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Postal Customer

WINTER 2026



SEBRING  
LOCAL SCHOOLS

Trojan Talk

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

A Message from the  
Superintendent



The winter months are often some of our busiest, and from November through January, our schools gave us a lot to celebrate. A quick look at the district live feed and Facebook page tells the story of students and staff doing impressive work every day.

We saw strong performances across our winter athletic programs, with multiple teams advancing in tournament play and

student-athletes recognized for sportsmanship and leadership. At the same time, our music and arts programs were on full display through winter concerts, performances, and showcases that highlighted both talent and hard work.

Academically, we are proud to share that our district earned a Five-Star rating for College and Career Readiness, a reflection of the outstanding work of our students and staff. Our students continue to excel, earning honors through classroom achievements, career credentialing milestones, and college and workforce readiness programs. Many were recognized for academic growth, leadership, and service, while others engaged in career exploration events, College Credit Plus courses, and hands-on, real-world learning experiences—preparing them for success long after graduation.

Our schools also placed a strong focus on connection and care. During Thanksgiving and Christmas, holiday giving projects supported several families through food baskets and donated gifts. Students also participated in meaningful community service, including creating handwritten Christmas cards and original artwork for residents at Copeland Oaks.

Student wellness remained a priority, highlighted by a visit from the Ohio Dental Outreach mobile dentist, which provided students with access to essential care during the school day, including cleanings, cavity fillings, and extractions. The district also partnered with Vision to Learn to provide eye screenings for all students. Those in need of corrective lenses received a free pair of glasses. These efforts reinforced the supportive culture we work hard to maintain across the district. Throughout the season, the dedication of our staff was evident—supporting students beyond the school day, organizing meaningful opportunities, and celebrating student success at every level.

In January, we recognized our school board for their leadership and dedication to our students and community. Their guidance ensures our district stays focused on academic excellence, student well-being, and meaningful opportunities for all learners. We appreciate the countless hours they commit to supporting our schools and shaping policies that benefit every student. Their service is a vital part of our success, and we are grateful for their continued partnership.

Thank you again to the Scarpitti Foundation for generously providing every Sebring student with a new pair of athletic shoes. Our students are thrilled with their new shoes, and we are so grateful for this thoughtful gift. I also want to thank our families and community for your continued partnership, and our staff for the dedication you show every day. As we head into the second half of the school year, we remain focused on learning, creating opportunities, and doing what’s best for our students.

Go Trojans! Toni Viscounte, Superintendent

Sebring Schools Awarded for their PBIS Programs

The entire Sebring Local School District has been awarded for their Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (or PBIS) programs. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce rewarded B.L. Miller Elementary with the program's highest honor, a Gold designation. Meanwhile McKinley Jr./Sr. High received a Silver designation. PBIS is a framework for supporting our students’ behavioral, academic, social, emotional, and mental health, and promotes a positive school climate. Districts implement programming creatively and effectively to best support their students.



The Gold Award Winning B.L. Miller PBIS Team

Back row left to right: Julie Naples, Summer Benchwick, Leann Laure, Betsy Walsh, Tiffany Thomas, Lynn Chiu. Front row left to right: Nikki Hanley (Principal) and Jennifer Baum



The Silver Award Winning McKinley Jr./Sr. High PBIS Team

Left to right: Brian Clark (Principal), Keely Kandel, Jeanelle Thorn, Megan Cooper, LenAnn Everhart

2026-27 DISTRICT CALENDAR

2026-2027

DISTRICT CALENDAR

OPTION #1

176 Student Days - Yellow

2 PT Conference Comp - Blue

3 Staff - Pink

3 Waiver - Green

2026

August

18 Optional NEOEA Day

19 Convocation Day

20 First Day Classes

September

4 Fair Day

7 Labor Day - No School

October

7 Conference Night

8 Conf. Comp Day - No School

9 NEOA Day

23 End 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Period (43 days)

November

25-27 Thanksgiving Break

30 In-Service Day - Staff Only

December

18 Last Day Classes

2027

January

4 Classes Resume

14 End 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Period (45 days)

15 Staff Records day-No Students

18 MLK Day - No School

February

11 Conference Night

12 Conf. Comp Day - No School

15 Presidents' Day - No School

March

1 In-Service Day- Staff Only

19 End 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Period (41 days)

26 Good Friday - No School

29 Spring Break

May

23 Graduation

26 End 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Period (46 days)

26 End Semester/End Year

26 Last Day Classes

27 Staff Records Day

31 Memorial Day

Aug

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Oct

Nov

Dec

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May

Waiver

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SCHOOL BOARD  
RECOGNITION



THANK  
you

Debra Green

Scott Latham  
(Vice President)

