



Kirtland Local School District
9252 Chillicothe Road, Kirtland, OH 44094
440.256.3311

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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CLEVELAND, OH
PERMIT NO. 1

UPCOMING EVENTS



- July 18 - Board of Education meeting, KHS cafeteria
- August 15 - Kindergarten orientation
- August 15 - New student orientation
- August 15 - Board of Education meeting, KHS cafeteria
- August 17 - PTA Ice Cream Social
- August 17 - Teacher Work Day (No School for Students)
- August 18 - First Day of School
- August 18, 22 - Kindergarten screening
- August 24 - 1/2 of Kindergarten First Day of School
- August 25 - 1/2 of Kindergarten First Day of School
- August 26 - All Kindergarten Attends
- September 1 - KES Picture Day
- September 5 - Labor Day - No School

*****ECRWSEDDM*****

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER
KIRTLAND, OH 44094

BOARD OF EDUCATION

President: Jonathan Withrow

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Vice President: Matt Whittaker

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Director of Pupil Services: Kristen Schutte

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Treasurer: Lew Galante

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Kirtland Elementary School

Principal: Katy Nagaj

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Kirtland Middle School

Principal: Scott Amstutz

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Assistant Principal: David Leone

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Kirtland High School

Principal: Scott Amstutz

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Athletics

Athletic Director: Matt Paul

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FOLLOW US

Chad VanArnhem on Twitter @KLSDSupt

Kirtland Schools on Facebook @KirtlandSchoolsOH

Kirtland Schools on Twitter @KirtlandSchools

Kirtland Elementary School on Twitter @mrsnagaj

Kirtland Middle School on Twitter @MrAmstutz | @MrLeoneMS

Kirtland High School on Twitter @MrAmstutz

Kirtland Hornets athletics on Twitter @kirtlandspots

Kirtland Athletics at www.kirtlandhornet.org | Kirtland Local Schools at www.kirtlandschools.org

THE Kirtland CONNECTION

A Quarterly Newsletter for Kirtland Local Schools

Summer 2022

MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT



Hello Kirtland Community,

I am so thankful for the support of all of our stakeholders which ensured we had a very successful school year as we navigated through a variety of challenges including the pandemic. Our students have demonstrated amazing resilience, adaptability and focus. As

life continues to put up obstacles for our children, they have found a way to persevere through them and find success. These are lifelong lessons that will help all of them for years to come. Our staff is to be commended for providing a sense of normalcy while ensuring that our learning opportunities and extracurricular activities continued. They have found ways to build meaningful relationships with students and close any academic areas of weakness created from learning in a variety of settings

in the prior school year. Our parents and guardians are to be thanked and commended for their ongoing support. We are so fortunate to have the involvement at home helping children and volunteering at the schools! I also would like to thank our community for the constant support for our students and staff. All of our community support groups have put their arms around this school district to provide us what was needed!

We look forward to welcoming our students back on August 18 after they have a much deserved and wonderful summer break!

Chad VanArnhem
Superintendent

KIRTLAND HIGH SCHOOL RANKS HIGH IN 2022 U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKINGS

Kirtland High School is a 2022 Best High School, based on rankings from the *U.S. News & World Report*. Kirtland High School is ranked #1 in Lake County, #21 in Cleveland and #81 in Ohio (out of 750 schools ranked in Ohio.)



"I am proud to see that our high school is ranked very high in our area and across the state," said Superintendent Chad VanArnhem, Kirtland Local Schools. "We are fortunate to have such wonderful students, a dedicated and caring staff, supportive parents and a great community. Our school district will continue looking for ways to improve and provide a very well-rounded education for our students."

