

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."

August, 2009



LU-T BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Kevin Byers, President
Art Brate, Vice-President
Joseph Farmer, John Hutton, S. Michael Raver

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.

ADMINISTRATION

| | |
|---|----------|
| Paul E. Mathews, Superintendent | 862-4171 |
| David I. Butler, Treasurer | 862-4171 |
| Ed Miller, High School Principal | 862-4107 |
| Chet Coleman, Asst High School Principal | 862-4107 |
| Scott Williamson, Athletic Director | 862-4107 |
| Hank Gavarkavich, Middle School Principal | 862-4126 |
| Kelli Brownfield, Elementary School Principal | 862-4143 |
| Judy Cleland, Transportation Coordinator | 862-4171 |
| Jan Friedrich, Food Service Supervisor | 862-4107 |

Message from the Superintendent:

The days of summer are passing quickly, and the **first day of school, Wednesday, August 19th** is on the horizon. Start-school information is included in this Lion Report.

I would like to thank everyone who attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the new middle school, which was held on Monday, July 13th. We are fortunate in this school district to have outstanding community support, and it was great to have so many community members come out to take part in the official start of the construction project. Construction bids for the necessary earth work for the new middle school are currently under review. It appears that this first bid for the project will be well under the projected cost, so we are off to a good start in terms of the budget. Later this month, the remaining construction bids for both the middle school building and high school renovation will be solicited.



Also under construction is the school district website. Over the next few weeks, information on the site will grow. I hope you will take time to look at our construction update link. We will post pictures of construction progress throughout the year.

Later this month, the Ohio Department of Education will publish local report cards for all school districts in Ohio. The unofficial student achievement scores for grades three through eight show us exceeding the State benchmarks in third-grade reading and math; fourth-grade reading, writing and math; fifth-grade reading, math, science and social studies; sixth-grade reading and math; eighth-grade reading, math and science. District scores for seventh-grade reading and math, and eighth-grade social studies are below State benchmarks. More complete report card information will be included in the September Lion Report, and the entire district report card as well as each building report card will be posted on the district website.

Please consider participating in planning for the future of our school district through our "Strategic Planning" meetings. The first meeting for the 2009/2010 school year will be at **7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 17th** in the high school library.

Paul Mathews



SCHOOL-START INFORMATION

TRANSPORTATION (862-4171): All parents will receive a mailing with school bus route information approximately August 10th for the up-coming school year. **NOTE:** Students in **grades 6-12** will be dismissed **30 minutes early** (2:15 p.m.) on **August 19th and 20th**, in order to provide extra time to complete the afternoon bus routes. Normal dismissal times (2:45 p.m. for students in grades 6-12 will begin on Friday, August 21st.

FOOD SERVICE (862-4107): The Food Service Department will introduce the new "Mealtime Messenger" the week of August 10. The pamphlet will contain facts, questions, and answers about our food service program. Included will be a free and reduced lunch application. This informational pamphlet will be mailed to households of students in grades K-12. The information will also be available on the district website, or by calling 740-862-4107, ext. 1139 after August 10.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (862-4143): Office hours are 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Class lists with teacher assignments will be posted on the front elementary school doors on Tuesday, August 11th. School supply lists are available in the elementary school office. The elementary school **open house** will be held from **6:30-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 18th**.

Kindergarten screening will be August 11 and 12. Parents will receive a letter indicating the specific date and time for their child's screening appointment.

MIDDLE SCHOOL (862-4126): Office hours are from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Middle school start-school information will be mailed to parents approximately August 10th. Included in the mailing will be lab and workbook fees, lunch information, a school calendar, other information, and forms to be completed and returned at open house or on the first day of school.

Middle school students and their parents are invited to **open house on Monday, August 17th**. This year, a "back-to-school tailgate party" will be held. Hot dogs, chips, etc. will be served while parents and students meet the staff. The **seventh and eighth-grade** tail-gate is at **4:45 p.m.** **Sixth-grade** students and parents will have the same opportunity at **6:00 p.m.** Parents are encouraged to turn in completed start-school paperwork and fees at this event.

HIGH SCHOOL (862-4107): Office hours are from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. All school forms were mailed earlier in the summer to students' homes. Please return these forms, before school begins, to the high school office. Please notify the office if your address changes at any time. Fees and outstanding obligations can be paid anytime during office hours.

When you receive the initial list of fees that your child owes for the 2009-2010 school year, please do **NOT** pay these until after the third week of school. This allows schedules to be finalized to reflect any changes that have been made. Students may make appointments with the guidance counselor, Mr. Duplinsky, throughout the summer, during office hours, to request schedule changes.

Freshman Orientation is **August 12th at 7:00 p.m.** in the high school cafeteria. All freshman and their parents are encouraged to attend. Please return all completed information forms at this time. High school students needing to make schedule changes may do so beginning Monday, August 4th in the high school guidance office.

Practice for all fall sports teams begins on Monday, August 10th.

