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Superintendent’s Message

Welcome back, Dukes!

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and enjoyed your time off during winter break with family and friends. We had a wonderful first half of the school year, and I thank our teachers, staff members, students and families for helping to make that happen. I wish you all the best in the new year and look forward to a great second half of the school year!

I would like to bring two items to your attention. The first is our newly created Marlington Education Innovation Fund. The goal of the Innovation Fund is to promote, encourage and enhance our students’ educational opportunities by empowering staff members to try new and creative programs that support our strategic plan. If you are interested in donating to the Marlington Education Innovation Fund to assist in this endeavor, visit our district website or www.marlingtoneducationfund.com. The district is now accepting grant submissions for the 2017-2018 school year.

Secondly, the Marlington Local School District is working on placing a bond issue on the ballot in May 2017. The district is planning to consolidate our three elementary schools into one building, which our educational staff believes is the best option, both for our students’ education and our district’s financial sustainability in the future. The local cost of the OFCC – Ohio Facilities Construction Commission - (formerly OSFC) facility is approximately \$15,000,000. Once the Board of Education finalizes the financial terms, we will provide additional informational updates.

To stay on top of everything happening in the district, remember to check www.marlingtonlocal.org, or follow us on social media.

*I wish you all a great start to 2017!
Positively Marlington!*

Joe Knoll, Superintendent



People of Character

Congratulations to the following staff members who were selected as Character Counts 2016 People of Character. The definition of a Person of Character is: Trustworthy, Respectful, Responsible, Fair, Caring and a good Citizen. Congratulations to our staff members:

Beth Schick was selected as Lexington Elementary School's Person of Character because she is dependable, caring, hard working and dedicated to making sure all students succeed. She is a 1998 graduate from Marlinton High School and has been working at Lexington Elementary since 2009. Beth is an active member of our school's Care Team and Building Leadership Team. She goes above and beyond job expectations by volunteering her time and expertise to assist staff members, students and organizations. Beth Schick lives by all the qualities of a true Person of Character.

It is an honor to nominate **Darleen Lepley** as our Marlboro Elementary People of Character Award winner for the 2016-17 school year. Darleen is the type of employee, co-worker and friend who anybody would be proud to have in their building. She is soft spoken, cares deeply for each student and is always willing to go above and beyond for our school and community. Darleen grew up in Marlinton, has helped raise her family in Marlinton

and continues to serve the community that she so deeply cares for. We are so very blessed to have her at Marlboro! Congratulations, Darleen!

It is with great pleasure that we nominate **Geneva Dutton** as the Washington Elementary Person of Character. Geneva is the most passionate, organized and spirited professional we know. Not only does Geneva serve our students at Washington Elementary as their Title teacher, Geneva works tirelessly in the school and the community. Geneva is always smiling and is the person who makes you feel better just by interacting with her. She has a strong work ethic and high integrity. The staff, students and community of Washington Elementary are lucky to have her.

Mary Clare is an outstanding educator who is driven by a passion to help our students grow on a daily basis; however, Mary Clare's ultimate quality is the tremendous person she embodies both in and out of the classroom. She lives her life with an energetic, positive, supportive, caring and passionate personali-



Front Row: L to R: Mary Clare Clevenger; Ellie Sanders; Geneva Dutton
Second Row: L to R: Darleen Lepley, Beth Schick

ty. We are very fortunate to have Mary Clare as a member of our team!

Ms. Ellie Sanders has made it her mission in life to improve the lives of everyone she comes in contact with. Her laughter brightens the room even when she is experiencing a difficult day. She meets each challenge with a positive attitude and a contagious smile. Ellie serves the students with developmental disabilities, but her positive affects can be found throughout the entire school. Whether it is cooking for our "Duke Breakfast", forming "Champions

Day" or taking her students bowling, she shows no limits to the dedication she has to all students. Ellie lives her life through the Six Pillars of Character. For these reasons and a million more small things she does everyday, it is our pleasure to honor her as Marlinton High School's Person of Character.

Positively Marlinton!



Treasurer's Message

By: Leslie Pierce - Treasurer

The Treasurers' staff is in full force as we are almost half way through year 2 of my tenure as the Treasurer at Marlinton. I continue to feel blessed to a part of the Marlinton School District and enjoy watching the students and staff benefit from the various initiatives and investments we have made for their benefit this school year.

In October 2016, the Board approved our updated five year forecast (FY2017 through FY2021) of the "General Fund". The General Fund includes the receipts and expenditures related to our district operations. This forecast can be found on the district website under the Treasurer's office.

A few of the highlights of that forecast are as follows:

RECEIPTS

- Majority of our receipts are received from 2 sources: the State per Pupil Funding model and Property Taxes from our community.
- ~43% of our total receipts are from the State's funding on a per pupil basis. Though we will receive a slight increase in FY2017 in our per pupil funding amount (~\$47/student) our enrollment is and expected to be relatively flat. The next Biennium Budget (FY2018-FY2019) will be key to our future projections of this important receipt.
- ~37% of our total receipts are from Property Taxes. Due to the County Auditor's re-evaluation of property values in 2015, we expect to receive a slight increase in funds from property taxes over the next 3 years largely due to new construction.
- We have an 8.5 mill operating levy expiring in 2017. The renewal of this levy is very important to the district and is currently reflected in our forecast. We appreciate your ongoing support!

EXPENDITURES

- ~75% of our expenditures are related to staff wages and benefits.
- We renewed our 3 year contract with our teaching staff effective July 2016 and will be negotiating a renewal of a 3 year contract with our classified staff in spring of 2017.
- The cost of salaries and wages in our forecast reflects the new agreement with the teaching staff which includes modest increases to their base salary in each year.
- The cost of Medical, Dental and Life benefits is a reasonable, yet conservative forecast as the future cost of insurance is somewhat unpredictable and also reflects increases to our employees' share of these costs.
- In 2016 we made a significant investment in technology by leasing laptops for our high school students. These laptops were rolled out to our students in the current school year. The benefits of this investment for both our students and staff are monumental!
- Our forecast reflects our continued investment in technology for all students and staff, as well as other significant investments in our facilities, such as replacement of the carpet in our middle school building.

