets may be purchased on
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00 - 7:00 pm
and on Saturdays from 9:00 - 11:00 am through March 26th.
Tickets will be available outside the auditorium entrance.
Cost is \$10 for reserved floor seating and
\$7 for general admission and balcony seating.



TEACHER OF THE MONTH
TEACHER OF THE MONTH RECOGNITION



The "Teacher of the Month" for February is **Mrs. Mona Linardi**, who is an Intervention Specialist at LUHS. She was selected by her peers to receive this award. Our thanks to the Mark Matthews Insurance Agency, for sponsorship of this award program during the 2008/2009 school year!

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH RECOGNITION
 The Liberty Union High School "Students of the Month" for February are **Aaron Burnside** and **Cody George**.



Aaron Burnside is a sophomore student at Liberty Union High School, and has established a 4.0 grade-point average. **Aaron** is a member of the Student Council, and is on the Knowledge Bowl Team, Cross Country Team, Track Team, as well as the Marching, Concert, Pep and Jazz Bands.



Cody George is a junior student at Liberty Union High School. He has a 3.1 grade-point average, and has earned recognition for perfect attendance. **Cody's** extra-curricular activities include participation in the Model United Nations program, as well as the track team.

Aaron and **Cody** will be recognized at the March 9th Board of Education meeting, at 7:00 p.m. in the high school library.

MILITARY RECOGNITION

Do you have a family member or friend who is a LUHS graduate or lives in the Baltimore community and has served or is currently serving our country through military service? Bring, mail or e-mail a picture and pertinent information to the District Office. With your help, our alumni will receive some well-deserved recognition!

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE SIGN LANGUAGE

Spectators at varsity home basketball games are used to hearing the pep band perform the National Anthem, or perhaps a pre-recorded version. However, at the home girls' basketball game vs. Millersport, on February 3rd, first-grade students of **Miss Linscott**, and third-grade students of **Mrs. Savage** sang the National Anthem, and showed the crowd the sign-language version at the same time. Thanks, students, for showing everyone what you have learned. The "signing" was very impressive!

MILITARY SPOTLIGHT

The featured military service person for the month of March is



Dave L. Keller. **Dave** is a 1968 graduate of Liberty Union High School. He enlisted in the United States Air Force, and served his country from 1969 to 1973. **Dave** was assigned to basic training in San Antonio, Texas, and then completed additional training at the Sheppard Air

Force Base Technology School, becoming proficient as a telephone switching equipment repairman. **Dave** graduated with honors after completing advanced training at Spangdahlem Air Force Base in Germany, learning to work on Autovon interface equipment. **Dave** was sent to Vietnam in November, 1969, and after six weeks, was transferred to Korea, where he continued telephone maintenance work for a year. He was then assigned to a communications squadron in Germany for two years, and also spent three weeks in Turkey. **Dave** was discharged as Staff Sergeant in January, 1973. Upon returning to the Baltimore area, **Dave** was married to Anne. **Dave** and Anne have two daughters, Brooke and Jacquie, who are also graduates of Liberty Union High School. **Dave** is an active member of VFW Post 3761, and has served as an officer for Post 3761 as well as at the District VFW level. We thank **Dave** for his service to America, through his enlistment in the United States Air Force, as a graduate of Liberty Union High School!

2009-2010 SCHOOL CALENDAR	
Aug 12	Freshman Orientation
Aug 14	NEW Teacher Work Day
Aug 17	Middle School Open House
Aug 17 & 18	Teacher Work Days
Aug 18	Elementary School Open House
Aug 19	First Student Day
Sept 7	Labor Day - NO SCHOOL
Oct 12-16	Fairfield County Fair - NO SCHOOL
Nov 25-27	Thanksgiving Break - NO SCHOOL
Dec 21-Jan 2	Winter Break - NO SCHOOL
Jan 4	School Resumes
Jan 18	MLK Day - NO SCHOOL
Feb 15	Presidents Day - NO SCHOOL
April 2-5	Spring Break - NO SCHOOL
May 28	Student Last Day
May 30	Graduation
May 31	Memorial Day
June 1	Teacher Work Day

Note: If an energy, weather, or other crisis occurs, make-up days will be added to the calendar as an adjustment for school closings according to the following priority:
April 5; after that, days will be added to the end of the school year.

