

# RIDGEDALE SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2025



*Home of the Rockets*

## NEWS FROM SUPERINTENDENT BOWER



### Winter Brings Progress, Momentum, and Rocket Pride

As we settle into the winter months, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible progress we've made so far this school year and share some exciting updates happening across the district. Whether you are a longtime member of the Ridgedale community or new to our Rocket family, we are grateful you are here and proud of the work happening in each of our buildings.

### Facilities Updates: Continued Improvements Across the District

Our major facility projects continue to move forward, even as the weather turns colder. At the junior/senior high school, our long-anticipated HVAC upgrade remains on track. The new heating system is now operational, and work is progressing on the air-conditioning components that will be ready for use this spring.

Painting has continued on doors throughout the elementary school and in the cafeteria area at the junior/senior high school. The elementary lockers were painted over the summer, and the junior/senior high lockers will be painted over winter break.

### Academic and Career Pathway Growth

Even as we invest in facility improvements, our mission remains at the core of all we do: empowering students to reach their full potential. That mission comes to life every day in our classrooms, hallways, and labs, especially through the rigorous academic and real-world learning opportunities available right here at Ridgedale.

One of the ways we are most proud to support our students is through our Career Technical Education (CTE) pathways offered on our own campus for students in grades 7-12. These pathways allow students to explore careers, gain hands-on experience, earn industry credentials, and build confidence in their future goals without ever leaving Ridgedale. We currently offer six high-quality pathways:

- Education, grades 9-12
- Nursing/Healthcare, led by our school nurse, Kayla Pierson, BSN, grades 9-12
- Engineering, grades 7-12
- Agriculture, grades 7-12
- Information Technology, grades 7-12
- Interactive Media, grades 7-12

These programs set students up for in-demand, high-skill careers while also helping them develop critical employability skills that prepare them for college, the workforce, the military, or entrepreneurship. We are committed to giving our Rockets every opportunity to explore their interests and discover their full potential.

In addition to our CTE programs, we continue to see progress in district-wide academic initiatives, including

- A strengthened strategic partnership with Nucor.
- The growing success of our on-campus CLEP testing center, which offers FREE college-level courses and credit opportunities.
- Rigorous classroom instruction aligned to our Portrait of a Rocket competencies.
- Small class sizes, which allow us to truly personalize learning experiences for students.
- Kid Whisperer techniques, also known as behavioral leadership, to build positive relationships and create supportive learning environments for all students.

### Athletic Excellence: A Season to Celebrate

Our Rockets continue to shine not only in the classroom but also on the field, on the course, and on the track. This fall was an exceptional season for Ridgedale athletics.

- Football made an impressive run and earned a spot in the playoffs, showcasing determination, growth, and teamwork.
- Cross Country standout Brogan Weston had a remarkable season, culminating in a trip to the State Championship. Breyton Richmond and Alena Villavicencio had impressive seasons as they made it to regionals.
- We are proud to celebrate our Spring 2025 Athletes of the Month, including Breyton Richmond (Track) and Makenzie Delaney (Softball), both recognized for their hard work, leadership, and standout performance.
- Across all fall sports, our athletes earned numerous First Team, Second Team, and Honorable Mention recognitions, demonstrating the depth of talent and dedication in our programs.

CONTINUES TO PG 2



# RIDGEDALE

Our athletes continue to represent Ridgedale with pride, sportsmanship, and heart. We are incredibly proud of their accomplishments and grateful for the coaches, families, and supporters who help them succeed.

## Looking Ahead With Pride

As winter continues, I encourage you to read through the rest of this newsletter and celebrate the progress happening across our district. From upgraded learning environments to expanded academic pathways, Ridgedale is moving forward with purpose and pride.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and staff. Stay warm, stay safe, and as always, Go, Rockets!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Erika Bower, Superintendent

## 5 STAR RATING ★★★★★

🏆 We're proud to share that Ridgedale earned 5-star ratings (out of 5 stars) on the Ohio School Report Card for both **College, Career, Workforce, and Military Readiness** and **Graduation Rates!** ❤️💙

These ratings mean our school significantly exceeds state standards in preparing students for graduation and success after graduation — whether in college, a career, the workforce, or the military!

Highlights include:

- ◆ 97.3% four-year graduation rate
- ◆ 97.3% students graduate college, career, workforce, or military ready
- ◆ 78.4% achieved proficiency on 3 or more technical assessments in a single career pathway
- ◆ 56.8% graduated with an industry-recognized credential
- ◆ 32.4% earned 12 or more college credits through dual enrollment
- ◆ 10.8% earned an Honors Diploma
- ◆ 8.1% earned a OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal + 250 hours of work-based learning

We're so proud of our students, staff, and community for their hard work and dedication to building bright futures! 🌟



## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Congratulations to our newest member, **LYLA TUCKER**, who was chosen to join our group in October!

