



NORDONIA HILLS CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

KNIGHTLIGHTS

Highlights of Nordonia Hills City Schools' Successes and Opportunities

2019

Welcome to KNIGHTLIGHTS

Replacing the old Quality Profile, KNIGHTLIGHTS is designed to give a simpler, more colorful look into the successes of the Nordonia Schools and our students. The Nordonia Schools always score well on state mandated tests, but we are so much more than test scores. Students show incredible achievements in academics, athletics and the arts, and provide heartfelt community service. The Nordonia Schools focus on the whole-child. Our greatest successes aren't measured on a test. The pages that follow will give just a sample of some of the reasons the community should be proud of its schools.

Issue 3 Overwhelmingly Passes

Issue 3, a 6.98 mill operating levy, passed overwhelmingly in May. Voters approved the levy 60%-40%, making it the largest margin of victory for an operating levy in Nordonia Schools history.

The levy will allow the district to maintain class sizes and busing, make needed repairs to aging facilities and systems, increase mental health services for students in need, and investigate adding programs to keep Nordonia students competitive with students from area school districts.

THANK YOU FOR VOTING

"The Nordonia Schools always score well on state mandated tests, but we are so much more than test scores. Students show incredible achievements in academics, athletics and the arts, and provide heartfelt community service. The Nordonia Schools focus on the whole-child. Our greatest successes aren't measured on a test."

- Dr. Joe Clark

Superintendent of Schools



Officials from Northfield Village and Macedonia joined Dr. Clark to support the schools.



Senior **Eric Weaver** plays the *Morceau Symphonique*.



Senior **Nicholas Turley** presents his commencement address to the Class of 2019.



Diamond Cunningham, Jenesis Rankins, Morgan Nicholson, Mijae Lewis and Mykah Long celebrate Graduation.



Associate Principal **Dave Broman** congratulates graduate **Angelina Tyrrell**

Class of 2019 Graduates 319

- Senior **Matthew Lastovka** was the Nordonía High School recipient of the Phi Beta Kappa Award from the Cleveland Association. Phi Beta Kappa, an academic honorary for college students, is the oldest and most prestigious organization of its kind in the United States. It was founded at the College of William and Mary in December 1776. College students who go beyond the requirements of their classes and demonstrate thoughtful scholarship in the study of liberal arts or science are invited to join Phi Beta Kappa.
- With respect to the Class of 2019, 67 received an Ohio High School Honors Diploma, 115 students were Graduates of Distinction (3.75 GPA) and 54 students were Graduates of Merit (3.35 GPA).
- The Advanced Placement Scholar Awards recognize high school students who have demonstrated exemplary college-level achievement on Advanced Placement Exams. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performance on Advanced Placement Exams. Nordonía High School had 42 Advanced Placement scholars with varying degrees of distinctions.
- The Class of 2019 had 40 seniors honored through our Local Scholarship Program, earning \$53,400 in local scholarship award money.





The Nordonia band performs at Grand Nationals in Indianapolis.

Nordonia Choirs and Drama Shine

The Nordonia choral and drama programs had a stellar 2018-19 school year, from winning awards to producing albums.

- The Symphonic Chorale produced their first *Renaissance Feaste*.
- Symphonic Chorale & Women's Chorus received Superior Ratings at OMEA State Contest.
- Synergy & Momentum were selected as featured performers at the National A Cappella Festival.
- Synergy headlined the Baldwin Wallace A Cappella Festival.
- Synergy was selected by Disney to open for their National Tour of D'Cappella at Cleveland's Playhouse Square.
- The Nordonia A Cappella Groups (Synergy, Momentum, Knight Rhythm & Genesis) released their first compilation album titled, "Stages" this year.
- The choir took a trip to New York City, learning a dance from a *Hamilton* cast member and seeing two Broadway shows.
- The Drama Club was nominated for four Dazzle Awards for its production of *The Wizard of Oz*, including Best Musical.
- The fall play, *All in the Timing*, was a sold-out affair.

Nordonia Band Continues to Impress

The 2018-19 school year was another successful one for the Nordonia band department. The band competed in OMEA State Finals Competition in November, receiving the highest rating of Superior from all nine judges. This is the sixth consecutive year that they have received a "Superior" rating.

The band played in Bands of America Grand Nationals at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis after qualifying at the Regional level, and competed in Mid-States Finals in Cincinnati after qualifying at the Regional level.

The band won Grand Champion at the Norton "Art in Motion" OMEA competition, finishing first out of eight bands.

During Nordonia's concert season, more than forty students played in 21 performances at the District VI OMEA Solo and Ensemble Competition in January. Seventeen performances were awarded the highest distinction of Superior, while four earned the next highest rating of Excellent.

The Wind Ensemble earned the highest rating of Superior at OMEA District VI Large Group Contest in the top AA class. This is the 5th consecutive year that the Nordonia Wind Ensemble has received a Superior rating.



Students enjoy popsicles at band camp, provided annually during a visit by the administration.



The *Wizard of Oz* cast performed at the Dazzle Awards at Playhouse Square.

