

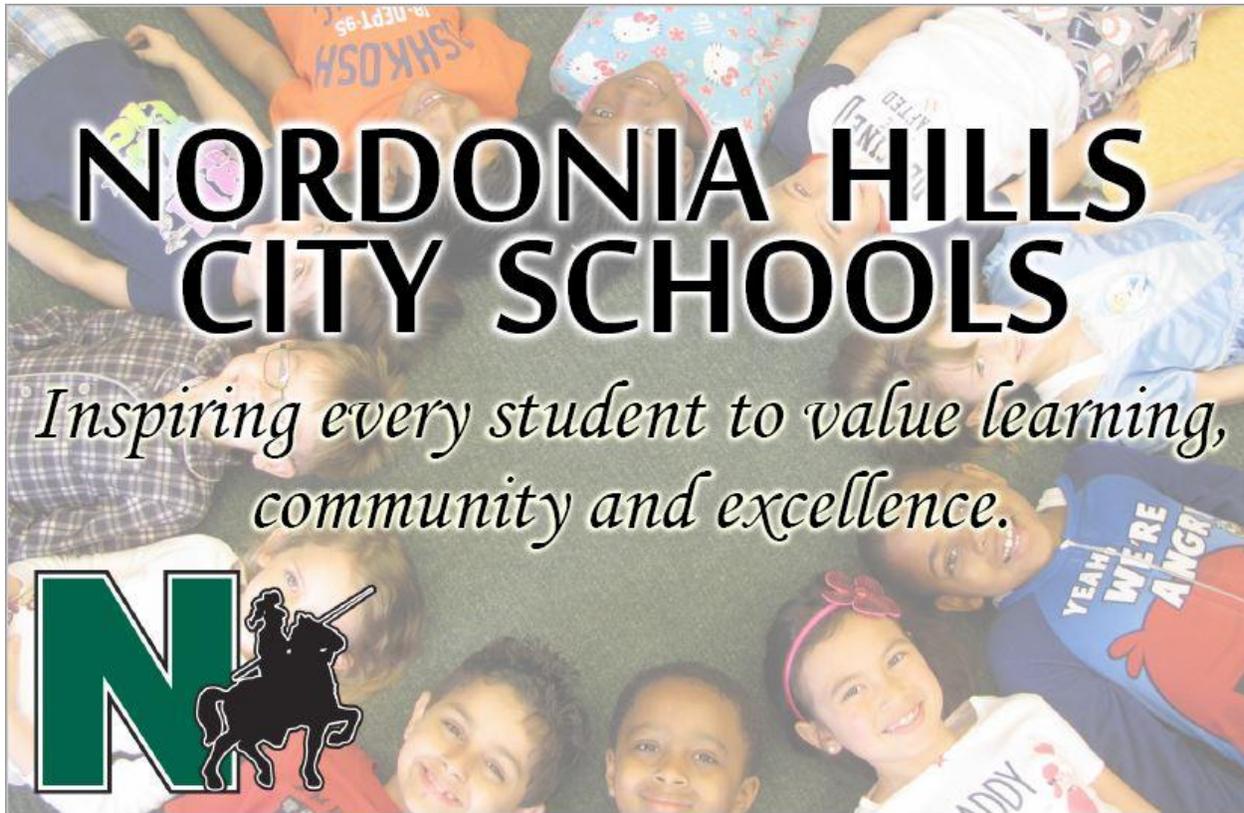


NORDONIA HILLS SCHOOLS QUALITY PROFILE

2017-18



A successful school district places a high degree of importance on ensuring that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential inside and outside of the classroom. This profile helps characterize the overall educational value of your school district in areas that matter most in our community.



ACADEMICS

Our district's academic program provides opportunities for all students to reach their full potential.

Some highlights:

- Nordonia Hills City School District earned one of the top Ohio Department of Education (ODE) report cards in Summit County (2016-17).
- Nordonia showed above-expected growth of overall value-added throughout the district (2016-17), meaning students learned more than one year of material in one year.
- Nordonia is one of only three Summit County school districts (with Hudson and Revere) that earned an A in overall value-added five years in a row (2013-17).
- The district added the Automation and Robotics module from Project Lead the Way for eighth-grade students in 2017-18. Students trace the history, development and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths and robotic arms.

