COMMUNITY



NEWSLETTER

CLOVERLEAF LOCAL SCHOOLS

Winter 2022

A Message from the Superintendent

The story of Cloverleaf Schools keeps getting better



Friday, Jan. 13, 2012, was my all-time favorite day as the Cloverleaf superintendent.

To understand that day, you really need

perspective: Our district was only three days shy of the state's declaration of Fiscal Emergency due to our inability to pay our bills by the end of the school year. Although school wasn't scheduled on Jan. 13, there was a snowstorm that certainly would have led to a cancellation on that day. Yet, we needed to accomplish something monumental in order to be ready for school the following week. What was it that needed accomplished? We needed to move the contents of three elementary school buildings with a combined age of more than 300 years to the brand new Cloverleaf Elementary School!

Due to our finances, we couldn't afford professional movers. Instead, we rented several moving trucks, asked our bus drivers to drive them, and asked our community to come out and help us physically move all the contents out of three buildings in just one day. Numerous moms, dads and other Cloverleaf community supporters took a day off work to help us. We formed human chains to move boxes as efficiently as possible. PTO moms cooked lunch and

made hot chocolate for everyone. By the end of the day we were all completely exhausted, but took great pride in, and had tremendous excitement for, the youngest students of our school district who would have a brand new school building with state-of-the-art design and technology (and air conditioning!) to call their own.

In a former school district, I had witnessed firsthand the positive effect of new school construction not just on students, but on the collective esteem of an entire community. I knew the same would happen at Cloverleaf — and it did. All of this enthusiasm was tempered by the cloud of Fiscal Emergency awaiting us after achieving the highest report card rating possible at the time — Excellent with Distinction. In fact, we were the first and only school district with the dubious distinction of being placed in Fiscal Emergency and simultaneously being named Excellent with Distinction.

Of course, the Cloverleaf community later approved a critical levy that led us out of Fiscal Emergency in 2014. We promised we wouldn't go back to voters for new money until at least 2020. As I write this column in December of 2021, I am happy to report our current five-year financial forecast states we will be able to extend that promise of not asking for new levy money from our taxpayers for at least the next five years!

Today, 10 years after the grand opening of Cloverleaf Elementary School, we are embracing a new construction project — the largest in our district's 60-year history. If you haven't been to our campus recently, a lot has changed. We just finished the third and final phase of our Gene Clark Stadium renovation project. It started with visitor bleachers, then home bleachers, and now a new concession/restroom area complete with a grand entrance, a new track with two additional lanes for eight total lanes, new field turf, new fencing, and a new sense of community pride and spirit for our student athletes and band members.

If you look behind our middle school today, you can see the groundwork has already begun on construction of our new \$40 million Cloverleaf High School, scheduled

Please see Superintendent on P. 6





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Abby Donofrio

CHS Senior Home: Seville Parents: Jodi and Tony Donofrio



Was there a particular moment when you first became fascinated with planes or dreamed of being a pilot?

As a child, I was first introduced to planes through family friends involved in aviation. I remember on my first commercial flight as a kid getting to sit in the cockpit. I thought it was the coolest thing ever and could never have imagined taking that first step years later. Being fascinated with planes, I never thought becoming a pilot was something I could do. When I found out I could get my license at such a young age, I started getting more involved in the aviation community. From there, my want to become a pilot grew more and more.

What are the steps in obtaining a private pilot's license?

Initially, you need to receive a medical certificate saying you are safe to fly. When you begin your training, not only do you learn in the plane, but you also have to complete a ground school course. This is where you learn everything about aviation – from weather to aerodynamics

Student Profile

to flight planning. This is all in preparation for taking a written exam. This is one of three exams you will take in order to be a private pilot. Currently in the process, I have soloed, passed my written exam, and am preparing for my practical exam in less than two months.

What did that first solo flight feel like?

I flew solo for the first time a little over a year ago. It's hard to put into words a moment like this. This is one of my proudest accomplishments. Getting to fly solo for the first time was so freeing and rewarding, but also a little nerve-wracking. At that moment, it was just me. The second I took off I had the biggest smile on my face knowing I was flying solo. Staying confident in my abilities, I was able to remain calm and live in the moment.