CASH BALANCE AND OTHER

- Our cash balance continues to be adequate to meet our short term obligations.
- We are currently working on a project with the State of Ohio Treasurer's office to join their online check-book system. More details to follow on this initiative for our community.
- Again, I feel blessed to be a part of this District and look forward to executing on the many other initiatives we have planned for the future as the joy comes from watching our students and staff benefit from these initiatives.

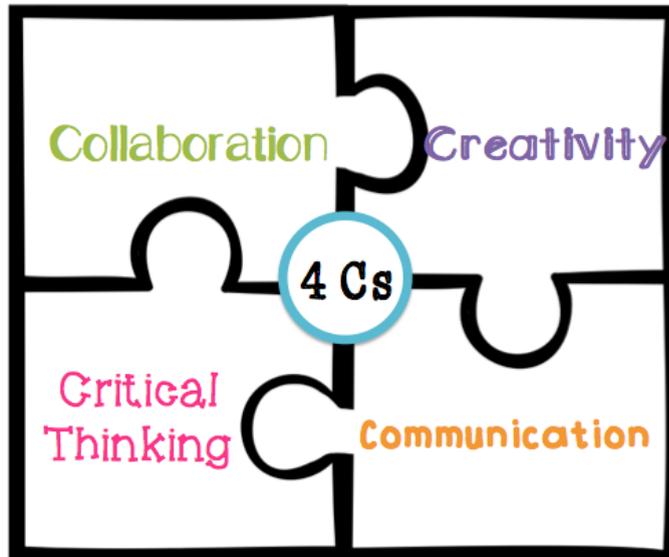
I can be reached at
L_pierce@marlingtonlocal.org or
330-821-4012.

Happy New Year to all!



Curriculum Update

by: Carole Sutton, Assistant Superintendent



The first half of the 2016-2017 school year have been filled with exciting curriculum changes at all levels.

The Ohio Department of Education, in response to recent legislation, has developed more rigorous criteria for High School Graduation eligibility. Starting with the class of 2018, students will have three possible pathways to graduation after earning 21 credit hours through comprehensive coursework.

- The first pathway: earning at least 18 points on seven end-of-course state tests
- The second pathway: earn a minimum of 12 points on an industry-recognized credential and earn a 13 on Work Keys, a work-readiness test
- The third pathway: earn a re-

mediation-free score on the SAT or ACT.

The high school has also embraced the “Four C’s” for 21st-century skills: collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and communication. To promote this, every student has received an 11-inch MacBook Air that has transformed their learning by putting the latest technology in their hands 24/7. Engaging students in the four c’s through the blended learning model has positively changed the culture of teaching and learning by increasing student engagement with interactive technology infused lessons.

The middle school is now in its fourth year of one-to-one technology using iPads. This has also positively changed the culture of learning and is continually improving and pro-

None of this could be possible without the phenomenal teachers we have here at Marlinton. Their commitment and passion for our students is remarkable and simply what makes us: **Positively Marlinton!**

gressing with software learning tools. A new tool this year is the Discovery Education Social Studies Techbook. This core digital techbook is interactive, adaptable and engaging for teachers and students.

At the elementary schools, the STEM program has grown exponentially. It is now STEAM, encompassing Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math. The STEAM club includes 147 students from first through fifth grade and meets once a week. Students are learning lifelong skills such as engineering, coding, design, collaboration, communication, presentation, problem solving, building, critical thinking and creativity in a fun and interactive atmosphere.

District-wide, Marlinton is nearly one-to-one with a variety of devices, including iPads, desktops and laptops. Different classes are also using STEAM labs with MakerSpaces, meaning that students come together to create projects and collaborate on lessons using interactive technology. These spaces are designed to help students with teamwork and creative problem solving.



Marlington High School Dedicates Brand New Engineering & Fabrication Lab

Marlington High School recently held its dedication ceremony for the new engineering and fabrication lab. The lab includes equipment that will be used for welding, woodworking and engineering fabrication.

The lab will allow students to learn skills that they can use in careers straight out of high school or as a foundation for more extensive education. The lab's purpose is not only to allow students to learn trade skills, but to also assist them after graduation in finding a job and building a career that they enjoy.

The total cost of the project was approximately \$350,000, with \$300,000 funded by grants and the rest funded through generous donations. The grants were from the Stark Community Foundation, which contributed \$200,000, and the Greater Alliance Foundation, which contributed \$100,000. Other contributors included the Robertson Family, Mike and Jill Anstine, Steffon Hoppel of Hoppel Fabrication and the Timken Company.

The cost of the project also included equipment for the lab. A combination TIG and MIG welder was donated to the welding program. For woodworking, a new planer, table saw/miter saw, band saw, wood lathe and router were purchased. Engineering fabrications classes have been equipped with 3D printers, a plasma cutter, a metal lathe, a laser cutter, a CNC plasma cutter, a manual mill and a CNC mill.

The design and construction of the project was led by TDA Architecture and St. Clair Pavlis Group.

This project would not have come to fruition without the financial help and guidance from our local engineering companies and Engineering Advisory Committee. Special thanks to SES, the Timken Company, Hoppel Fabrication, Stark State College, The University of Mount Union, Alliance Career Centre, ProEn, Triloggy Plastics, Robertson Heating/Cooling and Anstine Machine.

"The lab will allow students to learn skills that they can use in careers"



Marlington Alumni Association

Newest Scholarships Show Class and Community Support

Class of 1990 Scholarship

In honor of their class and with an interest in supporting future generations of Marlington Dukes, the Class of 1990 has partnered with the Marlington Alumni Association (MAA) to create the second scholarship established by a graduating class! This new scholarship will benefit students with strong academic achievements and will be awarded for the first time in April, 2017.

Spearheading the efforts, classmates John Oyster and Tim Muckley said it was “time to give back” and quickly rallied the support of additional classmates. Fellow 1990 friends and classmates are encouraged to join in supporting this effort. The class of 1990 also “challenges other classes to use reunions or special events to create additional scholarships.”

