



Caw Connection

Coldwater Exempted Village Schools

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February 2025

Dear Parents, Families, and the Coldwater Community,

As we progress into 2025, we are reminded of the resilience, spirit, and unity that define our Coldwater community. This year, however, brings critical challenges and decisions that will shape the future of our schools. I am writing to provide a transparent update on these issues and how they impact our district.



Fair School Funding Plan: A Promise in Question

Our financial planning has been guided by the phased implementation of the Fair School Funding Plan (FSFP), a long-standing promise by state legislators to fully fund public schools. Unfortunately, recent statements from state leaders, including Ohio Speaker of the House Matt Huffman, cast doubt on this commitment. His proposal to cut \$650 million from public schools undermines the very foundation of equitable education funding. While private schools have received over \$1 billion in voucher funding, public schools like ours are being asked to do more with less.

At the recent board meeting, we presented multiple scenarios to outline the potential impact:

- A fully funded FSFP.
- A FSFP without full funding.
- The implications of passing or not passing the proposed levy on these scenarios.

The presentation shared with the board is available here: [Board Presentation](#) . Additionally, I read a statement to the board emphasizing the critical nature of these decisions, which you can review here: [Statement to the Board](#) .

A follow-up news broadcast discusses Senator Huffman's claim that the FSFP is a "fantasy," emphasizing the \$650 million cut to public schools compared to the \$1 billion allocated to private school vouchers. [News Broadcast](#), or you can go to the following website: <https://tinyurl.com/y55a65s>.

Levy Decisions and Financial Sustainability

Last year, the community defeated two levies designed to stabilize our finances. These measures would have helped address budget deficits and maintain current programs and staffing levels. Despite these setbacks, we remain committed to fiscal transparency and are working hard to navigate this uncertain landscape.

The Board of Education recently voted to place a 0.5% traditional income tax levy on the May ballot, contingent on the FSFP being fully funded. If the state does not honor its commitment, we will need to reevaluate and may instead propose a combination levy in November to offset potential funding shortfalls. Our financial data in the board statement highlights the stakes:

- **Per-Pupil Revenue:** Coldwater ranks near the bottom among regional districts in funding.
- **Efficiency:** Despite these constraints, we maintain one of the highest student-to-administrator ratios in the region and direct a significant portion of our budget toward instruction.

Advocacy and Action

We are actively advocating for full FSFP funding, urging lawmakers to prioritize public education. On January 31st, Representative Susan Manchester visited our school to discuss these critical issues. This meeting was an important opportunity to highlight the importance of sustained investment in Coldwater schools and the broader public education system.

It is more important than ever that our legislators hear from constituents about the absolute need to fully fund the FSFP. Your voices and advocacy make a difference, and I encourage you to stay informed and engaged.

The Path Forward

Our community's strength lies in its collaboration and commitment to our students. As we navigate these challenges, we will continue to communicate transparently. Together, we can ensure every community member is equipped to make informed decisions.

Accessing Additional Resources

If you are reading this article in hard copy, please note that links embedded in the article can be accessed in the online version. The online version is available on our website under the NEWS section. Additionally, the online version has been shared on our social media channels for broader accessibility. Graphs and visuals included in this article are also available for viewing in the online version.

Thank you for your unwavering support. By working together, we can overcome these challenges and secure a bright future for Coldwater students.

Sincerely,

Douglas Mader

Superintendent

Coldwater Exempted Village Schools

FROM THE DESK OF THE TREASURER:

On January 14, 2025, the Board conducted their annual organizational meeting. The organizational meeting is required by the Ohio Revised Code to be held within the first fifteen days of January of each year, and shall organize to elect a president and vice president for a one-year term. Therefore, the board elected Jim Miller as President and Mike Hoying as Vice President. Additionally, the following regular board meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month, with the exception of April, June and July. All meetings will be held in the Cav Room, beginning at 6:00 p.m. for the 2025 year:



February 11	June 24	October 14
March 11	July 15	November 11
April 15	August 12	December 9
May 13	September 9	