What's the most enjoyable part of learning to fly?

The most enjoyable part of learning to fly is being in the air. Every lesson, you always learn something new and there's always a way you can improve.

What's the most challenging part of learning to fly?

Remaining patient. Improvement is not an automatic thing, rather something you always work toward. You can always be better than what you are. You have to practice to get better. It's challenging sometimes to not get frustrated, but in the end it is worth it.

What's the most common reaction you get from people when you tell them you're obtaining your pilot's license?

When I tell people I'm becoming a pilot, I get this "wow" reaction. You don't see very many female pilots, especially in high school. When I tell people I'm becoming a pilot, they think it is an awesome thing to pursue. They are fascinated by the fact you can do it at such a young age, as well as by seeing someone so young knowing what they want to do with their life.

Do you have a specific career goal?

After high school, I plan to attend Embry-Riddle



Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida. I am going to pursue a degree in Aeronautical Science alongside completing my required ratings to become a commercial pilot. I hope to someday fly for a commercial airline – the ultimate goal would be flying Boom Supersonic for United Airlines.

What other interests do you have?

Beyond flying, I am a musician. I have been playing trumpet for almost seven years now. I am a member of the symphonic band and have had opportunities to perform with professional ensembles. I'm also a member of the youth group at my church. Here I've been able to do local missions work and help serve the community. I also have an amazing job working for Chick-fil-A.

Is there something from your experience at Cloverleaf that has had a major positive impact on you?

The music program at Cloverleaf High School has had the most positive impact on me. I have spent the past seven years as a member of the program and have gained many valuable skills. Not only have I grown as a musician, but also as a person. With marching band in particular, I have advanced the ability to multitask, as well as collaborate with others, and serve as a leader.

What advice would you give to other students about achieving their goals?

Pursue what interests you. When pursuing anything, you're going to have setbacks, but don't let those be the thing that stops you from doing what you want to do. Do something that makes you happy and that you enjoy, not something that feels like a chore.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT Bill Perry, CHS Class of 1995

Occupation: Area Forester Specialist, Virginia Department of Forestry **Home:** Nelson County, Virginia

What was your educational path after Cloverleaf?

I went to Hocking College in Southeastern Ohio for recreation and wildlife management, and then to Virginia Tech, where I earned a bachelor's degree in forest resource management.



When did you know you wanted a career in natural resources?

I would say in elementary school. We went to Hocking Hills State Park in about fourth or fifth grade. They had a junior ranger program and we were out there playing with snakes and skins and skulls and all that stuff! It was like, "Wow, you could make a living doing this!" It piqued my interest in a natural resource career.

What is your day-to-day work like?

Most of what I do is as a private land forester, helping landowners manage their timber resources. We also oversee some state and federal cost-share programs that go toward forest-management practices -mostly tree-planting and invasive-species control. We do a lot related to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Our agency

has been charged with the tree-planting side of that to reduce the amount of nutrient and sediment flow that ends up in the Chesapeake Bay.

How are foresters connected with fighting wildfires?

The department of forestry is charged with all wildfire suppression in the state of Virginia. That's just part of our daily job. We also have a national dispatch center staffed through the U.S. Forest Service and housed at our headquarters in Charlottesville. So if resources are available -- meaning people -- they plug people in where the needs are. And we don't just do fires. There's a certain set of skills that revolve mainly around people management -- what we term the "incident command system" -- which is useful for managing large groups of people responding to anything from hurricanes to the BP oil spill. When the Space Shuttle Columbia broke apart over Texas in the early 2000s, a lot of that recovery was done with wildland firefighters. I was dispatched to Hurricane Katrina in 2005. I've been to Oregon many times, Idaho many times, Colorado, Washington, Texas, North Carolina, Florida, everywhere in Virginia.

What are you doing on the ground when fighting a wildfire?