Tammy Eckert

Melinda Vecchio

JoAnn Jones  
(President)

A NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

Dear Parents, Students, and Community Members,

I would like to share an important update regarding the Sebring Local School District's earned income tax renewal. Our earned income tax renewal will be on the ballot for your vote on May 5, 2026.

The purpose of this renewal is to maintain our current level of operations. The money is NOT spent on salaries and/or fringe benefits to employees. The money is spent on the following items:

- Utilities including gas, electricity, telephone, water, and garbage services
- Maintenance and repairs services
- Instructional supplies and materials
- Transportation supplies and services including tires, diesel fuel, gasoline, and preventative maintenance

The Sebring Local School District Board of Education made the decision to decrease the renewal amount from 1% to .75%. This decrease will save our taxpayers money. For example, a person who earns \$40,000 per year currently has to pay \$400 in income tax annually. If passed, under the renewed levy, a person earning \$40,000 per year would have to pay \$300 in income tax annually. This example would save the taxpayer \$100 per year.

Thank you for your continued partnership and dedication to our schools.

Warm Regards,  
Dawn Welsch, Treasurer/CFO



Sebring Kindergarten  
Registration &  
Screening Day

March 27th from 8AM-2PM by Appointment Only!

If your child is turning FIVE on or before August 17, 2026, it is now time to register for the 2026-2027 school year.

Please bring the follow with you to complete registration:

- Child's Official Birth Certificate
- Shot Records
- Any Custody Papers
- Social Security Card
- Parent/Guardian Driver's License
- Two Proofs of Residency (utility bill, etc)

330-938-2025

sebring.k12.oh.us

BOOK NOW



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
2025-2026 AIR DATES:

- 05/21/2026- Kindergarten
- 05/22/2026-1st grade
- 05/25/2026- 2nd grade
- 05/26/2026- 3rd grade
- 05/27/2026- 4th grade
- 05/28/2026- 5th grade
- 05/29/2026- 6th grade



THE VIDEOS WILL ALSO  
BE POSTED ON  
WYTV.COM THE  
MORNING AFTER THEY  
AIR LIVE.



OPEN ENROLLMENT  
NOW OPEN

Now accepting students for 2026-2027

Open enrollment for current families enrolled outside of the district - Now

Open enrollment for new families outside of the district - April 1

Register  
Early as a  
Current  
Family!

KINDERGARTEN SCREENING

March 27

Call Mrs. Harlan to schedule an appointment:  
(330) 938-2025

<https://www.sebring.k12.oh.us/>

# Beatrice L. Miller Elementary School News

## A Message from Principal Hanley

### A Season of Growth and Gratitude at Our Elementary School

As winter settles in, I find myself reflecting with great pride on the fantastic fall our students and staff have experienced, and the important months of learning now ahead of us.

Autumn is always a special season in an elementary school. It is a time when routines become steady, friendships take root, and classrooms truly come alive with curiosity. This fall was no exception. From the first-day jitters in September to confident smiles by November, our students have shown remarkable growth. Our students have embraced learning with enthusiasm and determination.

Behind the scenes, our teachers have been hard at work building strong foundations. They have spent these early months getting to know each child as a learner-- understanding strengths, identifying areas for growth, and creating classrooms where students feel safe, supported, and challenged. That relationship-building is essential, because it sets the stage for what educators often call the most critical learning period of the school year.

As we move from fall into winter, instruction deepens. Reading skills strengthen as students move from learning to read toward reading to learn. Math concepts become more complex as students apply problem-solving strategies and explain their thinking. Writing grows richer, with students learning to organize ideas and express themselves clearly. This is also a key time for developing perseverance, independence, and confidence--skills that matter just as much as academic progress.

