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# THE **Kirtland** CONNECTION

A Quarterly Newsletter for Kirtland Local Schools

Summer 2019

## KIRTLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NAMED 2019 OAESA HALL OF FAME SCHOOL

Kirtland Elementary School (KES) was one of seven schools statewide selected as a 2019 Hall of Fame School by the Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators (OAESA).

The Hall of Fame School Award recognizes schools that engage faculty, students and the community to provide a quality school experience.

“This award truly represents so many contributing factors that make Kirtland Elementary a great place for our children to grow and learn,” said KES Principal Chad VanArnhem. “The students, staff, parents and community all have a part in earning this award and should feel extremely proud.”

Two committees of OAESA members that scored the application and conducted an on-site visit choose Hall of Fame Schools. The committee looked at schools’ instructional systems and goals; student achievement in reading, mathematics, writing, science and social studies; the ability to identify and meet the diverse needs of all learners; social/emotional supports for students; opportunities in programming and extracurricular activities; citizenship; building culture; staff development; leadership; community involvement and collaboration; finances; communication; building safety and maintenance; business/community partnerships; and parent involvement.

In its application, KES outlined what sets it apart, beginning with a focus on the well being of the whole child. The Ohio Department of Education recognized the school’s Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program as a Gold Medal program for intrinsically motivating students and building parent/ community support.

Committee members wrote, “Kirtland Elementary School exemplifies what it means to work together to provide supportive, healthy and student-centered learning experiences for all.”

“The committee stated that KES stood out with the collaborative nature in which decisions are made,” said VanArnhem.

“We have a variety of committees that allow staff, parents and community members to provide their input. Our stakeholders truly have a voice that is valued and help shape decisions that are made at our school.”

KES was recognized during an awards luncheon in June in Columbus. The school will receive \$1,000 that VanArnhem said would be used on staff and students.

*“I am proud of the recognition Kirtland Elementary School received for all of their great work,” said Superintendent Bill Wade. “This award is a testament to the hard work of our students, staff and families.”*

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSEDDM\*\*\*\*\*  
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER  
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Kirtland Athletics at [www.kirtlandhornet.org](http://www.kirtlandhornet.org) | Kirtland Local Schools at [www.kirtlandschools.org](http://www.kirtlandschools.org)



## LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



To Our Kirtland Schools Families,

With the adoption of the Strategic Plan, our focus is on providing an educational program that personalizes learning to empower our students for future success.

Part of that effort includes the launch of the new *Excite, Explore & Engage College and Career Pathways Program* for grades 6-12. The program, which begins this school year, provides a focus on innovation, life skills, and career and college preparation.

At the elementary level, the district hired a new coding/STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) teacher. The position was added at no net cost to the district through reductions in other budget areas. This will introduce elementary students to coding and computer science to increase their problem solving, persistence, creativity, collaboration and communication skills. This also will supplement students' understanding of coding/computer science with broader STEAM-based activities, particularly the future expansion of the middle school Project Lead The Way (PLTW) initiative in grades 3-5.

All of this can be done thanks to passage of the renewal levy for Kirtland Local Schools. Voter support of the no-tax-increase levy means funding will be extended for five years, providing much needed dollars - \$1.45 million annually, or about 10% of the school district's budget - critical for maintaining current academic programming and services.

The district has worked hard to control and reduce expenses and will continue to do so into the future. The Board and administration are committed to maintaining fiscal responsibility with a goal of ensuring every dollar spent benefits students and the community. The Board and the district will remain transparent in financial discussions as they progress.

Bill Wade  
Superintendent

## FINANCE UPDATE: 5-YEAR FORECAST

The Board of Education adopted the 2019-2020 budget, which meets the needs of the district while keeping an eye to respecting the taxpayer.

The budget, presented by CFO/Treasurer Lew Galante, stays true to the strategic plan by increasing STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) opportunities at the elementary and middle school levels, providing professional development and support for teachers and staff, integrating technology, adding high-quality math resources, and aligning English Language Arts and mathematics curriculums. The district also will continue its work on the *Excite, Explore & Engage College and Career Pathways* initiative for grades 6-12.