It all depends. My specialty has been heavy equipment and chainsaw operation. A friend of mine specializes in GIS (Geographic Information System), so he's kind of a computer guy. When an incident grows, they need people to develop maps and information. So there are many roles on a wildland firefighting team. In terms of putting a wildland fire out, you're mostly dealing with fuel. A fire has to have three things -- heat, fuel and oxygen. Of the three, you can really only deal with the fuel. We can't carry enough water in to cool it down. You need people scraping

leaves and pine needles away or using heavy equipment to make it a little easier.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

The variety. I enjoy problem-solving for people. On the fire side of it, you're given some variables you do know and some variables you don't know and you've got to put it all together and come up with a plan that keeps everybody safe and gets the fire out. The forest management side of it is the same way. You've got a set of woods and there are some things you can change, some things you can't change, and you come up with a plan that meets what everybody's needs are with the forest -- as well as societal needs. There's certainly a bigger picture with forest management than just the individual landowner. As a state agency, we're trying to manage and preserve and keep the 16 million acres of forestland we have in Virginia healthy and sustainable. We're just doing it one landowner at a time.

What do you like to do outside of work?

I spend most of my time attending my daughters' sports practices and games. I enjoy camping, traveling and working on old Volkswagen campers. We currently have a 1972 and a 1985. I also enjoy kayaking and canoeing and get to do a little fishing, too.



3rd-Annual Cloverleaf Alumni Association Golf Outing Scholarship Fundraiser

May 21, 2022 Registration: 7 a.m. Shotgun Start: 8 a.m. Hawk's Nest Golf Club More at www.CloverleafLocal.org

CLOVERLEAF REC WINTER PROGRAMS



Kwan Mu Kan Karate (Ages 5 & UP)

Karate is for all ranks from ages 5 to adult. *Belt opportunity.

January / February Session:

Thurs, January 6, 13, 20, 27, February 3, 10, 17 & 24

March / April Session:

Thurs, March 3, 10, 17, 24, April 7, 14, 21 & 28

Time: 6:00-7:00 pm (Intermediate) / 7:00-8:00 pm (Beginner)

Cost: \$50 member / \$60 non-member

Kids Play (Ages 2 & up)

Kids Play is for preschoolers who will delight in a class just for them. Class helps to develop group-playing skills along with movement activities.

Jan/Feb Session: Mon, Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14, 28 & March 7 March/April Session: Mon, March 14, 21, April 4, 11, 18 & 25

Time: 12:30-1:15 pm Cost: \$30



Tennis Leagues (Mondays)

Competitive doubles league for the more advanced tennis player as well as a recreational league for the casual player.

Dates: Mon, Jan. 3, 10, 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14 & 28

Time: 8:30-10:00 am (competitive) Time: 10:00-11:30 am (recreational) Cost: \$40 member / \$50 non-member

Tennis Play for Adults(Thursdays)

Enjoy mixing it up with others, as you play doubles tennis together.

Dates: Thursdays, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17 & 24

Time: 9:30-11:00 am

Cost: \$40 member / \$50 non-member

Dance with Laura Hutson (Ages 3 & up)

Your child has the opportunity to be introduced to a variety of dance classes. *Check the website for class descriptions & age requirements @ www.cloverleaflocal.org/rec.aspx (Combo I & II are Ballet/Tap).

Mondays: Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14, 28, March 7, 14, 21 & 22 Combo I, \$90 (4:45-5:30 pm) Pre-Ballet, \$80 (5:30-6 pm) Pre-Ballet, \$80 (6-6:30 pm)

Pom Dance & Cheer, \$90 (6:30-7:15 pm) (For Ages 5-10)

Tuesdays: Jan. 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15, March 1, 8, 15, 21 & 22 Combo I, \$90 (5:15-6:00 pm) Combo II, \$90 (6-6:45 pm) Pom Dance & Cheer, \$90 (6:45-7:30 pm) (For Ages 7-12)



Valentine Princess Dance & Pizza Party (Ages 3-9)

This party includes basic ballet instruction, ballet dances & craft. Dancers may wear their favorite Princess outfit. *Pizza donated by The Village Inn of Chippewa. Date: Friday, February 11, 2022 (5:30-7:15 pm) Cost: \$25 *Parent performance @ 7:00 pm



REGISTER NOW! **OUESTIONS? CALL (330) 948-1323**

Payment must accompany registration. Please make checks payable to Cloverleaf Rec Center. Visa, MasterCard and Discover accepted. Mail registrations to Cloverleaf Rec Center, 8525 Friendsville Rd., Lodi, OH 44254. Emergency medical forms must be completed and turned in by the end of the first class (if applicable). We look forward to seeing you at the Cloverleaf Rec Center.