Of course, learning in an elementary school extends well beyond academics. This fall, our students demonstrated kindness, responsibility, and respect in countless ways. As winter is in full swing, we continue to emphasize social-emotional learning, helping students manage big feelings, set goals, and take pride in their accomplishments.

I am especially grateful for the partnership we share with our families and the wider community. Your support--whether through encouraging reading at home, volunteering time, or simply asking your child about their day--makes a meaningful difference. Education works best when school and home move forward together, and we are fortunate to be part of a town that values its children and their learning so deeply.

The winter months can feel long, but they are filled with opportunity. They are a time for focus, growth, and steady progress. As principal, I am continually inspired by the resilience and joy our students bring to school each day and by the dedication of our staff who guide them.

Thank you for sharing your children with us and for being part of this important season of learning. We look forward to a winter filled with growth, discovery, and continued success for every student.

- Principal Nichole Hanley



## March/April 2026 Planner

B.L. Miller

### MARCH 2026:

- March 6: Spring Pictures
- March 13: Father/Daughter Dance
- March 20: Family Glow STEM/Math Night

### APRIL/MAY 2026:

- April 3-6: Spring Break
- April 10: Mother/Son Dance
- May 16: Sebring's Got Talent
- May 19: Track and Field Day
- May 26: Kindergarten Graduation
- May 27: Semester Awards and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation
- May 28: Last Day of School

SAVE THE DATE

## A Season of Joy & Giving

It was another magical holiday season as students, staff, and our great community came together to participate in several festive activities.

The holiday season began in November, when we enjoyed Thanksgiving activities and programs. Our 2nd-graders presented their annual Thanksgiving Feast Performance, where students dressed as turkeys and pilgrims, reading poems and singing turkey songs to the delight of their families. B.L. Miller students also participated in a Thanksgiving feast, bringing together students and staff to share a meal with all the Thanksgiving fixings! The cafeteria team worked hard to prepare a delicious spread for all to enjoy.

The snowy December weather couldn't stop our annual holiday family night. Though the evening had to be postponed due to weather, more than 100 students and their families joined us for our annual "Elf" Night on December 16, for an evening full of holiday cheer. Attendees enjoyed a screening of Elf, complete with themed treats and activities. In addition to the movie, families participated in holiday crafts, games, and enjoyed shopping at the Secret Santa Gift Shop, sponsored by Parents In Education (P.I.E.).

We also celebrated our Success After Six Family Christmas Party. Santa Claus, along with his Elf on the Shelf, Jax Mellott, visited the event to present gifts to the students, adding an extra touch of joy. Families enjoyed a delicious dinner, participated in festive activities like a gingerbread house competition, and joined in on holiday sing-alongs. Thanks to the many volunteers who helped make the event possible.

Another special thanks goes out to our parent volunteers who chaperoned and led classroom parties the last day before winter break. Our volunteers also helped decorate and put on our annual special Christmas lunch, complete with lights, singing, and the students' favorite "Grinch Punch!" Our kiddos enjoyed many festive activities and treats, and fun was had by all!



## B.L. Miller Spelling Bee

Congratulations to our B.L. Miller Spelling Bee champion, Violet Sheen, and runner-up, Jaxsyn Shell! Violet will represent us at the Regional Spelling Bee in Youngstown on Saturday, March 14th. This will be her third year competing as the B.L. Miller representative! Congratulations to all of our grade level contestants who competed in the spelling bee.



Participants: Jacob Finnegan, Khaleesi Guy, Raelyn Eckert, Dakota Rouse, Avery Michaels, Zoltan Riggs, Bentley Veneri, William Perko, Maci Houser, Buddy Richards, Jaxson Shell, Cordell Higgins, Ava Bompadre, Violet Sheen, Robert Frederick, and Ayden Caughman.

# Beatrice L. Miller Elementary School News

## A Special Collaboration with Kindergarten & the Senior Class

Before the holidays, our kindergarteners partnered with Mrs. Mathias' seniors for a special collaborative project inspired by Peter H. Reynolds' story, "The Gift of Words". The story was read aloud to the group of kindergarten and senior students. Then kindergarteners and seniors worked in small groups to talk about the power of joyful, meaningful words, especially during the holiday season. Together, they created Christmas tree crafts decorated with the words they chose.