- The district has a 1:1 Chromebook initiative in place in grades 3-12. Grades K-2 use Chromebook carts in each classroom.
- The district is unique in that teachers meet regularly to review student data that drives instruction through teacher-based teams. The district has a process in place to use teacher-based data at building and district levels to assist in planning and decision-making.
- The district provides a variety of interactive technologies for teachers to use to enhance learning in the classroom, such as Clevertouch panels, virtual reality kits and a HoverCam Pilot.
- The district uses Google Classroom and other innovative programs to facilitate collaboration and sharing between teachers, students and families.
- Senior Megan Ryan was the Nordonia 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. 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.
- For the 17th consecutive year, all Nordonia freshmen were certified in CPR, AED and first-aid skills by health teacher Gary Kanaga, who is an American Red Cross instructor.
- Thirty outstanding seniors, representing the academic Top 10 percent of the Class of 2018, recognized 23 Nordonia staff members who impacted them the most during their school years at the ninth annual Superintendent's Award Dinner in May. Each student told how their recognized staff member made an impact on them while attending Nordonia.
- Seven Nordonia students were inducted into the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center's National Technical Honor Society in an induction ceremony in March. Inductees included juniors Neyshka Aguilar-Burgos, Sicily Gliozzo, Payton Mika, Justin Olszko, Allyssa Sarconi and Carl Schaub, and senior Jacquelyn Jarden.
- Three Nordonia seniors from the Class of 2018 were selected as Outstanding Student in their individual career programs at the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center: Caitlyn Rizzo, Health Careers B; Jacquelyn Jarden, Health Careers C; and Samantha Peters, Public Health and Safety.
- For the 14 Advanced Placement classes offered at Nordonia High School, 228 students took 448 exams to successfully complete their program. Nordonia High School is excited to be offering six more Advanced Placement courses in the 2018-19 school year. Advanced Placement offerings for the 2018-19 school year will include: Biology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Chemistry, U.S. Comparative Government & Politics, English Literature & Composition, Literature, Music Theory, Physics I, Physics II, Psychology, Statistics, U.S. Government & Politics, U.S. History, World History,

Capstone (Seminar & Research), Spanish Literature & Culture, German Language & Culture, Economics and Computer Science.

- As of May 24, 2018, the Class of 2018 had earned more than \$8.5 million in scholarship money. More than \$59,000 of this money was from 57 local scholarships.
- Senior Brett White was recognized as a National Merit Finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Competition, and seniors Kevin Costello, Rachel Hayes and Ethan Lee were recognized as National Merit Commended Students. During the fall of their junior year, 1.6 million students participate in the competition by taking the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Exam (PSAT) National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. The top 15,000 qualify as National Merit Finalists and the top 50,000 are recognized as Commended students. Brett was also chosen to receive a \$2,500 National Merit scholarship along with only 7,500 other students nationally.
- Seventy students from the Class of 2018 received an Ohio High School Honors Diploma, 87 students were Graduates of Distinction (3.75 GPA) and 48 students were Graduates of Merit (3.35 GPA).
- During the 2017-18 school year, the Nordonia High School physical education department offered three electives in addition to the standard physical education classes required for graduation. In ninth through 12th grades, 741 students achieved 60 minutes of activity daily by enrolling in the physical education classes and electives Lifetime Fitness, Recreational Sports and Games, or Daily Exercise.
- A total of 733 Nordonia High School students participated in athletics in 2017-18. These student-athletes averaged a 3.595 GPA.
- Nordonia High School had 22 students recognized as AP Scholars, with various degrees of distinctions by the College Board for the 2017-18 Advanced Placement exams. The awards recognize high school students who have demonstrated exemplary college-level achievement on AP exams.
- Senior Ethan Lee earned an ACT composite score of 36, which is the highest score that can be earned.
- Nordonia High School offers five Family and Consumer Science courses that empower individuals to manage the challenges of career and family life.
- All Nordonia Middle School seventh-grade students participated in outdoor education at the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, and eighth-grade students participated in outdoor education at Hale Farm.
- All seventh-grade students traveled to Pittsburgh to see the play *The Outsiders* and participated in small group sessions with the actors.
- All seventh- and eighth-graders participated in the Mr. Peace assembly for bullying prevention, provided by the PTSA.

- Eighth-graders took their annual class trip to Washington, D.C., and Gettysburg at the end of May.
- Middle School students participated in Science Olympiad and Power of the Pen.
- Seventh-grade health students received education on drug prevention and opioid addiction.
- Middle School teacher Andrew Matlack offered Design & Modeling and Robotics & Animation classes through Project Lead the Way, which includes 3D printing and hands-on building, as well as coding.
- Approximately one-third of all Middle School students qualified for academic recognition.
- Lee Eaton's Genius Lab houses two 3D printers, green-screen technology, Ozobots and Lego EV3 robots, Padcasters and 3D pens that are used by teachers throughout the year.
- Lee Eaton students participated in Genius Hour, which engaged each student in a self-selected, self-driven learning project based on personal passions that culminated in a presentation of their project.
- Lee Eaton teachers were trained in the schoolwide PAX behavior program, which provides students with positive reinforcement, and uses intrinsic motivation to develop accountability and self-regulation skills.
- Lee Eaton students participate in many programs throughout the year, including Science Olympiad, Adopt-a-Pilot, Second Step, Bully Proof, Too Good for Drugs, Future Problem Solving, Coding, Science Projects and D.A.R.E.
- Lee Eaton students participate in numerous unique programs that instill lifelong lessons and motivational messages, including At Water's Edge in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, virtual field trips and a visit from the Patriot 500 racing team.
- Ledgeview Elementary School was named a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. Ledgeview was recognized for being an Exemplary High Performing School at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., in November. Superintendent Joe Clark, Principal Kristen Cottrell and second-grade teacher Kathi Kotecki attended the ceremony to represent Ledgeview.
- Ledgeview students Avery Holtz, Olivia Cicchiani, Sam Lyons, Manny Siggia, Melanie Szugye and Mia Bugarcic, and Rushwood students Matt Bush, Claire Taylor, Delaney Myroniak, Izzy Basik, Logan Miller, Cassie Wiece, Drew Rosenblum, Olivia Martin and DaShawn Hardy 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 apply to analogies.