Participant Name	Birthdate	;	
Mailing Address			
Parent's Name			
(If a student please provide the following) Grade			
Email			
Course Name		Cost	
Course Name	Shirt Size (if applicable)		
Total Check #	_		
Visa / MasterCard / Discover #	1	Expiration Date	
3 Digit # Confirm#			

^{*}Photographs taken during class activities may be used for publicity purposes.



CLOVERLEAF REC WINTER PROGRAMS



SILVER SNEAKERS / SILVER & FIT / RENEW ACTIVE

The Cloverleaf Rec Center honors the "Silver Sneakers" program through Healthways, "Silver & Fit" and the "Renew Active" program through United Healthcare. Sign up today and receive a free membership to the Cloverleaf Rec Center. Other benefits include our Senior Stretch classes on Monday & Wednesday (10:00-11:00 am) and two mornings of Pickleball court time (Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7:00 am-9:00 am).

Cloverleaf Rec Center is located next to the Cloverleaf High School @ 8525 Friendsville Road, Lodi (330) 948-1323. We hope to see you soon!! *NO NEED TO BE CLOVERLEAF RESIDENTS...AVAILABLE TO ALL!

Aerobics

*Winter 3-month special, Sign up for December, January & February and get \$10 off. The Rec also offers "Unlimited" aerobics for the month.

*Classes; Yoga, Zumba, Cardio & Strength, Mat Workout, Turbo Kick/Piloxing & Dance Mix Cost: One month, \$32 member / \$42 non-member 3 Month Special, \$86 member / \$116 non-member

*Schedule is subject to change.

MONDAY 7:15-8:00 AM Mat Class

6:00-6:55 PM Zumba

TUESDAY 7:15 -8:15 AM Mat Class WEDNESDAY 8:00-9:00 AM Yoga 9:00-10:00 AM

6:00-6:55 PM

THURSDAY FRIDAY

> 8:30-9:15 AM Zumba 9:15-10:15 AM Yoga

6:00-6:55 PM Zumba

SATURDAY

7:45-8:45 AM Gia's Dance Mix



Town & Country Driving Classes

Classes are held at the Cloverleaf Rec Center. New sessions begin monthly (start dates below). Dates: April 18, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27 & 28

Time: 2:45-5:45 pm *Call to register (330) 723-8749



WINTER 2021-22

WINTER REC CENTER HOURS

Monday-Friday (6:30 am-2:00 pm / 6:00-9:00 pm) Saturday (7:30 am-1:00 pm) Sunday (7:30 am-1:00 pm)

Annual Membership Rate

Resident	Non-Res
\$100.00	\$185.00
\$50.00	\$115.00
\$60.00	
\$60.00	
\$50.00	\$70.00
\$190.00	\$340.00
\$25.00	\$30.00
\$6.00	
	\$100.00 \$50.00 \$60.00 \$60.00 \$50.00 \$190.00 \$25.00

*Court & Cage Rental \$35 hour / member rate hour / non-member rate

\$55 hour / non-member rate



The Cloverleaf Local School District Community Recreation Center

Friendly, Fun and Close to home...

**THE REC CENTER MAY CLOSE FOR SPECIAL EVENTS. EVERY EFFORT WILL BE TAKEN TO NOTIFY MEMBERS OF THESE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

Meet the Treasurer's Office staff



The staff of the Cloverleaf Local Schools Treasurer's Office: (from left) Jim Hudson, Karen Humphrey, Kacie Stephens, Kristin Horst and Michelle Collins.

