
The Greyhound



A publication of the New Lebanon Local School District

January 2012

www.newlebanon.k12.oh.us

Student Achievement

Each year, the Ohio Department of Education rates individual schools and school districts. We are extremely proud to report that both Dixie High School and Dixie Elementary School were



awarded **Excellent** ratings! The high school achieved this honor for the sixth consecutive year, meeting 11 out of 12 indicators and scoring above the state average in 11 categories. The elementary met all five of their indicators, scoring higher than the state average in every category.

Dixie Middle School earned an Effective rating and met 9 out of 11 of their indicators, scoring higher than the state average in eight categories. Dixie Middle School continues to strive for improvement in student achievement by increasing the number of indicators met and improving the performance index of the school each year.

Based on student attendance, graduation rate, performance on the Ohio Achievement Assessments and the Ohio Graduation Test, the New Lebanon School District earned an *Effective* rating on the Ohio Department of Education's 2010-2011 report card. The district met 23 of 26 indicators, scoring higher than the state average on 23 of the 26 indicators.

We are very proud of our students, teachers and staff! The New Lebanon Local School District is committed to helping each and every student achieve. The District Leadership Team and the Building Leadership Teams are developing and implementing specific educational initiatives to improve student achievement, raise high school graduation rates, and ensure that students are well prepared for further education and/or the workplace.

We also appreciate our parents and their involvement in our school system; their support is crucial to our children's success. Together we make a great team.

Dixie Elementary School: a "School of Promise"

Dixie Elementary School has been named a **School of Promise** based on the results of the 2010-2011 state report card. The Ohio Department of Education bestows this honor on schools that close achievement gaps in reading and/or mathematics and commit to helping all students be successful.

Our elementary school is one of only 122 schools in Ohio designated as a *School of Promise*. In his letter announcing the award, the Ohio Superintendent of Public Instruction wrote, "You have set a strong example of what is achievable when students, educators, parents and community members come together to help all students succeed. I thank you for your leadership and ask you to convey ODE's gratitude to all those who shared in it. By supporting students and believing in them, you, your staff and your community demonstrate what can be achieved by collaboration."

This award reflects the elementary staff's commitment to working with students and parents to ensure the success of each and every child.

Congratulations to the staff of Dixie Elementary School on this achievement!!!

Joel Penton Urges Students to "Take a Stand"



Former OSU Buckeye football player Joel Penton recently delivered a motivational message to Dixie High School and Middle School students. Joel shared video clips of his playing days at Ohio State and powerful stories of the challenges he faced during his youth. He encouraged students to "take a stand" in life by setting positive goals and sticking to them, even if faced with negative peer pressure. That evening Joel teamed with Ryan Holliday for an inspirational concert and presentation sponsored by the First Baptist Church.

Race to the Top

Last year the New Lebanon Local School District was one of only six districts in the state of Ohio to be awarded a Race to the Top Grant *without conditions*! Since receiving the Grant, the New Lebanon Local School District has worked steadily to meet the challenges in the district's Race to the Top Scope of Work.

The following points are some important aspects of our Race to the Top Work:

- The Superintendent and/or Union President will present monthly updates on our progress to the Board of Education.
- Communicate about the district's progress toward our Race to the Top commitments through the website and community newsletter.
- Participate in professional development opportunities covering the new and revised standards, associated curriculum models, new assessments, and "Value-added" comparisons of expected student growth with actual growth over the year.
- Review current curriculum and instructional practices in preparation for the transition to the Common Core Standards for English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.
- The District and Building Leadership Teams will evaluate current formative assessment practices within the district.
- Participate in pilot professional development opportunities, if selected by ODE.
- Create professional development recommendations based on the results of the annual Data retreat.
- Use ODE's recommended measures of student growth to assess students in non-tested grade levels and areas.
- Adopt a standards-based teacher and principal evaluation system that aligns with state and federal requirements, including a plan to remove consistently low performing and/or ineffective teachers and principals. Staff will receive professional development on the evaluation tools and procedures.
- Entry teachers will participate in the Teacher Residency program.
- All professional development offered will be in alignment with the Ohio Standards for Professional Development and evaluated by those standards annually.

The New Lebanon Local School District is well on its way to completing these Year 2 activities. We are serious about transforming education in New Lebanon ...one child at a time.