Battershell Family Scholarship

Families are precious and legacies mean even more. It is with great pleasure the Marlington Alumni Association welcomes this newest scholarship! Under the leadership of John ('65) and Cindy ('68) Battershell, Jeff ('90) and Becky Battershell and Carl ('66) and Gloria Battershell, the extended Battershell family has fully endowed the Battershell Family Scholarship. With an interest in affirming deserving, hard-working students, this

scholarship will be awarded for the first time in April 2017.

The Class of 1990 and the Battershell family are one of more than thirty alumni families and friends who have entrusted a portion of their heritage to the MAA. For more information on creating your family legacy scholarship with the Marlington Alumni Association, contact Vondea (Bohaychyk) Sheaffer ('76) at (330) 697-4036.

Please accept my donation

In honor/ memory of _____ or

in recognition of (person/occasion) _____

Please notify _____ or _____ no notification is necessary.

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

This donation is from _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Year of graduation _____

Email _____

Please designate this gift to the _____ Scholarship Fund.

Giving Levels:

Gold Duke

(Gifts of \$5,000 or more)

Silver Duke

(Gifts of \$2,500 - \$4,999)

Duke

(Gifts of \$1,000 - \$2499)

Duchess

(Gifts of \$500 - \$999)

Knight

(Gifts of \$100 - \$499)

Lady

(Gifts of \$50 - \$99)

Earl

(Gifts of \$25 - \$49)

Herald

(Gifts of less than \$25)

For more information or to make your gift securely online, please visit marlingtonalumni.org.

Please make checks payable to the Marlington Alumni Association, PO Box 6001 • Alliance, OH 44601

Current Scholarships Available Through the Marlington Alumni Association

Elizabeth Albright
Education Scholarship

Battershell Family
Scholarship*

Louise Bingham
Memorial Scholarship

Mary Louise Bixler
Education Scholarship

Richard W. and
Annabelle Bohaychyk
Memorial Scholarship

Gerald P. Burke
Scholarship

Frank J. & Anna Carozzi
Memorial Scholarship

Class of '66 Military
Scholarship*

Class of '90
Scholarship*

Ford C. Davis
Scholarship

Duke Scholarship

General John Churchill
Academic Warrior
Award

Gordon A. Eaton
Scholarship

Lee and Carolyn Gabric
Scholarship

Barbara (Yoder) Hall
Memorial Scholarship

Hastings Scholarship

Thomas Hazen
Memorial Scholarship

Howard & Trudy
Kitzmilller Student
Athlete Scholarship

Kimi Korleski Memorial
Scholarship

James Krabill Memorial
Scholarship

Lexington Twp. Vol.
Firefighter Scholarship
in Memory of Berkley
Barker

Marlington Alumni
Scholarship

Wayne and Bertha
McAlister Family
Scholarship

McIntosh Family
Scholarship

Pete Moulin Scholarship

Rita Moulin Memorial
Scholarship

Franklin L. (Butch)
Muniz Baseball
Scholarship

Ramser Scholarship

Scott and Cheryl
Robertson Scholarship

Melvin J. Snode
Memorial Scholarship

Harold (Hal) and Ruth
Sweitzer Scholarship

Carol Teutsch Memorial
Scholarship

**Indicates scholarship established in 2016*

(For specific information about scholarship criteria go to www.marlingtonalumni.org/scholarships)

Scholarship Applications Due February 1, 2017

In 2016, the MAA awarded 38 scholarships totaling \$58,000 to worthy Marlington Seniors. The MAA Scholarship Committee evaluates applications, submit-

ted anonymously, and makes awards based on various criteria unique to each scholarship. Awards are given to deserving students who meet or exceed

criteria. Participants can access the application online at marlingtonalumni.org or from the Marlington High School Guidance office. Students are en-

couraged to apply on or before the February 1 deadline.

Marlington Local School District Honors Veterans with Veterans Day Celebration

On Friday, November 11, Marlington Local Schools held its fifth annual Veterans Day celebration in the Marlington High School auditorium.

The ceremony included the presentation of colors by the Marlboro Volunteers, prayer by Carlee Mitchell, the pledge of allegiance led by Major Erick Cyders, the honoring of veterans and performances by both the Marlington band and the high school choir, Duke Street.

“We are grateful for all the opportunities and freedoms we have by living in the United States, and so it is only right to honor the people who fought for those freedoms,” said Sam Pepper, Marlington High School principal. “I am glad that we were able

to have so many of our students participate and think about what it really means to be a veteran.”

The assembly also included a video presentation of pictures of community veterans and concluded with the singing of Amazing Grace and the playing of “Taps.”

“Thank you to all of our veterans who we were able to honor, and thank you to our staff members who made this event possible,” said Superintendent Joe Knoll. “We always enjoy taking time to celebrate those in the community who have served our country, and I am glad that so many veterans, guests and students were able to participate in this year’s assembly.”



Front Row: (L to R): John Mayer , Don Boyce , Charles Shutler , Bob Poto , Nate Daum, Ferrell Brownlee
 Middle Row: (L to R): Dan Gibson, Erick Cyders, Tom Mather, Bob Cole, Craig Datz, Bob Richards, Ron Dramble, Cliff Swonger, Gary Scott
 Back Row: (L to R): Bob Zepernick, Fred Elsass, Earl Myers, Roger Carper, Mike Halter, Tom Liverett, Jerome Hamby, Howie Vadasz

Transportation Department Info

Just a few reminders as we head into the winter months of school. As always, have your children at their designated bus stop 5-10 minutes before the scheduled time for pick-up. The buses run on a tight schedule, but in case of bad weather or if a substitute driver is driving, the time may fluctuate slightly. Please dress your children in weather appropriate clothing while waiting at the bus stop. If the district is on a 2-hour delay due to inclement weather, remember that the bus will come to pick up your children approximately 2 hours later than your normal time. Also, on a 2-hour delay start, the elementary latchkey programs will not be available in the morning.