Cuyahoga Valley Career Center

Established in 1972 by eight public school districts including Nardonía, Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC) offers career-technical High School Programs, Adult Education, K-12 Career Education, and Community Services.

Nardonía High School students **Vincent Costello**, **Katelyn Dombroski**, **Alexis Dupont**, **Jackie Fanik**, **Miranda Grismer**, **Krista Hupe**, **Elizabeth Imrie**, **Emily Morrison**, **Emily Taylor** and **Lee Walker** were inducted into CVCC's National Technical Honor Society.

The following Nardonía High School seniors were named Outstanding Student in their respective programs at CVCC:

Jacob Benda: Auto Service Technology

Miranda Grismer: Cosmetology

Anna Christie: Hotels & Resorts

Rhiannon Kainec: Medical Administrative Specialist



Nardonía High School senior choir members prepare to perform with director John Pickering.

Community Investment Yields Great Returns

The Nardonía Hills City School District has one of the lowest tax rates in Summit County. The district continually shows voters that their investment is wise.

- The Class of 2019 earned more than \$8 million in scholarships and completed more than 33,000 hours of community service.
- The Ohio Department of Education has recognized Nardonía as one of the top Value Added districts in the state, meaning our children learn far more than is expected in a year's time.
- Nardonía earned an A in Gap Closing. That means students in every one of our subgroups district wide (Asian, Black, Hispanic, Multiracial, White, Economically Disadvantaged, English Learners, and Students with Disabilities) surpassed the achievement goal set by the state.
- All three Nardonía elementary schools have won state or national awards. Rushwood and Northfield won the prestigious of Fame School Award, and Ledgeview won the National Blue Ribbon Award.



Nardonía alum Denzel Ward addressing future Knights at his football camp.



Amazing student performances at the annual Lee Eaton Variety Show.

Lee Eaton – Engaging Students Daily

Lee Eaton Elementary provides unique experiences for its students. Our 5th graders have the distinct honor of being the first grade level where students from three separate elementary schools merge as one and meet their entire future graduating class while the 6th grade students get to enjoy being our “upper classmen” before heading off to the middle school. Regardless of the students’ age or grade level the Lee Eaton Staff is prepared to actively engage students and prepare them academically, socially and emotionally for their future.

Lee Eaton teachers use a variety of teaching strategies to ensure the needs of all students are met, including: Blended Learning, flexible seating and our PAX/PBIS program. Other programs integrated into the curriculum such as D.A.R.E., Be Internet Awesome, Body Wise, Second Step, Too Good for Drugs, Bully Proofing and Exploring Diversity give our students the tools to help navigate the pre-teen years while programs like Adopt-a-Pilot and Career Interests encourages them to think about their future.

Throughout the school year, Lee Eaton students have the opportunity to make new friends and try new things by getting involved with school clubs and after-school programs. Student Council, Peer Mentoring, Future Problem Solvers, Library Club, Band and Choir offer excellent opportunities during the school day for students to engage with their classmates while after-school programs like Young Rembrandts, Youth-to-Youth, Campus Life, Classroom Antics, Girls On the Run, Science Olympiad, Genesis, and our ski club offer even more ways to enjoy Lee Eaton.

Lee Eaton’s Family Resource Center

The Family Resource Center at Lee Eaton Elementary is part of our Coordinated Assistance Support Team, C.A.S.T., and supports Nordonias Families by providing access to community resources and building connections that enhance and promote student success. Meredith Ondak is our Family Support Specialist and provides assistance with families’ basic needs, assistance with medical and mental health services, emergency assistance, holiday assistance, community programs and much more. She can be reached at Meredith.Ondak@nordoniaschools.org. If you need support and do not know where to start, please contact the Family Resource Center.

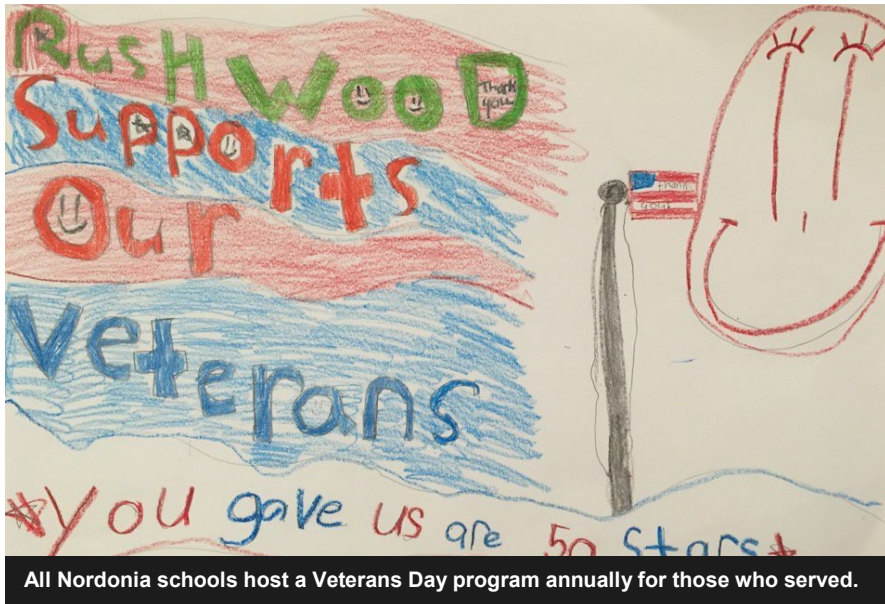
Lee Eaton Students Give Back

Lee Eaton staff and students have always done an amazing job supporting local and national organizations and this year was no exception.