- Elementary students participated in the national Noetic Math Contest, 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.
 - Ledgeview students Anthony D'Angelo, Avery Holtz and Melanie Szugye were recognized for their participation; Hudson Langham, Brady McDonald, Mia Bugarcic, Olivia Cicchiani and David Moawad earned an Honorable Mention; and Manny Siggia and Sam Lyons earned National Honor Roll.
 - Northfield fourth-grader Brandon Mitchner received the national Noetic Math Challenge Honor Roll title, and fourth-graders Abigail Bendlak, Amanda Larsen, Andrew McClelland, Ethan Mellott, Hunter Gabel, Jillian Rinas, Lyla Anderson, Raphael Gotfryd, Ryan Perrico and Tyler Ebert received national Honorable Mention in the competition.
 - Rushwood students Logan Miller, Olivia Martin, Claire Taylor, Matt Bush, Cassie Wiece, Drew Rosenblum, Makenna Kilgore and Joey Filisky were recognized for their participation. Drew Rosenblum won the National Honor Roll award, meaning he scored in the Top 10% of all students.
- Ledgeview students were able to choose free summer reading books to support and encourage reading during the summer months. Books were gathered through family donations, PTA donations and school fundraiser funds as part of Right to Read Week. The effort was chaired and coordinated by Ledgeview library aide Jennifer Schlund.
- Ledgeview students participated in the 2018 Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge, which rewards students by unlocking prizes for minutes read over the summer. Ledgeview also competes against other registered schools in the state for the most minutes read in Ohio.
- Ledgeview fourth-graders participated in Genius Hour, which engaged each student in a self-selected, self-driven learning project based on personal passions. Students presented their Genius Hour projects to peers and families in May.
- Ledgeview and Rushwood expanded their no-new-instruction period during the school day. What I Need (WIN) time was provided on a grade-level time basis to provide additional adult support at each grade level, allowing staff to create smaller student groupings that better met students' needs. Additionally, Title I and special education small group services were integrated into this time to allow additional support for students without missing classroom instruction. During WIN time, students received additional support, in-depth activities and extension activities designed to meet them at their current instructional level and build on their current skills.

- Ledgeview kindergarten students participated in the Key Step to Reading Success through the GAR Foundation. This program provides 10 weeks of materials and guidance to parents to help their at-risk student build important, research-based, basic reading skills.
- Each of the Northfield kindergarten classes published a book about the four seasons. Students' accomplishments as young authors and illustrators were celebrated during a Book Signing Night in April.
- Northfield first-graders celebrated a Poetry Celebration that highlighted poetry writing and reading fluency.
- Northfield second-graders portrayed historical figures in a Living Wax Museum. Students dressed up as a historical figure, presented to families and then had a gallery tour with the entire school.
- All Northfield second-grade students were placed into a Google Classroom and explored with Kahoot, Google Slides and Quizlet.
- Northfield fourth-grade math and science instruction included hands-on and small group explorations to learn and reinforce new concepts, such as fractions, division and earth science.
- Northfield students, staff and parents participated in the One School, One Book program. The selection was *The Adventures of a South Pole Pig*.
- Northfield intervention specialists have specialized training in academic and behavioral interventions, such as the Wilson Reading Program and Zones of Regulation.
- Rushwood Elementary was named a 2018 Hall of Fame School by the Ohio Department of Education. Rushwood was recognized at a ceremony in Columbus in June. Superintendent Joe Clark, Principal Jacqueline O'Mara, kindergarten teacher Amanda Juhasz, first-grade teacher Erin Wilson, second-grade teacher Kathy Goodson, fourth-grade teacher Debbie McNellie and gifted teacher Alice Bender attended the ceremony to represent Rushwood.
- Rushwood students received a matching grant for Acellus, which will provide all students with blended learning opportunities using research-based, data-driven instruction in grades K-4.
- Rushwood students were introduced to coding in second, third and fourth grades, and will continue to expand on this in years to come using the Acellus STEM Lab Cellus Bots.
- Rushwood fourth-graders participated in a field trip to the Cuyahoga Valley National Park to examine Ohio's history through hand-on stations revealing how the state's landscape and geology influence human inhabitants.
- Rushwood gifted teacher Alice Bender and her classes studied and followed the Iditarod race. Edward Hertelendy and his Iditarod sled dogs visited Rushwood.



ARTS

Participation in performing and visual arts inspires students' creativity, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills.