Congratulations to 2016-2017 School Bus Safety Poster Winners:

Lexington Elementary:

- Rylee Barnes: Kindergarten
- Tanna Davis: 1st Grade
- Reese Haga: 2nd Grade
- Aleah Stauffer: 3rd Grade
- Isabella Jackson: 4th Grade
- Carter Difloure: 5th Grade



Front Row: L to R: Tanna Davis (1st grade), Rylee Barnes (Kindergarten)
 Second Row: L to R: Carter Difloure (5th grade), Isabella Jackson (4th grade), Aleah Stauffer (3rd grade), Reese Hagan (2nd grade)

Marlboro Elementary:

- Nora Krabill: Kindergarten
- Trace Chandler: 1st Grade
- Mason Mayes: 2nd Grade
- Serenity Evans: 3rd Grade
- Megan Kerr: 4th Grade
- Abby Hartzler: 5th Grade



Front Row: L to R: Trace Chandler, Serenity Evans, Nora Krabill
 Second Row: L to R: Abby Hartzler, Megan Kerr, Mason Mayes

Washington Elementary:

- Liam Stokes-Matz: 1st Grade
- Kaydence Beal: 2nd Grade
- Gage Flynn: 3rd Grade
- Sydney Davis: 4th Grade
- Sydney Mallow: 5th Grade



Sydney Mallow (5th grade), Sydney Davis (4th grade), Kaydence Beal (2nd grade), Gage Flynn (3rd grade), Liam Stokes (1st grade).

New App from Marlinton Local Schools

The Marlinton Local School District has launched an official mobile app! The app is free to download in the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store; to find it, search for 'Marlinton Local Schools.'

The app gives users the ability to select a school building to access a feed of important district news and information, breakfast and lunch menus, a list of building contacts, access to PayFort!, the Home Access Center gradebook and information about upcoming athletics events.

Download the app today to have all the district information at your fingertips!

Go Dukes!



Child Find – A Search for all Children with Disabilities

Child Find is the process of identifying, locating, and evaluating children with disabilities who may be in need of special education and related services. Both state and local education agencies are given the responsibility by federal and state laws to conduct Child Find activities so that children who need special services have the opportunity to receive those services.

Child Find's purpose is:

- To promote public awareness of disabilities

- Assist school districts in finding children who may have disabilities and who otherwise may not have come to their attention
- Enable children and families to receive the special education and related services that are needed

What does a disability mean?

- For age 3 – 5: an established condition known to result in delay, or a documented developmental delay.

- For ages 5 – 21: identification of one or more of the following conditions: autism, deaf-blindness, hearing impairment, other health impairment, emotional disturbance, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, and/or visual impairment including blindness.

Parents, relatives, public and private agency employees, and concerned citizens are used to help school districts find children

who may have a disability and need special education and related services. The school district will contact the parents of the child to find out if the child needs to be evaluated. Free testing is available to families to determine whether or not a special need exists. If a need is identified, the child can begin receiving the appropriate special education related services.

Marlington High School

From the Desk of Mr. Pepper

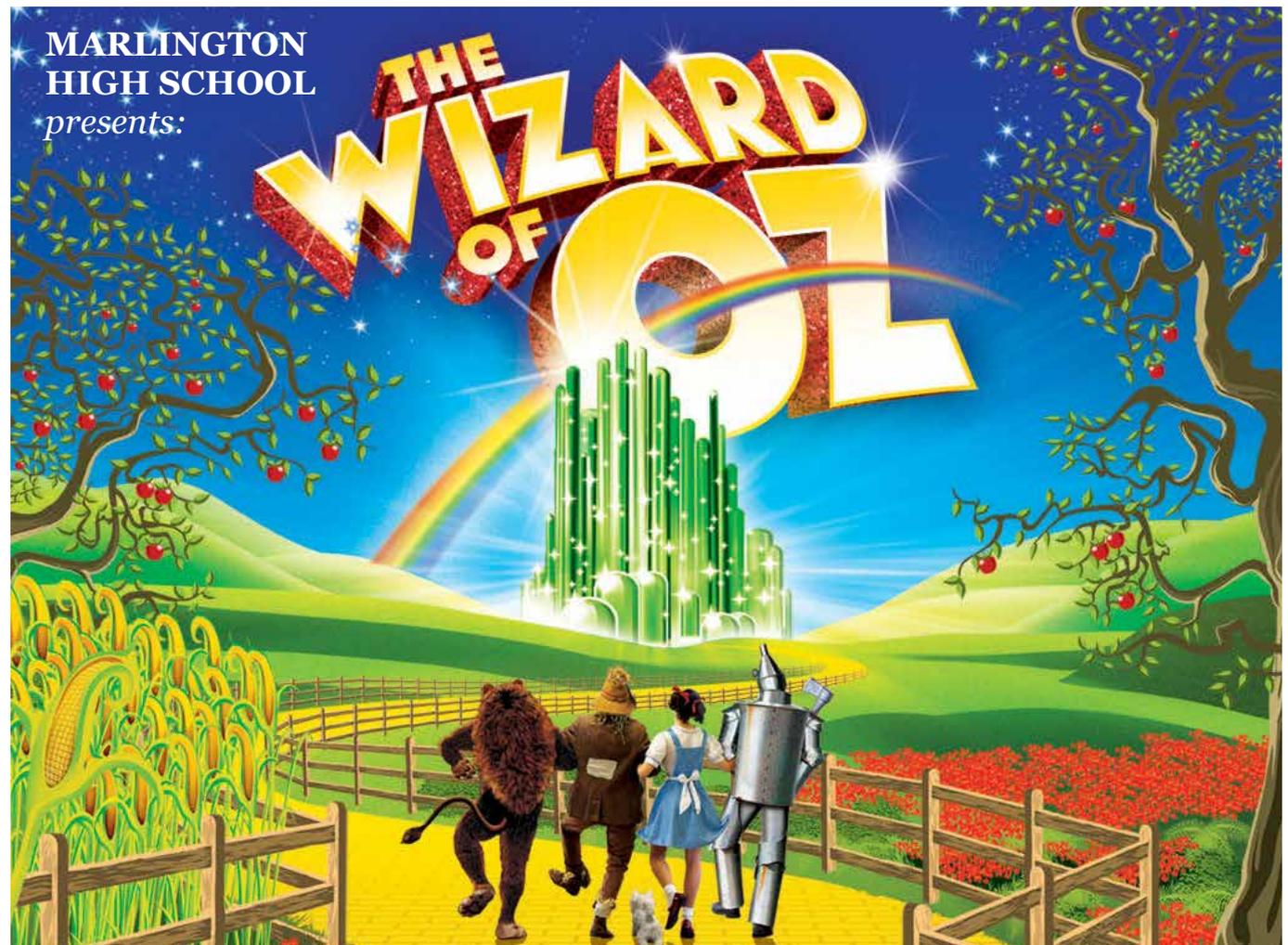
Two and a half years ago our one to one initiative was only a dream. Many obstacles had to be tackled in order to make it a reality. I am so proud of the way our students and staff have made the transition of “consumers” to “producers” of information. Our staff has worked very hard to change the way they teach to better serve students in the way they learn. Congratulations, to all involved! I am equally impressed with our Engineering classes who are utilizing their new lab. Mr. Denny’s program has greatly exceeded my expectations. It is awesome to see students of all levels applying higher-level science and math concepts to solve real life problems. These are only two of the many ways your high school is raising the bar to ensure that all students will have a successful future.