- Donated 2863 pounds of food to our local Emergency Assistance Center during the districts annual Fill-a-Bus campaign.
- Donated hundreds of dollars in gift cards and clothing to the Emergency Assistance Center during Lee Eaton’s annual Christmas Lane fundraiser.
- Raised \$2560 for the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society through the national fundraiser, Pennies for Patients.
- Collected donations and supplies to support families in Kenya, children at the Love and Hope Home in El Salvador and animals at our local Humane Society.



Joyce Hunt, Director of the Emergency Assistance Center, presenting Lee Eaton with a plaque for the Fill-a-Bus campaign donations



All Nordonía schools host a Veterans Day program annually for those who served.

NHS, Middle School and Lee Eaton are Purple Star Schools

The Purple Star Award for military-friendly schools recognizes schools that show a major commitment to students and families connected to our nation’s military. Schools that earn the award will receive a special Purple Star recognition to display onsite.



Nordonía High School, Nordonía Middle School and Lee Eaton are proud to have earned this designation from the Ohio Department of Education. We honor our military families and thank them for their service to our country.

Knights Caring for Knights Feeds Nordonía’s Hungry on Weekends

Now in its 7th year, the Nordonía Knights Caring for Knights (KC4K) program is a student run organization that provides backpacks of food for families in need every weekend. Founded by the Bruno Family, KC4K distributes more than 50 backpacks each week, serving more than 90 students and their families.

KC4K also provides snacks in district classrooms for students who may be hungry, and maintains bins of food in each school lobby during the summer, free for the taking. KC4K knows that students are better learners when their basic needs are met. Follow Knights Caring for Knights on Twitter at @KC_4K

Nordonía Teachers Win Awards

- District Library Media Specialist, **Angela Wojtecki**, is the recipient of the 2019 OELMA/ Follett School Solutions Outstanding School Librarian Award.
- Middle School PE teacher and Athletic Director, **Rita Covin**, was selected as the NEOIAAA Middle School Athletic Director of the Year.
- NHS Science teacher **Aaron Coleman** was named to the 2018 All-County Teaching team, and NHS special education teacher **Jenna Huff** was selected as a Summit County Rookie of the Year.
- NHS English teacher **Jessica Korman** was selected for the University of Chicago’s Outstanding Educator Award.



Mrs. Harmon and her student ready for Field Day fun.

Nordonia Students Travel at Home and Abroad





Knights Sportsmanship Taskforce promotes positive behavior at games.

Middle School Students Promote Good Sportsmanship

Under the guidance of middle school athletic director **Rita Covin**, the Knight Sportsmanship Taskforce (KST) was created. KST ambassadors attend middle school basketball games encouraging good fan behavior.

The group created business card-sized tags with the school logo and "KST" on one side with "You've been issued a citation for POSITIVE SPORTSMANSHIP" printed on the back side of the card. Group members hand out these cards to parents, coaches, students and officials when they display positive sportsmanship before and during games.



KST was recognized at the Ohio High School Athletic Association and was noted in the spring edition of the OHSAA magazine.

District Staff Members Recognized for Their Accomplishments

- **Erin Bugarcic** won the J. Allen Oakum Scholarship from OELMA.
- **Kelly Nyzen** became a StartSOLE ambassador. Kelly is 1 of 12 teachers in the country selected for this honor.
- Many teachers have earned distinguished awards for Google Trainer, Google Level 1 and 2 Educator and Google IT Support Professional Certificate.
- Many teachers promote Nordonía Schools by presenting at state and national conferences.

Nordonía 3rd Graders Learn About Diversity

Third grade students worked with Nordonía's diversity consultant, **Mrs. Denise Ward**, to learn about diversity. Mrs. Ward shared her vision for her work with the students saying, "Diversity activities teach young children to respect and celebrate the differences in all people. Learning about different cultural aspects offers new experiences for children. It also helps them realize that we're all humans, despite differences in how we look or dress, or what we eat or celebrate."

This vision was realized through our sessions with third graders. Mrs. Ward introduced the concept of diversity and the ways that we are all different using grade level appropriate literature. Students completed an activity to understand the ways they were different and the same.

During her next visit the classes learned about the strengths that can come from differences when we view those differences with respect and understanding. Students participated in group discussions and activities that helped them appreciate how we can value our differences. Mrs. Ward led the classes through some culminating discussions in her final visit of the year, giving students an opportunity to share their learning with their peers.

All six Nordonía schools look forward to an ongoing partnership with Mrs. Ward to continue to cultivate our students' understanding of the value and importance of diversity.



During the 2018-2019 school year, 737 students participated in the Nordia High School athletic program. These students achieved in both the classroom and well as on the field, court, course, ice, mat and track. Our student-athletes averaged a 3.592 GPA for the school year.