Some highlights:

- A diversity arts contest was held at Nordonia High School in February in honor of Black History Month. Students had the opportunity to create and submit art projects centered on this theme. Brian Anthony, program specialist at the Diversity Center, and the administrative team at the High School selected the winning artworks. Winners from each grade level included seniors Erin Adams and Rachel Parrino; juniors Harlequinn Bodziony and Maria Wolff, and sophomore Megan Crawford.
- In recognition of Black History Month, Professor Prester Pickett of Cleveland State University presented to over 600 Nordonia students in the freshmen English and sophomore U.S. history classes. Pickett's presentations were "The Langston Hughes Workshop" and "The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. 'I Have a Dream' Speech Workshop." His presentations gave students a tremendous appreciation of Langston Hughes' and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s contributions to our nation.
- The High School Drama Club presented William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as its fall play. The production was staged in the round and involved 215 students who worked together to bring the Drama Club's first Shakespeare play to life.
- In April, the Drama Club, under the direction of Chris Simmons, presented Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Oklahoma!*, easily one of the club's largest productions to date. The production involved almost 100 students on and off the stage, and featured seniors Bradford Zinn, Kayleigh Wisniewski and Nolan Tater, and sophomore Jamie Brasdovich in the leading roles.
- Scholastic Art Competition winners were Krishna Bhagat, Sierra Boczkiewicz, Dominique Evans, Emily Gervase, Christina Golden, Keshawn Harris, Morgan Harvey, Michael Janiak, Hailey Karcic, Evan Mammana, Madison Moore, Sabrina Nichol, Kathrine Pastor, Johnathan Polace, Cassidy Prosen, Taylor Prospal, Gwen Putz, Mike Savol, Nicole Schmeiser and Stephanie Schueren.
- The Nordonia Marching Band qualified for the Ohio Music Education Association's State Finals Competition in September. The band received the highest rating of Superior from all nine judges. The Marching Band also received the highest rating of Superior overall from all nine judges at the OMEA State Finals performance at Brunswick High School in November. This is the fifth consecutive year that the Nordonia Marching Band has received a Superior rating.

- The Nordonia Marching Band qualified for the Bands of America Regional Finals at the regional championship in Canton, and finished third in its class and seventh overall.
- The Nordonia Marching Band performed at the Buckeye Invitational competition at The Ohio State University, finishing 13th out of 44 bands.
- More than 60 students performed in 20 performances at the District VI OMEA Solo and Ensemble Competition in January. Seventeen performances were awarded the highest distinction of Superior, while two earned the next highest rating of Excellent.
- The Concert Band and Wind Ensemble both earned the highest rating of Superior at OMEA District VI Large Group Contest in March. This is the fourth consecutive year that the Nordonia Wind Ensemble has received a Superior rating.
- Senior Grace Barth's portfolio was chosen as the best example of a well-rounded, advanced body of artwork in the Art Department's annual scholarship contest for graduating seniors who plan to major in the field of art in college. Grace will attend Kent State University, where she plans to major in Visual Communication and Design.
- Advanced art students began beautifying the High School by painting murals on walls around the building.
- Akron Children's Hospital purchased six pieces of artwork from Nordonia High School students. The artwork that was selected will be used for the new seven-floor expansion of the Considine Professional Building at the main campus in Akron. Congratulations to freshmen Ava Kish and Haleigh McDonald; sophomore Ryan Short; and juniors Delaney Bodziony, Jackie Flanik and Jenna Rizzo.
- The Nordonia Choral Program hosted 54 choirs for the OMEA District Contest in March at Nordonia High School. All three Nordonia choirs received Excellent and Superior ratings.
- The Men's Chorus and the Symphonic Chorale received Superior Ratings at the OMEA State Contest in April.
- The eighth annual Nordonia A Cappella Festival hosted 17 groups from as far away as Wisconsin in March for a weekend of master classes and clinics with professional performers from around the country, including Mo5aic and *Pitch Perfect* movie producer Deke Sharon.
- The Nordonia Middle School eighth-grade band was selected to perform at the Ohio Band Directors Conference as a featured Middle School Band.
- The Middle School's choirs and band competed in OMEA and received ratings of Excellent (II) and Superior (I).
- The Middle School has an a cappella group, Knight Rhythm.

