

# FOCUS

Ashland Independent Schools

December 2017

Greetings,

As we close out our first semester, it is evident that our district is blessed to have supportive families and a community that values a strong educational product. Our staff works very diligently to bring the best educational opportunities to the students we serve. I strongly encourage each family to be actively engaged in the educating of the child(ren) you send to us each day. It takes all of us working together if we are to provide the best for the student. Our goal is to offer a sense of security and value to the students in our district. Please do not hesitate to communicate your concerns to our staff as we are dependent upon you for feedback.

Together, we can build an even stronger community.

D. Sean Howard  
Superintendent  
Ashland Independent Schools



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## Congratulations Ashland Middle School!



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Ashland Middle School

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# District News

This fall proved to be an exciting season for technology competition and classroom integration in the Ashland Independent School System. On November 6th, over 100 students representing all seven of our schools participated in the



STLP (Student Technology Leadership Program) Regional Showcase event at Morehead State University. Students who made the cut will participate in the state competition at Rupp Arena on March 29, 2018. On December 1st, ten teams comprised of over 100 students in grades 4 through 8 competed in the FLL (First Lego League) Regional Competition at Ashland Community and Technical College. A special congratulations goes out to the Cryptic Catfish at Ashland Middle School who placed second overall and will be competing in the state competition at Northern Kentucky University on February 3, 2018! Then on December 6th students from all schools participated in our first district-wide "Hour of CODE" event.

Ashland students demonstrated great technology know-how at all events. What they learned and accomplished was amazing.

## STLP Regional Showcase

Scratch Ambassador—  
Jonathan Tibbs, Charles  
Russell Elementary



Showcase Winners:  
Ashland Middle School—  
Droning Around  
Charles Russell  
Elementary—Charles  
Russell Tribe News  
Crabbe Elementary—Hola Amigos  
Hager Elementary—APptastic  
Oakview Elementary—Technology for Texas  
Paul G. Blazer High School—American Revolution Video  
Game  
Paul G. Blazer High School—STLPython Coding Class

## First Lego League Regional Competition

Overall Winner:  
2nd Place – Ashland Middle School, Cryptic Catfish

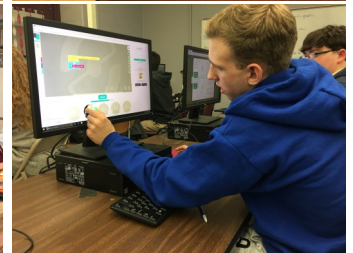


Core Values Individual Competition  
1st Place – Ashland Middle School,  
Savage Seahorses  
2nd Place – Hager Wildcats

Project Presentation Individual  
Competition  
2nd Place – Oakview Comets #2

## Hour of CODE

This year over 154,000 "Hour of CODE" events took place internationally. Students across Ashland joined the event and learned a thing or two about computer science. More information can be found at <https://hourofcode.com/us>.



## Inclement Weather Reminder

Decisions concerning school closings, delays, and school bus operations relative to inclement and/or hazardous weather conditions or any emergency will be made at the earliest possible time in order to ensure the safety and convenience of our students, families and staff.



If inclement weather occurs during the school day, children will be sent home at a time that will allow for roads to be made safe prior to dismissal. School cancellations will also be posted to this web page and calls will be made via the district phone messaging system.

For announcements of these decisions, tune to WSAZ—Channel 3, WCHS—Channel 8, WOWK—Channel 13, WKKE-100.5, WTCR—103.3, and WRVC—92.7.



# Ashland Head Start



In Mrs. Gina's Class we are experimenting with ice to help us learn the letter I. One of our favorites was catching dry ice bubbles in a mittened hand.

We also made igloos using cotton balls.

Mrs. Knipp's class has been finishing their tree study. Before Thanksgiving we made butter. The children loved predicting what would happen to the whipping cream and then testing their predictions. We are looking forward to the fun activities we have planned for the holidays.



Ms. Mia's class has been studying different types of bread and how to make bread. The kids have tasted different types of bread to see which they like and dislike. Ms. Mia's class

has also enjoyed the beautiful weather.