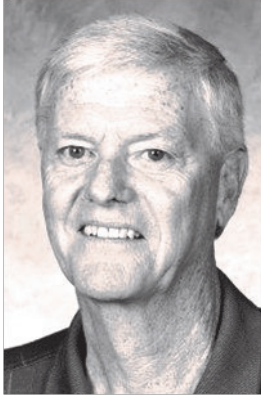
Cross Country Runners Compete Post-Season

Dixie High School was once again well represented in the cross country post-season. For the second year, two runners, **William Stapleton** and **Corey Hawk**, qualified for the regional meet by placing in the top 16 at the District meet. William placed 2nd in the district with a time of 16:57, losing only to the state champion, while Corey placed 9th in 17:45. At the regional meet, William ran an impressive 16:45 to finish 5th, and at the Division III State Meet he covered the 5k course in 16:44, placing 35th. Congratulations to both young men!



Dixie Schools Honor 2010-2011 Employees of the Year

The school district is pleased to honor two employees for their outstanding contributions to our district.



Walt Ayers, the **Employee of the Year**, has been an Educational Aide-Study Hall Monitor at Dixie High School for the past four years. His compassion for students and staff is unparalleled, and his constant smile reflects his upbeat attitude. He believes in and encourages every individual, never giving up on others, even those who might have given up on themselves.

Kay Ream, the **Teacher of the Year**, instills a love of music in her students that stays with them long after they leave her classes and go on to their adult lives. Kay's dedication to her students and the school system are evident every day as she develops her students' instrumental and vocal talents as well as their appreciation of music. Her commitment goes beyond the classroom walls to her volunteer work, providing music for such community events as Stage Coach Days and Senior Citizen Brunches. Kay has touched many lives during her 28 years at Dixie Schools.



We are fortunate to have such exceptional employees who truly make a difference.

Parent Shadow Day at Dixie High School

Last November, Dixie High School welcomed the parents of over 75 students to Parent Shadow Day, an opportunity for parents to see how students are engaged in learning each day. Many parents are surprised at the increased difficulty of the content since they were in high school. They also have the chance to check out new instructional methods, especially those making use of all the new technology.

Dixie High School parents spent the early part of the day attending their children's classes on an abbreviated schedule. Parents participated with the students in the learning activities in each class. Students reported that the parents were able to follow instructions pretty well (with the help of the students, of course).

After lunch in the cafeteria, parents and students attended Career Day presentations that provided them with information and insight about various careers. Juniors and seniors were able to select three sessions to attend from 17 offered by professionals from the Greater Dayton area, including several Dixie High School graduates. Freshmen and sophomores, along with their parents, attended three presentations to help students explore their growing career interests.

We hope that visiting our classrooms brought back great memories for parents, and we look forward to seeing even more parents at Parent Shadow Day 2012.

Parents are always welcome to visit Dixie High School. We do ask that you call the high school ahead to schedule the visit.

Directory of Administrators

Superintendent

Dr. Barbara L. Curry
(937) 687-1301

Treasurer

Kevin Burr
(937) 687-1301

Dixie High School Principal

Dr. Greg Williams
(937) 687-1366

Dixie Middle School Principal

Dr. Gary Schomburg
(937) 687-3508

Dixie Elementary School Principal (Interim)

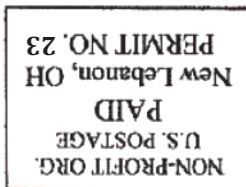
Harold Bowman
(937) 687-3511

Transportation Coordinator

Charissa Goforth
(937) 687-2095



Resident
New Lebanon, Ohio 45345



New Lebanon Local School District
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New Lebanon Local Schools District Calendar

February 7	PTF Carnival	6:30 p.m.
February 13	Special Board of Education Meeting	5:30 p.m.
February 17	Winter Break - No School	
February 20	Presidents' Day - No School	
February 21	Teachers' Inservice Waiver Day	
February 22	Interims Distributed	
February 23	MS Winter Sports' Awards	6:30 p.m.
February 27	Board of Education Meeting	6:30 p.m.

Board of Education: President David Woodgeard, Vice President David Falldorf,
Members Tonya Lankheit, Ron Moore and Michael Roberts