This special collaboration fostered rich vocabulary skills, strengthened communication skills, and supported speaking and listening skills as students of all ages share, explain, and create with language. It was a wonderful way to connect learners across grade levels while celebrating kindness, community, and the impact our words can have. The project was such a success that there are plans to expand the special partnership between Trojan kindergarteners and seniors!



## Success After 6 Quarterly Highlights: Learning Beyond the School Day

**The United Way Success After 6 After-Hours School Program** continues to provide high-quality academic support and enrichment that extends learning beyond the traditional school day while supporting the whole child.

The quarter kicked off with an assembly featuring Youngstown State University's Pete the Penguin, launching Pete's Reading Club, an incentive-based program designed to make reading fun, engaging, and student-driven.

Each program day begins with dedicated tutoring and homework assistance, offering individualized academic support that reinforces classroom learning. Success After 6 Champions and teachers work closely with students to strengthen math, reading, and problem-solving skills while building confidence, responsibility, and positive study habits.

Our students engaged in hands-on enrichment experiences connecting academics to real-world applications and future careers. Grades 3-5 participated

in a 9-week STEM Playbook Challenge, exploring sports science, engineering, health, and nutrition through movement-based lessons that emphasized teamwork, data collection, and critical thinking.

A highlight of the quarter was a student-led biology and zoology lesson on specimen preservation, where students stepped into the role of scientists and educators. Using age-appropriate materials, students learned how biologists study and preserve small mammals, crustaceans, and reptiles--building observation skills, scientific vocabulary, and career awareness in biology, zoology, and environmental science.

Seasonal enrichment and social-emotional learning activities supported community and character development through fall crafts, Friendsgiving celebrations, Turkey Trot movement games, gratitude-focused lessons, and PBIS-aligned instruction centered on the B.L. Miller Promises.

Throughout the quarter, The Ohio State University

Extension in the Classroom delivered interactive STEM enrichment including robotics, electricity, Project Wild, insect studies, stress ball creation, and nutrition science labs. Additional enrichment included PBS Western Reserve Ohio Learns 360 Camp-in-a-Box, Young Artists projects, math and literacy challenges, physical fitness activities, and creative expression opportunities such as "I Got Talent Tuesday."

Students also participated in *Alumni Alley: Workforce Development & Career Paths*, featuring former B.L. Miller and McKinley alumnus Johnny Billingsley, who shared his educational journey and emphasized community involvement, giving back, employment readiness, and the importance of college credit opportunities that helped prepare him for his college journey.

Through strong community partnerships and a balance of academic support and enrichment, Success After 6 continues to provide a safe, engaging environment where students build skills, confidence, and curiosity--preparing them for success in school and beyond.

## Muffins with Mom!



The fourth annual B.L. tradition, "Muffins with Mom", was another wonderful success this year. Thanks to the over 200 extraordinary moms and caregivers who filled our cafeteria with love for a nice gathering before our Veterans Day celebrations. Moms and students enjoyed Muffins purchased by the school with the PIE (Parent Involvement Team,) providing drinks and napkins. Each student started their day off with a smile and a sweet treat with one of their most special people in their lives.

**Thank you, moms!**



# McKinley Jr/Sr. High School News

## A Message from Principal Clark

As we reach the midpoint of the school year, I am proud to share an update on the progress, achievements, and continued focus of our high school students and staff. The months behind us have been filled with meaningful learning, strong engagement, and a shared commitment to excellence.

### Academic Achievement Worth Celebrating

One of the highlights of the second grading period was the outstanding academic performance of our students. I am pleased to report that 56% of our student body earned Honor Roll or Merit Roll recognition, a testament to their hard work, perseverance, and dedication to learning. This achievement reflects not only student effort, but also the unwavering support of our teachers, families, and support staff.

While we celebrate these successes, we also remain focused on growth for every learner. Our faculty continues to analyze student data, adjust instruction, and provide targeted support to ensure all students are challenged and supported at their level.

### Supporting the Whole Student

In addition to academic rigor, we are committed to educating the whole child. This year, our school has continued its emphasis on social-emotional learning through the 7 *Mindsets* curriculum, which helps students build resilience, develop a growth mindset, strengthen relationships, and set meaningful goals. These skills are essential not only for success in school, but for life beyond our classrooms.