**School Begins
Wednesday, August 19th**

NEW TEACHERS FOR 2009/2010

Three teachers join the staff this fall, filling vacancies in the school district. **Kevin Yates**, hired to teach sixth-grade and eighth-grade language arts, is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University. He taught last year at Groveport Community Elementary School, and had previously worked at LU-T as a classroom aide and teacher. Welcome back, **Mr. Yates!**



Mallory James, Middle School Intervention Specialist, comes to us from Ritchie County High School, Ellenboro, West Virginia, where she worked with special needs students. **Mallory** is a graduate of Glenville State College. We welcome her to Ohio and to LU-T!

Ashleigh Miller, High School Intervention Specialist, is a graduate of The Ohio State University and Muskingum University.



Ashleigh, a graduate of Liberty Union High School, represents the *fourth* generation in her family to teach at LU-T. She is pictured with her Great-Grandmother, **Delphia Landis** (former second-grade teacher), her Grandmother, **Marilyn Wooster** (former first-grade teacher), and her Mother, **Debbie Miller** (Middle School Physical Education Teacher and Guidance Counselor). Welcome, **Ashleigh!**

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER



Thanks to a shared agreement between the Village of Baltimore, the Baltimore Police Department and LU-T Schools, our school district staff will include a school resource officer for the 2009/2010 school year. **Officer Jason Harget** will implement D.A.R.E. classes for sixth-grade students and

will assist with providing speakers and educational programs for students of all ages. **Officer Harget** has completed D.A.R.E. officer training this summer, and looks forward to working with students and staff to maintain a positive, safe environment for all.

MILITARY SPOTLIGHT



The featured military service person for the month of August is 1967 Liberty Union High School graduate **Joseph Farmer**. Following graduation, **Joe** began working at Delta Airlines, and in 1968, he and spouse Jane were married. **Joe** was drafted into the United States Army June 4, 1969. He completed his basic training as well as advanced training at Fort Gordon, Georgia. As a Light Weapons

Infantry Soldier, **Joe** was placed with the 1st Infantry Division in the Republic of Vietnam on November 12, 1969. During his tour of duty, he also served with the 199th Light Infantry Brigade United States Army Republic of Vietnam. **Joe** attained the rank of Sergeant while serving in Vietnam, and earned the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and Vietnam Campaign Medal. **Joe** returned to USA October 23, 1970, and trained troops at Fort Polk, Louisiana until his discharge on March 26, 1971. After his military service was completed, **Joe** returned to Baltimore and continued to work at Delta Airlines (forty-two years!). He is a member of the Gideons, VFW Post 3761, and is the Chairman of the Administrative Council at Christ United Methodist Church. **Joe** has served the youth of the community as a youth soccer coach, youth basketball coach, LU-T junior high football and track coach, and high school assistant football coach. He has been a member of the Liberty Union-Thurston Board of Education for seventeen years. **Joe** and Jane Farmer have two sons who graduated from LUHS, and now have four grandchildren. We thank **Sergeant Joe Farmer** for his service to America through the United States Army, and for his service to our community, as a graduate of Liberty Union High School!

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.

ELEMENTARY BOOSTERS

The LU Elementary Boosters will have a Spirit-Wear tent at the Baltimore Festival Friday and Saturday from noon - 10 pm. New spirit-wear will be available with new designs. **Judith Cosgray**, president, reports that LU spirit items may also be purchased at Captivating Images Photography on Tuesday - Saturday 10 am - 7 pm.

**See you at the Baltimore Festival
August 5th - 8th!**

LU-T 2009-2010 School Calendar

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Aug. 12 | 7:00 p.m. - Freshman Orientation |
| Aug. 14 | NEW Teacher Work Day |
| Aug. 17 & 18 | Teacher Work Days |
| Aug. 17 | Middle School Open House |
| Aug. 18 | 6:30 p.m. - Elementary Open House |
| Aug. 19 | School Begins (1st Day for Students) |
| Sept 7 | Labor Day - No School |
| Oct. 12-16 | Fairfield County Fair - No School |
| Nov. 26-27 | Thanksgiving Break - No School |
| Dec. 21-Jan. 2 | Winter Break - No School |
| Jan. 4 | School Resumes |
| Jan. 18 | Martin Luther King Day - No School |
| Feb. 15 | Presidents Day - No School |
| April 2-5 | Spring Break - No School |
| May 28 | Student Last Day |
| May 31 | Memorial Day - No School |
| May 30 | 3:15 p.m. - Graduation |
| June 1 | Teacher Work Day |

LIBERTY UNION FAIR BOOTH NEWS

Fairfield County Fair is just around the corner! As the new school year begins, please remember that all PARENTS and STUDENTS that are in JUNIOR HIGH or HIGH SCHOOL music or sports are asked to work one shift at the fair booth. Juniors are asked to work two shifts. We will be at the first two home football games for parents to sign up for work. Fair show schedules will already be out for the parents/students to know when they are available.