The high school staff appreciates your partnership in the education of our students.

Our students truly make this a wonderful place.

- Mr. Pepper, Principal

On behalf of the 2017 Marlington High School musical directing team, welcome to The Wizard of Oz! This will be an incredible performance for all students involved with this production. The Wizard of Oz is a timeless musical filled with an inspiring story, well-crafted



MARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

7:30PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

7:30PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

2:00PM

TICKETS - \$5.00 (PRESALE), \$8.00 (AT THE DOOR)

music, creativity, comedy, adventure and much more! High School students interested in auditioning for this production should see Mr. Looney in the HS Choir Room (500) for an information and audition packet. Auditions will take place on Wednesday, January 11 and

Thursday, January 12 after school in the choir room. Questions? Contact Mr. Looney, musical director at a_looney@marlingtonlocal.org.

A dinner, catered by Jeff Walker’s Catering, will be served before the show on Saturday, March 25, at 6 p.m. The menu for the dinner theatre

is Italian Baked Chicken, Redskin potatoes, Green Bean Almandine, Salad, French Bread, Dessert. Dinner theatre tickets are \$20.00; this includes the cost for the show. In order to make reservations for dinner theatre please email Mr. Locke at c_locke@marlingtonlocal.org.



Science and Engineering Fair

Marlington's 5th Annual Science and Engineering Fair will be held in the Moulin Center on Wednesday, February 15. Viewing for parents and the public will be from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Please come out and support the chemistry, engineering and physics students of Marlington!



Art Mural

Our MHS Art Club is collaborating with Marlboro Elementary to come up with a mural that will be painted in Marlboro's main hallway. We are in the early planning stages and our high schoolers are still coming up with ideas and some rough

sketches. These sketches will be sent to Mr. Groholy and he, along with the elementary students, will choose which idea they like for the mural. Once this has been decided, our elementary students will come up with some characters and designs, and our high schoolers will begin



the mural. We are excited to see how this collaboration comes to life for all to enjoy!

Cheer News

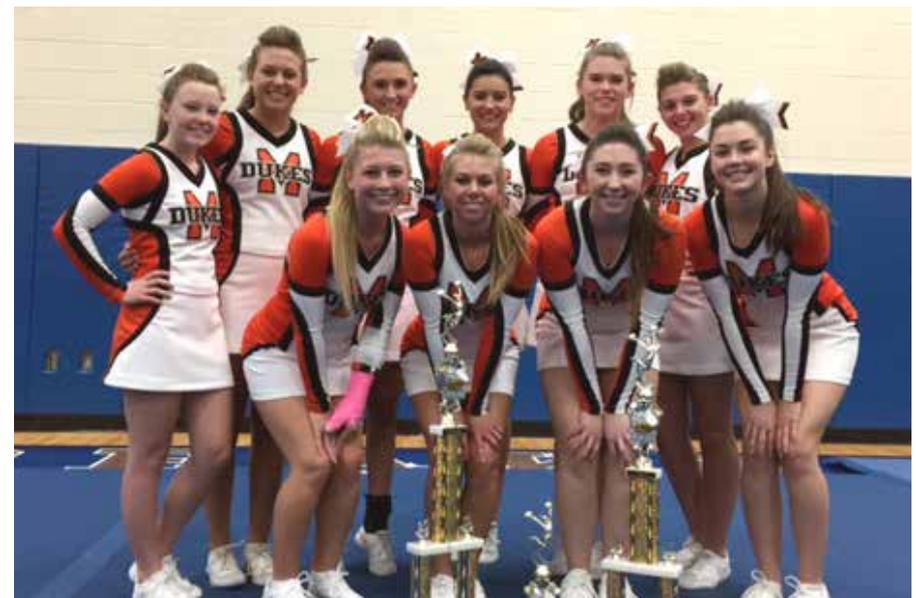
The Marlington Competition Cheerleading Squad recently competed in the Lake High School Cheerleading Challenge. They took first place in their division and received the Grand Champion Award for scoring highest amongst all divisions.



Students Giving Back in a Big Way!

Character Counts held their annual food drive at the high school from November 8 to 18. In order to get items most needed by local pantries, items were assigned different point values. First period classes then competed to bring in the most points. Mrs. Brady's class won

by collecting 1742 points, and Mrs. Phillip's class brought in the most points per student with 108 points per student. As a school, students and staff donated over 1,400 items and \$500 dollars to buy fresh items for Christmas baskets. All donations were given to food pantries in the Marlington district to be distributed to local families in need.