- The Lee Eaton band participated in the first-ever Band Olympics, a series of games and competitions based around learning musical concepts.
- More than 80% of Lee Eaton sixth-grade students participated in band or choir.
- Art projects by Ledgeview Elementary students were displayed at Akron Children's Hospital.
- Elementary students participated in the Winter Arts Festival. Fourth-grade students displayed their vocal and instrumental talents during a performance on the high school stage. Additionally, all elementary students had their work displayed at the Winter Arts Festival Art Show at the High School. Each student had a minimum of two art pieces displayed. Student art was also featured on Artsonia, an online gallery.
- Ledgeview second-grade students held their annual concert for families and students in May. The event also featured the Ledgeview All-School Art Show.
- Northfield Elementary student artists shared their hard work and artistic skills with their families on Artsonia and at the school's annual art show in April.
- Northfield students were exposed to a wide variety of musical experiences, including singalongs and grade-level performances, movement and instrument playing, visiting musical groups, and even the opportunity to sing and play with the Akron Symphony Orchestra.
- Rushwood third-grade students and their families conducted experiments at Science Day, while kindergarten students enjoyed a book reading by a local author.
- Rushwood students, staff and families participated in the One School One Book program, under the leadership of third-grade teacher Brenda Basch. The book selection was *Charlie Bumpers vs. The Teacher of the Year*.
- Rushwood first-graders had their first annual Kindness Night, where they, along with their parents, decorated rocks with the hashtag "RushwoodRocks." These rocks have been placed around town to spread positive messages and kindness.
- Rushwood third-grade students, under the direction of teacher Heather MacRaild, received a grant to build a school garden. Students will plant and cultivate the garden for years to come.
- Rushwood students participated in the school's third annual Career Day for third- and fourth-grade students.
- Rushwood second-grade students enjoyed their annual Fun with Mud night, creating art pieces with clay.
- Rushwood third-grade students attended the Akron Civic Theater to view the Akron Symphony Link-Up Concert with music teacher Angela Perrine.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP & ACTIVITIES

A well-rounded education includes a wide variety of opportunities.

Some highlights:

- Thirty-six Nordonia High School students from all grade levels participated in a six-part program, YouLEAD, sponsored by the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio. The students participated in six sessions designed to promote student leadership relative to the awareness of diversity issues, build leadership skills and create an inclusive school environment. In March, sophomore counselor Keith Terlone and 11 students attended the Spring Conference at John Carroll University.
- The High School's 113 National Honor Society members supported and/or donated to the following organizations: Knights Caring for Conchs, Knights Caring for Knights, Polar Express, Right to Read/Elementary Reading, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Student of the Year and Student Series Campaign, Emergency Assistance Center Easter Baskets, Rockin' Frocks and Summit County Special Olympics. In addition, members proudly tutored more than 140 High School and 40 Middle School peers.
- The High School's varsity wrestling team won its first OHSAA Sectional Championship since 1998. Nordonia junior wrestler Mitch Collica qualified for the OHSAA State Tournament. Mitch placed 8th in the state at 138 pounds.
- High School seniors Jared Toaz and Christina McFarland qualified for their third-consecutive OHSAA State Swimming and Diving Meet.
- The High School's girls varsity track & field team won its sixth-consecutive Suburban League championship and finished as OHSAA regional runner-up. Head coach Scott Barwidi was named Suburban League Coach of the Year.
- The High School's girls track & field team qualified eight athletes for the OHSAA State Track & Field Meet, and placed 8th in the state. Senior sprinter Faith Banks placed second in the 400-meter dash; senior sprinter Aja DuVall placed fourth in the 200-meter dash; senior middle distance runner Carmen Licht placed sixth in the 800-meter run; and 4x400-meter relay team Carmen Licht, Lizzy Gurko, Aja DuVall and Faith Banks placed third.
- The High School girls softball team finished the season as OHSAA district runner-up.
- Nordonia Middle School became only the second middle school in northeast Ohio to form an Interact Club, which is a student service organization sponsored by the Rotary Club.
- Middle School students raised money through Penny Wars to help battle leukemia and lymphoma.

- All Middle School students participated in the Rethinking Labels program, and students were selected to participate in the You Lead program presented by the Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio
- Middle School Athletic Director Rita Covin formed the Knights Sportsmanship Task Force to promote positive fan involvement at sporting events.
- Approximately 75% of Middle School students are involved in an extracurricular activity.
- The Middle School's Girls Club helped raise products and awareness for the Animal Shelter.
- The Middle School's Media Club presented news broadcasts throughout the school on TV monitors using Google Chromecast.
- The Middle School's Interact Club built a Veterans Garden to honor our country's veterans.
- Lee Eaton Elementary's Student Council raised over \$5,000 for a leukemia and lymphoma fundraiser, and coordinated fundraiser and school activities, including Pumpkin Patch, Pennies for Pasta, Canned Food Drive, Spirit Week and Birthday Club.
- Lee Eaton offered after-school programs including Young Rembrandts, an art program for fifth- and sixth-grade students; Project PANDA, a drug and alcohol prevention, education and outreach program; Upward Math; Student Council; Genesis, a fifth- and sixth-grade a cappella group; Campus Life and Ski Club.
- Lee Eaton Girls on the Run team raised over \$500 to help animals in need, donating to Canine Lifeline and Herps Alive Foundation.
- Lee Eaton students collected 1,040 pounds of food for Nordonia's annual Fill the Bus campaign to benefit the Emergency Assistance Center.
- The Ledgeview Elementary Student Council hosted an all-school pet supplies drive. Students brought in goods and donated change to help support the local Humane Society in its effort to care and advocate for abused, neglected and abandoned animals in Summit County.
- Ledgeview celebrated Right to Read Week in May. The theme was "Books Build a Better World." Each day, students "visited" a different continent through decorations, readings, information and videos. Ledgeview also hosted its first Family Night for Right to Read Week. Families were invited to visit the displays, complete crafts and share treats from around the world.
- Ledgeview held its second annual Literary Pumpkin Decoration Contest. Students were invited to decorate a pumpkin like their favorite literary character. Pumpkins were displayed in the school lobby, and enjoyed by students and adults.
- Ledgeview established new student recognition opportunities and student activities for the 2017-18 school year, including grade-level Brag Tag

recognition for pro-social behavior and academic skills, and Student of the Month recognition for a building-wide recognition of positive character traits.

