



# TOM Talks

A Message from Superintendent Tom Evans



## Friday - January 18, 2019

**What!!!! No Football on January 27<sup>th</sup>.** We've got something for you to do to fill the void. Please plan on attending Cuyahoga Heights Schools Community Open House on January 27, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Whether you're a current student, alumni, parent, grandparent, community member or potential student, we will have something for everyone. There will be open swim at the school pool, the jazz band and high school band will be performing, there will be displays from our academic programs, athletics, clubs and activities for students. Informational meetings for Pre-K, Kindergarten and Tuition programs will also take place.

Refreshments will be served. We hope you can join us!!!

On Wednesday, February 13, the Board of Education will be hosting a community meeting to discuss capital improvements for the district. We are putting in motion a plan to upgrade the current facilities for their continued use long into the future. The Board is looking for input from the community as to what they envision from the school's facilities moving forward. Please join us at 7:00 pm in the Bahner-Ray Media Center for this meeting. You can call or email me at [tevens@cuyhts.org](mailto:tevens@cuyhts.org) for additional information.

Congratulations to senior pole vaulter Kyel Wolff on breaking the school indoor pole vault record by clearing 15' at last weekend's meet at Spire Institute in Geneva. By doing so, Kyel has also qualified for the High School Indoor National Track Meet held in New York in March. Kyel's quote to me when I congratulated him was "there's more to come". Great job and good luck at Nationals Kyel!!!

Congratulations to 8th grade student, Alyssa Kraig, who participated in the 8th International Children's Winter Games in Lake Placid, New York. Alyssa was one of just 17 female hockey players from Northeast Ohio to compete in the International Games on the same ice surface that hosted the 1932 and 1980 "Miracle on Ice", Winter Olympic games. Alyssa and the Lady Barons hockey team took home a bronze medal. Great job and congratulations to Alyssa!

Winter sports are well underway and along with Kyel's outstanding accomplishments in the pole vault, the swimmers, wrestlers, bowlers, boys and girls' basketball teams are also performing at a high level. Swimmer, Senior Mara Voytek recently broke the school record in the 200 IM. The Boys Basketball team won the Labella tournament by defeating Independence in the championship game and the Wrestlers won the Columbia Invitational Tournament over the holiday vacation, with Senior, Luke Hopkins being named the tournament Most Valuable Wrestler. Great job by everyone!!! The Wrestling team also hosted a "Pin Cancer" night in honor of two wrestling alumni that

also serve as assistant coaches for the program. Friday, January 18th will be Military Appreciation Night at the Boys Basketball game. Please come support our team and show appreciation for our military.

Students at the elementary school have been participating in a wide variety of exciting educational experiences both inside and outside of the classroom. We are so thankful for the wide variety of opportunities our students have right here in the local area. Kindergartners have taken field trips to Patterson Fruit Farm, North Chagrin Reservation in Lake County, Canalway, and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History already this year. Other grade levels have had the opportunity to go to Lake Metroparks Farmpark, the Independence Library, United Skates Skating Rink, Great Lakes Theater, and the Cleveland Science Center. We also have trips to the Magical Theater Company, Botanical Gardens, Cleveland Art Museum, and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame coming up during the second semester.

Inside the classrooms, many of our elementary students have participated in local and national math, science, and art competitions. Our gifted classes researched and visited a "tiny house" and are now making their own "tiny houses" for our PreK program. In technology class, elementary students are learning a variety of technology skills, leading up to the fourth and fifth grade project of following directions to build robots and then coding them to do what they want them to do. All grade levels have either already had a musical performance or are rehearsing for an upcoming date. This is just a small sampling of the excitement at CHES!

The Technology Department at Cuyahoga Heights Schools is offering IT classes free to anyone in the community. Please check your village bulletins for upcoming classes or contact Tracy at 216-429-5818..

Hello from the Treasurer's Office!

Recap of fiscal year 2018:

The School District's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The most significant fund to be budgeted is the main operating fund of the School District, the general fund.

During the course of fiscal year 2018, the School District amended its general fund budget several times. The School District uses an operational unit budget process and has in place systems that are designed to tightly control expenses but provide flexibility for program based decision and management.

The general fund's actual revenues were greater than final budget basis revenues due to more than expected property taxes. The general fund's actual expenditures were lower than the final budget basis expenditures. This is due in large part to the School District's continued commitment to provide a quality education while still controlling the costs of that quality education.

While the School District relies heavily on its local property taxpayers, possibly the most critical piece of funding is the uncertainty of the replacement dollars for tangible personal property tax. Over \$2.5 million was received from the State of Ohio in fiscal year 2018 to offset the loss of tangible personal property tax, but this amount continues to be reduced into the future. As the continued reduction of this stream of revenue over time will be financially devastating, management is planning carefully and prudently to

provide the resources to meet student needs. The due diligence of the Board of Education, Staff, Administration, Treasurer, Superintendent, community, Finance and BEST Committee contributes to the financial success of the School District.

Finally, as we closed out the 2018 fiscal year we saw the hiring of a new Treasurer in Matthew Muccio and the promotion of Kathy Martin to Assistant Treasurer.

**Go Redskins!!!!!!!!!!**

Tom Evans  
Superintendent  
Cuyahoga Heights Schools



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