

POINTS OF PRIDE

457 SHELBY-ONTARIO RD.

ONTARIO, OHIO 44906

KEITH STRICKLER, SUPERINTENDENT

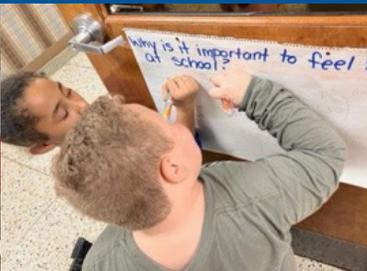
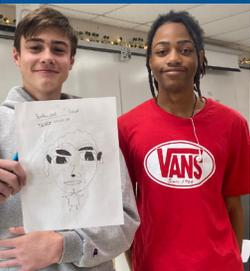
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Ontario Local Schools



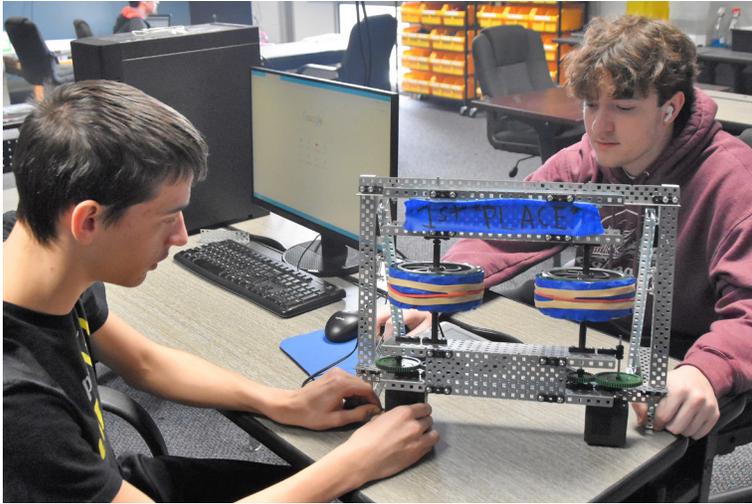
THE WARRIOR WAY

Winter 2023



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

It has been a long-standing tradition that Ontario Local Schools offers rigorous academic courses that prepare students for college. However, you may not be aware that Ontario Schools is also equally committed to preparing students for the workforce. We currently have five teachers who teach career and technology courses in STEM, Robotics, Engineering, Manufacturing, Career Exploration, Interior Design, Human Development, and Foods.

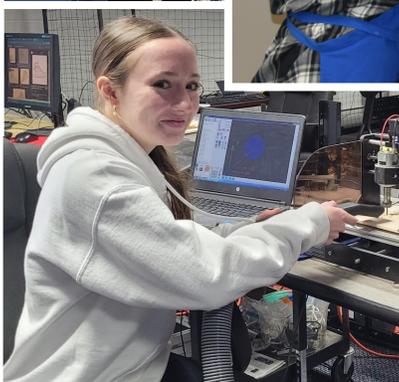
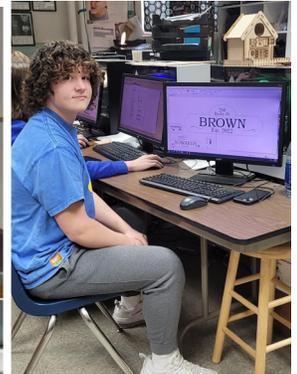
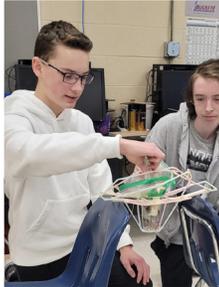


Students are able to explore career options and learn skills by completing hands-on projects. They can base career decisions on actual experiences rather than just hearing about different careers. Thanks to some changes in the state funding, we are able to purchase equipment and expand our offerings for students. Some of our students can begin their career and technical training at Ontario and then complete their pathway at Pioneer during their junior and senior years. Other students may elect to stay at OHS and take career and technology classes while they take our many college courses on campus. Our Ontario graduates are prepared for success in college, a career, or the military.