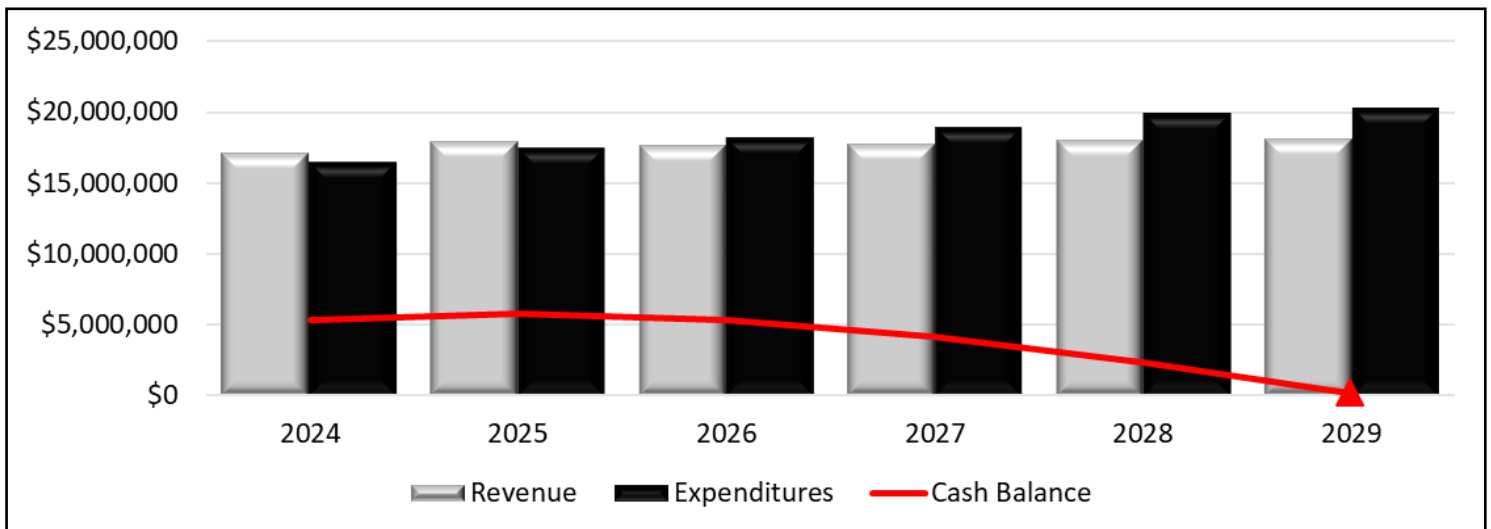
The Board would like to invite all parents, students and community members to attend the board meetings. If you have any questions regarding board meetings, please feel free to contact me, Jenn McCoy at 419-678-2611 Ext 2306 or mccoy.jenn@coldwatercavs.org.

Financial Update

We have received the tax year 2024 rates and amounts from the Mercer County Auditor, showing a valuation increase of less than one percent. A triennial update is scheduled for tax year 2026, with collections beginning in 2027. This update has been factored into the forecast.

Governor DeWine will soon create and implement the next biennial budget, set to begin on July 1. A key topic of discussion will be the Fair School Funding Plan, as the legislature previously committed to the third phase and full funding of the formula in this budget cycle. However, this commitment is now uncertain, as House Speaker Matt Huffman has stated there is no third phase to the formula.

If the funding plan remains as is without full funding, Coldwater Schools will begin deficit spending in FY26, which begins this July. This will result in our district being placed under Fiscal Caution by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce in the coming year and entering Fiscal Watch by FY28, with cash reserves depleted by the end of FY29 (see graph below). If the funding plan is fully funded, our forecast indicates deficit spending would begin in FY27, still indicating the need for additional revenues.



The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce has released the FY24 Cupp Report. The chart below compares our local property tax and income tax revenue with other local schools. For instance, we receive \$5,225.02 in property/income tax dollars per student by 1,400 students, totaling \$7,315,028, whereas Celina would receive \$13,713,672 for the same number of students. Our property/income tax revenue per student is the lowest in the region.