Thanks to everyone who stopped by our face painting table and trick or treat station at Boo at the Dale! The NHS kids love to meet and greet the ghosts and goblins who come to visit.

We are wrapping up our food drive for the Christmas Clearinghouse next week. Thanks to everyone who has donated to help our community.



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY STUDENTS!**

## We Are Hiring Substitutes!

- ✓ Teachers
- ✓ Bus Drivers
- ✓ Custodians
- ✓ Secretaries
- ✓ Food Service
- ✓ Aides



**Apply Now** → [ridgedaleschools.org/page/employment](https://ridgedaleschools.org/page/employment)

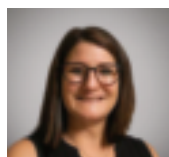
Email us your resume :  
[ebower@ridgedaleschools.org](mailto:ebower@ridgedaleschools.org)

Visit our website  
[ridgedale.k12.oh.us](https://ridgedale.k12.oh.us)

# ROCKETS



## NEWS FROM TREASURER COURTRIGHT



School funding continues to be a major topic across Ohio, especially with several new pieces of legislation recently passed in Columbus. Here's what those changes and our current financial picture mean for Rocket Country.

Recent state legislation has discussed not allowing the district to continue using the fixed-sum emergency levy. While some new laws may limit how much schools can receive from taxpayer increases, our district has positioned itself well by diversifying its funding resources.

We currently have an emergency levy. An emergency levy means it brings in a fixed dollar amount. This was last approved in November 2021, and we began collecting in the calendar year 2023. This levy brings in a fixed amount of \$575,034 each year. Because it is a fixed-sum levy, the amount collected does not change as property values rise or fall; our community's total tax contribution stays the same.

The 1% income tax approved by voters began collection in the calendar year 2021. This revenue supports both the general fund and ongoing building maintenance; as our buildings are aging and require more maintenance. It generates about \$1.2 million annually. This income tax revenue has played a significant role in helping us remain financially stable.

Our most recent financial forecast, submitted to the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW), was positive. We project annual revenue of approximately \$11.9 million, and our expenses are expected to remain below our revenue through July 1, 2028, the date when our fixed-sum emergency levy expires. This demonstrates the continued importance of renewing this levy in the future.

General Fund	Budget	Collected	% Collected
<b>Revenue</b>	\$11,889,324	\$4,910,436	41%
<b>Expenses</b>	\$11,556,915	\$4,462,250	39%

## OHIO GOVERNOR'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY

Do you have a child under 5 at home? Do you know a family that has children under 5?

The Imagination Library, offered through the Ohio Governor's Office, Marion Public Library, and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library provides a FREE book for any child under 5 that is signed up, each month! If you are interested in signing up, please use the QR code below or download the sign up form. This program is free for all who participate!

*"The single most important factor influencing a child's early educational success is an introduction to books and being read to at home prior to beginning school."*

**YOU WANT THE BEST FOR YOUR CHILD.**

**Sign up for the FREE Ohio Governor's Imagination Library TODAY!**

**FROM BIRTH THROUGH AGE 5, YOUR CHILD WILL RECEIVE:**

- Monthly delivery of an awesome book specially selected for your child's age
- Increased vocabulary and literacy
- A love for learning that will help prepare them for kindergarten

**WHAT YOU'LL GET:**

- Bonding with your child
- Snuggles during reading time
- A kid who's ready to take on kindergarten—and life

**IT'S EASY:**

Go to [MarionLibrary.org/ImaginationLibrary](http://MarionLibrary.org/ImaginationLibrary) to start your child's free monthly book delivery.

**Marion Public LIBRARY**

[www.MarionLibrary.org/ImaginationLibrary](http://www.MarionLibrary.org/ImaginationLibrary)




SCAN ME

We are currently collecting revenue on schedule, and our expenses remain below projections.



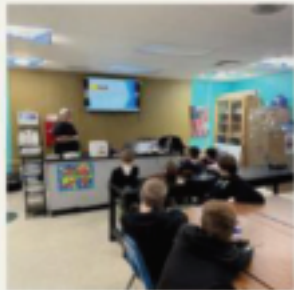
# PORTRAIT OF A ROCKET AND FUELED-UP FRIDAYS

Thank you to all who assisted with the development of our Portrait of a Rocket! These competencies were chosen by students, community members, and staff as the key skills our students need as they go through their PK-12 educational career and beyond! The first part of the year, we have focused on communication, integrity, and responsibility. For the remainder of the year, we will focus on critical thinking, leadership, and empathy. Our Fueled-Up Fridays that are held monthly are just one of the ways we are highlighting these competencies! Fueled-Up Fridays also allow students to learn from others, celebrate PBIS behavior, and connect with careers and our community members! Enjoy some pictures from these days!

