



# EAST CLEVELAND CITY SCHOOLS DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

## W.H. Kirk Middle School Turns Pink and Orange This Fall

As a way to bring awareness to the school, district, and community about the global issues of breast cancer and bullying, W. H. Kirk Middle School held several activities throughout October to build a more supportive environment among students and staff.

October is also National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. To support our community's awareness in educating ourselves and spreading the word in regards to screenings and support, W. H. Kirk Middle School had a "PINK OUT." *Cont. p. 2*

Students at Kirk celebrated the National Bully Awareness Day on October 12th by wearing orange. Students participated in anti-bullying activities and assignments in their classrooms that highlighted what bullying is, the different types of bullying, how to stand up to bullies, and the support and resources they have available if they feel like they or someone they know is being bullied.



Kirk students dressed in pink for Breast Cancer Awareness



### From the Superintendent

With the fall months upon us and the winter holidays around the corner, I'm excited at the early progress our students are making in this 2022-23 school year. Our first quarter district and building scorecards have given us some key insights about our areas of strength and some areas where we still need improvement.

Nonetheless, I'm proud of our students, our teachers, and our administrators who continue to work hard each day.

Let's keep this momentum going as we move into the winter months.



### From the Board President

These first months of the school year are always a great time, and our recent review of the District's progress conveys the importance that the community and families can play in growing our students. It truly takes a village. It is better to build a child than repair an adult.

I encourage everyone to get involved with the schools--whether as a volunteer, joining the PTA, or even attending a board meeting. Together, we can make our District a success.

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### Upcoming Events

November 8--PD Day, No School

November 9--Parent-Teacher Conferences

November 23-25--Thanksgiving Holiday, No School

December 23--Last Day for Quarter 2

December 26-January 6--Winter Break, No School

January 9--Professional Development Day for Staff

January 10--students return to school



EastCleveSchools @EastCleSchools @EastCleSchools Cardinals Nation





Wearing orange symbolizes awareness related to bullying

Throughout the month of October, Kirk integrated special lessons and activities to educate and empower students on how they can take action in their communities regarding breast cancer. Kirk students also have chosen to adopt St. Jude's Children's Hospital as their charity of choice, and students will fundraise to donate to St. Jude's.

### Mayfair Elementary Receives Grant from NBA Cares

The District is happy to announce that Mayfair Elementary School has received a \$50,000 grant from NBA Cares and State Farm to establish an Action Based Learning classroom, outfitted with 20 pieces of age appropriate cardiovascular equipment and 28 fitness monitors. Research tells us that heart rate is the most effective biomarker for both physical and emotional feedback. In short, when students are moving, students are learning.

The Action Based Learning classroom provides age appropriate cardiovascular equipment, resources, and training on how to track one's health, fitness and wellness. This classroom will provide venues where students, teachers and parents can track their fitness, collaborate and create fitness plans utilizing technology and cardio equipment. This classroom emphasizes the importance to track heart rate and overall fitness regardless of their current physical fitness levels, current skills, or capabilities.

The fitness monitors provide direct, real-time fitness data to students to track their physical health and emotions to a visual display through heart rate.



Above: A model of the ideal Action Based Learning Classroom. Below and right: A version of a fitness monitor that students will use.

The software also centralizes all data back a secure database for the teacher to review as well as providing daily reports to the students' parents.



Physical fitness, emotional health, and mental health impact all aspects of a student's life. By emphasizing healthy habits early in a student's life, the more likely these habits will be retained after graduation.

### Caledonia Earns Beacon Award as a Blue Ribbon School

Caledonia Elementary School has been named a Beacon Award winner by the National Blue Ribbon School Program. The award recognizes the continuous improvement efforts made in the areas of early literacy and early numeracy.

Early literacy is key to each student's academic success. To support this work, Caledonia hosted the District's first Literacy Night during the first quarter. Families enjoyed learning about the literacy block, the instructional class time and activities that students in grades kindergarten, one, and two learn reading and writing skills each day. Families and students played literacy games and reviewed activities that could be completed at home to reinforce what is being taught in the classroom.



Below: Reading teacher, Ms. Stokes, works with students on phonics games that can be played at home during Family Reading Night



### District Hosts Community Event to Review Quarterly Score Card

On Tuesday, November 1, the East Cleveland City School District hosted its first Schools Connecting Community event of the school year. Held at the Salvation Army of East Cleveland, the event offered families and community members the opportunity to see how the District is meeting its goals outlined in the Revitalization Plan.

The Revitalization Plan outlines twenty different metrics that the District is evaluated upon in order to make local control permanent. Of the twenty metrics, the District must meet or exceed eleven markers by the close of 2025. The score cards provide a quarterly snapshot of the District's progress, as well as each building's progress in meeting these markers.

The next Schools Connecting Community event will be held in January 2023 at Shaw High School where information for the second quarter of the school year will be reviewed.



Part of the event featured student performances from the Superior School for the Performing Arts that included "Dad Jokes." Pictured from L to R: John Miller, third grader; Ms. Anna Popa, creative arts director; Ashtyn Burston-Moore, third grader; and Mrs. Monique Ceasor, principal.