#1 IN LAKE COUNTY

#21 IN CLEVELAND

#81 IN THE STATE OF OHIO
(OUT OF 750 SCHOOLS RANKED)



I am proud to see that our high school is ranked very high in our area and across the state. We are fortunate to have such wonderful students, a dedicated and caring staff, supportive parents and a great community. – Chad VanArnhem, Superintendent

KIRTLAND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN FIRST TECH ROBOTICS CHALLENGE

Nine Kirtland High School students virtually participated in the *FIRST* Tech Robotics State Competition on March 5.

FIRST Tech Challenge is a robotics sport-like competition for students grades 7-12. Teams of up to 15 students design, build, and program robots to compete head-to-head against other teams. Robots are programmed using Java and controlled by smartphones and tablets. Teams develop strategies and build their robots based on comprehensive engineering principles. Team awards are given for winning game match play as well as for robot design, creative problem solving, collaborative teamwork and community outreach.

The team designs, builds, and programs a robot to complete certain tasks on a field that changes every year. This year, the team built a robot designed to pick up small yellow cubes and white balls and place them on a layered platform. The Electric Hornets used CAD modeling to prototype the robot virtually before building. After going through the engineering process several times, the Electric Hornets produced a robot that was able to pick up cubes and “dump” them on different layers of the multi-level platform. For several months, team members work to build, program, and drive the robot before competing in a competition.

The Electric Hornets won the Motivate award at the district competition, and moved on to states, where they won the second place Motivate.

The team includes Tabitha Blankenship, Daniel Booth, Charlie Burrows, Knox Crisci, Bo Famularcano, Daniel Fredrick, Sam Gordon, Aiden Knaus, and Matthew Shepard.

The team participated in several unofficial competitions as well, and were part of the winning alliance at the Kent tournament. The Electric Hornets also participated in an unofficial tournament hosted by Kirtland.



(left to right) Matthew Shepard, Bo Famularcano, Knox Crisci, Sam Gordon, Daniel Booth, Aiden Knaus, Tabitha Blankenship, Daniel Frederick, Charlie Burrows

KIRTLAND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WINS AFFILIATE HONORABLE MENTION NCWIT AWARD FOR ASPIRATIONS IN COMPUTING

Kirtland High School Student Nikolena Samac has received the Affiliate Honorable Mention NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing (AiC). The award, powered by the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT), recognizes 9th-12th grade women for their computing-related achievements and interests, as part of an effort to encourage a diverse range of students to choose careers in technology.

Award recipients were selected from more than 3,500 applicants from all 50 U.S. states, Washington, D.C., Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, U.S. overseas military bases, and Canada for their outstanding aptitude and aspirations in technology and computing as demonstrated by their computing experience,

computing-related activities, leadership experience, tenacity in the face of barriers to access, and plans for post-secondary education.

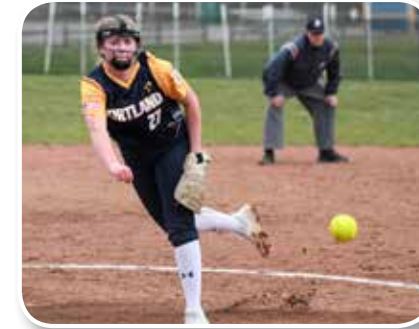
Each recipient will receive recognition and prizes; induction into the AiC Community of more than 22,000; access to resources, scholarships, internship opportunities, and more.



SPRING SPORTS SHORTS

Kirtland’s spring sports teams battled their fair share of adversity this season as Mother Nature disrupted the schedules for each team. But, the Hornets did what they always do and made the most of their opportunities.

Softball coach Jamie Kamensky led her young team to a 10-11 record overall and a 6-3 mark in the Chagrin Valley Conference Valley Division. The Hornets were in the hunt for the league title all the way until mid-May. For her efforts, Kamensky was named the league’s Co-Coach of the Year.



In addition, 33 Hornets earned All-CVC honors this spring. Leading the way were first-team selections Tommy Gogolin and Mason Rus from the baseball team, and Gianni Cantini and Madison Matijevec from softball.