Your child's success is our priority.

Sincerely,

KEITH STRICKLER
SUPERINTENDENT



OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR 2023-2024

Ontario Local Schools will begin accepting applications for Open Enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year on Wednesday, March 1, 2023. Applications are available beginning Monday, February 20, 2023 on the school website at www.ontarioschools.org. A separate application is required for each student applying in this program, and every student must apply yearly. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to complete and submit the Open Enrollment Application(s).



MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

ONTARIO SCHOOLS AWARDED A \$300,000 SAFETY GRANT:

WE WERE AWARDED \$300,000 TO SUPPORT VITAL INITIATIVES THAT WILL greatly increase the overall safety and security of our students and staff members. To prioritize our needs, we worked in direct coordination with the leadership of the Ontario Police Department, meticulously completed the 2022 Security and Vulnerability Assessment, and utilized the PASS School Safety and Security Checklist to guide our path forward.

WE HAVE IDENTIFIED FOUR AREAS THAT WILL RECEIVE SIGNIFICANT UPGRADES THANKS TO THIS GRANT FUNDING:

- **UPDATED PANIC ALARMS:** We will be updating our existing panic alarm system with a new state-of-the-art system that will provide additional features. The new panic alarm system will allow for tiered levels of alarm to better identify the type of response that is needed. The new system will integrate with other technology in our district that can provide immediate visual and auditory alerts and instructions district-wide.
- **NEW PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM:** We will be updating the system for building announcements in each of our three buildings. This upgrade will allow the new public address systems in each building to interface directly with our panic alarm system in the event of an emergency.
- **BALLISTIC FILM:** We will be completing the installation of ballistic film in our district. We have been adding ballistic film in phases to our buildings, but this grant funding will allow us to complete that project sooner than we had planned.
- **EXPANDED VIDEO SURVEILLANCE:** We will expand our network of video surveillance. This expansion will allow us to have both the interior and the exterior of our facilities more comprehensively monitored by video surveillance.

Ontario Schools have a strong commitment to the safety and well-being of our students and our staff. We work under the philosophy of “good is never good enough” when it comes to safety. Regardless of how strong our security and safety measures become, we will continue to look for ways to get better every year. We would like to thank Chief Hill and the Ontario Police Department for their partnership and commitment to our students. We also want to express our sincere appreciation to our students, staff, parents, and community members for your continued support and efforts to keep our schools safe.

MIKE REAM,
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Calendar Adjustments 2023

Friday, May 19
will be the last day of school for our kindergarten through third-grade students.

Our kindergarten through third-grade teachers will be completing four days of state-mandated Dyslexia training on May 22-25.

The last day for all other students will be Wednesday, May 24.



2023-2024

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION AT A GLANCE

Registration began February 1, 2023. Start by filling out Final Forms (all forms are green) completely on the Ontario School District website.

After the forms are completed, a developmental screening will be scheduled for a Friday in March or April.

At this appointment, please bring the following documents:

- Birth Certificate
- Immunization Record
- Proof of Ontario Residency (i.e., utility bill [electric, gas, water], lease/mortgage agreement)
- Custody Papers (if applicable)
- A current physical or Well-Check After Visit Summary
- Most recent dental form/waiver will need to be on file prior to start of school.

Should you have any questions about preschool, please call Stacy Crawford, Preschool Director, at 419-529-4955 or visit our website on the Stingel Elementary page.

MONDAY-THURSDAY

8:40 a.m.-11:40 a.m.

MORNING CLASS

MONDAY-THURSDAY

12:40 p.m.-3:40 p.m.

AFTERNOON CLASS

PLACEMENT PRIORITY FOR PRESCHOOL

The order applications are received does not determine priority.