 <b>PORTRAIT OF A ROCKET</b> CIRCLE - ASPIRE	
	<b>COMMUNICATION</b> Articulate thoughts and ideas and effectively listen to and collaborate with others
	<b>INTEGRITY</b> Strongly adhere to the values of honesty and respect for self and others
	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b> Persistently honor commitments and own all outcomes
	<b>CRITICAL THINKING</b> Improve thinking by being rational, open-minded and informed by evidence
	<b>LEADERSHIP</b> Recognize strengths to empower others to grow and succeed
	<b>EMPATHY</b> Engage with others while respecting their feelings, opinions, & diverse experiences
<b>EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL</b>	



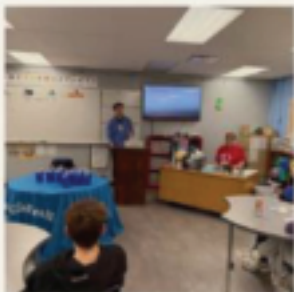




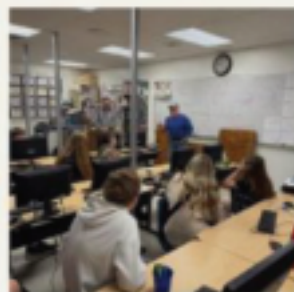
AV Tech & Communication  
Will Beard



Veterinary Science  
Kaylee Richmond



Athletic Training  
Adam Kitchen

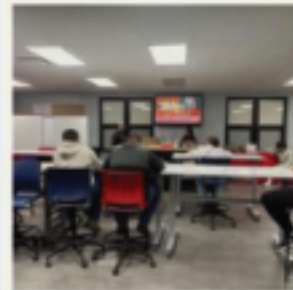


Manufacturing  
Scott Farley



Agriculture Chemical Manufacturing  
Tim Jordan

A HUGE thank you  
to the 25+  
individuals and/or  
companies who  
took the time to  
speak with our  
students today!



Excavation & Construction  
John Slaughterbeck



Arts & Communication  
Morgan Schwartz



Radiology  
Marion Technical College



Electrician & Construction  
Mid Ohio Energy Co-Op



Pharmacy  
Mandy Roberts



Occupational Therapy  
Christopher Robinson

# **FALL 2026 WASHINGTON D.C. TRIP** **THERE'S STILL TIME TO REGISTER!**

- Trip Dates: November 11-14, 2026
- Trip ID: 225625
- [www.worldstrides.com/register](http://www.worldstrides.com/register)
- 800-468-5899
- Contact [jfriermood@ridgedaleschools.org](mailto:jfriermood@ridgedaleschools.org) for more details!

**WE NEED 10 MORE STUDENTS TO TRAVEL AT GUARANTEED PRICE!**





# RIDGEDALE

## VETERANS DAY PROGRAMS

On Tuesday, November 11, Ridgedale Elementary proudly honored the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces during its annual "A Salute to Our Veterans" program. We welcomed local veterans, active service members, students, and families for a morning of recognition, reflection, and gratitude.

One of the highlights of the program was the appearance of former U.S. Army Sergeant Robert Garlick and his loyal service dog, Fritter. They were joined by Ashley Ballard and her service dog in training, Biscuit. Third and fourth grade students got to spend additional time with Fritter and Biscuit after the program.

Students presented a scripted reading and re-enactment of "Tuesday Tucks Me In," the true story of a veteran and his service dog, Tuesday. Students performed patriotic selections including "God Bless the U.S.A." and "Thank You, Soldiers." During the "Salute to the Military" portion of the event, veterans in attendance were invited to stand for

recognition as songs representing each branch of the military were played. This moment of appreciation was a meaningful way to honor the diverse experiences and contributions of those who served.

Following the program, guests were encouraged to visit America's White Table display—a symbolic tribute dedicated to service members who are missing in action or held as prisoners of war.

Ridgedale Elementary extends sincere gratitude to all veterans, active service members, and their families. The school community was honored to host this special event and share in expressing appreciation for the courage, sacrifice, and dedication of our nation's heroes.



This Veterans' Day, the junior/senior high school welcomed a very special guest and proud Ridgedale alumna, Sergeant First Class Sabrina Severns. She shared her inspiring experiences serving in the military, giving students a firsthand perspective on dedication, courage, and service to our country. We are deeply grateful for her commitment and the sacrifices she has made, and we thank her for taking the time to return to Ridgedale to educate and inspire our Rockets.





