Superintendent and Treasurer's Quarterly Newsletter

Greetings, students, staff, teachers, parents, and community members. It is with great enthusiasm and pride that I write my first quarterly newsletter to all of you as your superintendent. It is crazy to think that we are already through a full quarter of school, but we are all extremely proud of the work that has taken place in the district over the last several months. We will continue to collaboratively put in the work to move the district to the next level. Personally, I cannot thank all of you enough for making the start of the year so successful and making my transition into the district so smooth.

Speaking of doing the work, we received our state report in the middle of September and were rated as an overall 4-star district, which we should all be very proud of. That being said, we are always looking to show continuous improvement. Since receiving our results, our administrative team, along with the teaching staff, have been hard at work breaking down data, identifying weaknesses, and formulating plans to improve in our lower rated areas. As a district, we are only a few data points from being a 4.5 or 5-star district, and we intend to get there. **Bath Elementary is 1 of 14 Blue Ribbon Schools in the entire state, out of over 3,500 schools in Ohio!**

When evaluating the report card, it is important to remember that it is just one piece of the overall puzzle in our district's success. It is a tool that helps us to identify our strengths and the areas where we can improve, but it does not define our district as whole.

One thing that is very clear here at Bath is that we have great administrators, great teachers, and great support staff, all which translates to overall student success!

In athletics, by the time many of you read this, most of the fall sports seasons will have ended, but we still have two athletes that are competing at the highest level. Penny Francis and Morgan Schrock will represent Bath Local Schools at the state cross-country meet this Saturday at Fortress Obetz & Memorial Park. GOOD LUCK girls!

We also had a lot of other athletic achievements this year, as follows:

Tennis - Gianna Marfo - made it to Districts. **WBL Sportsmanship award**
Girls Golf - Aubrey Gerten - made it to Districts. She was 1st Team - WBL and freshman Taylor Clark was WBL 1st Team, Bryce Neff - Honorable Mention
Boys Golf - Rickey Phillips - WBL 1st Team and Jacob Lee Honorable Mention
Boys Soccer - Levi Grime - WBL 1st Team, Connor Core - 2nd team, Niah Horn - 3rd Team, and Brayden Brostrom - Honorable mention. Team made it to Districts
Girls Soccer - Gwyn Foust and Addi Rex - WBL 1st Team, Delaney Jenkins - 2nd Team, Camryn McGee - 3rd Team, and Marlie Mason- Honorable Mention. Team made it to Districts
Volleyball - Mia Reindel - WBL 2nd Team, Ella Mauk - 3rd Team, and Aaliyah Young - Honorable Mention. Team made it to Districts.
Cross Country - Penny Francis and Morgan Schrock - WBL 1st Team, Katelyn Shields - 2nd Team. **Penny is the first three-time state qualifier in school history.**

Football - WBL honors have not yet been released.
Daniel Cole broke school records for 22 TD passes in a season and 32 completions in a single game.
Josiah Clark - set a school record for career leader in receptions and 4 TD receptions in a game and 2,560 receiving yards in a career
Isaiah Clark - set a school record for 11 TD receptions in a season

We are proud of all our athletes that put in the effort and competed to the best of their abilities each night. Congratulations to you all.

We want to thank all our coaches, athletic director, advisers, and especially our extracurricular and co-curricular participants for all the hard work and time that you put in to represent our district with pride and high-level character. We also want to thank all of you parents for your efforts in supporting your child and the programs here at Bath. Your positive support is essential in our success.

Overall, as a district, Bath Local Schools are in solid financial standing, but there are some realities that we now face. The most obvious is that we all know that we have two aging buildings, and we need to maintain, upgrade, and update them as we move forward so that we continue to offer the best learning opportunities that we can.

We also know that there are a lot of unknowns when it comes to school funding in the future. The administration is very cognizant of the economic environment in which we live, and we take our roles in making the best fiscally responsible decisions for the district very seriously. Mr. Parker will explain a few things in the next section, but more information will be coming throughout the year. The shift in the political landscape in the November 3rd election will play a big part in public education and funding.

"Inside the Numbers" from the Treasurer

As we reflect on school funding and legislative action over time, here are a few numbers to consider:

- $220,029.94 – Tax dollars returned to Bath tax payers (this was the HB186 tax reform bill). We continue to support smart tax reform bills and we will continue to lobby for a balanced approach to school funding.
- $9,077 – is the national average of state funding per pupil- Ohio contributes $6,405- again we will lobby the legislators to fund the fair school funding plan and restore the proper funding levels from the state to schools.
- 1975- In 1975, the business share of property tax was 54%, today that number is 32.5%- again, we are seeking a balanced approach on taxes and funding.

- 46% - this was the state share of K-12 Funding in 1997- today that number is down to 32%- this shift places an unfair burden on the homeowner.

As we move forward, we are seeking a balanced approach to funding schools. The state, business/corporate and homeowners each play a vital role in supporting our operations. We will continue to lobby for solid/fair legislation that does not overburden one group.

Joel Parker—Treasurer

In closing, I want to thank the Bath Local Schools Board of Education, teachers, staff, administration, and the parents and community for allowing me to be the facilitator of the district. Together, we will continue to do great things. We are all looking forward to a successful second quarter. Go Wildcats!

Proud to be a Wildcat,

Drew Cano

Drew Cano—Superintendent
Bath Local Schools