PRIORITY PLACEMENT IS AS FOLLOWS:

Ontario Residents

1. Resident special need students
2. Resident students who are returning preschool students
3. Dependent children of Ontario resident staff members
4. Resident 5-year-old students not going to Kindergarten
5. Resident 4-year-old students
6. Resident 3-year-old students

Tie breakers will be

1. Sibling of a registered preschool student
2. Order of received registration

Non Residents will then be considered based on

1. Dependent Children of Non-Resident Ontario Staff Members
2. Open Enrollment Students



PREPARING FOR KINDERGARTEN

- ➔ Put on and zip a coat and bookbag
- ➔ Put backpack on a hook without assistance
 - ➔ Count to 10
 - ➔ Recognize 13 letters
 - ➔ Recognize colors and shapes
- ➔ Share and cooperate with a same-age peer
- ➔ Open items in a packed lunch
 - ➔ Recognize name in print

BENEFITS OF PLAY

Playing is critical to child development, and what adults are often quick to term “just playing” actually helps children develop cognitively, physically, and emotionally. For example, being able to cross the midline while drawing shapes or cutting with scissors helps children learn how to read across the page. Measuring in the sand/water table helps students recognize volume and capacity. Learning to cooperate and share develops citizenship. These small acts of playing can translate to big educational gains. From the Stingel webpage, follow the Preschool link to access **PLAYING AND LEARNING RESOURCES**.

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

EARLY CHILDHOOD GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

FINE MOTOR SKILLS

The use of hand-eye coordination, manipulation of objects, and visually crossing the mid-line of the body.

Ideas to build these skills:

Use play-doh to build; stack blocks; button shirt/coat; zip a zipper; hold and use a fat marker/crayon using a pincer grasp; draw a circle, square, and a plus sign.

GROSS MOTOR SKILLS

The use of the large muscles, such as the ability to be able to cross the mid-line as well as balance and coordinate large muscle movements.

Ideas to build these skills:

Play outside; run, jump, hop, gallop, skip; climb stairs/ladders; use the slide; catch a ball (larger sizes first, then move to smaller as they get older); walk on a balance beam; keep a balloon in the air.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

The ability to express needs and wants, ask for help, answer simple questions, use words to express emotions (such as frustration or sadness), understand verbal directions/commands.

Ideas to build these skills:

Answer simple questions about a book that was read to them; label colors, shapes, and some body parts, household objects, and familiar people; understand pronouns (he, she, they, you, us); state their first and last name and tell their age; describe objects (blue block; big blue block); understand questions (what, where); respond to directions (1-step and 2-step).

COGNITIVE SKILLS

The acquisition of academic skills that is experienced through play.



Ideas to build these skills:

- **Math:** Size (big/small), volume (water in a bucket, measuring cups, etc.) rote counting, number recognition.
- **Science:** Cause/effect, learning through nature (apples, pumpkins, etc.), hands-on experiments.
- **Social Studies:** Community, family, school.
- **Literacy:** Letter recognition, writing concepts, speaking.

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SKILLS

The capacity to interact with peers and understanding emotions.

Ideas to build these skills:

Turn-taking with adults and peers; understand and accept no; wait their turn; play board games.



2023-2024 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration begins
Wednesday, March 1.

Complete the Final Forms available on the website. After the completion of the online forms, come to the Stingel Elementary office beginning March 1, between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Please bring your child's birth certificate, proof of residency, immunization record, and any related custody papers. To enroll in kindergarten, a child must be five years old on or before August 1, 2023. A developmental screening will be scheduled for August at the time of registration.

ONTARIO RESIDENTS
ONLY

ONTARIO STINGEL ELEMENTARY



ANNUAL STINGEL SPELLING BEE

Isaac Hohman, Riya Sasikumar,
Garrett Bender



THIS YEAR, STUDENTS PRACTICED FOR THE SPELLING Bee and ten finalists competed in the annual Bee held at Stingel Elementary.

- First Place was Riya Sasikumar
- Second Place was Garrett Bender
- Third Place was Isaac Hohman

Congratulations to all students who participated. The winners will participate in the Richland County Spelling Bee.

KINDNESS CLUB



THE KINDNESS CLUB HAS BEEN SPREADING KINDNESS throughout the year. They worked with the local non-profit Community Action for Capable Youth (CACY) to write a positive note of appreciation for a staff member. Some of the members also went to Senior Pointe Assisted Living. The students worked with the residents to make Christmas ornaments and cards for the holiday season.