# ROCKETS



## FROM THE DESK OF PRINCIPAL NEUTZLING



Dear Ridgedale Families,

As we reach the midpoint of the school year, I'm excited to share several highlights that reflect the incredible momentum in our building. Winter is always a time for reflection and celebration, and this year, we have much to be proud of.

### Expanding Opportunities Through CTE

Our Career and Technical Education (CTE) offerings continue to grow in meaningful ways. This year, we launched two new pathways that are already making an impact:

- **Nursing Pathway:** Students interested in healthcare now have a structured route toward industry-recognized credentials and hands-on learning.
- **Junior High Agriculture Program:** Our younger students are getting early exposure to agriculture, leadership opportunities, and career exploration in one of Ohio's most vital industries.

These additions strengthen our commitment to preparing students for high-demand careers right here in our region.

### HVAC Project Nearing Completion

Our long-awaited HVAC project is entering its final phase. Once completed, students and staff will enjoy improved air quality and climate control throughout the building. We're especially looking forward to bringing cooler air to classrooms this spring, enhancing comfort and focus as temperatures rise.

### Strengthening Business Partnerships

This year, we have taken significant strides in connecting students with the world beyond our walls. We've invited professionals from **manufacturing, healthcare, energy, and agriculture** into our classrooms to speak directly with students about their industries, career journeys, and workforce needs.

These partnerships—both local and national—provide authentic learning experiences and help students see the real-world relevance of their education.

### A 5-Star Achievement

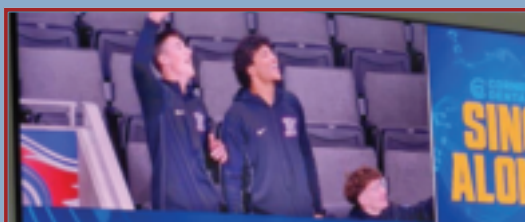
We are incredibly proud to share that Ridgedale JH/HS has earned a **5-star rating in College, Career, and Workforce Readiness** from the State of Ohio. This accomplishment reflects the dedication of our staff, the hard work of our students, and our community's shared commitment to preparing young people for bright futures. Whether students choose college, a skilled trade, the workforce, or military service, Ridgedale is equipping them with the skills and confidence they need to succeed.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and staff. Together, we are building a school where every student can grow, explore, and thrive. I wish all of our families a warm, safe, and joyful winter season.

Sincerely,  
Jacob Neutzling  
Principal, Ridgedale Junior High & High School

## STUDENT OF THE MONTH AND PBIS FIELD TRIP

Grades 6 - 12 Student of the Month and PBIS winners attended the Toledo Walleye Hockey game on December 3. Students of the Month were nominated and selected by staff for their outstanding effort and behavior in one of the components of a Portrait of a Rocket: Communication, Integrity, Responsibility, Critical Thinking, Leadership, and Empathy. The PBIS winners earned their opportunity by exhibiting one of our core principles of Rocket PRIDE: Positivity, Respect, Inclusivity, Dependability, and Engagement. As part of this event, students had the opportunity to attend hands-on activities and learn about some career information from local organizations. In between periods, staff from Toledo's Imagination Station conducted science experiments for the students to enjoy!



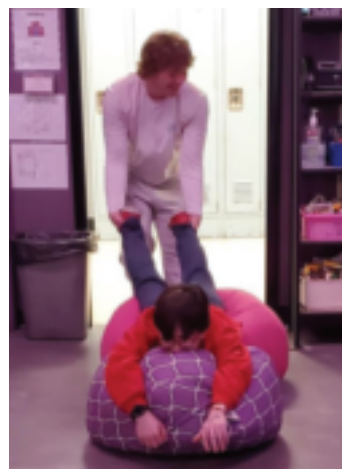
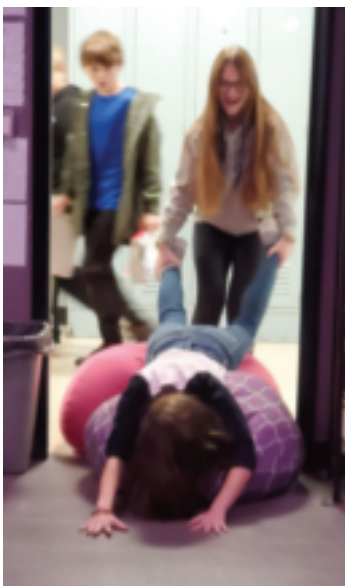
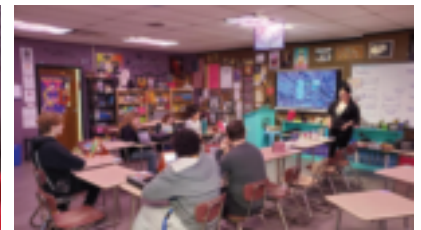