Second-team selections included Luke Chuko, Jonathan Withrow, Gage Sullivan, Aaron Fortuna, and Gino Blasini from baseball; Grace Mastrangelo, Gianna DiFranco, Bella Hostutler, and Kennedy Boyd from softball, and Macy McIntosh, Alyssa Bryll, Elin Conner, Elise Beinhardt, Marissa Carmosino, Ainsley Borthwick, Delaney Kuczkowski, Reilly Greenlee, Sylvia Vosicky, and Corinne Greenlee from track.

McIntosh earned her all-conference honors in the 400-meter dash. Bryll, Conner, Beinhardt, and Carmosino ran the 4x100-meter relay, and Borthwick, Kuczkowski, Vosicky, and Reilly Greenlee competed in the 4x800. Corinne Greenlee’s all-conference honor came in the pole vault. A host of Hornets also earned honorable mention all-conference honors. Baseball’s honorees included Pierce Boyd and Tyler Turk. Malia Becker and Nikolena Samac represented the softball team, Patrick Bak and Charlie Burris earned honorable mention honors in tennis, and Phil LaVerde, Will Sayle, Sophie DeMarco, and Chloe Hansen were track’s honorable mention honorees.



The baseball team finished 13-12 overall and 7-5 in league play. Turk led the team with a .419 batting average. Sullivan was second with a .414 clip, and Gogolin rounded out the top three as he hit .408. Boyd and Sullivan led the team with eight doubles each, and Sullivan posted a team-high four triples. Boyd, Sullivan, and Chuko each hit one home run. Boyd led the Hornets with 27 runs batted in. On the mound, Rus and Blasini both finished 3-1. Max Paul led the Hornets with a 2.52 earned run average with 26 strikeouts to just nine walks in 16 2/3 innings of work. Boyd led the Hornets with 41 strikeouts and Fortuna and Blasini finished with 32 and 30, respectively.



Cantini did it all for the Hornets on the softball diamond. She led the team with a .642 batting average. She also posted team highs in doubles (7), triples (2), runs

scored (20), and RBI (23). In the circle, she hurled 124 1/3 of Kirtland’s 126 innings. She was 10-9 with a 5.63 ERA and struck out 120 batters faced. Matijevec finished second on the team with a .522 batting average. She was second on the team with six doubles, first with two home runs, and second with 18 RBI.

Kirtland’s girls’ track team placed fifth at the Division III Cuyahoga Heights District Meet. The Hornets advanced two individuals and two relay teams to the Massillon Perry Regional. Kuczkowski placed fourth in the 800-meter run at the district meet while Vosicky was third in the 400. Bryll, Connor, Carmosino, and McIntosh qualified for the regional meet by placing third in the 4x100-meter relay. Borthwick, Reilly Greenlee, Kuczkowski, and Vosicky placed third in the 4x800.

Kirtland’s tennis team finished 5-10 overall. Burris finished the season 10-5 in doubles play while Bak was 9-5 in singles. Vince Debeljak posted a 9-4 record in doubles action.

Highlights from the boys’ track season included:

Phil LaVerde finished seventh in the 200-meter dash with a time of 24.18 seconds and also ran a leg in the 4x100-meter relay. That team consisting of LaVerde, Scotty Haymer, Warren Eveland, and Will Bradshaw placed fourth in 47.55 seconds. Will Sayle placed fifth in the high jump with a top height of 5-feet, 4-inches and sixth in the long jump with a top leap of 18-feet, 10-inches. Sayle also placed fifth in the 400-meter dash (52.53) and he ran a leg in the 4x200-meter relay with LaVerde, Haymer, and Eveland. That team placed third in 1:34.54.

KIRTLAND THIRD AND FIFTH GRADERS PRESENT AT STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT MEETING

A group of third and fifth graders at Kirtland Elementary School (KES) presented projects to the Board of Education and other district administrators at the Student Learning and Achievement Meeting on April 11.