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Athletes</u>	<u>GPA</u>
Cross Country	54	3.815
Cheerleading	56	3.628
Football	93	3.104
Golf	27	3.871
Soccer	71	3.937
Tennis	42	3.968
Volleyball	31	3.818
Basketball	55	3.278
Bowling	26	3.534
Ice Hockey	18	3.393
Swimming & Diving	37	3.763
Wrestling	18	3.018
Baseball	46	3.536
Softball	23	3.868
Track & Field	140	3.538



Nordia High School athletes participate in 23 varsity programs.
(Photos courtesy of Dennis Pylypiak—Community Focus)

Knights Student-Athletes Bring Pride to Community

The 2018-19 school year was another successful one for the Nordia Knights. Many individuals and teams reached impressive heights.

- Junior cross country runner **Jadon Wimbush** qualified for the OHSAA State Cross Country Meet.
- Nordia Varsity Football team finished the season 9-2 and qualified for the OHSAA State Football Playoffs.
- Nordia Varsity Volleyball team completed their season at 19-7 and earned the OHSAA District Runner-Up trophy.
- Senior swimmer **Timmy Tomkovicz** qualified for the OHSAA State Swimming and Diving Meet.
- Nordia Varsity Wrestling team captured the OHSAA Sectional Tournament Championship and finished as OHSAA Team Tournament Regional Runners-Up.
- Wrestlers **Mitch Collica**, **Jaivon Jones** and **Sal Perrine** qualified for the OHSAA Wrestling Individual State Championship Tournament.
- Nordia Boys Varsity Track team finished the season 7-0 in dual meets, won the Avon Reynold's Relays, the Medina Last Chance Meet and the Suburban League Meet. The team won the Suburban League Championship and finished as OHSAA District Runner-Ups.
- Track & Field athletes **Jonathan Banks** (400m), **Grace Coghill** (pole vault), and **Dominick Stockle** (long jump) qualified for the OHSAA State Track & Field Meet.



Zoe Becker receives a special stuffed animal from NMS Girl Scout Service Project.

Rushwood Teacher Wins Award

Music Teacher **Angie Perrine** was recognized as the *Akron Beacon Journal* "Amazing Teacher."

Mrs. Perrine has also been nominated for the Ohio Department of Education's Teacher of the Year.



Mrs. Angie Perrine
Rushwood Music Teacher

Rushwood Students Ace Word and Math Challenges

Rushwood students, **Matt Bush, Olivia Martin, Claire Taylor, Logan Miller, Izzy Bacik, and Delaney Myroniak** participated in the WordMasters Challenge, a vocabulary competition based on completing analogies. Students were given a total of 75 words throughout the year to learn and to apply to analogies.

The Noetic Math Contest is a semiannual problem-solving contest for elementary and middle school students. The goal of the competition is to encourage students' interest in math, to develop problem-solving skills and to inspire them to excel in math. Rushwood participants included: **Logan Miller, Olivia Martin, Claire Taylor, Matt Bush and Delaney Myroniak.**

Rushwood PTA Educator of the Year

Dr. Jacqueline O'Mara was selected as the 2018-2019 recipient of the Rushwood PTA Educator of the Year.

Rushwood partners with Sagamore Hills Police Department.

To foster community partnerships, Rushwood and the Sagamore Hills Police Department shared memorable moments with our students during lunch periods.

Once per month a member from the department joined our students in the cafeteria to meet, greet, and answer student questions.

Students appreciated the opportunity to meet many officers, including Sagamore Hills Police Chief, **David Hayes.**



Officer, Dan DeCrane meets 3rd grader, Alexandra Kormanec



Dr. Jacqueline O'Mara
Rushwood Principal

Participating school districts in the 2019 Nordonia Area 10 Special Olympics included Stow, Copley-Fairlawn, Cuyahoga Falls, Kids First, Barberton, Aurora, Woodridge, Coventry, Mogadore, Springfield, Total Education Solutions, Tallmadge, Twinsburg and Nordonia.



Students displayed their talents at the third annual Special Olympics at Boliantz Stadium.

NHS Hosts 3rd Annual Special Olympics

In May, the Nordonia Hills City School District hosted the third annual Summit County Special Olympics Track and Field Day in partnership with Special Olympics Summit County. The Nordonia Track and Field Day provided an extraordinary opportunity for students with intellectual disabilities to showcase their athletic abilities along with their peers from across the county while their families, friends, and community members cheered them on from the stands. Nearly 300 students from 14 school districts participated in track and field events, opening and closing ceremonies, and a variety of recreational activities such as face painting, sensory tables, and photo booth. It was a wonderful day for everyone involved.

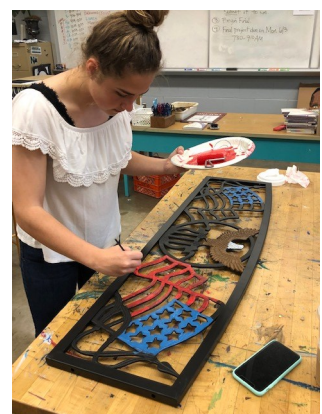
NHS Art Club Paints Bench Backs for VFW Traveling Wall

The NHS Art Club worked with the Northfield VFW Post 6768 to paint the backs of 60 benches that were displayed alongside the Vietnam Veteran's Traveling Wall Memorial. It was a great opportunity for students to earn community service credit and participate in something meaningful and important to the Nordonia Hills community and all our veterans.