Marlington Middle School

From the Desk of Mr. Evanich

The students and staff at Marlington Middle School hope that everyone enjoyed a joyful holiday season. We are very proud of the work and accomplishments of our students this school year and are excited to see their efforts in 2017! The students and staff have done a

great job with our PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) initiative Duke Strong! We are especially proud of our students' willingness to help those less fortunate as they brought in over 2,000 canned goods as part of the Hunger Task Force Food

Drive! Through the Hunger Task Force Food Drive there was also a competition to create a can structure and submit the creation for entry into the countywide competition. We are very proud as many students participated by bringing in canned goods, designing

the structure, preparing the cans for building, building the structure, and promoting our food drive. Paying forward and continuing to make our community a great place to live!

GO DUKES!

- Nick Evanich, Principal

Fundraisers

Thank you to everyone for supporting our fall fitness fundraiser. Through the generosity of our parents, grandparents, neighbors and community members, we were able to raise \$8,992.25 to buy much needed supplies for our classrooms. The 39 students who raised at least \$100 were treated to a limo ride to Pizza Hut for a lunch buffet.

We are also offering a fundraising opportunity for students wishing to raise money for the 7th and 8th-grade spring field

trips. This year, we are offering the Pizza Hut Dough for Dollars discount cards you may sell for \$10 each. Students earn \$8 from each card sold to use toward the cost of their field trip balance. The Dough for Dollars cards have a value of \$150 if fully used by October 31, 2017.

Please remember these fundraisers are optional. The school does not receive any profit. All money earned goes directly to the individual student's field trip balance. Please contact Mrs. Clark in the office for further information.



Fitness Fundraiser

and we've had him back every year since. He is so beloved by the students that the previous 6th graders spread the news to the new classes before his visits. Many students even ask to return to 6th grade when he speaks! Prof. Tinlin is a retired Canton City middle school teacher who now serves Kent State Stark Outreach services. We are very fortunate to have had him visit and plan on his return for many years to come.

Students Of The Month

Congratulations to our Students of the Month for October, Emma Schaar and Aiden Trummer; November, Evelyn Bullock and Hunter Mathes; December, Bryce Davidson and Lily Hammond. Students are nominated by their teachers based on the qualities of exemplary academic effort, involvement in school and/or community activities, good attendance, good behavior and being an upstanding citizen/person of good character.



Fitness Fundraiser

The Math Magician

On Tuesday, December 13, Professor Curt Tinlin (who we also fondly call "The Math Magician") paid a visit to 6th-grade math students. Prof. Tinlin specializes in performing magic tricks while explaining them using math skills. He also shows the students valuable skills that will help them develop strategies for problem solving.

He first visited four years ago

Junior Achievement Day

On Friday, November 18, 2016, the Junior Achievement of East Central Ohio provided local business volunteers with the teaching tools to help our 8th-grade students connect what they are learning in school to the real world of work. Volunteers were from the University of Mount Union, Stark State College, Kent State University, the Timken Company, the Alliance Food Pantry, Coastal Pet, AA Hammersmith, AXA Advisors, Robertson Heating Supply, Consumer's National Bank and the Alliance Police Department. Working in teams, business volunteers trained by Junior Achievement presented financial literacy and career planning lessons from the Junior Achievement curriculum. Students received valuable information as they rotated throughout sessions on budgeting, savings, credit score, check registry, insurance risk and career planning. Each Junior Achievement session used experiential learn-



Junior Achievement Day

ing concepts to help students experience learning through games and hands-on activities. Not only did this provide a great learning experience for our students, it also helped our district meet the Ohio State Mandate to introduce financial literacy and career planning to our middle school students. Financial support for this program was provided by Junior Achievement Giving Champions: The Deuble Foundation, The Burton D. Morgan Foundation, The Hoover Fund, NEXUS Gas Transmission, Winkle Industries and the Kiwanis Club of Alliance. A special thank you to Junior Achievement and these local businesses for helping to support our students and prepare them for a successful future!

Holiday Concerts

The Marlinton Middle School choir program, under the direction of Mrs. Katharine Eversdyke, had their Holiday Sounds of the Season Concert on Tuesday, December 6, in the high school auditorium. The vocal program consists of 6th-grade choir, 7th-grade choir, 8th-grade choir, an after school Select Chamber Ensemble and combined 7th and 8th-grade choir. A few of the song selections from the night were: "You're a Mean One Mr. Grinch", "Let it Go", "Carol of the Bells", "A La Nanita Nana" and "The Little Drummer Boy". The select Chamber Ensemble performed with the high school Duke Street choir for the school on Wednesday, December 14.



Choir Concert

The choral program hopes everyone had a safe and happy holiday season.

On December 19, the 6th through 8th-Grade Bands, under the direction of Mr. Bret Pendergast, performed their holiday concert at the high school auditorium. All of the groups had a wonderful performance to a full auditorium. Their next concert will be on February 22, 2016. Thanks to our administration for their support and help with the concert.

Follow Us On Social Media

The Marlinton Middle School

Public Relations Team keeps parents and community members aware of happenings through our social media accounts. You can follow us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram where we share pictures and activities happening at MMS. You can follow us on Facebook by searching for Marlinton Middle School. Our Instagram account is mms.official and our Twitter is mms_official (two underscores).

"Duke Tank"

Mrs. Bratten's Career/Leadership students presented their "Duke Tank" presentations to a panel of Entrepreneurship students from the University of Mount Union. The panel listened to the four-minute presentations and came up with a winner. The winning project was "Milkless Cereal". The students spent the nine weeks learning how to design their business using the Business Model Canvas. Students also learned leadership and communication skills in order to present their projects. Great job students!



Duke Tank

Lexington Elementary School

We care and we believe that all students can learn and be successful!



Student Council

Student Council:

Students running for Lexington Student Council made their posters and presented their speeches before their classmates voted to elect their representatives. There were two boys and two girls elected for both fourth and fifth grade homerooms. Lexington Student Council helps with important projects throughout the school year, including Frosty's Coat Check, Food Drive, Staff Appreciation Week, and Christmas at Marlinton.

Additionally, on Friday, December 2, members of Student Council went shopping for the Love the Children Ministries organization. They shopped at Target and Five Below. The items purchased were then set up at Marlboro Christian Church and parents of children in need in the community were able to shop for their children. They purchased the items for 30% of the total cost. The items purchased were items the kids chose and write on a Christmas list beforehand.