The four third-grade students presented their biography reports on historical figures. Luke Caimi presented as Neil Armstrong, Charlotte Koch presented as Mary Edwards Walker, Piper Schmidt presented as Harriet Tubman and Charlotte Tighe presented as Neil Armstrong.

The Ohio Learning Standards relevant to their project include informational reading skills through which students have to demonstrate sequencing of key events in their famous American's life and identify evidence of specific character traits from biographical text(s). In addition, speaking standards require students to speak in complete sentences as they report on a topic with "relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace."

A group of fifth graders presented their inventions. These students include Alivia Mason, Maya Griffin, Nolan Ribic, Brayden Yates and Tomislav Saric. Kirtland Elementary teacher Leslie Held worked with her students to create inventions as part Invention Convention, which is a K-12 invention education curricular program mapped to national and state educational standards that teaches students problem-identification, problem-solving, entrepreneurship and creativity skills and builds confidence in invention, innovation and entrepreneurship for life. All fifth graders at KES participate in this program every year. From the Mega Back Scratcher to the Sno B Gon Canobi, these students also amazed board members and administrators with their explanations of their creations.

"All our students did a wonderful job," said Principal Katy Nagaj, Kirtland Elementary School. "The Board of Education and administrative team enjoyed hearing from our students!"



KIRTLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CELEBRATES AUTISM AWARENESS SPIRIT WEEK

Kirtland Elementary School (KES) celebrated Autism Awareness Spirit Week April 25 through April 29. Everyone at KES was encouraged to participate in their week-long activities. Some classes read stories to prepare for the week and completed hands-on activities such as writing on giant puzzle pieces. Themes for the week included:

- **Monday:** Magnificent Monday aimed to celebrate the beauty in the diverse spectrum of the human mind. Everyone wore tie-dyed clothes.
- **Tuesday:** Autism Acceptance Day had everyone wearing blue to promote the idea that love and acceptance go a long way and to show support and acceptance of individuals with autism.
- **Wednesday:** One characteristic of autism is to show an incredibly focused passion for certain topics or interests. Everyone was asked to wear clothing that showed something they love.

- **Thursday:** Because people with autism often have sensory sensitivities sometimes wearing a hat or soft clothing makes children with autism feel more comfortable. Thursday's goal was to use as much natural light as possible instead of fluorescent lights and wear hats and/or comfortable clothing.
- **Friday:** Friday's theme was "Rock the Spectrum" and everyone was asked to "wear the rainbow."



CAREER SPEAKERS SPARK INTEREST FOR STUDENTS IN VARIETY OF PROFESSIONS

The goal of Kirtland Local Schools' college and career programming is to provide students with a variety of opportunities to explore college and career pathways and engage in career experiences. "Our hope is to spark students' interests and to help students maintain an open-minded approach as they begin to plan their college and career pathways," said Principal Scott Amstutz, Kirtland High School. Programming includes guest speakers, mock interviews, shadowing experiences and site visits.

Through the Professional Speakers Series, students had the opportunity to learn about the day-to-day responsibilities and experiences of individuals currently employed in specific career fields. Students have gained helpful insight through our guests' expertise and sharing of their personal career journeys this school year.



Special thanks to those individuals who have shared their time and expertise with our students:

Eric Cantini, Vice President, Digital Yalo
 Patty Caimi, National Sales Manager, Bally Sports
 Massimo Carmosino, Chief Financial Officer, Marous Brothers Construction
 Pam Samsa, Emergency Medicine Physician
 Lisa Ward, Head of RND, Steris Corp.
 Chris Smith, Architecture and Design, TDA (ThenDesign Architecture)
 John DeGreen, NASA Civil Engineer
 Mike Pinto, FBI
 Rochelle Kovach, Research Chemist, The Lubrizol Corp.
 Anthony LaCute, President and CEO, Seeley Medical
 Phil Trem, President of Financial Division at MarshBerry
 Dan Carestio, President & CEO, STERIS Corp.
 Chief Tony Hutton, Kirtland Fire Department
 Chief Bryan McCallister, Kirtland Police Department
 Jeff Balcerski, Senior Researcher, NASA
 Ryan Eubank, Lakeland, Welding

KIRTLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARTNERS WITH NATIONAL INVENTORS HALL OF FAME TO HOST CAMP INVENTION FOR K-6 STUDENTS THIS SUMMER

Kirtland Elementary School (KES), in partnership with the National Inventors Hall of Fame, is hosting "Camp Invention" this summer. The camp is open to all Kirtland students in grades K-6. It will be a traditional summer camp experience, with creation and invention, centered around science, technology, engineering, math (STEM), and reading skills. Space is limited to 60 students.

The day camp will be operating from July 11 - July 22 and the cost is \$145. Parents will be responsible for transportation to/from KES.

The daily schedule is as follows:

- 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM: Reading Activity
- 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM: Mathematics Activity
- 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM: Camp Invention

Students will complete problem-solving games and activities (both indoors and outdoors) that encourage teamwork and creativity. Students will participate in challenges through STEM modules, allowing students to practice critical thinking skills.

More information can be found at: www.invent.org/programs/camp-invention



KHS Class of 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

Congratulations!

The Kirtland High School Class of 2022 held their graduation ceremony on May 22 at the Mentor Fine Arts Center.



18

GRADUATED WITH
A 28+
ON THE ACT

57

GRADUATED WITH HONORS
CUM LAUDE - 12 (3.75-3.999)
MAGNA CUM LAUDE - 21 (4.0-4.249)
SUMMA CUM LAUDE - 24 (4.25+)

260

AP EXAMS OVER A
FOUR YEAR PERIOD
FOR SENIORS

44

GRADUATED WITH
A 4-YEAR ACADEMIC
LETTER

49

RECEIVED
HONORS DIPLOMAS

\$425K+

SCHOLARSHIPS
EARNED OVERALL

1

NATIONAL MERIT
COMMENDED SCHOLAR

3

STUDENTS EARNING
ASSOCIATE DEGREES

8

GRADUATED FROM
AUBURN CAREER CENTER

4,000+

COMMUNITY SERVICE
HOURS LOGGED

2

STUDENTS WON STATE
COMPETITION IN WELDING

2

SENIORS COMMITTED TO
PLAY DIV. 1 ATHLETICS

OTHER 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

- Successful Senior Service Day for the community
- 1st outdoor Homecoming Dance
- Drama Club Production - *Acting Can Be Murder*
- Choir - 6-12 seasonal concerts - Band - 27 public performances
- State Runner Up Football Team - 2 Individual State Qualifiers in Swimming and Wrestling
- Girls Flag Football Championship at The Browns Stadium
- Many athletes that committed to Division 2 and 3
- Fall - 4 Regional Qualifying Teams
- 6 Team Championships in the Chagrin Valley Conference
- 8 All Ohio Athletes
- 7 Chagrin Valley Most Valuable Players
- 20 All Chagrin Valley Conference 1st team award winners