Top: NHS hosts Special Olympics annually.

Above and right: NHS students painted benches for the VFW.





Rushwood raised more than \$8,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Rushwood Named Rookie School of the Year by LLS

Rushwood was recognized as a Rookie School of the Year for supporting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, part of a district-wide initiative. Rushwood was the highest raising school this year. Various fundraising events supported the organization, including “stuck for a buck” where school principal, **Dr. Jacqueline O’Mara**, withstood hundreds of strands of duct tape to a wall; and an evening Glow Run and raffle. In all, Rushwood raised \$8451.21. A special thank you goes out to **Mrs. Goksu Kretch**, 4th grade teacher, and **Mrs. Wendy Bush**, parent, for helping make this event a huge success.

Nordonia Schools Leaders in Curriculum and Technology

- The district provides a variety of interactive technologies for teachers to use to enhance learning in the classroom such as Clever Touch Panels, virtual reality kits, and a HoverCam Pilot.
- The Technology Department worked in conjunction with the high school administration to update the Graphic Design Lab. The lab has been outfitted with the latest Apple devices to prepare our students for real world application.
- Due to the growth of the 1:1 Chromebook program, the district has been able to decommission several classroom computers instead of replacing the devices. The district’s 1:1 program has drastically reduced the amount of printing that takes place, resulting in a significant savings.
- The Technology and Business Departments have worked with Ohio Edison and the State of Ohio on Technology Rebate Program. Our yearly Chromebook refresh cycle allowed the district to receive \$11,846 in a cash rebates for purchasing energy efficient devices.
- The district has been recognized by surrounding northeast Ohio school districts, for the exceptional professional development and technology integration taking place across all of the buildings.
- The district hosted a conference focused on the Power of Personalized Learning. The conference included different sessions to choose from hourly, allowing for high quality, differentiated, professional development.



All Nordonia students in grades 3-12 get their own Chromebook.

- The district offers sessions for parents to learn about the district’s 1:1 Chromebook program, how the students are using the devices in the classroom, and the potential dangers of social media.
- Families engage in an annual Title One Family Literacy Night.



Member **Maddy Wells** organized the assembly of 200 Easter baskets which were donated to the Emergency Assistance Center for families in need. Maddy worked with Boy Scout Troop #882 and the National Honor Society groups from Twinsburg and Walsh on this collaborative effort.

During the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Student of the Year Campaign, NHS Officers **Hannah Hover** and **Gina Eterovich** raised over \$18,000 in seven weeks for blood cancer research and patient support.

Through the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Student Series, NHS members **Meghan Falkowski** and **Miah Montesano** organized the second annual Glow Run and raised more than \$1,000 for blood cancer research and patient support.



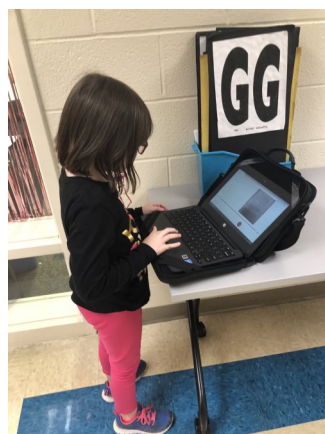
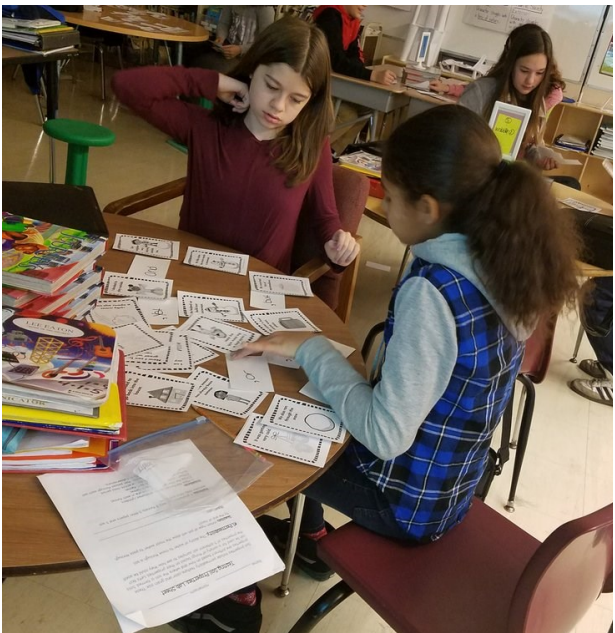
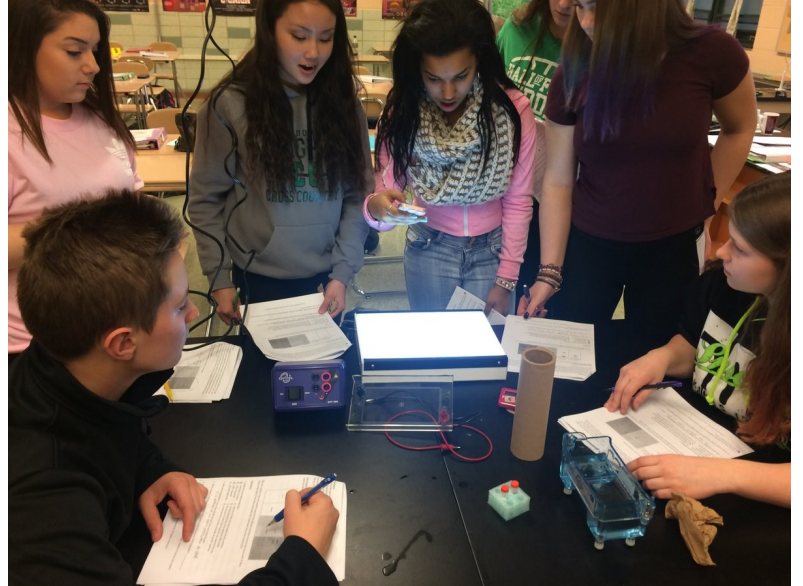
National Honor Society is extremely involved in service projects all year long.