	Per Pupil Revenue Raised by One Mill Prop Tax	Valuation Per Pupil	Property tax value Per Pupil	Income Tax Per Pupil	Income/Property Revenue per Pupil
Celina	\$ 285.31	\$285,312.98	\$ 7,842.18	\$ 1,953.30	\$ 9,795.48
Minster	\$ 258.19	\$258,186.38	\$ 5,966.61	\$ 2,759.62	\$ 8,726.23
New Bremen	\$ 216.15	\$216,146.82	\$ 4,620.72	\$ 3,709.29	\$ 8,330.01
New Knoxville	\$ 229.60	\$229,599.24	\$ 4,757.00	\$ 3,161.05	\$ 7,918.05
St Marys	\$ 212.40	\$212,404.57	\$ 5,583.08	\$ 1,740.78	\$ 7,323.86
Parkway	\$ 267.75	\$267,745.59	\$ 5,448.62	\$ 1,763.67	\$ 7,212.29
Fort Recovery	\$ 208.32	\$208,323.21	\$ 4,194.65	\$ 3,013.56	\$ 7,208.21
Waynesfield Goshen	\$ 228.97	\$228,967.99	\$ 4,627.59	\$ 2,072.22	\$ 6,699.81
Versailles	\$ 214.80	\$214,803.21	\$ 4,341.76	\$ 2,104.89	\$ 6,446.65
Wapak	\$ 222.63	\$222,630.93	\$ 4,526.63	\$ 1,669.04	\$ 6,195.67
St Henry	\$ 228.16	\$228,158.15	\$ 5,651.26	\$ -	\$ 5,651.26
Marion Local	\$ 219.20	\$219,199.48	\$ 5,633.42	\$ -	\$ 5,633.42
Coldwater	\$ 184.55	\$184,550.29	\$ 4,292.48	\$ 932.54	\$ 5,225.02

Coldwater Schools has the lowest administrative expenditure per student and is among the lowest in total operating expenditure per student, reflecting our efforts to reduce costs wherever possible over the past several years. See the chart below comparing expenditures.

	Administrative Expenditure Per Pupil	Instructional Expenditure Per Pupil	Building Operation Expenditure Per Pupil	Pupil Support Expenditure Per Pupil	Staff Support Expenditure Per Pupil	Total Operating Expenditure Per Pupil
Waynesfield Goshen	\$2,341.96	\$11,413.08	\$3,919.66	\$615.65	\$1,121.55	\$19,411.90
Celina	\$1,989.97	\$9,275.28	\$2,738.46	\$1,215.01	\$597.26	\$15,815.99
New Knoxville	\$1,754.36	\$10,582.61	\$2,628.23	\$158.07	\$541.04	\$15,664.30
Parkway	\$1,834.59	\$9,753.16	\$3,392.59	\$293.76	\$1.27	\$15,275.37
Versailles	\$1,687.60	\$8,550.62	\$2,882.43	\$403.79	\$450.70	\$13,975.14
Wapak	\$1,483.57	\$7,948.67	\$2,789.30	\$934.03	\$385.28	\$13,540.86
St Marys	\$1,301.50	\$7,471.09	\$2,997.72	\$938.95	\$264.05	\$12,973.30
New Bremen	\$1,630.53	\$8,043.86	\$2,259.08	\$507.67	\$501.82	\$12,942.98
Fort Recovery	\$1,530.68	\$8,504.65	\$2,029.25	\$282.19	\$488.84	\$12,835.61
Coldwater	\$1,232.69	\$8,380.17	\$2,010.16	\$445.55	\$236.97	\$12,305.54
Minster	\$1,375.88	\$7,796.13	\$2,159.34	\$600.09	\$331.46	\$12,262.91
St Henry	\$1,300.46	\$7,736.19	\$2,301.44	\$386.64	\$173.28	\$11,898.00
Marion Local	\$1,347.82	\$7,236.24	\$1,813.94	\$371.52	\$417.70	\$11,187.22

Financial Statements

The Fiscal Year 2024 financial statements were prepared by Julian & Grube. If you would like to review them, please reach out to me. The FY24 state audit has also been completed and is available at <https://www.ohioauditor.gov/auditsearch/Search.aspx> . I'm pleased to share that I've received another clean audit.

Thank You,
Jenn McCoy

iSee Program

We are happy to announce that on March 7, 2025, Coldwater Schools will be part of the iSee Program. This program will provide free eye exams and glasses if needed for students in grades K-12 who meet certain qualifications. A volunteer eye doctor will be at Coldwater Schools to perform the exams and then return within 2-3 weeks following the exams to dispense any glasses prescribed.



Who Can Participate?