Parents will receive a ticket to get in the fair, but unfortunately students will not. When you sign up, please list all of your child's activities so that they receive participation credit for each of them. If your child is in more than one activity, and each parent does their part, you should only have to work one shift. If you are unable to work a shift, you can donate 2 pies (or other dessert) or buy-out for \$20. Thank you again to those parents and students who worked extra shifts last year to fill the empty ones. LU Alumni Association was asked to help with the Friday afternoon shift (2-6 PM) and the Class of '84 and friends will again cover the 6-11 PM shift that night.

Any questions or to request the shift you want, please email us at: LUFairBooth@columbus.rr.com. We are looking forward to another great year! Janette Lindsey (407-5534) Detria Hiles (438-4338, 862-3352)

SAWMILL OPERATION A HUGE SUCCESS

One of the final learning experiences of the 2008/2009 school year turned out to be a truly memorable one. Thanks to **Mr. Bob Richardson** and **Hydromaster Seeding Company**, a portable sawmill was set up at the land laboratory, and put into operation for two full days, turning downed trees from the land lab into more than a thousand board feet of lumber. Many students of all ages had an opportunity to learn how trees are transformed into usable boards. **Mr. Richardson** and **State Forester Bill Schultz** provided expert instruction on the process. Boards milled through this project will be used for projects by industrial arts students, and some of the lumber will also be used in our new middle school. We certainly owe a special thanks to **Hydromaster Seeding Company** for their many hours of donated time and expertise!

August, 2009

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 Balt Fest 7:30 Ath Boosters Mtg | 6 Balt Fest | 7 Balt Fest | 8 Balt Fest 8:30 10K Run 10:30 Parade |
| 9 | 10 7:00 Brd of Ed Mtg | 11 KGN Screen 9:00 Boys Golf vs N Union @ Glenross | 12 KGN Screen 8:30 Boys Golf vs Sheridan @ Rushcreek 7:00 Freshman Orientation | 13 3:45 Girls Golf vs Granville @ C C 6:00 Girls Soc @ Lakewood | 14 9:00 Boys Golf vs Bloom Carroll @ Pine Hill 7:30 FB Scrim vs Crooksville | 15 2:00 Boys Soc @ Ready 5:00 BINGO |
| 16 | 17 9:00 Boys Golf vs Fairfield Union @ Pumpkin Vine <u>Middle School Open House</u> 4:45 - 7 th & 8 th Grades 6:00 - 6 th Grade | 18 9:00 Boys Golf MSL #1 @ Pine Hill 6:00 Boys Soc vs Madison Christian @ Elem 6:30 Elementary Open House | 19 School Begins $\frac{1}{2}$ hr early dismissal for Gr 6-12 ONLY 9:00 Girls Golf Pre-Season MSL @ Echo Springs | 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ hr early dismissal for Gr 6-12 ONLY 9:00 Girls Golf 1 st MOGGL @ Echo Springs 5:30 Girls Soc @ Bloom Carroll | 21 6:30 FB Scrim vs Mifflin | 22 2:00 Boys Golf vs Fairfield Christian @ Valley View 5:00 Boys Soc Preview @ LU HS |
| 23 | 24 | 25 5:00 Jr Hi CC vs Gen Sherman @ OU-L 5:30 Girls Soc vs Fairfield Union @ Elem | 26 4:00 Boys Golf @ MSL - West Jeff @ London Country Club | 27 3:45 Boys Golf vs MSL Fisher @ Estate Club 5:30 Boys Soc vs Franklin Hghts @ Elem 7:15 Girls Soc vs Grandview | 28 7:30 FB vs Bloom Carroll (PeeWee Recog) | 29 8:00 Boys Golf @ Northridge @ St Albans 9:30 CC @ Whitehall Invit / Whitehall Park 10:00 JV FB @ Bl Carroll 10:00 Fresh & JV VB 11:30 VB vs Fair Union 11:30 Jr Hi CC vs Newark Cath @ Brun Du Mansion 1:30 Girls Golf 2 nd MOGGL @ Foxfire CC 2:00 Boys Soc @ Maysville |
| 30 | 31 5:00 Jr Hi VB @ St Marys 6:30 7 th Gr FB vs Teays Valley West | 1 Sept 5:00 Fresh VB @ Bexley 5:30 Boys Soc vs Licking Valley @ Elem 7:30 Music Boosters Mtg | 2 Sept 3:45 Girls Golf vs Canal Win @ Estate Club 5:30 Girls Soc @ Heath 7:30 Athletic Boosters Mtg | 3 Sept 3:45 Boys Golf vs MSL Grandview @ Estate Club 5:00 Jr Hi VB @ West Jeff 5:30 Girls Soc vs Zanesville Rose-crans @ Elem 6:00 JV VB & 7:30 VB vs Fisher Elem Boosters Mtg | 4 Sept 4:00 FFA Chicken BBQ Dinner 7:30 FB vs Fairfield Union (Parent Night) | 5 Sept 9:30 CC & Jr Hi CC vs Circleville @ Ohio Christian University 10:00 JV FB @ Fair Un 11:00 Girls Soc vs Lakewood 12:30 Boys Soc vs Lakewood 12:30 Boys Golf Fairfield Co @ Pine Hill 5:00 BINGO |