By intentionally addressing both academic and social-emotional development, we are helping students become confident, responsible, and well-rounded individuals.

### Preparing for State Assessments

As we move into the second half of the year, all eyes are focused on the upcoming state assessments. Our teachers are working diligently to ensure students are prepared, confident, and equipped with the skills they need to demonstrate their learning. We encourage families to support students by reinforcing good study habits, attendance, and rest during this important time.

State testing is one measure of student progress, and we approach it as an opportunity for students to showcase the knowledge and skills they have developed throughout the year.

### A Strong School Community

Beyond the classroom, our school continues to thrive through extracurricular activities, athletics, arts, and service opportunities. These experiences foster school pride, teamwork, and leadership; they also strengthen the connection between our school and the broader community.

### Looking Ahead

The months ahead will be filled with continued learning, spring activities, and preparations for the next school year. We remain committed to maintaining a safe, inclusive, and engaging environment where every student has the opportunity to succeed.

*Thank you to our families and community members for your ongoing partnership and support. Together, we are building a school culture that values achievement, growth, and care for one another.*

*GO Trojans! - Principal Brian Clark*



March, April, May  
2026 Planner

McKinley

### MARCH/APRIL 2026:

|           |                                      |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| March 23  | NHS Induction Ceremony               |
| April 3-6 | Spring Break                         |
| April 16  | Band/Choir Concert                   |
| April 23  | McKinley Band/Choir Concert & Awards |

SAVE THE DATE

### MAY 2026:

|        |                                  |
|--------|----------------------------------|
| May 2  | Promenade/Prom                   |
| May 7  | Academic Awards Banquet          |
| May 16 | Sebring's Got Talent             |
| May 22 | Senior Awards                    |
| May 28 | Underclassmen Awards             |
| May 28 | Last Day of Classes              |
| May 31 | Graduation at McKinley Gymnasium |

## National Honor Society Tapping

The National Honor Society performed its ceremonial 'tapping' of future members on November 25, 2025. Four students were identified as meeting NHS membership criteria. Students tapped to become members of the esteemed club included **Mia Somerville, Kristal Giron-Perez, Keira Kemmerly and Rick Zheng**. Since being tapped, students have participated in community service hours, a requirement and pillar of the National Honor Society. Inductees assisted with McKinley's annual Christmas cookie tray fundraiser. The National Honor Society induction ceremony will take place on March 16, 2026 in the McKinley Auditorium with a small reception for the members and their guests to follow in the cafeteria.



## For all your memory care needs

Committed to providing those affected with any phase of dementia, or other psycho-social need, the highest quality of life through an environment that fosters dignity and self respect.



LOUISVILLE  
GARDENS

[www.louisvillegardenshc.com](http://www.louisvillegardenshc.com)  
330.875.5060  
4466 Lynnhaven Ave. NE., Louisville, OH

Long Term Placement | Short Term Rehabilitation | Respite Stays

## Second Semester Launches with Winter Olympics

McKinley students didn't begin their second semester of the year in a typical classroom setting. Instead, students engaged in a series of Winter Olympic-themed team building activities, a nod to this year's Winter Olympics.



January's second semester kick-off dovetails with how students began their year. Sebring students swapped the typical first day of school schedule for a day of team building activities, small group discussions, and mental health presentations centered around the theme of "Wreck It Ralph"; a movie that encourages students to value themselves and others.

The schedule of events for the second semester kicked off with a viewing of "Ralph Breaks the Internet" (a sequel to "Wreck it Ralph") in which themes of facing adversity and engaging with the world set the tone for small group discussions. Students also participated in Winter Olympic themed activities as they competed for gold in their grade levels. Some activities included Oreo curling, snowball spoon walks, iscooter sledding races, and paper plate speed skating competitions. The day culminated with brain games, a school-wide dodgeball tournament, and an awards ceremony.

The concept of January's second semester kick-off aims to ease students into the rhythm of a school schedule after prolonged breaks. The events were planned by teachers and administrators with the goal of energizing students to finish the school year strong.

## McKinley Winter Homecoming



McKinley students celebrated their Winter Homecoming in January. Devonte Buchanan was crowned King while Keira Berger was crowned Queen during the January 8 Homecoming basketball game. Students enjoyed dancing and refreshments in the student lounge during the January 10 Winter Homecoming Dance.