KIMBERLY JOHNSON, PRINCIPAL
STACY CRAWFORD, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
PRESCHOOL TO 5TH GRADE

It's A DANCE PARTY

A DJ came to Stingel to celebrate good behavior for PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Support). Students and Staff had a great time dancing.

FAMILY NIGHT AT THE CARROUSEL

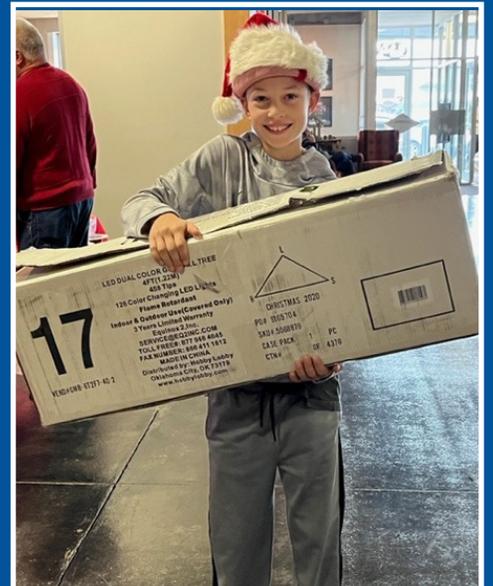


ONTARIO MIDDLE SCHOOL

A SEASON OF SERVICE

The middle school students, staff, and parent volunteers have made considerable contributions to programs and families in our area this winter. Some of those contributions include:

- A United Way of Richland County contribution exceeding \$6000. Students brought in donations and competed with other grade levels to raise money for programs in our area.
- The OMS Warrior Leadership group participated in Crossroads Church's annual toy drive again this winter, where they distributed toys, food, and gifts.
- In addition to helping our community with United Way and Crossroads, the middle school started a program to assist families in our own community of Ontario. This year, in partnership with the Ontario Police Department, Ontario school employees, and Ontario parents, we were able to supply Christmas gifts, clothing, gift cards, and cookies to thirty students for the holiday season.



Power of the Pen



Over the weekend, the OMS Power of the Pen teams competed at the Northeast District Two competition held at Ashland Middle School. The eighth-grade team of Bryant Born, Eliana Fittante, Eva Hadsell, Yuchen Lin, Tatum Mottayaw, and Angel Tan placed first in the team competition and three students placed in the Individual Top 12: Eliana Fittante in 11th, Yuchen Lin in 8th, and Tatum Mottayaw in 6th. Although our seventh grade students did not have a full team, Adelina Hines, Rylee Vandenberg and Leeah Ziegler competed in their first tournament.

We ask you to join us in congratulating these Warriors
and all of their outstanding work!

TRADITIONS OF EXCELLENCE



8th Graders Olivia Brinker and Braedayn Currier are members of the Richland County Bears Special Olympics Swim Team. The team practices weekly at Ontario Middle School. On January 18, Olivia and Braedayn participated in a meet against the Marion County Hawks. Olivia earned second-place finishes in the 25-yard freestyle, 50-yard freestyle, and 100-yard freestyle relay, while Braedayn earned first place in the 25-freestyle, 50-yard freestyle, and second place in the 100-yard freestyle relay. Richland County Special Olympics is a service offered by Richland Newhope.



Positive Behavior Plan

OMS continues the implementation of PBIS rewards, which is a software that allows school employees to reward students for displaying behaviors that support the Warrior Way. Ontario students are then permitted to use those rewards to purchase items at the school store as a positive reinforcement for displaying the Warrior Way: Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Compassion, and Self-Discipline.

ON THE HORIZON

Student scheduling for 2023-2024 is in progress.