By Jim Hudson, Treasurer

The main responsibility of the Treasurer's Office consists of monitoring, protecting and reporting on all financial operations of the district. The Fiscal Year 2020-21 general fund budget was approximately \$33.8 million with revenues of \$37.5 million. To facilitate financial transactions, the office relies on five key staff members (3.5 full-time equivalent): the treasurer, assistant treasurer, accounts payable, accounts receivable, and payroll. I'd like to introduce you to our team and share more about each staff member's general responsibilities.

Jim Hudson, treasurer: I've been employed by Cloverleaf for the past 10 years. I'm responsible for overseeing all operations of the Treasurer's Office and report directly to the Board of Education. My job is to ensure effective internal controls are implemented to protect taxpayers' money while promoting fiscal transparency.

Karen Humphrey, assistant to the treasurer: Karen is a Cloverleaf graduate who started working for the district approximately eight years ago. She manages the day-to-day operations of the office, oversees employee health insurance programs, and manages all special projects.

Michelle Collins, accounts payable: Michelle has worked for the district for the past 12 years. She manages all accounts payable, as well as inventory for the district. On average, she processes approximately \$6 million in payments per fiscal year.

Kacie Stephens, accounts receivable: A Class of '95 graduate, Kacie originally joined Cloverleaf as a member of the Food and Nutrition Services staff and then transferred to the Treasurer's Office six years ago. Her main duties include receipting all revenues, facilitating background checks, and federal grant reporting.

Kristin Horst, payroll: Kristin has been with the district for a little more than four years. She is responsible for processing 26 pays per fiscal year for more than 420 employees and substitutes per pay. Her duties also consist of reporting and paying all payroll deductions — including to the State Teachers Retirement System, School Employees Retirement System, 403(b)/457 accounts, plus state and federal taxes. Lastly, she helps onboard new employees and issues all employment contracts as approved by the Board of Education.

The staff takes pride in the part the Treasurer's Office plays in making sure Cloverleaf students receive a quality education and in providing the highest level of stewardship to the community. We always invite you to reach out to us with any questions you may have.

Superintendent

Continued from Page 1

to open in September 2023. When completed, this school will feature a state-of-the-art 650-seat auditorium, a competition gymnasium, an auxiliary gymnasium, modern classrooms with an appropriate amount of space, a modern cafeteria configuration complemented by our outstanding food service program, a courtyard, and many other educational amenities worthy of our 21st-century students.

After the high school is completed, our middle school students will transfer to the current high school building as they await the middle school portion of the new high school building to be constructed in two to five years (depending on financing timelines for the NEXUS pipeline that are outside our control). Once our middle school students move into their new facilities attached to the new high school, the current high school building will be removed and a new high school baseball field will go in its place.

Additionally, at the same time as the new high school construction, we will be constructing an 8,000-plus square-foot addition to our now decade-old Cloverleaf Elementary School. The addition was part of the plan when the building was constructed and will be ready for students in early 2023.

Once complete, all our students PK-12 will receive their education in brand new or relatively new school buildings and have the benefit of a newly renovated athletic stadium. Additionally, all the funding for the district's construction/renovations will have been completed without one dollar coming from a taxpayer bond issue!

The story of Cloverleaf Local Schools keeps getting better. I am excited about a new "favorite day" awaiting our students, our staff, and our entire Cloverleaf community in the not-too-distant future. I am thrilled about what lies ahead for the kids of this great school district, as well as this wonderful community I am so proud to serve!

Until next time ... Go Colts!

STAFF PROFILE

Ron Welker

Bus Driver, Bus #33



Where did you grow up?

In Sterling, so I'm not far from home. I graduated from Norwayne in '73. Now I live in Guilford Township.

What's your career background?

I basically had two jobs my whole adult life. One was I cut meat, mostly for Buehler's. Then I went to Schaeffler and was a CNC operator for 22 years. I really did enjoy both of those occupations and I enjoyed changing halfway through life, like that.

Why did you choose to become a Cloverleaf bus driver?