# RIDGEDALE

## INTRO TO THEATRE

As a summative play activity, students in Miss Frierhood's Intro to Theatre class delivered their Othello monologues to their peers. Not only is this activity to help those interested in theatre gain more confidence in presenting in front of their peers, but is also a chance for students to embody a chosen character and try to take on their personas. Doing so aids in more than simple comprehension, but rather allows them to show how different character interpretations can change the intent of the lines. Once they chose their characters and lines, students then practiced these monologues in different locations outside of the classroom to see how they would need to adjust their volume and positioning for varying settings as plays may not always be performed in traditional locations.

Weeks later, students practiced this skill again by delivering the final lines in Faust's speech from Christopher Marlowe's play *The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus*. This time, however, students were encouraged to practice more physicality in their roles. The main character has made a bargain with Mephistophilis to sell his soul for 27 years of mayhem and forbidden knowledge, and in the final scene, the devil comes to finish the deal. In their monologues, students had sound effects—run by peers—and, as an added bonus, could elect to be pulled out of the room while standing, or be dragged out of the room on bean bags by “demons”—also peers. This provided great entertainment for the class and the staff members who asked to join in and watch the productions and helped to further refine necessary skills for performing.





# ROCKETS



## CCP INTRO TO PSYCH

This is a glimpse into Ms. Mazza's CCP Intro to Psychology class (3 students: Elliot Weston, Jillian Slaughterbeck, and Cam Thiel) during the week on Biopsychology. They made human-sized models of the nervous system and endocrine system, and they also created brains out of oranges and candy, while representing all of the lobes and internal elements.



## ODOT "PAINT A PLOW"

Senior Art students participated with the other county schools in our local Ohio Department Of Transportation (ODOT) "Paint A Plow" project. Our five artists worked together selecting the SpongeBob theme and designed each character to have their home decorated for Christmas! Students also designed the text on the rubber guard using a SpongeBob font.

Pictured with each of their contributions: Riley Delaney, Aiden Raby, Isaiah Stanforth, and Vincent Shuster

Not pictured: Daniel Potts





# RIDGEDALE

## ENGINEERING PATHWAY BRINGS REAL-WORLD LEARNING TO LIFE

Every day, Mr. Sieg and our Engineering CTE students bring hands-on, real-world learning to Ridgedale. Their work goes far beyond the classroom as they teach peers, make repairs and improvements across our campus, and use their skills to support members of our community. Recently, students Billy Wren and Caiden Faith were hard at work with Mr. Sieg on a unique engineering project!



Mr. Chris Dingus approached engineering students with a problem. He needed a modified thermostat bezel—the protective frame around the thermostats in the elementary locker rooms—that would allow ventilation and work with a locking cover.

Engineering student Abi Place rose to the challenge! Using dial calipers, she measured the original bezel with an accuracy of up to .001 inches. She then used Autodesk Fusion, a professional 3D CADD program, to design a precise 3D model that met all the requirements while making the piece a quarter-inch taller. After exporting her design as an .stl file, Abi used a dual-head 3D printer to create a rapid-prototype of the bezel. The finished piece is shown next to the original.



Mr. Sieg shared that it is the most complex and accurate 3D model he has seen in his 17 years at Ridgedale, and Mr. Dingus could not have been more impressed with Abi's craftsmanship!

A local home healthcare worker and neighbor of Mr. Sieg needed help as her kitchen was being remodeled. Mr. Sieg and Pierson Smith used cupboard doors from the neighbor's mother to rebuild her kitchen cabinets. They will create homemade drawer slides next, and then build matching upper cabinets for the old doors. Notice the laser engraved "Still Life of Fruit," which is a traditional midwestern farmers' kitchen!





# ROCKETS



## BUBBLE FUN IN BIOLOGY

Students took their learning outside for a hands-on Bubble Lab! Using a special solution that acts like a cell membrane, they explored how membranes are flexible, can self-repair, and are semi-permeable — meaning they only allow certain substances through. This activity provided a fun and interactive way to see cell science in action!