- Ledgeview held its first Career Week. Students earned a Brag Tag for completing career-based activities and were invited to dress up as the future career of their choice. Ledgeview family members were invited to come in to talk to students about their careers and the role education played in helping them be successful in the workplace.
- Northfield Elementary's Leadership Team organized several collection drives benefitting Springtime of Hope, the Emergency Assistance Center, A Special Wish and Kick-it for Cancer. The Leadership Team also led the student body in efforts to build positive character with projects like Kindness Counts and Positive Post-It.
- Rushwood Elementary's Student Leadership team sponsored several school-wide collections for those in need in our community, particularly supporting the Emergency Assistance Center. Students donated hats, gloves, scarves and socks.
- Rushwood celebrated Right to Read Week with a theme following the ideas from the book *Charlie Bumpers vs. The Teacher of the Year*.
- Rushwood students visited local retirement communities throughout the district, interacting with senior citizens by reading, crafting and singing.
- Rushwood students interested in expanding their interest in art participated in an after-school program called Young Rembrandts.
- Rushwood students were recognized for positive behavior, work effort and academics, and with daily Shining Star awards. Students were also recognized with Student of the Month certificates in core classes and specials.



FISCAL STEWARDSHIP

Financial responsibility ensures that the majority of funding is spent on classroom instruction.

Some highlights:

- Of the 17 school districts in Summit County, Nordonia Schools has the third highest academic achievement with one of the lowest effective tax rates.
- Nordonia is one of two Summit County school districts without a dedicated permanent improvement levy.
- Nordonia Schools Treasurer/CFO Karen Obratil and staff won the prestigious Auditor of State Award with Distinction for the district's clean financial audit for fiscal year 2017.
- For the fourth consecutive year, Nordonia Schools Treasurer/CFO Karen 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, 2017.
- Participation in the federal E-rate program provided discounts on telecommunications and internet services. In fiscal year 2018, the district received E-rate discounts totaling approximately \$40,000.
- Memberships with the following organizations assist Nordonia in receiving products and services while sharing the costs with other districts and public entities:
 - Stark County Council of Governments (COG) for the district's insurance programs (medical, dental, vision and life). There are more than 80 entities representing more than 15,000 participants.
 - Ohio Schools Council for group purchasing of cafeteria food and supplies, waste and recycling, and electricity.
 - HPS for group purchasing of cafeteria food and supplies, school furnishings and equipment.
 - Lake Erie Education Media Consortium for discounts on library books and resources.
- The district worked as part of a consortium with NEOnet to secure volume-discount pricing on the 1:1 Chromebook Initiative.
- Due to the growth of the 1:1 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 significant savings.



PARENT & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Educational experiences are enhanced by partnerships between the school district and community.

Some highlights:

- Nordonia has active PTAs in every building. The PTAs sponsor many fun and educational events for our students each year. Additionally, the PTA provides mini-grants for teachers and staff to supplement activities and projects in the classroom, and provided grade-level grants to allow all elementary students the opportunity to go on a field trip.
- The Nordonia Hills Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with the district, hosted its 25th annual Community Expo at Nordonia High School.
- In conjunction with the PTSA Council, the district held its sixth annual Winter Art and Music Festival, showcasing art and music from every district building.
- Knights Caring for Knights, founded by the Bruno family, provides food for more than 90 needy Nordonia Schools students on the weekends.
- Nordonia's seventh annual Family Always First Night provided an opportunity for families to spend time together without extracurricular or homework activities interfering with family plans.
- In partnership with the Rotary Club of Nordonia Hills, the district hosted a seminar for families on protecting our children from human trafficking.
- All Nordonia High School students must have 20 community service hours completed and documented in order to graduate. The class of 2018 completed more than 20,000 hours of community service.
- District-hosted Parent Tech Talks provide parents opportunities to learn more about the district's 1:1 Chromebook program and how students are using Chromebooks in the classroom and at home. Parents are also invited to discuss/learn about social media dangers.
- Families engage in an annual Title One Family Literacy Night.
- The Nordonia Hills City School District, with the support of Special Olympics Area Ten, hosted the second annual K-12 Special Olympics Track and Field Day in May. The event hosted 12 school districts with more than 240 student-athletes who participated in their choice of three out of 15 events. Through the generous support of community members and local organizations, this event provided family members with the opportunity to watch their child participate at a school function that was solely focused on the Special Olympic student-athlete.
- For the 17th year, Nordonia High School health students and staff purchased presents to support Gifts from the Heart, a non-profit program to benefit

cancer patients at University Hospital's Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital. Students and staff teamed up to contribute over \$4,000 in gifts and donations.