SPELLING COMPETITIONS

Fourth-grade students recently competed in a spelling competition to determine who would be representative for the annual Fairfield County Scripps Howard Spelling Bee.



Congratulations to **Taylor Azbell**, who will advance to the county-level competition on Saturday, March 7th at the Ohio University-Lancaster auditorium. **Kenley French** is



the fourth-grade alternate.

At the middle school spelling competition, sixth-grade student, **Mariah Maldovan**, outlasted all other



spellers to win the school championship. She will represent the middle school at the Fairfield County competition, as will grade-level winners **Allen Pilkington** (grade



five), **Tristan Mooney**



(grade seven), and **Dietra Azbell**, (grade eight).



2009 / 2010 KINDERGARTEN PARENT MEETING

In order to help parents of in-coming kindergarten students prepare for the 2009/2010 school year, a kindergarten parent meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 5th at 6:30 p.m.** in the elementary school multi-purpose room. Students must be five years of age by **August 1, 2009**, in order to attend kindergarten this fall.

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

The Ohio Model United Nations program reinforces good leadership skills, critical thinking, problem solving, public speaking and collaboration. The Ohio High School Model UN competition, held in Columbus on Jan. 23-25, was impressive from start to finish. Over 1200 students representing 189 countries shared their resolutions, creating solutions to real world problems in this mock United Nations program.

The two teams from Liberty Union High School attended the OMUN competition did an excellent job presenting their resolutions in their council sessions. The country of Slovenia was represented by **Helen Cothrel, Max Cothrel, Jimmy Clark, Skyler Young, and Nolan Bales.**



The country of Bolivia was represented by **Tiffany Lawless, Rayn Hankinson, Nick Ford and Cody George.**



Both teams demonstrated excellent public speaking skills as they presented their resolutions and gave concluding speeches. The Bolivia team received the honor of being the first team ever from Liberty Union High School, in the eight years they have attended, to move onto the next level of competition when they were chosen to present their resolution to the General Assembly. Only 17% of the resolutions presented in council sessions were chosen for this honor. When the competition concluded, the Bolivia team won the Outstanding Resolution Award and **Nick Ford** received the Outstanding Delegate Award! **Great job! !**



2009-2010 KINDERGARTEN PARENT MEETING Continued

Kindergarten teachers will provide important information regarding kindergarten readiness, the kindergarten curriculum and the full-day schedule. Our school nurse will have information regarding immunizations needed before the start of the school year.

Please help us pass the word to all parents of incoming kindergarten students about this important meeting.