Students who are not currently under the care of a provider (not having had an eye exam in the previous 12-months) are eligible to participate in an iSee clinic if:

- The student was referred for a vision exam after a school eye screening.
- The student has recently been placed on an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
- A parent, guardian, or school staff thinks the student might have a vision problem.

We will give priority to students who also meet these conditions:

- Students from families with limited financial resources.
- Students who don't have insurance or have limited vision insurance.
- Students who are covered by Medicaid can also participate in the program.

The goal of this program is to help students get the eye care they need to do well in school and socially, no matter their financial situation.

How to Apply: If you think your child might qualify for the iSee Program, please contact the School Nurse to start the referral process. We encourage families and school staff to reach out if they think a student might have a vision issue. Early detection is important for a student's success.

Thank you for your attention to this important program. We are excited to help make sure your child has healthy vision!

Contact Information:

Jodi Weigel, School Nurse

419-678-2611

Weigel.jodi@coldwatercavs.org



Miracle Arrival: Quadruplet Daughters Surprise Parents with Early Debut

Kevin and Abby Esser were blessed with four beautiful daughters on August 28, 2024, when Abby reached 29 weeks and 3 days of pregnancy. Originally expected to arrive on November 12, 2024, the girls decided to make an early entrance into the world.

The birth day was a whirlwind. Confident they would be discharged, Abby worked until 10 am and casually proceeded to get ready. They arrived at Miami Valley Hospital around 1 pm, where the process moved quickly.

The girls arrived in quick succession:

- Adelaide (oldest): Born at 3:58 pm, described as opinionated, sweet, and vocal - a mini version of Abby.
- Charlotte: Born at 3:59 pm, quiet with big eyes, considered Kevin's mini-me according to family and friends.
- Mabel: Also born at 3:59 pm, a quiet, independent strawberry blonde who emerged holding hands with Charlotte!
- Eden (youngest): Born at 4:00 pm, the petite cuddler who loves her mom most.

The medical journey was remarkably smooth. Only Mabel required brief ventilation for an hour or two after birth, and the medical staff were impressed by the girls' growth and size. Within three weeks, they were moved to a level 1 NICU.

Their homecoming was staggered:

- Eden: November 4th, 2024
- Mabel: November 6th, 2024
- Adelaide & Charlotte came home Thanksgiving Day, November 28th, 2024

The NICU team became more than healthcare providers - they became lifelong friends. The parents are grateful for their four healthy daughters, who are now thriving. Despite initial challenges with breathing and ongoing reflux issues, the girls are developing beautifully.

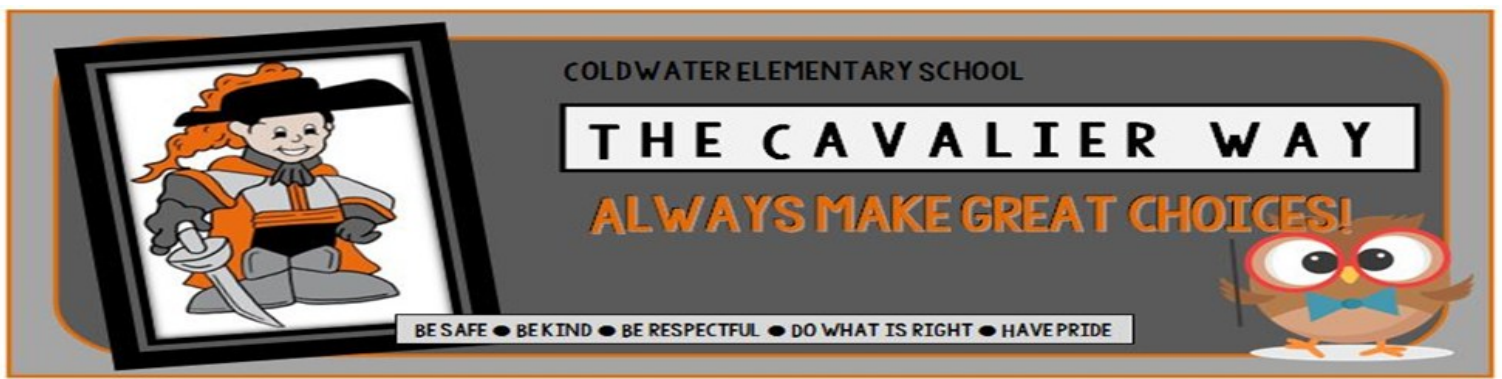
At three months old, the quadruplets are meeting developmental milestones. They can:

- Fixate on objects, particularly enjoying Christmas lights
- Provide animated facial expressions
- Imitate their parents
- Demonstrate impressive head and neck control

Their pediatrician is delighted with their progress. Three girls now weigh over 7 pounds, with Eden, the smallest, at 6 pounds 5 ounces.