Graduating Seniors

Lydia Rose Adams
Finn Norbert Alexy
Maria Linda Alfieri
Victor Fatica Alfieri
Malia Christine Becker
Benjamin David Beres
Alexa Rae Kathleen Beverly
Pierce Canaed Boyd
Brennon Braud
Lincoln James Bryant
Alyssa Marie Bryll
Charles Alexander Burris
Gianna Rose Cantini
Elizabeth Mary Carkhuff
Morgan Evelyn Carosino
Skye Mackenzie Carpenter
Monica Kelley Carriero
Raven Elaine Cole
Joseph Vladimir Coleman
Elin Margaret Conner
Andella Ava Marie Crawford
Kory Michael Dages
William Pete Davidson
Jason Christopher de Zwaan
Vincent Michael Edward Debeljak
Stella Rose DeJohn
Sophia Marie DeMarco
Gino Raffaele Di Pio
Gage Henry DiFabio
Grace Ann Dikowicz
Erin Michaela Domonkos
Sofia Katherine Drage
Evan Ante Dures
Kyle David Fenstermaker
Kylee Elizabeth Floyd
Easton Donich Flynn
Lance Donich Flynn
Shane Donich Flynn
Patrick Anthony Frato
Daniel Mark Frederick
Sidonia Olivia Freitas
Shane Reese Friedenber
Anthony John Gencarelli III
Jesse Winchell Gerbracht
Amalie Chuanyao Gettig
Angelina Mary Giacomazza
Reilly Scott Greenlee
Shawn Edward Guenther
Lindsey Nicole Hatch
Scott Henry Haymer
Caden Joseph Hommel
Natalie Lynn Hurd
Penelope Joy Jankowski
Ethan Edward Jeavons
Collin Joseph Jernejcic

Ella Grace Kessler
Amber Lee Kissinger
Aiden Edward Knaus
Sebastian Bernard Knez
McKenzie Lee Kowalewski
Drew Aaron Kutscher
Robert Leland Laney
Chloe Michelle Latchaw
Salvatore Louis Lazzaro
Hector Ramon Lescano
Lucy Ann Loncar
Madelyn Kaleigh Margheret
Neha Marie McCarthy
Macy Rose McIntosh
Martina Marie Medved
Celia Ann Mierke
Petar Mijic-Barisic
Cora May Miller
Leonardo Dominic Mongelluzzi
Richard Louis Mongelluzzi
Jakob Clark Morris
Madelyn Elizabeth Null
Isabella Oroz
Leah Elizabeth Percassi Young
Ryan Anthony Perry
Emma Kathryn Pilarczyk
Meara Belle Polanski
Erin Catherine Potter
John Matthew Raguz
Kaley Nicole Ream
Aidan Patrick Reed
Sophia Marie Ripepi
Alexandria Nadia Rosson
Ariana Nicole Rosson
Mason Matthew Rus
Joseph Andrew Schueren
Aaron John Schulz
Lillian Josephine Solnosky
Julia Hope Stout
Gage Joseph Sullivan
Livia Rose Susevich
Anthony Joseph Svigel
Dominic Paul Trivisonno
Ashley Noel Turner
Julia Lee Umanzio
Marco Salvatore Valentic
Payton Marie VanArnhem
Mason Kane Vermilye
Giuliana Maya Vladic
Peter Ivan Vukovic
Makenzie Faith White
Jonathan Andrew Withrow
Alivia Sarah Wojnar
Anna Sylvia Wojnar
Leah Elizabeth Young
Erika Vrbanc Zschuppe

Graduates will be attending 39 different colleges

Arizona State University
Bowling Green State University
Brown Aveda Institute
Bucknell University
Cleveland Institute of Art
Cleveland State University
Cleveland State University School of Film & Media Arts
Emerson College
Florida Gulf Coast University
John Carroll University
Kent State Geauga & Twinsburg
Kent State Stark
Kent State University (Kent)
Lakeland Community College
Mercyhurst University
Miami University
Muskingum University
Naval Academy Preparatory School
Notre Dame College
Ohio University
Otterbein University- Westerville
Paganini Culinary School
Purdue University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Santa Fe College
School of Visual Arts (NYC)
Slippery Rock University
SUNY University at Buffalo
The Ohio State University
University of Akron
University of Cincinnati
University of Dayton
University of Denver
University of Georgia
University of Mount Union
University of Northwestern Ohio
University of Rochester
West Liberty University
Youngstown State University

CLASS OFFICERS

Malia Becker - President
Reilly Greenlee - Vice President
Gianna Cantini - Secretary
Payton VanArnhem - Treasurer

CLASS SPEAKERS AT COMMENCEMENT

Malia Becker
Payton VanArnhem