Love the Children Ministries

From the Desk of Mr. Rogers

Great things are happening at Lexington and we are looking forward to 2017 with anticipation for another wonderful year. We are working on building leaders within our school and promoting our new updat-

ed STREAM Lab. The Lexington Staff wishes you and your loved ones a prosperous, healthy, and HAPPY NEW YEAR! Thank you for your continuous support!

- David Rogers, Principal

Date Night With My Gal

Lexington held its Date Night With My Gal on November 21 at Pump It Up in Hartville. The boys of Lexington invited a female

guest (mom, aunt, grandma) to join them for an evening of jumping and a pizza dinner. This was a free event for our boys and their guests. We had a great turn out of 192 in attendance.



Date Night With My Gal



Date Night With My Gal



Duke Pals

Duke Pals

I get by with a little help from my friends! Duke Pals is in its third year of a peer monitoring program that links a fifth grade student (pal) with a younger student (peer) to provide additional peer support in the areas of academics, social or behavior. The Duke Pals were chosen by fifth grade

teachers and have received training to prepare them for this important role. Lexington's Duke Pals are Jamisen Carver, Carter Hill, Adelina Juavez, Drew Simmons, Kamden Tanner, Brennan Lovell, Carter Difloure, Micah McCormick, Olivia Lyon, and Bailey Hernandez Andrews. Mrs. Jodi Fellers, our C&A Counselor, will serve as their mentor.



Holiday Concert

Holiday Concert

Our holiday concert was filled with holiday songs performed by our second grade students and 5th grade band. Due to the weather and not being able to schedule an evening performance each child received a copy of the program that was held during the school day.

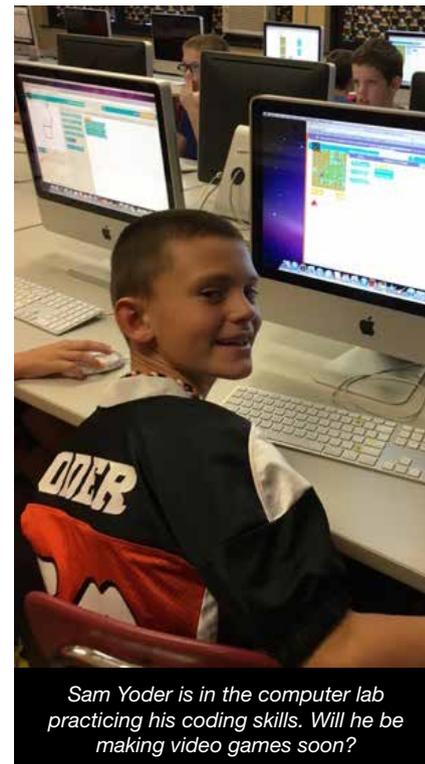
Lexington Leadership Academy

Once a month students at Lexington Elementary are a part of Lexington Leadership Academy. This is a time where our staff comes together and offers leadership opportunities for our students. The activities are designed for a semester so that students can learn and become



Lowes Build and Grow

leaders in a certain area. The goal of Lexington Leadership Academy is to build life skills for our school community. Some of the activities offered to our students include crocheting, art, newspaper writing, photography, cooking and much, much more!



Sam Yoder is in the computer lab practicing his coding skills. Will he be making video games soon?



Kindergarten and first grade students work with Mrs. Schick on Nature Art

Marlboro Elementary School

Thanksgiving Food Drive

We once again held our annual food drive to benefit the Marlboro Christian Church food pantry. Our student council led the charge in organizing, promoting and collecting the items from each classroom for the six-day drive. As a school we collected 2,417 items that will help support our local families. Thank you for your donations and support!

Christmas Performance

During this holiday season our music teacher, Mrs. Pazzo, conducted a spectacular holiday music performance for our Marlboro families. Our 1st, 3rd, & 5th-grade singers and 5th-grade band worked for many weeks learning and practicing for their big performance. They sounded and looked terrific while performing traditional and new hits, including some songs from the Trans Siberian Orchestra. Great job to the 1st, 3rd, & 5th-grade students and to Mrs. Pazzo for a wonderful holiday performance.

Expectation Assembly

To recognize our students for displaying good character traits throughout the first grading period of the school year, Mrs. Mort (school counselor), Mr. Groholy (principal) and our Student Council Members held a school

From the Desk of Mr. Groholy

The whole Marlboro family would like to wish you and yours a very happy and healthy New Year! We are all so proud of the achievements that our students have had and will continue to work towards throughout this school year. Each student has taken ownership of our Duke Pride Expectations and lives up to them each day by working hard, helping others and being positive role models. We encourage you to get involved with our school by volunteering, joining the PTO, or attending one of our events. Our students are achieving great things and we wouldn't want you to miss out!

- Mr. Groholy

expectation assembly. During this assembly, they talked about our Duke Pride School Expectations and the characteristics of a hard working student and friend. Students won awards for the following categories: Friend Helper, Teacher Helper, Outstanding Student & Perfect Attendance. The winners are listed below:

Friend Helper:

Kindergarten: Caden Steer & Mylan Thomas

1st-grade: Gavin Lacey & Max Gibbs



Friend Helpers

2nd-grade: Valeria Miller & Cole Jones

3rd-grade: Mackenzie Hall & Arielle Clapper

4th-grade: Maria Walder & Cora Wines

5th-grade: Dyllon Ellis & Leah Guess

Teacher Helper:

Kindergarten: Reagan Hollinger & Chloe Hunter

1st-grade: Kadence Young & Marisa Casto

2nd-grade: James Keller & Isaac Martin

3rd-grade: Bryson Jones & Martina Majoris

4th-grade: Allie Gill & Megan Kerr

5th-grade: Noah Jordan & Abigail Hartzler



Friend Helpers



Teacher Helpers

Outstanding Student:

Kindergarten: Brady Griggs & Tyler Walder

1st-grade: Alex Lepley & Mia Moss

2nd-grade: Danica Sarchione & Antonio Ganni

3rd-grade: Jason Galloway & Jill Hyland

4th-grade: Gabby Nagel & Sierra Walker

5th-grade: Dillan Hawthorne & Anderson Hyland

Students of the Month

The following students have

been Student of the Month for their grade-level in October, November or December. Congratulations on your hard work!

