

Superintendent's Weekly Wrap-up: Jan. 2-9, 2015

Ohio's State Tests – Spring 2015 information

Graduation Frequently Asked Questions updated - In December, Gov. Kasich signed H.B. 367, which included changes in Ohio's graduation requirements. [Here](#) is an update of the FAQs on the Ohio Department of Education graduation web page.

Third Grade Reading - Students in grade 3 will take the Ohio Achievement Assessment in reading. They will not take the PARCC English language arts test. Third-grader students will still take the new state test for mathematics (PARCC – Math) in spring of 2015.

In The News

[Third-Graders Won't Take New Common Core Test in Spring](#) – Columbus Dispatch - Ohio third-graders will continue to take the reading section of the Ohio Achievement Assessment in the spring, as they have done in previous years

[High School Students Now Must Take a World History Class to Graduate](#) – Cleveland Plain Dealer - High school students in Ohio will soon need to take a separate class in world history and civilizations to graduate
Source: ESC of Central Ohio

HAMILTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

HTHS Graduates Speak about their College Experience - As part of our HS Postsecondary Action Planning to: ***Help more students pursue postsecondary education through local college access programs, financial aid advising, scholarship and grant availability advising, career guidance, and other services***, HTHS Graduates, Colin Freshkorn & Sarah Scarberry (3rd year Bobcats), Maili Morales (2nd year Redhawk), Cheyenne Carter (2nd year Mountaineer), Blaire Gray-Harrison (1st year Zip), James Hopkins (1st year Crusader) returned to Hamilton Township High School and sat in on a panel to present and answer questions for the current HTHS Senior Class focusing on how to prepare and what students should be paying attention to, during a Monday morning assembly, January 5th. The purpose of the assembly is to familiarize HTHS Students with day-to-day college life that participants of this panel are currently experiencing.

HAMILTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

7th graders Figuring Out Real-world Prices - This week 7th grade math students began a percentage project that had them figuring out the exact prices they would pay for items from sale ads and menus by determining the mark-up, sales tax, tips, commissions and percent off. The students were able to see how businesses make profits and whether or not something was a good deal.

HAMILTON INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

HIS Students Use Technology to Fight Bullying - Intermediate students have been hard at work in Mrs. Bassett's technology class creating their own music video to address bullying and cyber-bullying. Each student came up with his or

her own thoughts and ideas to create a slide using Google Docs. The students then used these slides to [create their very own video of True Colors](#).

HAMILTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Teacher of the Month - 2nd grade teacher Angie Herrel was selected as the HES Teacher of the Month for December. The anonymous staff members who nominated Mrs. Herrel had this to say: "Angie spends many hours each week developing great Common Core lessons. She plans a lot of fun and creative lessons that keep her students engaged. In addition, Angie works very hard to provide differentiated instruction and valuable small group instruction." Congratulations to Mrs. Herrel.

Student of the Month - Kindergarten student Isabella Beach was selected as the HES Student of the Month for December. Isabella's teacher, Mr. Allgood, had this to say: "Isabella Beach is a model student because she is always willing try her best and help others. Bella has a great work ethic and loves to learn new things. After she has a good handle on what she is doing, she is quick to assist others to ensure their success as well. These are just a few of many reasons why Isabella Beach is worthy of the nomination for Ohio Lottery Commission's Student of the Month." Congratulations to Isabella and her family.

HAMILTON PRESCHOOL

Preschool Support Team - The Preschool is fortunate to have a great team of experts to assist with student needs.

Shelley Hackett, the School Psychologist assigned to the preschool has worked diligently to maintain assessment schedules, create behavior plans, consult with staff, and contact parents about their concerns or questions. Shelley has the task of testing all special needs preschoolers transitioning to kindergarten. It is great to work with a well-organized professional like Shelley.

Ashley Brady, the Speech Language Pathologist assigned to the preschool currently works on Mondays and Fridays with preschoolers who need assistance with expressive language, receptive language, and articulation skills. Ashley is in her first year at Hamilton and is quickly learning the routine, schedule, and students. Ashley is a great resource for all the preschool teachers. She is making a great impact on the students she works with.

Second Step and The Importance of Teaching Social Skills - Hamilton Preschool has implemented the *Second Step* program. *Second Step* is "designed to promote social competence and reduce social-emotional problems by teaching children skills in core areas of empathy, emotion management, and social problem solving" (Second Step Teacher's Guide). All Preschool classes have been using this program for the past two months. The students are learning about how to recognize different emotions and express their emotions in a constructive way.

The teaching assistants use the program in library and the students love it. They are so excited to hear about the emotion of the day and engage in the activity. *Second Step* is a program that will be used throughout the year to help the

students manage their emotions and problems they encounter in the classroom in order to successfully get along with their classmates and do well in school.

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

Varsity Boys' Basketball Wins Two Over Winter Break - The Varsity Boys' Basketball team earned two wins over winter break. The Rangers defeated Lancaster 57-54 on Tuesday December 30th. The Rangers also defeated Whetstone on January 2nd and in that contest, the Rangers held a four point lead but after a Whetstone three-point shot and a couple of missed free throws, it came down to a one & one free throw opportunity for Whetstone with 1.8 seconds left. The first shot was missed and Shea Mercer secured the rebound and the Rangers third win of the season 47-46. Congratulations to the Rangers on these two victories.

Varsity Girls' Basketball Defeats Logan Elm - The Varsity Girls' Basketball team defeated Logan Elm Saturday January 3rd by a score of 56-52. They were led in scoring by Josie Kasprzak with 19 points and Lauren Longbrake with 16 points and eight blocks. The following Rangers also contributed to the scoring efforts: Ali Belcher with nine points, Devyn Stevens with six points, Zadei Edwards with four points and Brooke Wilhite with two points. This brought their overall record to 4-3.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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