



The CO-PILOT

Linking the Community and Pilots of the Ayersville Schools

August 2010

419-395-1111

www.ayersville.org

FROM THE DESK OF TOD A. HUG

As with the past August issues of the "Co-Pilot," you will find information concerning the opening of school and other information of importance for the school district.

CHANGES FOR THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

- **School Start Times will be Earlier**

The first bell will ring at 8:00 a.m. Students will be tardy if they are not in class/homeroom by 8:02 a.m. as this will be when the tardy bell will ring. All students arriving prior to 7:45 a.m. will report to the cafeteria. Grades K-4 will be released at 2:55 p.m. Grades 5-12 will be released at 2:57 p.m., while those high school students who drive to school will not be released until 3:01 p.m., or after the buses have left the south parking lot.

Due to supervision issues, we ask that you do not drop off your children before 7:30 a.m. Contractually, our school day does not begin until 7:45 a.m. If you drop off your children too early, there is no supervision in the school buildings except in the cafeteria. All students arriving between 7:30 a.m. and 7:45 a.m. must report to the cafeteria. Breakfast is served at this time.

- **Building Grade Realignment**

Beginning this fall, we will be changing building grade alignments. The elementary building will now consist of grades kindergarten through 6th grade. Dr. Martin Miller will be the Principal of the Ayersville Elementary. Grades 7-12 will now make up the Jr./Sr. High School. Whether or not this is a permanent situation will depend upon many factors. The Board of Education and administration are striving to stretch the district funds as much as possible without sacrificing the services provided to the children of the district. Please have patience as we transition into this new building alignment.

- **Jr./Sr. High School will now be on a 7-Period Day.**

As previously reported, the Jr./Sr. High School will be on a 7-period day. Each period will now be 50 minutes long. Previously, the high school was on an 8-period day with each period being 42 minutes long. With the 50-minute periods, the students will no longer need a separate lab period on Tuesdays and Thursdays, which alleviates the numerous scheduling conflicts and also allows a more efficient use of time throughout the school year.

SCHOOL DELAY INFORMATION

I would like to remind everyone about the possibility of using a three (3)-hour delay schedule. Schools that delay three hours must extend the day one hour in order to have the appropriate amount of time for a full school day. In the event that we delay school for three hours, we must extend the school day one hour. During a 3-hour delay, BUS ROUTES WOULD BEGIN TO RUN AFTER 9:45 A.M. School would begin at 11:00 a.m. and students would be released one hour later than normal. (For elementary, the release time is 3:55 p.m., for middle school 3:57 p.m., and for high school 4:01 p.m.)

INSTANT ALERT NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Enclosed in this mailing is an informative flyer that you may find helpful in maintaining your profile. **It is imperative that you maintain your profile.** If you changed your home phone, cell phone, e-mail address, etc., you must also change this information on your profile so that you can continue to receive information via Instant Alert. Please refer to the flyer and post this flyer where you have easy access if needed in the future.

With the use of the Instant Alert System, only the following media will be notified in the event

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of a delay or cancellation: Clear Channel Stations: 105.7, 98.1, 103.1 and 1280AM; WMTR 96.1FM; and Toledo television channels 11, 13, and 24.

DROP-OFF PROCEDURE ON THE NORTH SIDE CONTINUES

The morning drop-off on the north side of the school has been a source of frustration for many years. Due to the proximity of the building to Watson Road and Highland Center Road, the morning drop-off is very hectic.

Three years ago we changed the morning drop-off procedure; and based on comments and behaviors of drivers, it was a tremendous success. We will continue this drop-off procedure again this year, using the marked drop-off zone. One clarification that may help with this process is that once your car enters the drop-off zone, please feel free to allow your child to exit your vehicle anywhere along the drop-off zone. You need not wait until you reach the sidewalk leading into the middle or elementary school. As always, please be very cautious during this time in the morning in all areas surrounding the school; and do not attempt to drop off your child from the westbound lane of Watson Road as the danger of injury is too great.