Our class has recently discovered that art can be more than just drawing



pictures! The students have been enjoying using materials in our classroom to create their own 3D art!

In Mrs. Whitehead's class we celebrated "Family Day." The children have learned a lot about themselves and other family members. They discussed with friends and family where they fit into their families (little brother/sister, only child, oldest, youngest). They also learned things like parents' first name & grandparents' names. Thank you to all the parents and guardians that participated. Enjoy your Child!

Mrs. Fletcher's class has been working very hard this month. We are getting ready to perform our holiday songs for our parents. The kids have really enjoyed learning two new songs and are very excited to "go to college" and perform their songs.



Ms. Carr's class is in full holiday mode! We made ornaments, decorated cards, and wrote the big jolly fella a letter! Our favorite holiday memory thus far is the Elks and Mr. Glockner giving us a present and a special treat! We loved the ice cream and opening up our present! Ms. Carr's class hopes you all enjoy the holiday and make memories as we have the last couple of weeks!



In Ms. Hanks' class we have been learning to measure and compare sizes. The children took turns using our tape measures to compare their sizes to objects in the classroom.

Ms. Chandler's class is working on retelling classic stories. We have been reading The Three Little Pigs, The Three Billy Goats Gruff, and The Three Bears. We retell the story with puppets and masks. The children have worked on building houses for the pigs, bridges for the goats, and furniture for the bears. We have been learning about how trees grow, what grows on a tree, and what happens during the seasons to a tree.



"With the generosity of donations from the Ashland Fire Department, Ashland Police Department, Motorcycle Club Ministries, Elks & Kiwanis club along with numerous anonymous givers we were able to serve 65 children with Christmas assistance and food for the Holidays. Also a thank you to ACTC for the use of their facility for our program"



# Crabbe Elementary



## KINDERGARTEN:

*Gibson, Ream, Jones—*  
The Kindergarteners at  
Crabbe Elementary

have been spreading good cheer this holiday season. On Tuesday, December 12, they went caroling at Woodland Oaks Nursing Home. Students worked so hard to prepare for their performance and the residents were beyond excited to hear our students' sweet carols. To keep spirits merry and bright, students have used gift bows, marshmallows, and even a little elf to help with their math skills.



**1st GRADE:** *Kirk, Moore, Walters*—First grade students recently went on a field trip to the Highlands Museum.

**2nd GRADE:** *Conley, Walter*—Second grade classes at Crabbe have been busy preparing for Christmas! We have enjoyed reading stories about Christmas, making

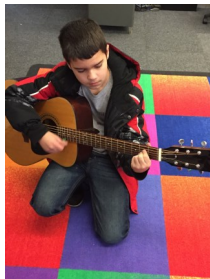
3-D elves to display in the hall, and writing about what we have learned. Our elves, Jingle and Jangle, are keeping a close eye on our classes, and are reporting back to Santa.



**3rd GRADE:** *Clemons, Runyon*—Third graders have been working hard on multiplication. Every time a student passes a multiplication timed test they earn a flame to add to a campfire featured on their bulletin board.



**MUSIC:** *Holderness*—Crabbe students are practicing for the winter talent show in the music room. Students were given the opportunity to prepare an act to perform for their schools and families. Their performances and school-wide caroling helped to fill each school with holiday cheer before the winter break.



**GYM:** *Hawker*—Mrs. Hawker won the Physical Education Teacher of the Year 2017 award from KAHPERD recently. She says of the award: "I'm so excited, humbled, and honored...I love my schools, students, and fellow teachers! You all help to make my job the best! Thank you!"



## 4th GRADE and 5th GRADE:

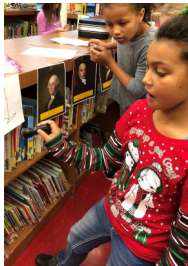
*Barber, Bowling, Minton, Withrow*—Mrs. Minton's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class is enjoying an afternoon Buddy Reading with Mrs. Kirk's 1<sup>st</sup> grade class.