March, 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 7:00 HS Band & Choir Concert	4 7:30 Athletic Boosters	5 Science Fair <i>State Wrestling @ OSU</i> 6:30 2009-2010 Kgn Parent Mtg 7:00 Elementary Boosters	6 Science Fair <i>State Wrestling @ OSU</i>	7 <i>State Wrestling @ OSU</i> 8:00am Bench Press Competition 5:00 BINGO
8	9 7:00 Board of Education	10 7:30 Music Boosters	11	12 6:30 FFA Banquet 6:30 4 th Gr Recorder Concert	13	14
15	16 Ohio Grad Test	17 Ohio Grad Test 7:00 District Wellness Mtg	18 Ohio Grad Test	19 Ohio Grad Test 7:00 Market Day Pick-Up	20 Ohio Grad Test	21 5:00 BINGO
22	23 <i>5:00 SB Scrim @ Bloom Carroll</i> <i>5:00 JV SB Scrim vs Bloom Carroll</i>	24 <i>5:00 SB Scrim vs Watkins Mem</i> <i>5:00 JV SB Scrim vs Watkins Mem</i> <i>5:00 BB Scrim vs Groveport</i>	25 <i>5:00 SB Scrim vs Groveport</i> <i>5:00 JV SB Scrim vs Groveport</i>	26 <i>5:00 BB Scrim vs Newark Catholic</i>	27 7:30 Seussical, the Musical	28 <i>10:00 BB DH Scrim @ Fairfield Union</i> <i>10:00 JV BB DH vs Fair Un & River Valley</i> <i>11:00 SB LU Preview</i> <i>11:00 JV SB @ Canal</i> 7:30 Seussical, the Musical
29	30 <i>4:30 JrHi Track @ Canal Winchester</i> <i>5:00 SB vs Gran</i> <i>5:00 JV SB vs Granville</i> <i>5:00 BB vs DeSales</i> 7:00 Land Lab	31 <i>4:30 Track vs Canal Winchester</i> <i>4:30 JV BB vs New Albany</i> <i>5:00 BB vs New Albany</i>	1 <i>5:15 JV BB @ Fairfield Union</i> 7:30 Athletic Boosters	2 <i>TBA JrHi Track @ Fairfield Union</i> <i>5:00 JV BB vs Pickerington North</i> 7:00 Elementary Boosters	3	4 <i>TBA Track @ Meadowbrook</i> <i>11:00 BB DH @ Canal Winchester</i> <i>11:00 JV BB vs Canal Winchester</i> <i>5:00 JV SB @ Carroll</i> 5:00 BINGO

LIBERTY UNION FFA NEWS

The Liberty Union FFA Chapter has been very busy the last two months with several contests and evaluations. In January, FFA members with Supervised Agricultural Experiences were invited to apply for awards within their project area. Students who applied include: **Clayton Bondurant, Megan DeBruin, Nick Ford, Taylor Justice, Jaquie Keller, Kaitlyn Mattox, Ethan Pulvermacher, Derek Schmitt, Kevin Shaeffer, Mark Underwood.**

Also State and American Degree applications were turned into the district and are awaiting State results. Applicants for State Degrees include **Clint Bitler, Taylor Justice, Kaitlyn Mattox, JJ McCormick, Kayleigh McCormick, Austin Miller, Ethan Pulvermacher, Kevin Shaeffer, Jared Sims, Erik Smolewski, Mark Underwood, and Nick Whittington.** **Megan DeBruin, Jacquie Keller, Derek Schmitt and Justin Shreyer** applied for their American Degrees. Good luck to all those competing at the state level!

Also, on January 20th our Job Interview representatives competed on the district level. Liberty Union's representatives include: Freshmen: **Kelsey Holbrook - 4th**; Sophomore: **Tricia Steffen - 2nd**; Junior: **Matt Kohler - 2nd**; and Senior: **Nick Ford - 5th**.

This year was also the first year for Liberty Union to have an Agricultural Sales Team, team members were: **Quinton Cook, Becca Goodman, Ryan Jensen and Jared Sims.** The team did well, placing 8th in the district.

This month, the FFA has been busy with several projects, including the initial tapping of maple trees for our maple syrup project. **Mr. Tim Turner**, advisor, with the help of **Mr. Troy Donohue, Casey Donohue, and Mr. and Mrs. David Brandt** successfully tapped, evaporated and bottled the first bottles of maple syrup!

February 23rd - 27th was FFA Week. To celebrate, the FFA held a spirit week with FFA Meetings, a Chili Cook-Off and also a TV appearance on Lancaster Schools Network by **Nick Whittington, Kaleigh Kenney and Mr. Turner.**

The annual county level speaking contest was held on February 10th. This year Liberty Union was very well represented: Creed - **Kelsey Holbrook, 3rd** place; Advanced Prepared - **Andy Dickson, 2nd** place; and Extemporaneous - **Nick Ford, 1st** place. **Kelsey, Andy and Nick** earned a spot at the district contest which was held on February 17th; there **Kelsey** earned 3rd place, **Andy** placed 5th and **Nick** placed 2nd earning him a spot at the State contest in March. Good luck **Nick!** Overall it's been an exciting time and we look forward to celebrating all accomplishments on March 12th at our Annual FFA Banquet!