At the same time the Board and administration are maintaining a commitment to capping annual budget increases at or below 2.75%. The Board adopted a zero-based budgeting model, with buildings and departments operating with no budget increases for the coming school year.

The Kirtland Schools have lost \$1.1 million in state and federal funding since 2011. While the average for state foundation funding is 42%, Kirtland only receives 14% of its budget from the state foundation - the lowest in Lake County.

The Board of Education and district administration worked to cut expenditures, including reducing teaching positions, restructuring administration and implementing pay freezes, consolidating bus routes, reducing athletic coaching positions, decreasing building and department budgets, increasing school and technology fees, and implementing a 6-12 activity fee. Kirtland's per pupil spending falls sixth in Lake County out of nine school districts.

Last year the Kirtland Schools earned the Auditor of State Taxpayer Hero Award for using innovative ideas to cut costs and increase efficiency to protect taxpayer dollars.

The five-year budget allows the district to control costs while ensuring the ability to pursue new and innovative projects to continually improve the academic program for students. The Board continues to be committed to academic excellence and being prudent stewards of taxpayer dollars.

### PARENT TECHNOLOGY PRESENTATION

Parents of children entering K-3 are invited to an informational technology presentation in Hornet Hall on Aug. 20 at 5 p.m. Kirtland Elementary School Principal Chad VanArnhem will make the presentation.

## SPORTS SHORTS

### Kirtland Baseball

- Joey Torok was named Division III Player of the Year. Torok was also a first-team All-Ohio outfielder who recorded six doubles and one triple, and is tied for the team lead with 17 walks drawn. He is the school's all-time leader in stolen bases with 130 thefts in his career. Torok was named to the 2019 MaxPreps Small Schools All-American Baseball Team.
- Seann McGill was named first team All-Ohio in Division III.
- Mason Sullivan, Joey Mongelluzzi, Deann McGill, Andrew Spender and Joey Torok were named All-Lake County recipients.
- Logan Potosky was named a 2019 Cleveland Indians Mike Garcia Award winner.

### Kirtland Softball

- Gianna Cantini, Julia Camino, Haleigh Getchell and Grace Wolfe were named 2nd Team All-CVC.
- Kaitlyn Mancini and Elizabeth Vernon were Honorable Mention All-CVC.
- Gianna Cantini and Julia Camino were All-District Northeast Honorable Mentions.



AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug. 13 & 14:** KHS student device distribution day
- Aug. 14:** 9th grade orientation/new students, 6-8 p.m.
- Aug. 14:** 9th grade parent meeting, 7:30 p.m. in KHS gym (Orientation is mandatory for all 9th grade students. Student devices will be distributed)
- Aug. 15:** KES Grades 1-5 new student orientation, 10 a.m. in Hornet Hall
- Aug. 15:** 6th grade/new student orientation, 6 p.m. in KMS gym
- Aug. 19:** Board of Education meeting, 7 p.m. in KHS cafeteria
- Aug. 20:** Kirtland PTA Ice Cream Social & KES Open House, 5-7 p.m.
- Aug. 20:** K-3 parent technology presentation, 5 p.m. in Hornet Hall
- Aug. 21:** First day of school
- Aug. 28:** Open House grades 6-12, 6-7:30 p.m.

## EXCITE, EXPLORE, ENGAGE INTRODUCES PERSONALIZED LEARNING PROGRAM

The Kirtland Local Schools are placing a focus on providing an educational program that personalizes learning to empower our students for future success. Through curriculum initiatives, our goal is to graduate students who possess the skills to be a collaborator, communicator, critical thinker, problem solver, creative thinker and producer. These are skills in demand by employers that will ensure our students can be successful whether they go on to post-secondary education, the military or the workforce.

Part of our efforts to achieve success for our students includes the launch of the “Excite, Explore & Engage” College and Career Pathways Program for grades 6-12. The program, which will be rolled out this school year, aligns with our goal of implementing a personalized learning pathway system for all students, with a focus on innovation, life skills, and career and college preparation. Parent and student meetings will be held at the beginning of the year to outline the program.