The 5<sup>th</sup> grade students finished their Native American unit by having a Potlatch in Mrs. Bowling's Social Studies class.

**LIBRARY:** *Cole*—"Breaking Out" of the Media Center: Over the last few weeks students have been following the clues and solving logic puzzles in order to "break out" of the media center. Our

latest adventures, collaborative activities with Mrs. Withrow and Mrs. Minton, have had



4th and 5th grade students signing the Declaration of Independence and becoming Storm Spotters. Each small group was given a letter containing the clues they needed in



order to open 5 locks and break into a box with a reward hidden inside. These fun, hands-on learning opportunities combine Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Students are excited for their next chance to come back and "break out" again!



**TIGERTIME:** The girls in the Sewing Club with Geri Willis entered a tree into the Festival of Trees at the Paramount. They received an Honorable Mention ribbon!



#proudtigers

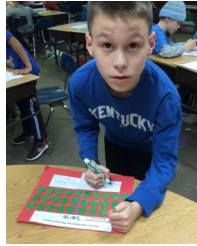
# Hager Elementary



Second grade students made Christmas cards and coloring sheets for children who will be spending Christmas in the Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Each student has researched a given country and how they celebrate the holidays. They decorated a paper doll according to their given country's customs.

Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at Hager have been hard at work. We have begun working on decimals and have learned how to read, write, and compare decimals! We have been working as a team on several activities to help us better understand decimals, such as our WAR card game (classroom favorite). In reading, we have just finished reading The Little House on the Prairie, and it has been a very eye-opening experience to compare and contrast our everyday lives to the life of Laura Ingalls Wilder and her family. In Science we have been learning about the earth, sun, and moon. For instance, did you know that the sun isn't actually the biggest star in our universe? It just looks so bright because it is the closest star to earth!

Third graders have been busy learning about Trickster Tales. Did you know Roadrunner and Tom and Jerry are trickster tales? So are many modern movies and cartoons! Trickster Tales are plentiful in school libraries. Just check out the books by Gerald McDermott! Not only are we reading books, we are also learning and locating the country of origin for each Trickster Tale read. These tales originate from all over the world. Anansi stories are from the African Ashanti people and many Native American tribes have trickster stories of their own. The students are excited to begin working on Trickster readers theater productions to present to classrooms here at Hager. They have also been working on math properties. Students used a holiday theme to represent distributive property of multiplication.



During STEM 1st graders completed Module 2: Observing the Sun, Moon, and Stars. Throughout this module, students learned all about the sun, moon, and stars. Did you know that stars can be different colors like red and blue? Why don't we see stars during the day? These are just a few questions we answered. Students also learned that stars, including the Sun, generate their own light, while objects such as the moon reflect that light. Students were challenged with the task of designing, building, and testing a device to protect students from ultraviolet (UV) radiation.

Fourth grade has been hard at work meeting their reading goals. We're currently exploring the world of everlasting life with Winnie Foster. Winnie knows Tuck's secret and is now faced with a choice. Will she choose everlasting life? Our students can't wait to reach the resolution. We love our book club! In math, students have been working hard to learn long division and have now started exploring fractions. In science, we have been exploring how animals use their structures and senses to help them survive, grow and adapt to their surroundings! Students have enjoyed connecting this to their life as well! In social studies, we have been exploring the early people of Kentucky and how physical characteristics influenced their settlement patterns. Fourth graders at Hager have been very busy learning!

First grade has been working hard writing letters to Santa. We have focused on the parts of a letter and sentences. We sure hope Santa answers our letters soon.



In November, Hager Kindergarten classes celebrated our friendship with a feast! We prepared food just like the Pilgrims and Native Americans. The students helped to prepare food like cornbread, mashed potatoes, green beans, and corn! We washed fresh fruits and prepared them as well! We studied what life was like long ago.



In December, Mrs. Keener's class completed a gingerbread unit and even got to put together and decorate their own gingerbread houses and cookies.