*Back Row from left: Freshman Arkez Griffin, Junior Zach Todd, Senior Brandon Bahler, Senior Noah Betz, Senior Devonte Buchanan*  
*Front Row from left: Freshman Peyton Counter, Sophomore Aubrielle Lacher, Junior Kaelyn Mikes, Senior Kiera Berger, Senior Davianna Bowyer, Senior Mia Somerville*



## Stay in the Game Update: Excellent Attendance Earns Free Browns Tickets

Ahleya Grimm was the “Stay in the Game!” winner of four free Browns tickets for her excellent attendance in the first grading period. The Cleveland Browns partner with area schools to support high attendance rates. Contests are implemented throughout the year to make sure students remain on a path toward graduation. Ahleya is shown with her brother, 7th grader Kaiden, and the rest of her family.



## Sebring McKinley Students Join Forces to Provide Food and Care Packages for Thirty-Six Families

Junior and high school student organizations joined forces for the holiday season to launch an expansive food and care item drive. In November, the Student Senate group in the junior high partnered with the Student Senate group in the high school to concentrate efforts on a singular goal: expand support to district families this holiday season.



The collaboration paid off and gained support from other student groups in the school. The school's Ecology Club and Success and Wellness group contributed to the effort with a fundraiser of their own. The groups' *Trick or Treat for Turkeys* campaign raised \$1,000, allowing each care package to include a turkey or ham.

Jr. High Student Senate advisor, Lori DeHoff, praised the students for making this year's drive a strong success, noting that it meaningfully expanded support for district families. The drive provided each of the thirty-six families with a bag and a basket of food plus hygiene supplies. "Families will receive not only food for the holidays, but pantry staples and hygiene items," DeHoff said.

After the food and care items were collected, students organized, packaged, and labeled the items for distribution. All items donated remained in the Sebring community.

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## District staff provides meal kits

While many school district buildings were closed the week of January 20, 2026, B.L. Miller Elementary was full of activity as district staff came together to support local families. Teachers, support staff, Success After Six staff, and administrators spent the day assembling meal kits to ensure students continued to have access to food despite the weather-related closures.

Superintendent Toni Viscounte, Elementary Principal Nikki Hanley, and Jr./Sr. High Principal Brian Clark worked alongside staff members to prepare and distribute 40 meal kits, serving 112 students across the district. Families picked up the kits through a drive-through system, and for those unable to travel, staff personally delivered meals to homes.

"Our village always comes together, and our staff and administrators reflect that commitment to care," said Superintendent Toni Viscounte. "We continually look for ways to support our families before, during, and after the school day—especially when challenges arise."



## WKBN Creative Classroom Winner: Mrs. Keely Kandel

Each year WKBN awards deserving teachers \$500 to implement creative ideas in their classrooms. This year, Sebring's very own Mrs. Kandel was named a winner of the award. Mrs. Kandel was surprised with the award in December in a news segment. Mrs. Kandel will use the \$500 prize money toward her project "Books that Buzz: A Creative Book Club for Every Student". Mrs. Kandel will let students vote on themes for books each month and will purchase books in their chosen genre. Mrs. Kandel said "We have a lot of books in here already, but we need to update what we have so we can bring some energy and innovation into the classroom."



# SEBRING PERFORMING ARTS

## B.L. Miller Elementary Holiday Concert

On December 9th, there was not a seat left in the high school auditorium for the K-3 Christmas Concert performed by B.L. Miller students. Under the direction of Mrs. Mansfield, students performed classic holiday songs dressed up in all of their holiday gear. It's a great way to get anyone in the holiday spirit and we are grateful for all of our performers and the many families who came out to show their support.



## A Music Update from Mr. Wyatt Engstrom, McKinley Jr/Sr High

*Our music programs at McKinley Jr/Sr High are in full swing this year, and we're excited to share updates from our band and choir ensembles!*



### TROJAN MARCHING BAND

The Sebring High School Marching Band has grown to 43 members this season. In addition to performing at Friday and Saturday night football games, the band has represented the district at the Columbiana and Beaver Local Band Shows, the Canfield Fair, the Fireman's Parade in Sebring, and the Fall Festival Parade at Kennywood.