Excite, Explore & Engage focuses on innovation, life skills, and career and college preparation through an updated curriculum. The program offers students multiple opportunities to create a post-secondary planning pathway, whether they continue their education or head out into the workforce.

This year, Kirtland Middle School students will be immersed in the Excite phase—grade-level exploration and awareness. Students will take the entire year to explore specific careers and colleges related to multiple fields. They also will begin their pathway portfolio. We are creating experiences and developing local business partnerships to provide awareness for all pathways.

At the high school level, students will explore pathways and participate in shadowing and site visits. Older students will investigate internships and summer college road trips. Our focus for the coming year will be on the



### COLLEGE AND CAREER PATHWAYS PROGRAM FOR GRADES 6-12

freshman and sophomore seminar to introduce students to the program, as well as the Junior Bootcamp to immerse students in activities and experiences.

A large part of the success of this program will be the partnerships and active participation of our local businesses, organizations and community members who are willing to provide real-life opportunities to our students. Anyone interested in being a part of our College and Career pathway experience, professional speaker series, or potential shadowing and site visits for students, is invited to fill out a Partnership Survey at <https://tinyurl.com/KirtlandPartnerships>.

At the elementary level, the district hired a new coding/STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) teacher. The position was added at no net cost to the district through reductions in other areas of the budget. This will introduce KES students to coding and computer science to increase their problem solving, persistence, creativity, collaboration and communication skills. This also will supplement students' understanding of coding/computer science with broader STEAM-based activities, particularly the expansion of the middle School Project Lead The Way (PLTW) initiative in grades 3-5.

## INFINITE CAMPUS APP UPDATE

The Infinite Campus Mobile Portal app is being replaced with the Campus Student and Campus Parent apps. As the names suggest, these two new apps are specifically targeted to the student and parent/guardian audiences. They feature an updated interface and all of the options available in the previous version.

If you are using the Infinite Campus Mobile Portal app, you will need to uninstall it and install the Campus Student or Campus Parent app as soon as possible. Campus Student and Campus Parent are available for free in Google Play Store and the Apple App Store.

You can read more about the apps at <https://www.infinitecampus.com/audience/parents-students>.

## KIRTLAND SENIOR NAMED AMAZON FUTURE ENGINEER SCHOLAR

Kirtland High School senior Jenna Sayle was one of 100 high school seniors from 32 states chosen to receive the first-ever Amazon Future Engineer \$10,000 scholarship to study computer science at the college of their choice.

Scholarship winners also will receive a guaranteed paid internship offer at Amazon after their freshman year of college to gain work experience.

Recipients were chosen for their academic achievement, demonstrated leadership, participation in school and community activities, work experience, future goals and diversity. All recipients demonstrated financial need, and more than half of the students are from an underrepresented group in the computer science field.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that by 2020 there will be 1.4 million computer science-related jobs available, and only 400,000 computer science graduates with the skills to apply for those jobs. Computer science is the fastest-growing profession

within the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) field, but only 8% of STEM graduates earn a computer science degree.

Launched in November, Amazon Future Engineer is a four-part childhood-to-career program intended to inspire, educate and prepare students to pursue careers in computer science. Each year, Amazon Future Engineer aims to inspire more than 10 million students to explore computer science; provide over 100,000 young people in over 2,000 high schools access to Intro or AP Computer Science courses; award 100 students with four-year \$10,000 scholarships, as well as offer guaranteed and paid Amazon internships to gain work experience. Amazon Future Engineer is part of Amazon's \$50 million investment in computer science/STEM education.



## OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS, STUDENTS RECOGNIZED

Kirtland educator Shawna Roche was named an Outstanding Educator of the Year and Evan Santorelli earned an Outstanding Student Achievement Award from the Lake County Educational Service Center State Support Team 4.

Roche received the Franklin B. Walter Outstanding Educator Award for promoting quality educational initiatives and programs. Evan earned the Raymond A. Horn Outstanding Achievement Award recognizing students' remarkable performance.