I retired (from Schaeffler) for one full year and the thing I didn't have was people to talk to. And I'm a people guy! So that's some of what I really enjoy in the bus driving. My dad was supervisor of guidance at the Wayne County Schools Career Center, so schooling is kind of in my family background. I could have gone back to CNC or meat-cutting, part-time --

but I wanted to do something different. I enjoy being a bus driver a lot.

What is the best part of your job?

I enjoy the kids. That's what I enjoy. The drivers who trained me were always saying, "My kids this and my kids that," and I didn't quite get it. But, boy, about a month into it, they ARE your kids. When they're on the bus, they're your kids. You see them out somewhere and they run up to hug you and say hi. That's a big deal. I live for that. It's about building those relationships.

What would you say to someone who might be interested in becoming a bus driver, but the thought of it seems intimidating?

I'd say don't be scared. Man, when I first sat in this thing, I thought, "What a huge hippopotamus!" But it's been three years -- I can make it dance now. These drivers who have been doing it for 20 years or more, it's amazing what they can do, it really is.

What do you like to do outside of work?

I do woodworking. I have a sawmill and I make all our own furniture for the house. I recently made a table from an ash tree that got hit by lightning. The wood has little bits of black all through it where the lightning burned it. So for me, every project starts when that log gets thrown on the sawmill and I start playing with it.

A Note from CHS Che Stop Colt Shop

The One Stop Colt Shop is back for the 2021-22 school year! The One Stop Colt Shop is a course students can take here at Cloverleaf High School. This elective course, which is taught by Tera Petruska and Julie Stephens, is designed to help students gain necessary work skills for life after high school. The One Stop Colt Shop is a place where students can purchase popcorn, banana bread, and supplies for their classes at reasonable prices while within a school setting. As with any other activity in a school, the success of The One Stop Colt Shop depends on the interest shown by the students and staff. We open at lunch every Friday. The students who work the store spend the week preparing the famous banana bread and popcorn. We are so thankful for the support we have from the students and staff. Make sure to come and try out our banana bread before it sells out!

> -- Tera Petruska Intervention Specialist Cloverleaf High School

A Note From CES

For more than 10 years, the Summit County Historical Society has been visiting fourth-grade classes here at Cloverleaf Elementary School. The fall presentation is called "A River Through Time" and meets our social studies content standards for prehistoric and historic peoples of Ohio. A presenter brings out cases of artifacts from the days of those tribes. With the exception

of this year due to COVID, the presenter usually passes the artifacts from child to child so they can truly experience life as it was back then. For years, our students have sat riveted to the presenter as she tells the stories of long ago. It is truly a presentation they will never forget!

-- Amy Davis Fourth-Grade Teacher Cloverleaf Elementary School



Mary Conley, of the Summit County Historical Society's educational outreach program, shows students tools and objects used by Ohio's historic and prehistoric peoples. The presentation is made possible by a grant from the Westfield Foundation.

Cloverleaf Local Schools

8525 Friendsville Rd. Lodi, OH 44254

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Contact:

John Gladden **Community Information Coordinator** 330-302-0311 John.Gladden@CloverleafLocal.org

www.CloverleafLocal.org











A Note from CMS

Seventh-grade students on the #CloverSquad team have been using games to help solve real-life math equations inequalities. The students played against a partner or two to be able to compete in the game. For example, the students participated using Connect 4. The student had to solve the inequality, check it against their partner's response or with the teacher. If they got it correct, they were able to highlight a Connect 4 piece and work to get four in a row to beat their partner. Another

game the students enjoyed was "To Level Up." In this game, students were partnered with someone in their class. Using different problems on the same level, they needed to get the same answers. The goal of the activity was to have the students coach each other through more challenging levels of math. Both activities require teamwork and collaboration.

-- Amy Detwiler **Seventh-Grade English Language Arts Teacher CloverSquad Team Cloverleaf Middle School**



Seventh-grade student Naomi Lemoine coaches student Hailie Breedlove through a challenging two-step mathematical equation. You can see they have made it through two levels already (yellow and blue). They are on the highest level!

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US POSTAGE

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PERMIT #286



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