Hager Elementary Safety Patrol hosted a special Breakfast with Santa. Kids enjoyed meeting with Santa, writing and mailing their letters to Santa, and even got a chance to play games.





# Oakview Elementary



Oakview held a Veteran's Day program in November. The students learned the songs in music class and did a great job performing. Several veterans attended the program. We hope they know how much we appreciate their service.

Second grade has been studying Christmas traditions around the world. They have "visited" the countries of Mexico, Italy, Germany, Israel, Holland, France, and England learning how others celebrate during this holiday season. Some of their favorite things included when they received a special visit from La Befana and made yummy Italian treats, making a Christmas cracker from England, reading the Legend of the Poinsettia, making reindeer food, and learning about the festival of lights known as Hanukkah!



The Oakview Robotics teams competed in a Hydrodynamics First Lego League Competition on December 1st. One of our teams earned 2nd place in the Project area. Their project was on the water footprint of plastic. Reduce, reuse, and recycle plastic, this saves water too!



The fifth grade classes attended The Nutcracker at the Paramount Arts Center to support two fellow classmates that were performing in the ballet. Alaina Lucas and Emily York, members of the Ashland Youth Ballet, performed in The Nutcracker and the Moscow Ballet Russian Nutcracker. They also visited the Native American Craft Fair at Shawnee State University. The students were able to look at Native American tools, clothing, and listen to Native American music.



The Oakview Beta Club collected canned food in November for a food drive. The canned food was donated to River Cities Harvest and for Thanksgiving baskets. They really care about the community of Ashland.

The ACTC Mobile Technology Lab paid a visit to Oakview. Students had the opportunity to use 3-D printers, virtual reality goggles, drones, simple computer programming, and laser engravers. The students had a blast and learned so much about computer science.



Kindergarten learned about friendship and giving to others. We had a wonderful friendship feast to celebrate our friends! We had a gingerbread man loose at our school and had so much fun following his clues all around the school. He left us some tasty gingerbread treats too. We also have some kindness elves that have been visiting our classrooms and helping us remember to care for others.

Mrs. Berry and Mr. Patierno's class have been discussing character traits, including honesty, empathy, integrity, being a good friend, etc. They wrapped up their lesson with a field trip to see the movie Wonder. They are definitely using what they have learned in real life.



Third grade has learned all about multiplication and just wrapped up the division unit before Christmas break! In reading, we spent the month of December completing weekly book studies. We read books including, The Carpenter's Gift and The Perfect Christmas Tree. Students also finished up their informative writing pieces on how to decorate a Christmas tree. We are excited to see the production Christmas on Candy Cane Lane that students have been working hard on with Mr. Ream. Our students also completed their second module, *Forces and Interactions*, with Mrs. Stephens in STEM! Mrs. Evans and Miss Royalty would also like to mention how incredibly proud they are of the third grade students with their MAP testing!

Mrs. Johnson's first grade class has met their yearly Accelerated Reader goal before Christmas break! They are reading machines to earn 1,000 points! Their new goal is 2,000 points by the end of the school year!





# Poage Elementary

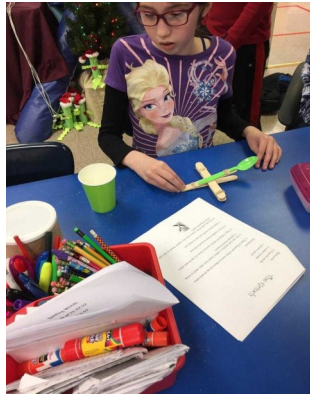
## Mrs. Akers' Class



Mrs. Akers' class spent the afternoon helping the Grinch return all of the presents that he had taken from the Who's. Using a STEM activity, the children built a catapult to launch the presents back. The children learned that a catapult uses a lever, which is a simple machine.

It moved the

load (present) around a pivot (popsicle sticks) using force (hand pushing down on the spoon). The catapult works by using stored energy in twisted ropes (the rubber bands) and changing it into movement. All the children enjoyed the "Grinch Stem" activity.



## Kindergarten



Mrs. Claus came to read with Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Woods' class! Mrs. Claus was very proud of how well they listened!