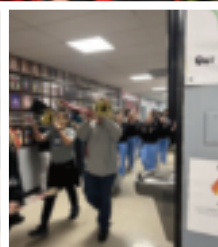
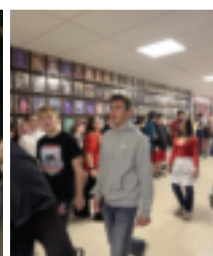
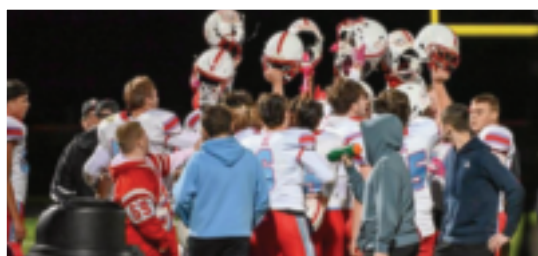
## ROTARY LUNCHEON

Thank you to the Marion Rotary Club for inviting the Marion County Superintendents, Principals, Athletic Directors, and Athletes for a wonderful luncheon and guest speaker! We are especially proud of our Rocket Athletes who were able to attend and represent Ridgedale! Thank you to Michael, Vincent, Richelle, Hannah, and Lincoln for joining us today! A special afternoon was had by all!



## FOOTBALL AND CROSS COUNTRY

What great seasons for all of our fall Ridgedale Athletics! We are especially proud of our football team for making it to playoffs and to Brogan Weston for making it to state in cross country! Brogan finished 13th with All Ohio honors! We loved seeing the Elementary and JH/HS staff/student support! Congratulations to all participants and all who support the Rocket Family! Rocket Pride Always!!







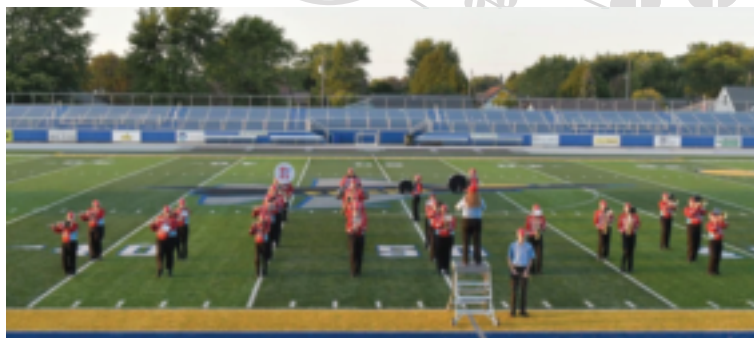
# RIDGEDALE

## NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

This fall semester has been quite busy for the Ridgedale Marching Band! We started out strong with performing at Carey Fest and Cedar Point before the school year started. We also performed at Lawrence Orchards, the Marion Popcorn Parade, the North Union Band Festival, the Clyde Band Festival, Morral's 150th Anniversary Parade, and the Circleville Pumpkin Show! That's on top of performing for every football game to support our team to victory! The marching band played a wide array of music starting from the 1970s to the 2010s to Broadway! It was a pleasure to work through all the new music and to push ourselves to greatness.

On October 29th, the High School Band, High School Choir, and Junior High Choir performed The 2025 Fall Concert. Some of the selections included Purple People Eater, Ghosts: A Midnight Tango, Happy Together, and Monster Mash. The students in each ensemble put a lot of hard work into the performance and the night was a grand success!

Please join us on December 17th at 7:00 in the High School Gym for our Winter Concert featuring the High School Band, Junior High Band, High School Choir, and Junior High Choir!



On September 19th, we were able to invite alumni and friends of the band to come join us during our halftime show. We had a great turnout with 14 members joining us! I am hoping that this can be a new tradition that we can continue to grow from year to year.

On October 17th, we honored our 3 seniors during our last home game of the season. The seniors got to select the songs that we played and helped lead the tradition of water drums that ended the halftime show! I would like to thank these seniors for their hard work and dedication to the Ridgedale Marching Band, especially with a new director their senior year. Thank you Penny, Chloe, and Troy for letting me make your final season the best it could be!







## **Ridgedale Jr./Sr. High School**

### **Students of the Month**

#### **September**

Mackenzie Rossey-6th  
Rylee Baker-7th  
Elyza Tucker-8th  
Bailey Hall-9th  
Andie Shumaker-10th  
Tucker Rodgers-11th  
Liz Ray-12th

#### **October**

Sophia Shumaker-6th  
John Garcia-7th  
Avery Thierl-8th  
Anessa Brown-9th  
Izzy Basinger-10th  
Kingston McGary-11th  
Michael Deas-12th

#### **November**

Hannah Williams-6th  
Audriel Smith-7th  
Kinlee Weston-8th  
Brooke Shipley-9th  
Elliot Weston-10th  
Siera Gibson-11th  
Hannah Staton-12th

#### **December**

Dorothy Beard-6th  
Falon Meade-7th  
Brody Pottkotter-8th  
Rylee Gipson-9th  
Mason Turner-10th  
Shyanne Evans-11th  
Annison Jones-12th