Thanks to the continued support of the school district, the Sebring/West Branch Foundation, and generous community donations, the marching band proudly debuted new uniforms this season. As the program continues to grow, the need for additional equipment has become a priority. The next major project for the band is updating drumline equipment to better serve our expanding number of students. We are extremely grateful to all who have supported the band thus far, and donations toward this project are still being accepted through the district.

### CHOIR

The choir program is also experiencing continued growth. The high school choir now includes 11 students in grades 9-12, and a newly established 7th-8th grade choir has launched with 16 members. This year, choir students had the honor of performing at the local Veterans Day assembly, the Downtown Tree Lighting, and the annual Christmas Concert. These performances provided meaningful musical contributions to community events.

### CONCERT/JAZZ BAND

The concert band program is made up of three ensembles: sixth-grade band, junior high band, and senior high band. Students begin in the sixth-grade band, where they focus on developing foundational skills on their

instruments and will make their concert debut later this spring.

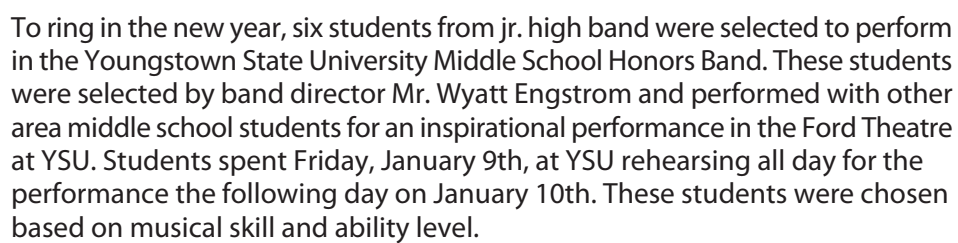
As students advance, the junior high band builds upon these fundamentals by performing a more challenging repertoire and preparing for school performances, while also introducing select students to honors opportunities. Such opportunities include participation in YSU Honors Bands and OMEA District V events.

The senior high band continues this progression by refining advanced techniques and exploring a wider range of musical styles. This group will perform at the Hubbard Band Festival on March 5, where students will have the opportunity to work with experienced collegiate band directors to further develop their skills. In addition, two students (shown above) represented the program at the OMEA District V Solo and Ensemble event, earning ratings of Superior and Excellent.

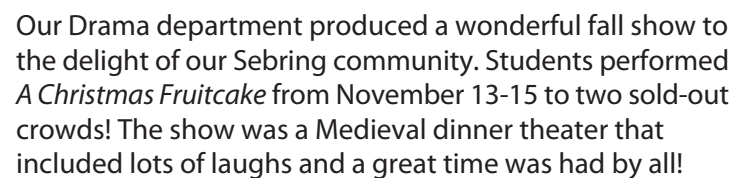
The jazz band program for grades 9-12 has continued to grow and now includes seven students performing in a combo-style setting. This ensemble features a mix of guitars, drum set, and wind instruments, giving students the opportunity to explore jazz through improvisation and small-group performance. Throughout the year, the jazz band has shared their music with the community through performances at the Fall Harvest Festival and the school's Christmas Concert.

The 7-12 Band and Choir Concert will be held on Thursday, April 16, at 6:30 p.m. in the McKinley High School Auditorium. This performance is free and open to the public, and community members are encouraged to attend. We are grateful for the continued support of our families and community as our music program continues to grow and thrive.

## ★ Honors Band ★



## Drama/Theater Update



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# TROJAN ATHLETICS



## Senior Raegan Wynn Scores 500 Career Points

A big TROJAN CONGRATS to Senior Raegan Wynn on scoring 500 career points! Raegan achieved the milestone in December. Congratulations, Raegan on achieving this amazing benchmark in your high school career!

## McKinley Cheerleaders Earn Back to Back State Bid



Congratulations to our McKinley Cheerleaders who earned another bid to the OASSA State Cheerleading Competition. The Trojan Cheerleaders will compete for gold in the Game Day Building category. This marks the second year in a row for our Trojans to earn a state bid. The squad will compete on Saturday, February 21st at Big Walnut High School in the Columbus area.

