

## Tom Talks

May 2019

Congratulations to the High School as they have been named a "Top High School in the Nation" by *U.S. News and World Report*. Cuyahoga Heights received a score of 94.75 out of a possible 100. The score placed Cuyahoga Heights at 31<sup>st</sup> out of 917, the top 3% of all High Schools ranked in the State of Ohio, and 906 out of 17,245 or the top 5% nationwide. The criteria used in the ranking includes: college readiness using AP scores, reading and math proficiency and performance, underserved student performance and college curriculum breadth and graduation rate.

The District's Music Department has been recognized as a *Best Community for Music Education* by the National Association of Music Merchants for the 14<sup>th</sup> straight year. No other community in the state of Ohio have received this recognition for 14 straight years. Congratulations to Mr. Bertolone, Mr. Michaels, Mr. Sokol and our Music Boosters for all of their hard work and support.

The elementary school had an amazing turnout for its fourth annual Art Show and Family Game Night on April 12, 2019. Students and their families turned off their devices for the evening and enjoyed spending time together! Artwork from students of all grades was proudly displayed throughout the main floor of the building and families looked for specific items on a scavenger hunt created by Miss Ryan. Families also got to play board games together in various locations throughout the building, supervised by several teachers who volunteered to give up their Friday night for the event! One of the biggest games was the BINGO game that happened all evening in the gymnasium. Each child who attended received free raffle tickets to put into a drawing for a chance to win one of 30 games donated by staff members across the district and many parents participated in the annual 50/50 drawing to support PTO. It was just another example of the fact that Great Students + Great Staff + Great Families = A Great School! Thank you to everyone who attended, donated, volunteered, and supported this wonderful event!

Student Damein Neuendorff and educational attendant Mrs. Gina Lehman of Cuyahoga Heights Elementary School, resident-student Dominic Presot of Independence Middle School, and student Luke Hopkins of Cuyahoga Heights High School were nominated for the 2019 Excellence in Education Achievement Award. They were recognized at the Annual Excellence in Education Program on May 10. The event is courtesy of the State Support Team for Region 3 in partnership with the ESC of Northeast Ohio. Congratulations to each of these individuals for their accomplishments. We are proud of you representing Cuyahoga Heights Local Schools!

Just a reminder the teaching staff is offering **FREE** ACT Test Prep for any interested Cuyahoga Heights students on the following dates and times:

- Wed – July 3 – 9:00 am – Noon
- Wed – July 10 – 9:00 am – Noon
- Wed – July 17 – 9:00 am – Noon
- Wed – July 24 – 9:00 am – Noon
- Sun – August 11 – 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

The Cuyahoga Heights Board of Education recently approved the GPD group as the architectural firm to assist the district in planning for the renovation of the districts buildings and grounds. GPD was approved after interviews with the Board of Education. The district has conducted a community

meeting and surveys of residents, staff and students and will be submitting that information to GPD to assist in the development of a long range plan to upgrade the district facilities. There will be additional meetings seeking community input as the plan is developed.

The Commencement ceremony for the 81<sup>st</sup> graduating class of Cuyahoga Heights Schools will take place this Sunday, May 26, beginning at 1:00 pm. Please come and help us celebrate this outstanding group of Seniors!!!

**Mr. Evans will miss you!!!!**