# Ridgedale High School

2025-2026

## Q1 Honor Roll



### *SUMMA CUM LAUDE (4.0 & Above GPA)*

Caleb Anderson	Matthew Delaney	Hannah Murphy	Jillian Slaughterbeck
Evan Anderson	Riley Delaney	Malaki Owen	J.J. Slaughterbeck
Izabella Basinger	Christian Elswick	Abigayle Place	Kiley Slone
Madison Bishop	Shyanne Evans	Britton Pottkotter	Hannah Staton
Memfis Blair	Danica Gibson	Aiden Raby	Camryn Thiel
Layla Blankenship	Richelle Gleespen	Alexis Raby	Lyla Tucker
Fisher Bosley	Jonathan Haupt	Breyton Richmond	Mason Turner
Anessa Brown	Steven Hill	Mylo Richmond	Kenna Venia
Selah Coen	Riley Keller	Tucker Rodgers	Mia Villavincencio
Callie Comer	Lincoln Kramer	Ethan Rossey	Payton Wall
Aadelyn Cook	Madysen McKenzie	Audra Rush	Waverly Werling
Mylez Crabtree	Mya Melvin	Brooke Shipley	Brogan Weston
			Elliott Weston

### *MAGNA CUM LAUDE (3.75-3.99 GPA)*

Alyvia Alspach	Tia Fultz	Trysten Miller	
Hope Anacito	Ja-Leah Gaines	Jacob Millington	Ayden Salyer
Kalyn Bullion	Addisyn Gibson	Trinnity Molnar	Amelia Shaffer
Jaxon Cook	Siera Gibson	Mylee Mullins	Jayse Shaffer
Tyler Coyan	Rylee Gipson	Blaze Murrell	Andie Shumaker
Emmah Cuffle	Bailey Hall	Logan Oliver	Pierson Smith
Robert Fittro	Darien Lester	Kadinn Parish	Alena Villavincencio
Brandon Foreman	Isaac Lust	Elizabeth Potts	Isabella Williams

### *CUM LAUDE (3.5-3.75 GPA)*

Josie Beard	Michael Deas	Daniel Potts	
Adison Brooker	Farrah Eubanks	Lakoda Ralston	Madelyn Timmons
Natoshia Callahan	Caiden Faith	Emry Robinson	Aria Warrick
Alexis Connors	Annison Jones	Vincent Smith	Madeline Webb
Ryan Coykendall	Braylan McGowan	Morgan Stanforth	Evan White
Tyler Daiber	Delilah Murrell	Khloe Stittsworth	Sarah Wilson



# Ridgedale Junior High School

2025-2026

## Q1 Honor Roll



### ALL As HONOR ROLL

Lilliona Dugan  
Holden Elder  
Ethan English  
Jackson Garner  
Addalynn Griffaw

Bristol Jones  
Jaylynn Jones  
Colt Morgan  
Paivyn Mosher  
Anderson Shumaker

Cherish Steele  
Avery Thiel  
Elyza Tucker  
Kinlee Weston  
Hannah Williams

### ALL As & Bs HONOR ROLL

Rylee Baker	Jaycee Foley	Falon Meade	Brynnley Rudd
Aaliyah Baylous	Kevin Garcia Cervantes	Silas Meade	Dylan Salyer
Dorothy Beard	Kinsleigh Gilbert	Aleah Miller	Easton Schertzer
Lucas Blankenship	Roman Harrison	Sutton Miller	Emily Sherman
Conner Blauser	Gabriella Herrington	Allison Moore	Jacob Shipley
Mason Brand	Aavery Hunt	Amelia Moore	Sophia Shumaker
Jayden Collins	Sophia Imbody	Breyton Pottkotter	Brison Slone
Maddox Crabtree	Jordan Keller	Brody Pottkotter	Lane Taylor
Abriella Cross	Lilly Layne	Paisley Richmond	Gavyn Waddell
Evelyn Cuffle	Kori Leslie	Emma Rose	Chloe Warrick
Psylum Dugan	Anthony Marlow	Mackenzie Rossey	Ethan Webb
Kayson Edler-Sedlock	Aurora McNeal	Reed Roush	Laykan Wippich
			Kaylynn Yeager



# RIDGEDALE

## FROM THE DESK OF PRINCIPAL BRICELY



Dear Families,

Thank you to the Ridgedale community for your amazing welcome as I navigate all the duties and responsibilities of being the best principal I possibly can. You extended me patience and grace and have provided support and encouragement; for that, I am truly grateful.

We have already accomplished so much this year as we approach the midpoint of our second quarter. Students have been assessed to gauge their present levels and grades 3-5 have completed online checkpoints to let teachers know their progress. Our kindergarten students have graduated from Safety City where they learned how to ride bikes safely and to "Stop! Drop! and Roll!" Several grades have attended educational programming at the Marion Palace Theatre.