## 1st & 2nd Grade Spanish

Hola! First and second grade students at Poage Elementary have been learning Spanish this year! Ms. Howard's students are enjoying learning their colors, numbers, and so much more!



## 2nd Grade

Second grade has had an amazing first half of the school year. They are always working hard, so it was enjoyable to spend the day together experiencing something different from our daily work. To enjoy our special day out, we went to see the movie Wonder and painted ornaments at the Pottery Place. What a "Wonder" ful movie with such an important message! Just Be Kind! We are excited for Christmas but we look forward to returning to school and beginning the second half of our school year!



## 4th Grade

In Mrs. Damron's class, 4th grade has learned **78 Amazing Words!** Some of the amazing words are conundrum, etiquette, and epidermis. Their favorite so far is epidermis!

## 5th Grade

After learning about fossil formation, Mrs. Stanfield's fifth grade science class worked on designing a method that uses the best tools to dig up fossils in a model excavation. Students were first restricted to using their non-dominate hand and a spoon to remove a fossil (animal cracker) from the rock (Rice Krispie treat). There were many breaks to the delicate fossil. Then, students were allowed to use both hands and given various tools for use to clean their fossil without damaging it. They faced their engineering challenge and learned how one paleontologist took six years to carefully chip away rock to expose a dinosaur fossil for the Royal Tyrrell Museum.



Mrs. Chapman's fifth grade worked in groups to research an American colony. They used their research to create an advertising campaign that included a billboard and a commercial to entice colonists to move to the colony. They focused on the geography, economy, and government of the colony.



# Charles Russell Elementary



Kindergarten students in Mrs. Geyer's classroom are making use of their newfound reading skills. Reading to each other has become one of their favorite activities.

**STEM News:** Students in kindergarten have been learning about Push and Pull Forces and Friction, and played tug-o-war! The fourth graders have been learning about Energy Conversions.



Miss Martin joined our fun and learning!

**Academic Team News:** The Charles Russell Academic Team has participated in two League Meets this school year. On November, 27th they competed against Russell, Catlettsburg and Oakview. The Quick Recall team won both of its matches. Testing results were as follows:



- Science: Ben Thompson, tied for 1st and Caleb Elliott, tied for 3rd
  - Social Studies: Aubrey Foster, 4th and Caleb Elliott, tied for 5th
  - Math: Anna Bocook, 3rd
  - Arts and Humanities: Aubrey Foster and Lyndsi Watts, tied for 4th
  - Language Arts: Anna Bocook, 1st and Kaia Mantle, 5th
- On December 11th the team competed against Fairview, Greysbranch and Ponderosa. The Quick Recall team won both of its matches. The testing results were as follows:
- Language Arts: Anna Bocook and Kaia Mantle tied for 3rd
  - Arts and Humanities: Aubrey Foster, 1st and Lyndsi Watts, tied for 2nd
  - Science: Ben Thompson, 1st and Ashley Ingram and Caleb Elliott, tied for 3rd
  - Math: Noah Wurts, tied for 3rd
  - Social Studies: Caleb Elliott and Jonny Tibbs, tied for 2nd and Aubrey Foster, tied for 3rd.

**STLP News:** STLP students attended the regional competition at Morehead State on Nov. 6th. Their showcase project, *Arrowhead News*, was selected to advance to the state competition on March 29, 2018 at Rupp Arena!



**PTO News:** Santa's Workshop opened up for students to shop December 11-15th. The workshop gave students the chance to buy the perfect gift for everyone on their holiday list, from jewelry to slime to pet toys! Students also got to stock up on one of their favorites: Holiday Smencils. Thanks to fundraisers by the PTO, all students were given the opportunity to purchase at least one gift for an immediate family member.



The CRS PTO hosted Family Fun Night on December 12th. The event was free to students and their families. Children were able to write letters to Santa, make magic reindeer food and a candy cane, and enjoy hot chocolate and cookies. Santa Claus also came in for the event. Over 50 families attended the event!