Kindergarten: Brady Griggs, Cayden Higgins & Spencer Evans

1st-grade: Guadalupe Escobedo, Gavin Lacey & Mia Moss

2nd-grade: Tyler Kline, Aubrey Reinsel & Jessica Hornyak

3rd-grade: Gabbi Pollock, Daylen Burkhart & Huck Gainer

4th-grade: Jackelyne DeLeon, Luke Stanley & Gavin Lauter

5th-grade: Spencer McCarty, Grace Nase & Audrey Miller



Outstanding Students



Outstanding Students

Student Council

A goal for Marlboro Elementary this school year is to help promote student leadership throughout the building. With the help of Mrs. Tucker (3rd-grade teacher) a student council was created, which involved one elected student from each 3rd, 4th and 5th-grade classroom. These students pledged to follow our Duke Pride Expectations, be positive role models for their peers and would promote, organize and execute different service projects for our school and community. Some events

include our Thanksgiving food drive, Christmas card giveaway, PTO Rigatoni Dinner and the Walk, Read and Mooove Fund-raiser. We are all very proud of their hard work and leadership.



Teacher Helpers

Washington Elementary School

From the Desk of Mr. Swisher

Happy New Year! It is always a pleasure to see all of the children, teachers and support staff when they return to school after a long break. We always enjoy a seamless transition back to school after the holidays, and the kids seem generally refreshed and focused.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our many volunteers that support our students and staff in many ways throughout the school year. Your contributions and support are what makes our school and community so special, and you are making a difference in the lives of our children. On behalf of the students and staff at Washington Elementary, I'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you for all you do.

- Mr. Swisher

Annual Thanksgiving Vesper Service

The Washington Ruritan community Thanksgiving Vespers Service was held on Sunday, Nov. 20, at Washington Elementary. More than 200 parents and community members listened to our first-grade students perform during the service. This program has been a tradition at our

school for many years and is a nice way to bring in the holiday season with family. Thank you first graders, parents, staff and community for attending!

2nd-Grade Christmas Program

On Dec. 1, the second grade music classes presented their holiday music program for family



2nd Grade Christmas Program

and friends. Students shared the music they learned and created in their music classroom.

5th-Grade Hand Bells

The fifth grade bell choirs performed for the holiday concert on Dec. 1, 2016. Eleven fifth-graders participated in the two bell choirs, which rehearse before and after school once each week.

Holiday Choir Concert

Washington Elementary School Choir performed at the Holiday Concert on Thursday, Dec. 1, 2016. The choir is made up of third, fourth and fifth-graders who rehearse every Wednesday morning at 7:45 a.m. Dr. James Perone, professor of music at the University of Mount Union, and Miss Paige Morris accom-



1st grade performs for the Annual Vesper service



5th Grade Hand Bells



Washington Elementary School Choir

panied the choir on the clarinet and the piano, respectively.

Annual Food Drive

The Washington PTO held its Annual Food Drive and students brought in over 2000 items. Items were donated to the Local Food Pantry and to families in the Marlinton local district. We feel fortunate that our families are so generous and willing to help others. Thank you to all who so generously donated. Pictured below are Leah Menegay, Stella Blake, Janelle Swisher, Collin Cernansky and Bo Bratten with some of the food donated.



D.A.R.E. Program here at Washington

The 5th-grade students have completed the D.A.R.E. program! D.A.R.E. stands for Drug and Alcohol Resistance Education. Deputy Bogunovich was our D.A.R.E. officer who came to the school once a week to work with 5th-graders to help them understand the dangers of

addictive substances. She also taught the students strategies for resisting peer pressure to try these substances. Students wrote an essay telling what they learned in D.A.R.E. and made a pledge to stay free of drugs and alcohol. Each student also received a D.A.R.E. t-shirt. We commend these students. Congratulations!

STEAM Club

STEAM Club is off to a great start with 145 students participating weekly in the club. The students look forward to STEAM Club every week and do not want to leave. The first and second graders are working on engineering challenges with Legos and recyclables to learn the design process. Some of their activities have been creating their name out of Legos, dream houses out of Legos, fastest car and build a Lego City as a whole group. They have also started on STEM Challenges with Straw Rockets and catapults out of popsicle sticks. The third, fourth and fifth graders come in every week with the freedom to create, build or program anything they want. The students can use the invention corner that contains

donated materials and recyclables to create and build their prototypes. They can also use Legos or K'Nex to create and build their creations.

The students have also started on creating their inventions on the 3D printer through 3D Design on the computer. The students also have the opportunity to work with one of 5 different kinds of robots to learn how to build and program them. We also have had the opportunity to explore circuitry through Snap Circuits and Little Bits. Some of the prototypes that have been worked on through the first couple weeks include a work bench table made out of wood, a stool, a working speaker system for a phone, 3D printed slingshot and a working bow and arrow out of cardboard tubes and rubber bands. We are only 6 weeks in and the students are creating and thinking outside of the box. Students are encouraged to let their imaginations run wild. We can't wait to see where they are by the end of the year.



Steam Club members

TO: ecr wss
Postal Patron

SAVE THE DATE



**DUKE 5k
MELEE**
& OBSTACLE CHALLENGE
FUNDRAISER

Hosted by the Marlington Local School District as
part of the Ohio Challenge Series by Subway

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2017

DUKE FUN RUN: 8:30 A.M.

10 & Under | Free

MELEE 5K: 9:00 A.M.

10 & Older | \$25 Prior to Race Day
\$30 Day of Race

5K OBSTACLE CHALLENGE MUD RUN: 9:00 A.M.

Freshman & Older | \$35 Prior to Race Day
\$40 Day of Race

For the cost of entry, participants will receive their race bib, t-shirt and a coupon for a Subway sandwich.
All Proceeds will benefit the Marlington Education Innovation Fund.