Our community connections continue to grow. Parent-teacher conferences were well attended, as many families used the opportunity to pick out free Halloween costumes and visit the Book Fair. We held our annual spooktacular Boo at the Dale with hundreds in attendance. The community supported our schools in a huge way with two successful fundraisers. Most recently, we were able to honor our veterans thanks to the hard work of Mr. Thom Richards and the 3rd and 4th grade students who paid respect to our local heroes through songs and readings.

We are continuing to foster a kind, respectful, responsible, and safe environment in many ways. Staff is utilizing "Kid Whisperer" techniques to maintain optimal instructional environments while also teaching students the expectations through practicing and delayed learning opportunities (DLOs). We are currently showing kindness through a food drive and Christmas gift collection for area families in need.

As you can tell, Ridgedale Elementary is a busy place! We are focused on helping our students grow academically, behaviorally, and emotionally, and we look forward to partnering with you to help meet all students' needs.

Respectfully,

Angie Bricely  
Principal, Ridgedale Elementary

## SAFETY CITY

Our Kindergarten classes enjoyed Safety City! Students learned about fire safety, police safety, and stranger danger in a fun, hands-on way. Here are some pictures of all the excitement. What an amazing, interactive way to help our kids stay safe!





# ROCKETS

## ELEMENTARY STAFF LOUNGE

A big thank you to PTO and Modern Woodman for supporting and sponsoring our staff lounge. Over the summer, Amy Werling, Trissa Schimpf, and their families were able to complete the updates and surprise the staff on the first day of school. The updates included new furniture, a high top area to provide more seating with additional counter space, a bookshelf to provide a book swap of teachers' personal books they want to share, and a new rug. We are so grateful for the new area!



## BOO AT THE DALE

Boo at the Dale was another successful community event where kids and families came together for an evening of festive Halloween fun. The highlight of the night was trunk or treat, where decorated car trunks offered treats and goodies to costumed children. Families enjoyed a safe and cheerful atmosphere with creative decorations, music, and community spirit. Thank you to the staff who volunteered their time to plan this event and to the community for participating alongside each other! The costume closet received many donations to supply free costumes to our elementary families. We hope to continue this opportunity but will need your help. If you have any costumes that are no longer being used, feel free to drop them off at the elementary office as we are always collecting!



## QUARTER ONE ATTENDANCE

We ended the first quarter with 103 students with perfect attendance! This included those with medical excuses and within this number, we had 71 students who did not miss a day or minute of school! Thank you for your continued support and partnership with the school to allow us to celebrate all of these students. The students were rewarded with cookies, extra recess, and they were able to enter a Stay in the Game merchandise raffle. There will be various items to raffle off each quarter including t-shirts, posters, and yard signs! We look forward to celebrating more students throughout the year. Let's continue to Stay in the Game and Keep Learning Every Day!



## DONUT PARTY!

Mrs. Marshall's class donated the largest amount of candy for Boo at the Dale. They were rewarded with a donut party for all of their efforts. Overall, as a school, we collected more than 225 pounds of candy!! Thank you to all of our families who donated to our cause. We could not do this without all of you!!





# RIDGEDALE

## OCTOBER ARTISTS OF THE MONTH



5th - Victoria Keller  
4th - McKenna Klingel  
2nd - Aleina Wood  
1st - Isla Adams  
3rd - Caroline McDonald  
KG - Emily Dietsch

## NOVEMBER ARTISTS OF THE MONTH



5th - Maeby Werling  
2nd - Hailey Long  
1st - Katie Roberts  
3rd - Makena Grote  
4th - Avery Steward  
KG - Aubrey Holsinger

## 5TH GRADE ART FIELD TRIP

All 5th graders attended a field trip to Franklin Conservatory & Botanical Gardens. They visited all 18 of Dale Chihuly's artworks, toured the botanical gardens, bonsai trees, fall displays, watched a professional gaffer create blown glass artwork, and even took a Bugs & Botany class! Thanks again to our awesome PTO for sponsoring our trip!







# OCTOBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

THEO WARWICK  
KEELEY ALEXANDER  
JENSYN BROWN  
NOAH PRATHER  
RHETT LUST  
BEAU SEITER  
ALEINA WOOD  
OLIVIA BLOOMFIELD  
BRAXTON BAYLOUS  
ELLA JOLLEY  
RAELYNN VAUGHN  
MAKENA GROTE  
MASON BLACKBURN  
BRAXTON BROWN  
JENSEN TRAIL  
ALARIC MEADE  
HALEN HANSHAW



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