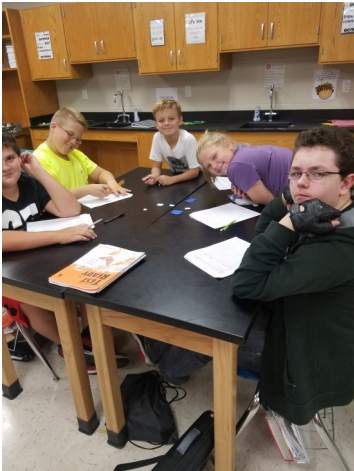


**Chess Tournament:** Ms. Meade, the Librarian, sponsored a chess tournament in the library between the 4th and 5th grade students who participate in the Charles Russell Scholars Program (CRISP). Both groups have been practicing for the past few months and were ready to challenge each other! Teams scored a point for winning a game and a half-point each for a draw. It was close, but the fifth grade group won 6.5 to 4.5. Plans for another tournament are already underway!





# Ashland Middle



Students in Mrs. Hess's science class were simulating predator - prey relationships by playing a game. The students had to throw the coyote (blue paper) into the bunnies (white paper). If the predator landed on three or more prey, the predator survived. If it did not, it died. The students were able to simulate not only predator-prey relationships, but also limiting factors in an environment.

Congratulations to the following band members for auditioning and being selected for the 2017-2018 KMEA District 8 Middle School Honor Band: Amelia Lucas - 1st Chair Oboe, Rhiannon Gullett - 5th Chair Clarinet, Jasmine Bryant - 20th Chair Clarinet, Gwen Akers - 2nd Chair Alto Saxophone, Max Robinette - 7th Chair Trumpet, Santiago Gutierrez - 11th Chair Trumpet, Rilee Vanover - 3rd Chair Horn, Eli Campbell - 4th Chair Horn, Jacob Sutter - 1st Chair Euphonium, Jackson Lawson - 5th Chair Tuba, Noah Carey - 4th Chair Percussion, Reese Couture - 5th Chair Percussion

Mr. Polley's Advanced Modeling and Design class touring ACTC's Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Lab



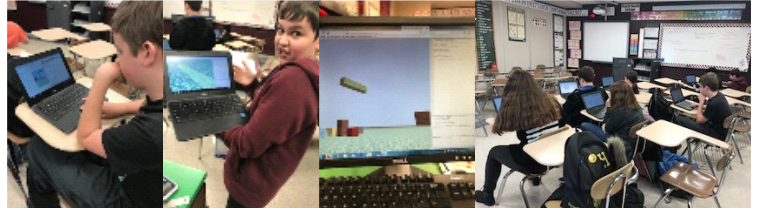
Students in Mr. Hick's class participated in the "Dreidel" game to celebrate holidays from around the world. Mrs. Wallin taught the students the history of Hanukkah and the dreidel and they all played for their own stash of candy!

Mrs. Lovins' classes have just finished their informative research projects on "Unexplained Phenomena." Students used the MLA format to research subjects such as Bigfoot, The Bermuda Triangle, and Sea Monsters. They used Adobe Spark to present them to the class.



Congratulations to AMS's STLP. Their showcase project, Droning Around, was selected to compete at state competition in March. Gracie Madden, Alex Clark, Connor Howard, and Sean Adams will be representing AMS.

Mathcounts students learn Python. Mrs. Peterman even joined the fun to create some blocks using Python!



The Wonder Team visited the Huntington Museum of Art. On this trip, students were able to see



everything from pieces by the famous artist Rembrandt, to 5,000 year old pottery, to chocolate trees in the conservatory. They also were able to make their own piece of art to take home.

Congratulations to Mike Polley's Advanced 3D Design And Modeling Class and AMS's STLP for being selected the State of Kentucky winner of the Samsung Solve For Tomorrow Contest. The team's project is to help minimize the dangers from the environmental effects of the Appalachian opioid crisis. The next step for the team is to submit a video of their project by February 13th. The judging from this level will pare the number from 51 state winners to 10 national finalists. The final level of judging will result in 3 winners. The team has already won \$25,000 in electronics for the school. If they advance to the next two levels, the prizes are \$50,000 and \$150,000 respectively.