## KES ICE CREAM SOCIAL & OPEN HOUSE

The Kirtland PTA Ice Cream Social & Open House for Kirtland Elementary School will be held on **Aug. 20, 5-7 p.m.** Students and parents can visit their classroom, drop off materials and meet their teachers. Schedules and teacher assignments will be posted in Infinite Campus on Aug. 16 by 4 p.m.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR SOME "BRAIN FREEZE" FUN AS SCHOOL STARTS:  
ICE CREAM SOCIAL / TOUCH A TRUCK / MEET YOUR TEACHER

**Tuesday, August 20, 2019 5-7 p.m.**

**@ Kirtland Elementary School**

Don't forget to bring school supplies to place in your classroom & money for Spirit Wear! Appearances by Kirtland Police, Kirtland Fire, & the KHMB!

\*This event is sponsored by the Kirtland PTA - ice cream for students is on the PTA!

SIGN UP for the Kirtland PTA today at:

<https://kirtland-pta-membership-dues-2019-2020.cheddarup.com>

(link also on PTA tab of [kirtlandschools.org](http://kirtlandschools.org))



# K KHS Class of 2019

## HIGHLIGHTS

*Congratulations!*



The Kirtland High School Class of 2019 celebrated the end of their K-12 education journey with a long list of accomplishments. The class was represented by Valedictorian Jake Grdadolnik and Salutatorian Andrea Marie Frankel.

Graduates will be attending 23 different colleges. Five seniors graduated from Auburn Career Center with certifications and qualifications for the workforce and college preparation.

20

EARNED A 30+  
ON THE ACT  
(1 PERFECT SCORE)

40

RECEIVED  
HONORS  
DIPLOMAS

41

GRADUATED WITH  
HIGH HONORS  
(CUMULATIVE GPA OVER 4.0)

46

GRADUATED WITH  
A 4-YEAR ACADEMIC  
LETTER

5,490

COMMUNITY  
SERVICE HOURS  
LOGGED

95%

ATTENDING HIGHER  
LEARNING  
INSTITUTIONS

\$70,000

LOCAL  
SCHOLARSHIPS  
AWARDED

\$1.2MM

SCHOLARSHIPS  
EARNED  
OVERALL

### High Honors (above 4.0 GPA)

Sofia Fatica Alfieri  
Nicole Aveni  
Audra Bielinis  
Michael Bottesch  
Kirk Brauer  
Nicholas Briggs  
Madison Burris  
Luke Camino  
Dominic Capretta  
Alexandra Cernelich  
Kalyne Corson  
Dawson Cosgrove  
Emily Crebs  
Jonah Cummings  
Andrew DeMarco  
Octavian Donca  
Konnor Duncan  
Andrea Frankel  
Austin Fulco

Ethan Garcia  
Jake Grdadolnik  
Zoe Gregory  
Connor Gron  
Aislynn Hocevar  
Lilly Kelemen  
Erin Koschik  
Laura Koschik  
Kyle Lutz  
Kaitlyn Mancini  
Brandi Martz  
Adam Mueller  
Jacob Neibecker  
Robert Osap  
Logan Potosky  
Isabelle Reynolds  
Kate Ricketti  
Taylor Salem  
Jenna Sayle  
Gent Semaj  
Mathew Speece  
Dean Springer

### Top 10%

Nicole Aveni  
Emily Crebs  
Andrea Frankel  
Jake Grdadolnik  
Aislynn Hocevar  
Lilly Kelemen  
Kyle Lutz  
Brandi Martz  
Jenna Sayle  
Gent Semaj

### College Signing Day

Boston College  
Bowling Green State  
University  
Brigham Young University-  
Idaho  
Case Western Reserve  
University  
Cleveland Institute of Art

Cleveland State University  
Duke University  
Duquesne University  
John Carroll University  
Kent State University  
Lake Erie College  
McGill University-Montreal  
Miami University  
Ohio University  
Otterbein University  
Rochester Institute of  
Technology  
The Ohio State University  
University of Akron  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Dayton  
Ursuline College  
Washington and Lee  
University  
Xavier University