- For the third year, High School health students donated more than 150 purses full of women's toiletry products to Purses of Hope, which supports The Women's Shelter of Akron.
- Community Service has been a major part of the High School's health classes for the past 18 years. In 2017-18, students contributed more than 1,500 pounds of items to the Northfield Emergency Assistance Center to support the Nardonía school community.
- In May, 248 members of the senior class participated in the Senior Job Shadow Program. Seniors were given an opportunity to investigate a career that interested them. Students worked with one or more mentors in the community and spent up to 40 hours in the workplace to get a sense of the real world outside of the walls of Nardonía High School. At the project's culmination, seniors returned to school and shared their experiences with staff and students.
- The 23rd annual Nardonía Teen Institute's Knight of Stars Talent Extravaganza was in March. It featured 26 performances of local community and student talent. Proceeds benefit the Nardonía High School Teen Institute program led by Regina Christy. Teen Institute promotes healthy lifestyle choices, and is one of the leading and most active Teen Institute organizations in the state.
- Nardonía Middle School partnered with Chipotle, which donated catering each month to help support the Knight Way luncheon and allow parents to join the celebration. Twenty students and a guest are honored each month through the program.
- The Middle School has a continuing partnership with Circle K, through the Fueling Our Schools program. Circle K's financial support goes toward school technology purchases that benefit students.
- The Building Boosters of Nardonía Hills made a donation to help brighten up the school through the use of wall and door graphics.
- Eighth-grade science teacher John Myers organized a Career Day, which gave students exposure to different professionals from the area.
- Lee Eaton parent Erin Bugarcic coordinated and taught an after-school tech club that covered topics like 3D printing, Ozobots, Lego EV3s and coding.
- Lee Eaton welcomes parents and community members into the building by hosting events such as Veterans Day Breakfast, Pumpkin Patch Festival, Title One Night, Talent Show, Band and Choir performances, and Patriot 500 Racing.
- Lee Eaton is piloting a program called C.A.S.T. (coordinated assistant support team) that integrates school and community members to form a safety net

for families that need social and emotional support as well as economic support.

- Elementary schools welcome parents as partners with the following school-sponsored events:
 - Fall Costume Parade
 - Veterans Day Breakfast and Celebration
 - Fall and Winter Celebrations
 - Second-Grade Grandparents' Day
 - Kindergarten 100-Day Fashion Show
 - Fourth-Grade Genius Hour Expo
 - Second-Grade Living Museum Projects
 - Second-Grade Spring Music Performance
 - Second-Grade Gingerbread House Building
 - Field Day
 - Volunteer Tea
 - Kindergarten Celebration
 - Right to Read Week Family Night
 - Fourth-Grade Celebration and Recognition Assembly
 - COSI Fall Festival
- The Nordonía Readiness Coalition continued its work collaborating with community institutions and its preschool partners at The Goddard School (Macedonia), Lollipop Cooperative Preschool, Longwood YMCA and Northfield Presbyterian Day Care. The Coalition seeks to strengthen relationships between preschool programs, community resources and the school district in order to support the district's youngest learners and their families.
- Nordonía hosted a Good Beginnings Fair, in collaboration with the Summit Education Initiative. The Good Beginnings Fair provided Nordonía families with children ages 0-5 take-home resources for parents and explained ways to enrich children's literacy and social emotional development at home. The fair also provided pizza and child supervision for families who attended, as well as the opportunity to enter a drawing for raffle prizes.
- Northfield third-graders completed two hours of community service, including clothing and toy collections; volunteering at fire departments, assisted-living facilities and animal shelters; cleaning up local parks by picking up trash, building birdhouses and feeders for animals; recycling; and helping elderly neighbors with trash and raking.



STUDENT SERVICES

A variety of services provide options to ensure all students receive individualized instruction, enrichment and support.

Some highlights:

- The Nordonia Hills School District is committed to providing support services that meet the emotional, physical, social and emotional needs of all students. The district is committed to enhancing learning and removing barriers that inhibit students through collaboration with parents, students, community and staff.
- Nordonia provides a continuum of special-education services for students ages 3 to 22. The district strives for an integrated learning environment between general-education and special-education classrooms. All school staff take responsibility for providing an individualized education plan to meet the needs of students to ensure access to the general curriculum.
- The district provides medical support staff through Akron Children's Hospital. The medical support staff is committed to meeting the daily healthcare needs of all students, as well as the long-term needs of children with chronic illnesses.
- The needs of students who have been identified as gifted are met through a continuum of services and strategies. The district works with parents to provide students with enrichment activities and experiences. Many of the academic and social needs of students who are gifted are addressed within the general education classroom.
- English Language Learning (ELL) services are provided to students who are acquiring English as a Second Language (ESL). The purpose of the program is to provide support as students attempt to understand and function in a new cultural and/or academic environment. This service is delivered during school hours. The ELL teachers provide direct language instruction to students and collaborate with teachers to develop an understanding of students' strengths so they can be provided appropriate instruction.
- Leveled Literacy Intervention was implemented across all elementary levels with instruction provided by Title I and classroom teachers to build at-risk students' literacy skills.