NHS National Honor Society Committed to Service

National Honor Society students are more than smart. They care deeply about the community, and their actions speak louder than words.

- With assistance from Office Depot and Nordonia Building Boosters, the Learning Lounge study space was created in the high school library for NHS members to provide academic and social support for their peers.
- Member **Amira Al Amin** collected and distributed new socks to area shelters as part of Socktoberfest.
- Members volunteered as elves at the Peninsula Station of the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad during the annual Polar Express.
- NHS members offered sharpened pencils and Pop Tarts to students as they arrived on midterm exam mornings.
- Members spent an entire day reading to elementary students in all three district elementary schools during Right to Read Week.
- Members donate their study hall and lunch periods to tutor peers at the high school. More 100 sessions were tutored during the 2018-19 school year. Members also tutor students at the middle school from 2:45-3:15 p.m. daily. More than 100 tutor sessions took place at the middle school as well.
- Twenty NHS members volunteered to run events at the Special Olympics hosted by Nordonia High School.
- NHS members raised \$200 and donated it to Rockin' Frocks to support local students with prom needs.
- Members **Malak Abuhashim** and **Amira Al Amin** raised more than \$2,500 in one month to support UNICEF's humanitarian relief efforts in Yemen.
- NHS members raised \$200 and donated it to the organization Caring for Haitian Orphans with AIDS (CHOAIDS). Members and orphans corresponded via video messaging.

Nordonia Students Learn by Doing





Children and parents having fun at the Readiness Fair.

Ledgeview Hosts STEAM Night

Ledgeview hosted its first ever Family STEAM Night in February. Families were invited to join our staff members for an evening of activities and events centering around science, technology, engineering, arts and math as they relate to the district's curriculum. A team of teacher volunteers planned the activities to engage families in a hands on learning experience. Families were provided with information regarding the educational value of hands on exploratory learning for students, and a list of resources for additional activities to do at home. Over 100 families attended the event.

4th Graders Perform Around Community

Ledgeview's fourth graders were provided with two new opportunities to share their musical skills out in the community this school year. In December they traveled to Brentwood Health Care Center to sing their Winter Arts Festival program for the residents. Our students and the residents thoroughly enjoyed the experience and we hope to return again this year. In March our students traveled to The Word Church in Akron for an interactive performance with the Akron Symphony Orchestra for the Carnegie Hall's Link Up program entitled *The Orchestra Swings*. They joined with students from 52 other Akron area schools to perform selections on the recorder accompanied by the Akron Symphony.

Readiness Coalition Preps Kids for School

Nordonia continued its partnership with Summit Education Initiative and local preschool programs through its work with the Nordonia Readiness Coalition. In March local businesses and support organizations joined Nordonia kindergarten teachers and our preschool partners to host an information fair for parents with children ages 0-4. Parents had the opportunity to talk to representatives from such organizations as the University of Akron's Center for Literacy, Child Guidance and Family Solutions and Nordonia Hills Preschool Parents to learn more about their programs. In May incoming kindergarten students from Lollipop Cooperative Preschool, The Goddard School of Macedonia, the YMCA had the opportunity to come to Ledgeview during the school day. Students got to take a school bus to Ledgeview, visit a kindergarten classroom, experience a kindergarten lesson and complete an activity with a teacher. The goal of this program was to allow incoming kindergarten students a peek into a kindergarten classroom to help ease their transition to school and create excitement about coming to Nordonia schools.

Ledgeview Library Love

Ledgeview's media specialist, **Mrs. Jennifer Schlund**, has created many programs at Ledgeview to encourage, excite and support our students' reading growth. Mrs. Schlund started the Literary Character Pumpkin Decorating contest. Students are invited to decorate a pumpkin like their favorite literary character. This has become an annual October event at Ledgeview.