Parent-Teacher Conferences
February 2 & 9
from 4:00-7:30

President's Day NO SCHOOL *February 20*

Early Release *March 2 & 10*

PBIS Rewards Day *March 31*

Spring Break *April 11 - April 15*

Early Release *May 18*



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SCHEDULING

STUDENTS RETURNING TO ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR WILL TAKE PART IN selecting their class schedule during the months of February and March. Selecting courses is one of the most important decisions students make in high school, and these decisions will help determine their educational path.

Students will receive a Course Offering Guide in March. Please read the Course Offering Guide, paying careful attention to sections explaining graduation and college requirements, course prerequisites, programs of study, and career planning. Students will be given opportunities to consult with school personnel to discuss the academic choices that will best meet their needs and interests while helping them achieve their long-term goals.

**ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE
OFFICE: 419-529-7010**

Newsletters and information are available at:

[http://www.ontarioschools.org/
Guidance_HS.aspx](http://www.ontarioschools.org/Guidance_HS.aspx)



Sophomores and seniors from the Warrior Leadership Council spent a morning at Crossroads Community Church to help prepare gifts for nearly 1,000 youth in our community. We are proud of Warriors for working to make a difference in this world!

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

TESTING SCHEDULE

May 1

AP U.S. Government

May 9

AP Literature

2023-2024 SCHEDULING DATES:

FRESHMEN: Class of 2027 (Current 8th Grade)

- February 9: Freshmen Orientation in High School Auditorium 7:00 p.m.
- February 24: Incoming freshmen submit course requests

SOPHOMORES: Class of 2026 (Current 9th Grade)

- March 9: Sophomores submit course requests

JUNIORS: Class of 2025 (Current 10th Grade)

- February 24: Pioneer applications due
- March 21: Juniors submit course requests

SENIORS: Class of 2024 (Current 11th Grade)

- February 24: Pioneer applications due
- March 23: Seniors submit course requests

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS

- April 1: Deadline to apply for CCP courses both in the high school guidance office and to the college issuing credit for the course
- Students must qualify for CCP courses by taking a placement test or by meeting a qualifying score on the ACT
- Check with your guidance counselor for specific requirements for each CCP course



CHRIS SMITH, PRINCIPAL
 CHRIS MILLER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
 JONATHAN KING, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
 JEFF FISHER, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
 GRADES 9-12

THE WARRIOR SCHOOL SPIRIT

THE WINTER MONTHS CAN FEEL LIKE DRUDGERY, UNLESS YOU'RE AT ONTARIO HIGH SCHOOL, WHERE SPIRIT sizzles even when the weather is blustery. This winter, the students and staff watched a dual wrestling meet where the Warriors pinned down the victory against Madison, 51-21. A few days later, the students and staff gathered again to compete in the annual Warrior Games, a competition against classes to demonstrate skill and spirit!



All four Ontario Wrestling State Champions were in attendance for the wrestling assembly: Head Coach Wes Turnbaugh 1999, Mr. Tony Cooke 1997, Assistant Coach Monty Ohl 1990 and Mr. Perry Ohl 1986.



END-OF COURSE (EOC) TESTING:

THE EOC TESTING SCHEDULE FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR is listed below. Only students who are in the tested classes for each day are required to report to school. Part I of each test will be given in the morning, and Part II will be given after lunch. All other students will be excused for the day and do not need to report to school. On the 2-hour delay testing days, the buses will run at the regular time should students need the bus in order to get to school. Those students should report to the commons until testing time.

- *April 18* **ELA II**
(Regular Bell Schedule & Report Time)
- *April 25* **Biology**
(2-Hour Delay Schedule)
- *April 27* **American History & Government**
(2-Hour Delay Schedule)
- *May 1* **Algebra 1 & Geometry EOC**
(2-Hour Delay Schedule)

ACT TESTING

- **February 22:** Pre-Registration for the ACT. Juniors (including Pioneer students) will report to school and be called down after announcements to pre-register.
- **February 28:** All Juniors will be given the ACT free of charge by the state of Ohio. Juniors will report to school, take the ACT, and then be released after testing for the remainder of the day.
- All other students will be on their regularly scheduled school day.

Ontario Local Schools
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