Parking is not allowed within this drop-off loop during the morning, except in parking spaces designated to the east and west of the "drop-off loop" for those parents needing to enter the school building for school business. This angled parking is designed to negate traffic entering from the east off Ayersville Avenue and crossing oncoming traffic to park. In order to park, drivers must approach from the west. According to the Sheriff's Department, it is unlawful to pull into angled parking from the opposite direction.

Remember that safety is the primary concern during this busy time in the morning.

Bus Routes

We have had few changes from last year's routes. We ask that you please have your children ready at least five (5) minutes early the

first two weeks of school so we can adjust routes accordingly.

Buses will continue to drop and load students in the back of the school. This alleviates mixing of cars with students and buses. **Only buses will be allowed in the rear of the school.** Due to the drop-off in the morning behind the school, the playground will be off limits. All students arriving before 7:45 a.m. should report to the cafeteria, while students arriving after 7:45 a.m. may report to their classrooms for the start of the school day.

STAFF CHANGES

Students will notice new faces as they begin the school year.

Mr. Kevin Wolfe will be the new Ayersville Jr./Sr. High School Principal, replacing Mr. Cameron VanArsdalen, who stepped down after serving the district the past six years. Mr. Wolfe was assistant principal at Sidney High School in Sidney, Ohio, and previously taught social studies and was head golf coach and head girls' basketball coach at Kenton City Schools.

Mr. Brad Bailey will be the new Cafeteria Supervisor, replacing Mrs. Susan Schlachter who retired this past spring. Mr. Bailey has many years of food service experience having served as General Manager of Charlie's Down Under Restaurant & Charlie's on the Road Catering, as well as serving as the General Manager of the Cantina at GM Powertrain.

Miss Megan O'Connor is the new band director, replacing Mrs. Thacker who accepted the band director position in the Sandusky City School District. Miss O'Connor is a graduate of the University of Toledo. Previously she served as an assistant director of bands at Clay High School in Oregon, Ohio. Prior to that she was director of the band program at Libbey High School which is part of the Toledo Public School system.

Mr. Jason Engel has replaced Melanie Reinhart who accepted a position with Bryan City Schools. Mr. Engel is from McCutchensville, Ohio. He received his Bachelor's Degree from Heidelberg University in Tiffin, Ohio. Mr. Engel will be teaching physical education and health.

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NATATORIUM OPERATING RENEWAL LEVY

At the July Board of Education meeting, the Board approved the second of two resolutions needed to place the renewal of the 5-year, 1.6 mill Natatorium Operating Levy (pool levy) on the November 2, 2010, general election.

District voters first approved this P.I. Levy Renewal in November 1991. The funds for this operating levy are used for the operation and maintenance of the district's natatorium.

Of the \$120,000 raised by this levy, \$36,700 is in reimbursement funds from the state for the loss of tangible personal property taxes taken away from the district with previous state legislation (HB66, July 2005). Should this P.I. Levy fail to be renewed, this state reimbursement will be lost, and cannot be reinstated in a future levy. To retain these state funds the Pool Levy Renewal would need approved by voters.

PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS/SUMMER MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Summer maintenance issues are well under way and/or have been completed for the summer. The district maintains the Permanent Improvement funds which can only be used for improvements and maintenance of the district's buildings and grounds and the purchase of property with an estimated life of five years or more, such as desks, computer/technology purchases, etc.

- Painting was done in various rooms in all three buildings.
- The roof and decking were replaced over the auditorium.
- Continued replacement of leaking and/or clogged domestic water lines and leaking steam pipes in the middle school (1937, 1952, and 1959 additions).

OHIO SCHOOL FACILITIES COMMISSION (OSFC)

At this time, I do not have new information concerning any potential construction/renovation project for our school district's buildings. The 2011 OSFC School Funding Priority List will be announced in mid-August. Due to our loss of

district valuation since the passage of HB66 in July 2005, our district continues to lose valuation, which will ultimately increase the state's share of a future project. Once we know what our state share will be, we can then make plans to address our school district's building needs.