She also started the Star Library Student program to recognize individual student's positive contributions to her class each and every day during the school year. Mrs. Schlund is also responsible for creating, organizing and running our Summer Book Swap. Through this program each Ledgeview student will get to choose between five to eight books at their reading level to support reading over the summer months.

Mrs. Schlund takes donations, purchases books at the library and scholastic sales then, with the help of volunteers and staff members, levels and sorts books for selection. This year Ledgeview gave away thousands of books to our students to read over the summer. In May Mrs. Schlund presented her Young Authors program to Nordonia's Board of Education. This program began when Mrs. Schlund decided to teach students that not only could they learn to be readers but they could become authors too. Three students read their books to the board and were recognized for their accomplishments.



The Nordon Hills Rotary Club has graciously sponsored a new club at NMS called INTERACT. This club is designed to get young people involved in community engagement and to live up to the Rotarian cause of “service before self.” The Club created a Veteran’s Garden in the front of the school behind the marquee at the flag pole.



Above: Science Olympiad students showing their medals.

Right: The middle school choir sings at the Winter Arts Festival.



The girls' 4 x 200 relay team broke the Nordon Middle School record.

Middle School Students Shine in Academics, Arts, Athletics

- The Nordon Middle School Science Olympiad team qualified for the state competition at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. The team was led by head coaches **Regina Picoult** and **Tiffany Madden**. Team members included: **Ella Dararpanah, Evan Goga, Sarah Hermann, William Lang, Wyatt Larrick, Jonathan Madden, Jack Malloy, Alex Picoult, Meg Picoult, Jack Sarkissian, Aidan Sedor, Will Shuble, Samantha Stutler, Justin Zambach** and **Bennett Lang**.
- The Middle School Art Department, led by teacher **Kim Allen**, had three winners in the county-wide Safety Kids Poster Contest sponsored by the Summit County Prosecutor's Office. There were two second place winners: **Layla Mussarra**, grade 7 and **Abigayle Grassa**, grade 8. Winning poster designs are featured in the 2019 Safety Kids Calendar and on billboards throughout Summit County sponsored by the Summit County Prosecuting Attorney Sherri Bevan Walsh.
- Nordon Middle School Band, led by **Mary Schrembeck** and **John Vanderhoff**, earned 25 Superior Ratings and 3 Excellent ratings at the OMEA Solo and Ensemble contest.
- Knight Rhythm is a compilation of 7th and 8th grade middle school students who sing acapella. This group is led by **Kathleen Pellington** and **John Pickering**. The choir group recorded a song to be released on a district-wide acapella album available on iTunes and Spotify.
- Nordon Middle School honored over 185 students at the Academic Awards for the 2018-2019 school year. To earn awards, students had to hold a 3.6 Grade Point Average (GPA) for the school year. Thirty-one of the honored students held a 4.0 for their 7th and 8th grade school year.



Business Office Busy in 2018-19

Relationship Building Core Value of Department



We have been working hard to build relationships with our area businesses, churches and organizations. We have also developed a Health & Wellness Committee to better serve the needs of our students and their families. Here are some exciting accomplishments and projects from this past year:

- The Health & Wellness Committee has partnered with various area organizations to offer beneficial services to our students and staff. We are also planning our first 5k race and fun run for staff and community.
- We have engaged with local businesses for many art and service-based projects including personalized murals and painting the backs to the VFW benches featured in the Vietnam Veteran Memorial Traveling Wall. We will be working on interactive murals at area businesses this upcoming year.
- We have partnered with the Best Buddies program to foster meaningful relationships and a culture of inclusion between our special needs and regular education students. Nordonía High School will be the first public school in Summit County to adopt a Best Buddies chapter. Students and staff will attend a leadership conference this summer to prepare for launch next year.



Nordonía High School students created a personalized mural for Jimmy Johns Restaurant.

Other Business Highlights & Partnerships

- Since the fall of 2015, the district has saved tens of thousands of dollars in utility offsets through our partnership with Cenergistic Inc. We continue to reinvest those savings back into our buildings, student furniture and innovative learning spaces.
- As part of a statewide program and as a result of our safe workplace culture, we have benefited from over \$30,000 in premium refunds from Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation.
- We are a members of various cost savings consortiums:
 - ⇒ Ohio Schools Council for group purchasing of cafeteria food and supplies, waste recycling, and various utilities.
 - ⇒ HPS for group purchasing of cafeteria food and supplies, school furniture & equipment.
 - ⇒ Lake Erie Educational Media Consortium for discounts on library resources.
- District participation in federal eRate program provides discounts on telecommunications and internal services. In the past fiscal year, the district received eRate reimbursements totaling over \$38,000.
- Participation in federal grant programs provides additional financial resources for the district. In the past fiscal year, the district received nearly \$900,000. In addition, the district received nearly \$300,000 as a subsidy for the food service program.



Nordonía High School Art Department created the seatbacks for the benches for the Vietnam Veteran Memorial Traveling Wall.