# Go Trojans!

College Credit Plus Program

Our College Credit Plus (CCP) program is off to a strong start as we begin the second semester of both U.S. History and Western Civilizations at Sebring McKinley High School. These rigorous, college-level courses give students the opportunity to earn transferable college credit while still in high school. By earning college credit at no cost to families, students save on future tuition while gaining early exposure to the expectations, workload, and independence of college coursework. As the semester continues, students will engage in deeper historical analysis, primary source work, and discussions that connect past events to the modern world.



To learn more about Ohio’s College Credit Plus Program, scan the QR code

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Your high school may have an agreement with a local college for specific courses; however, you can choose to take College Credit Plus courses that would benefit your future from any college. This includes online courses.

G R E A T L A K E S C O M M U N I T Y A C T I O N

NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE

- Thank you for the passage of the Park and Fire levies in November! Look for some property upgrades this year in the parks and fire equipment upgrades.
- Most commercial water meters have been replaced. Residential change outs started in January. When you receive a letter, please contact the contractor, Alldrive, for your change out.
- Welcome new Council Member John Walker.
- Let’s build the village together! Home builders may qualify for a 10-year tax abatement. Business owners may apply for a 2-year interest free loan for property improvements. Inquire at Village Hall.
- Coming this spring: more Farmers Markets with the help of the Mahoning County Health District & Creating Healthy Communities grant. Vendors will be needed. Volunteers willing to serve on a committee are needed as well.
- There are a few boards where citizen representation is needed. Please call Village Hall if you are interested!

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR SEBRING RESIDENTS & LOCAL BUSINESSES**  
Sebring is continuing its commitment to supporting local growth—both for businesses and future homeowners. Here are two great programs currently available in the Village:

**0% Revolving Loan Fund for Local Businesses**  
Sebring businesses looking to improve their properties can now take advantage of the Village’s Revolving Loan Fund, offering 0% financing for two years. Eligible improvement projects include:

- Facade upgrades
- Parking lot improvements
- Additions or structural enhancements

Businesses interested in applying will need to prepare and submit a project plan for review by Village Council prior to approval.

For more details or to begin the process, contact Village Hall at 330-938-9340.

**10-Year Tax Abatement for New Home Builds**  
Thinking about building a new home? Sebring offers a 7-year tax abatement for new builds of \$150,000-\$225,000 and a 10-year tax abatement on new residential construction of \$226,000 and above, making it an excellent time to build within the Village limits.

To learn more about eligibility and how to apply, please inquire at Village Hall.

**SEBRING AREA BUSINESS LEADERS MEETING**  
The Sebring Area Business Leaders held its first quarterly meeting of 2026 on

January 14th. The meeting was hosted by the library and included a presentation by the Career Development Facilitator Librarian. Meetings are held quarterly, on the second Wednesday in January, April, July, and October. If you would like more information or are interested in hosting a meeting, contact Jim Williams at sebringbiz@gmail.com.

### A FEW TIPS FOR RENTERS

#### Simple Home Safety Tips for Renters

- Check for water leaks under sinks and in toilet tanks
- Test smoke alarms once a month
- Keep space heaters away from clothes and beds
- Do not use broken cords or overload outlets
- Take trash out often and clean spills
- Use fans or open windows to stop mold

Call your landlord right away for leaks, no heat, broken alarms, or electrical problems.

#### Your Job vs. Landlord’s Job

|                       |                              |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Your job:             | Landlord’s job:              |
| • Keep the home clean | • Fix leaks and damage       |
| • Use things safely   | • Provide heat and hot water |
| • Report problems     | • Make sure alarms work      |

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**  
*Calling All Volunteers! Help Shape Sebring’s 2026 Projects & Events!*  
As we begin planning community projects and events for the coming year, the Village of Sebring is looking for residents who are interested in lending their time, talents, and ideas. Whether you enjoy organizing events, helping with beautification efforts, supporting local initiatives, or simply want to be more involved, we’d love to have you join us.

Volunteers of all ages and skill levels are welcome—no special experience required. Even a small amount of your time can make a big difference in continuing to make Sebring a vibrant and connected community.

If you’re interested in learning more or joining our volunteer list, please contact Village Hall or watch future newsletters and social media for meeting dates and project updates. Together, we can make great things happen in Sebring!

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