The AMS Beta Club volunteered in the Ashland Christmas Parade and Santa's House at Central Park. The Beta Club shopped for 80 students in the Ashland Schools. The goal was to make Christmas a bit merrier for those in our community.



# Paul Blazer High



**The Ashland Junior Varsity Academic Team** placed 2nd overall in the Section 17 JV Challenge this weekend behind Johnson Central. **Blazer** took 2nd in Quick recall after a very close 4 point loss to champion Johnson Central.

## In testing,

Logan Covert - 1st in Social Studies (6th In the entire State) and 2nd in Language Arts (4th In the state)  
Mackenzie Clere - 3rd in Math and 4th in Arts and Humanities (10th In the state)  
Jessica Miller - 3rd in Science  
Melanie Grimm - 5th in Arts and Humanities and 6th in Language Arts  
EJ Harrison - 4th in Social Studies  
Olivia Connolly - 6th in Arts and Humanities  
The Varsity Team will now begin preparation for Governor's Cup Districts on January 27th.

**Ms. Modlin's Class** was invited to perform at the Our Lady of Bellefonte's Hospital's Christmas party for terminally and chronically ill children.

Theatre I students Katelyn McClain and Haley Keyes performed The Hunt for the Perfect Tree and Faith Bri Nivens and Michael Collins entertained the crowd as the elf and Jack in Jack In the Box Rebels. Shane Mullins was the stage manager/set crew.

Theatre II-III-IV students presented Santa and the Wicked Wazoo, in which an evil witch tries to melt the polar ice and drive Santa out of the North Pole. Will Fisher was Santa and Kim Cochran played the Wicked Wazoo. Other actors were Kaitlin Lee as Mrs. Clause, Alex Messer as the Leprechaun, Ryan Whitt and Stevie Tolliver as the Trolls, Luna Gillum, Jordan Queen, and Hannah Stone were Santa's Helpers, Franklin Harris entertained the children as the clown, and Felicity Morin was the dancing doll. Also, Emily Martin and Ella Stephens performed Christmas Nerves and Naming Santa's Reindeer.



The students enjoyed the opportunity to perform and were grateful for a chance to give back to the community. We look forward to going again next year.

**Mrs. Bias's seniors in PLTW** biomedical sciences capstone course are working on advanced water analysis techniques. They have been testing water samples for the presence of bacteria, isolating the bacterial DNA, amplifying it using a technique called PCR, and discovering what specific species of bacteria are present using gel electrophoresis.



On Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> **Blazer Library** hosted a book fair sponsored by Coffee Tree Books from Morehead, KY. They brought all the latest books, their famous coffee and snacks for all the students and faculty/staff to enjoy. The book fair was a huge success! Sales were over \$3600 and earned the library \$500 worth of free books from Coffee Tree Books. The library plans to have another book fair in May.



**Ms. Modlin's Class**, three of Blazer's theatre students who participated in the Greater Huntington Parks and Recreation District's Fantasy Maze: Cadence Stephens, David Waddell, and Kaitlin McClain  
Cadence--Joy  
David--Captain Hook  
Kaitlin--Rapunzel



**Girls Cross Country Team** finished as the KHSAA CLASS AA STATE RUNNER-UP in Lexington! Our girls did an incredible job and narrowly missed being first place! Please congratulate these ladies, as well as coaches Phillip Caudill and Hillary Rice, on their outstanding performance.







**Blazer FBLA** officers, members and advisors recently attended National Fall Leadership Conference in New Orleans, LA. While in New Orleans

they took historical tours of the city, attended workshops and sessions with excellent speakers, and of course had beignets at the famous Café Du Monde. Attending were FBLA State Treasurer & Blazer Co-President Kaitlyn Bellew, Blazer Co-President Sydni Pierce, Secretary Leah Smith-Mensah, Historian Hattie Killin, Member Dawson Coovert and Advisers Debbie Barnett and Ramona Bellew.