STAFF LEADERSHIP

Nordonia staff members are leaders at the local and state level in many initiatives.

Some highlights:

- PTA Educators of the Year for 2017-18 were:
 - Lee Eaton: Dawn Monroe
 - Ledgeview: Michelle Kerns
 - Northfield: Lisa Bass
 - Rushwood: Angela Perrine
 - Nordonia Middle School: Theresa Bonick
 - Nordonia High School: Emily Rion
 - District: Emily Rion
- The Nordonia Hills Educators' Association selected Ledgeview teacher Kathy Kotecki as the 2017-18 Teacher of the Year.
- Lee Eaton teacher Rosa Griesinger represented Nordonia on the All-County Teaching Team, which honors one teacher from every school district in Summit County. Members are nominated by the community and chosen to represent their school systems by a selection committee. Northfield teacher Gina Kitchen also was honored as a 2017 Rookie of the Year Award nominee.
- English as a Second Language teacher Brooke Leach-Grable again was selected as an English Language Fellow through the U.S. State Department. Leach-Grable will be in Pristina, Kosovo, for the 2018-19 school year creating an English language curriculum, mentoring and observing teachers in the field, and teaching a course at the University of Pristina.
- Superintendent Joe Clark is a board member of the Rotary Club of Nordonia Hills. Clark is also a member of the Buckeye Association of School Administrators Legislative Committee.
- Superintendent Joe Clark is president-elect of the Akron Area School Superintendents Association.
- Principals David Broman, Shon Smith and Rob Schrembeck are board members of the YMCA of Nordonia Hills.
- Maintenance worker Herb Van Horn and Nordonia High School teachers Kevin Tanner and Jason Lara are veterans of the U.S. military.

- Superintendent Joe Clark and Nordonia High School administrators Casey Wright, Dave Broman, Jessica Archer and Anthony Buckler attended the U.S. Army Educators Tour at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.
- District librarian Angela Wojtecki won the 2018 Information Technology Innovation Award from the Ohio Education Library Media Association (OELMA).
- Nordonia High School media resource aide Erin Bugarcic won a scholarship from the Ohio Education Library Media Association.
- Nordonia High School teacher Kelly Nyzen won PBS/WVIZ's 2018 Innovative Educator Award.
- 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 technology innovation and its uses in the classroom. The conference included different hour-long sessions, allowing for high-quality differentiated professional development.
- Middle School counselors attended the All Ohio Counselors Conference.
- Middle School counselor Danielle Ricchino participated in the Summit County Crisis Team meeting.
- The district is a member of the Cleveland Area Minority Educators Recruitment Association (C.A.M.E.R.A.).
- Middle School Principal Bryan Seward is a member of the OASSA State Legislative Committee and a past member of the Instructional Leadership Committee.
- Middle School team leaders participated in professional development at the Ohio Middle Level Association Conference in Columbus.
- Ledgeview school psychologist Keith Mesmer was elected and inducted as president of the Ohio School Psychologist Association.
- The Ledgeview Building Leadership Team executed its building-level plan to learn more about the importance of teacher language and its impact on student learning through staff development using the book *The Power of Our Words*. Staff members engaged in reflection and peer observation during the school year to reinforce learning in specific teacher-based language domains.
- Ledgeview staff members Konni Stagliano and Lynn Cutright pursued supplemental training to service and support our gifted students in their classrooms.
- Ledgeview teachers Andrea Pylypiak, Janis Roskoph, Konni Stagliano, Michelle Kerns and Sarah Polito attended Google Academy training to allow them to augment technology-based learning opportunities for their students in the classroom.

- Teacher Sarah Polito provided an Autism Spectrum Disorder training session for all Ledgeview fourth-grade students. The goal of the presentation was to raise awareness, create understanding and help our students support their peers on the autism spectrum.
- Rushwood Elementary kindergarten teacher Heather MacRaild successfully wrote a grant for a school garden.
- Under the direction of Sue Petonic, the Nordonía Food Service Department completed its triennial Administrative Review audit from the Ohio Department of Education with no critical errors.



Nordonia Hills City School District
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 Twitter: @NordoniaSchools

Superintendent: Dr. Joseph P. Clark
 Treasurer: Karen Obratil

Nordonia Hills City Schools Directory

Nordonia High School	330-468-4601
Nordonia Middle School (7-8).....	330-467-0584
Lee Eaton Elementary (5-6)	330-467-0582
Ledgeview Elementary (K-4).....	330-467-0583
Northfield Elementary (K-4)	330-467-2010
Rushwood Elementary (K-4)	330-467-0581
Central Office	330-467-0580

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