Due to the uncertainty of our state and local share, the Board of Education has made no decisions concerning our future facilities. We must

Senior Citizens' Breakfast
Thursday, September 16
8:30 a.m. in the Cafeteria

From the FITNESS CENTER

Look who works out at your FITNESS CENTER!

Long time fitness center clients Arnold and LaDonna Ruhe have been coming to the fitness center since 2004. Arnold and LaDonna believe that consistent exercise keeps them from feeling sluggish, leaving them more energized. These benefits are part of what motivates them to continue to exercise. When asked what they like about the fitness center, LaDonna was quick to answer..."it's free, and convenient!" They also enjoy the friendly atmosphere where there is no pressure to work out. "It's entirely up to you." When Arnold and LaDonna are not at the fitness center they are more than likely enjoying some of their other hobbies such as camping, gardening or attending a ballgame. Anyone who has not yet visited the fitness center should take some advice from LaDonna, "Just try it, you will feel more energized!"

Autumn fitness center hours will be posted soon!

Pool Winter Hours

Tuesday and Thursday - 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

(9:00 - 9:30 p.m. adults only)

Sunday - 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

50¢ - preschool; \$1.00 - students; \$1.50 - adults

AYERSVILLE LOCAL SCHOOL
28046 WATSON ROAD
DEFIANCE OH 43512

Non-Profit
Organization
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43512
Permit No. 254

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

POSTAL CUSTOMER

Elementary (K-6)

Martin Miller, Principal
419-395-1111 x 300

Jr./Sr. High (7-12)

419-395-1111 x 100
Kevin Wolfe, Principal

Board of Education

Robert Luderman, Jr. President
Mark Diller, Vice President
Jack DeLano, Member
Wayne Erickson, Member
Dan Wagner, Member

ORIENTATIONS AND OPEN HOUSES

"FIFTH GRADE ORIENTATION" will be held on Thursday, August 19, at 8:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

"FRESHMAN ORIENTATION" will be Friday, August 20, from 9:00 a.m. -10:30 a.m. in the auditorium.

"MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT" for parents and students in grades K-4 will be on Friday, August 27, from 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 pm. Students may want to bring school supplies at that time. Parents are also encouraged to deposit money into their child(ren)'s lunch account. (Class lists for 2010-2011 will be posted on Friday, August 27, at 4:00 p.m.

"OPEN HOUSE" for grades 5-12 will be Tuesday, August 31, from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

"K-4 PARENT ORIENTATIONS" will be held in the classrooms from 6:00-7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

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| Monday, August 30, kindergarten | Tuesday, September 7, grade four |
| Tuesday, August 31, grade two | Thursday, September 9, grade one |
| Thursday, September 2, grade three | |

CALENDAR

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| Aug. 15-19 | Band Camp |
| Aug. 16 | Board of Education meeting, 7:30 p.m. in the high school library |
| Aug. 18 | First day of school for Four-County juniors |
| Aug. 19 | First day of school for Four-County seniors |
| Aug. 19 | Grade 5 Orientation, 8:00 p.m. in the auditorium |
| Aug. 20 | Freshmen Orientation, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. in the auditorium |
| Aug. 23 | Band show at Defiance County Fair |
| Aug. 27 | "Meet the Teacher Night," Grades K-4, 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. |
| Aug. 30 | First day of school - <u>8:00 a.m. start</u> |
| Aug. 30 | Parent Orientation, Kindergarten, 6:00 p.m. |
| Aug. 31 | First day of school for kindergarten |
| Aug. 31 | Grades 5-12 Open House, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. |
| Aug. 31 | Grade 2 Parent Orientation, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. |
| Sept. 2 | Grade 3 Parent Orientation, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. |
| Sept. 2 | Athletic tickets on sale in gym lobby, 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. |
| Sept. 6 | Labor Day, NO SCHOOL |
| Sept. 7 | Grade 4 Parent Orientation, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. |
| Sept. 9 | Grade 1 Parent Orientation, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. |
| Sept. 16 | Senior Citizens' Breakfast in café – 8:30 a.m. |
| Sept. 20 | Board of Education meeting, 7:30 p.m. in the high school library |
| Oct. 11,12 | Elementary Book Fair |