Northfield Students Give Back

Throughout this past academic year, Northfield students & staff raised funds for numerous charities and local organizations. We take great pride in helping our neighbors and community partners. Thousands of dollars were forwarded to the American Heart Association, Rainbow Children's Hospital, Emergency Assistance Center, United Way, One of a Kind Pets, and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Activities Special Events

One School, One Book
 Veteran's Day Assembly
 Safe Decisions Week
 Young Author's Night
 Poetry Night
 Living Museum
 Community Service Project
 Spring Art Show
 Leadership Council
 Girls on the Run
 Safety Patrol
 Scholastic Book Fairs
 Ties and Tiers
 Sports Night Out
 Goodies with Grands



Field Day Fun, 2019



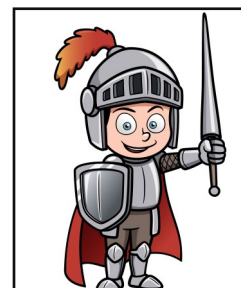
Northfield Elementary School regularly earns state recognition for academic success. In 2017, Northfield earned **Hall of Fame** status from the Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators. This past academic year, we earned the **Overall A Award**.



ODE celebrates Northfield for superior academic excellence.

Northfield Points of Pride

- A loving, nurturing, and highly-qualified staff of over 30 certified professionals and 25 support staff, many of whom are award-winning personnel in their specialty area.
- Diverse student body of nearly 400 students.
- Unique instructional programs including Blended Learning, PAX, gifted services, *Classroom Huddle*, flexible seating, specialized instruction, individual Chromebook use, Makerspace, diversity workshops, comprehensive student assessments.
- A highly active, supportive, and engaging Parent Teacher Association.
- Northfield Elementary School's innovative smart phone app. available Fall, 2019.
- The annual, school-wide **One School, One Book** program that promotes month-long, shared reading experiences and strengthens community and business partnerships.
- Thirty-minute, daily intervention/enrichment time for all students.



@NFSquirePride





Award winning Nordonian Treasurer/CFO Karen Obratil.

Pupil Services

The Nordonian Hills City School District provides a continuum of special education services for students ages 3-22. We strive for an integrated learning environment for all students between general education classrooms and special education classrooms. All school staff take responsibility for providing Individualized Education Plans or 504 Accommodation Plans that meets the needs of special needs students, ensuring their access to the general education curriculum.

The District has school counselors available in each of the buildings on a full time basis. These counselors provide academic, social, and emotional support to all students. The Nordonian Hills City School District also provides Clinical Counselors for students who need additional and more long term emotional support.

The District contracts with Akron Children’s Hospital to provide health and nursing services. All clinics are staffed with either a Medical Assistant, or an LPN. The district also employs a full time RN to meet the needs of the students across the district.

•Student Support Services: In addition

Treasurer/CFO Wins Awards

Nordonian Hills City School District Treasurer/CFO Karen Obratil again has won the Auditor of State Award with Distinction. Having won the award multiple times since she began her work in Nordonian in 2012, this year’s recognition covers Fiscal Year 2018.

The award means that Mrs. Obratil met the following criteria of a “clean” audit report: The audit report does not contain any findings for recovery, material citations, material weaknesses, significant deficiencies, Uniform Guidance (Single Audit) findings or questioned costs. In short, the award means that the Nordonian Schools are good and transparent stewards of our community’s tax dollars.

And for the fifth consecutive year, Mrs. Obratil has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the district’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018.

Nordonian Schools Are Lean Operators

Of the 17 school districts in Summit County, Nordonian has one of the lowest tax rates with one of the highest levels of student achievement.

Nordonian is one of two Summit County school districts without a dedicated permanent improvement levy.

Of 610 school districts in Ohio, 489 school districts have more administrators per student than Nordonian. That means Nordonian is one of the least top-heavy districts in Ohio, ranking in the bottom 20 percent of the state in this category.

The Central Office merging of Superintendent, Human Resources, and Public Relations offices has saved the district more than \$2,400,000 since 2012.

In 2012 Nordonian implemented the Digital Knights online learning program, saving the district an estimated \$825,000 in losses to charter schools.

All Nordonian employees have taken base salary freezes four times in the last nine years.



District finances are transparent and well maintained.

Nordonia Hills City Schools District Leadership

Administration

Joe Clark, Ph.D.	Superintendent	330-908-6202
Karen Obratil	Treasurer/CFO	330-908-6230
Todd Stuart	Curriculum	330-908-6211
Matt Gaugler	Business	330-908-6205
Carrie Hutchinson	Student Services	330-908-6223
Mike Russ	Technology	330-908-6229

Board of Education

Tammy Strong	Board President	tammy.strong@nordoniaschools.org
Liz McKinley	Board VP	liz.mckinley@nordoniaschools.org
Nick Berchtold	Board Member	nick.berchtold@nordoniaschools.org
Chad Lahrmer	Board Member	chad.lahrmer@nordoniaschools.org
Judy Matlin	Board Member	judy.matlin@nordoniaschools.org

Contact Us

Give us a call for answers to your questions about anything school related.

Nordonia Hills CSD
9370 Olde Eight Road
Northfield, OH 44067

(330) 467-0580

Visit us on the web at
www.nordoniaschools.org



@NordoniaSchools



NordoniaHillsSchools

Nordonia Schools: Inspiring every student to value learning, community and excellence.

Nordonia Hills City School District

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