**Blazing Arrows Archery Team** had an exciting experience the first night of practice. Freshman Carlie Williams shot a Robin Hood, which means she shot one arrow into the end of another arrow!! Carlie is the first Blazer Archer to our knowledge who has done this.



Congratulations to **Blazing Arrows Archery Team** for placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the High School Division and to Hannah Carroll for winning 1<sup>st</sup> in High School Girls Division in the Ashland Shootout Saturday, December 9!! Archery Coaches are Jeff Carroll and Ramona Bellew.



**Congratulations!! HOSA Competition. Mrs. Pick & Mrs. Merrill Class** placed in 13 events: 23 students out of 33 came home with medals. Way to Go!



**Mrs. Spade's art** classes participated in the 18th annual Envision the Future Day along side of the KY School for the Blind. The event took place November 15th and included students with visual impairments

from 18 Eastern KY school districts who came together at the KEDC Ashland offices for a day filled with self awareness, acceptance, art, and FUN! Blazer Students assisted students ranging in age from Kindergarten through High School in creating mixed media tiles, painted canvases, and collages.



**Ramona Bellew's Financial Literacy class** recently completed the H & R Block Budget Challenge, a 10-week online course where students are given a salary, choose vendors and budget their money to pay bills on time, plus be prepared for emergencies. Three seniors excelled in the challenge, ranking in the top 5% out of about 25,000 students; and, in the top 3% in the Real World Ready Rank out of almost 87,000 students. In the Real World Rank, Ben Fazenbaker was 777/99.10%, Tyler Conway was 839/99.03% and Andrew York was 2341/97.30%!!



**Mr. Hale's Class** was doing percentage error on density measurements both in and out of water. They also designed divers using density to sink to the bottom of a 2 liter and rescue other divers trapped on the bottom.



**Mrs. Pick's EKG technician class** enjoyed an on-site visit to the emergency room and EKG departments at a local hospital.

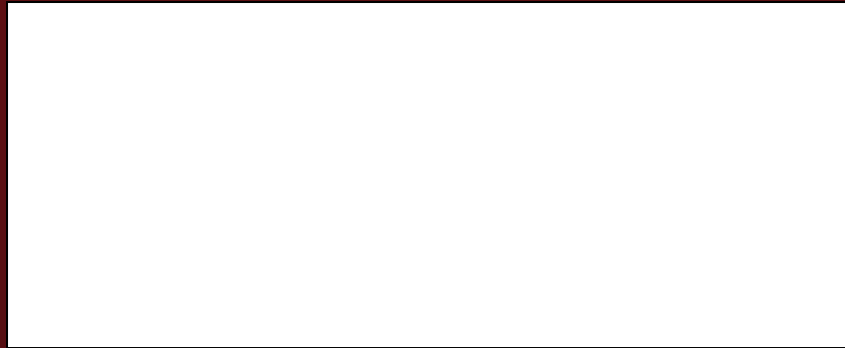




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Permit No. 71  
Ashland, KY

Return Service Requested



# FOCUS

## School Principals

Teresa Conway, Head Start Director  
Jamie Campbell, Crabbe Elementary School  
Phillip Caudill, Hager Elementary School  
Rebecca Howell, Oakview Elementary School  
Katie Holbrook, Poage Elementary School  
Shawn Thornbury, Charles Russell Elementary School  
David Greene, Ashland Middle School  
Derek Runyon, Blazer High School

## Central Office Personnel

Sean Howard, Superintendent  
Linda Calhoun, Instructional Supervisor  
Lisa Henson, Director of Student Services  
Kristen Martin, Director of Finance  
Richard Oppenheimer, Director of Student Achievement  
Christine Scott, Director of Pupil Personnel  
Cary Williams, Director of Instructional Technology



*Charles Russell students listen as Mr. Howard reads the Polar Express.*

## Board of Education

Chris Clarke, Chair  
David Latherow, Vice-Chair  
Carol Jackson,  
Mark McCarty  
Bruce Morrison

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