The family extends heartfelt thanks to their community for overwhelming support through donations of food, clothes, diapers, and financial assistance. Despite the difficulties of pregnancy, the arrival of their four daughters made every challenging moment worthwhile for the Essers. Their journey illustrates the power of community and the miracle of life.





Elementary News:

Mike Etzler - Elementary Principal

It's hard to believe we are already halfway through the 2024-2025 school year! I hope everyone had an awesome and safe holiday break surrounded by family and friends, cherishing every moment together. The winter weather, for the most part, has allowed our students to settle back into a consistent routine as we begin the new year. I trust that all our students are ready to carry on doing things "The Cavalier Way" as we head into 2025. Our students will keep focusing on their effort, attitude and hard work as they know that effort counts, attitude matters and hard work wins! This means also continuing to appreciate, respect, love, serve, and care for one another within our school and district.



What a fantastic year we've had so far! Every day, our students are working hard to learn, grow, and display exceptional character. I couldn't be prouder of the way our students and staff embrace challenges and seize opportunities to make the best of every situation. Our teachers are putting tremendous effort and intention into ensuring each child receives a top-notch education, not only academically but also socially and emotionally. It's been inspiring to witness the incredible learning taking place in our classrooms and the ways our Cavalier Team of Teachers prioritize the needs of their students.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the amazing students we have here at Coldwater Elementary. Their enthusiasm and commitment to doing things "The Cavalier Way" is a reflection of the support and encouragement they receive from you—our parents, guardians, and community. Together, we hold our students to the highest standard, and this shared commitment makes Coldwater the special place it is.

As we look ahead to the rest of the year, I've enjoyed seeing our Little Cavaliers shine in so many different ways and can't wait to see what they will accomplish next. Our goal at Coldwater Elementary is to create a learning environment where every student feels valued and excited to come to school each day. We want to instill in them the belief that they can overcome challenges, even when things are tough or not their favorite. It's through these experiences that they learn resilience and develop the skills to be their very best.

Please remember that open communication is key to supporting our students' success. If you have concerns or ideas about academic or behavioral strategies, don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher. Together, as a team of educators and parents, we can provide the best possible environment for your child to thrive.

We look forward to a continued amazing school year, living out the values of "The Cavalier Way" and being BETTER TOGETHER! Thank you for your ongoing support and trust in Coldwater Elementary.

CHRISTMAS at COLDWATER ELEMENTARY

There's no better place to be than an elementary school during the days leading up to Christmas! The halls of Coldwater Elementary were filled with excitement, laughter, and a positive energy that was truly contagious this holiday season. Students and staff alike embraced the holiday cheer with three festive dress-up days that brought out creative and fun holiday looks. From themed outfits to cheerful accessories, the joy was everywhere! The excitement didn't stop there—students enjoyed a variety of engaging activities, including the much-loved Santa Shop, where they picked out special gifts for their loved ones. The season culminated in our annual Christmas Assembly, a highlight for everyone. A heartfelt thank-you goes out to the high school Steel Drum Band and Choir for their amazing performances, as well as our talented 2nd-grade students who added their own magic to the event. Your contributions made this assembly truly unforgettable! We also want to give a huge shout out to the incredible Coldwater Elementary Team for pouring their time, effort, and energy into creating lessons and activities that made this time of year extra special for our students. Your dedication is what brings the magic of the season to life for our school community. Below, we've shared some photos and highlights from this wonderful Christmas season at Coldwater Elementary. Take a look and relive the joy!



Coldwater Elementary Spreads Holiday Cheer Through Angel/Giving Tree Program

The true spirit of the season came alive at Coldwater Elementary as our team joined together to support six of our very own families through the Angel/Giving Tree program. Thanks to the generosity and kindness of our staff, we were able to provide the children of these families with five thoughtful gifts each, helping to make their holidays a little brighter and more special.

A heartfelt thank-you goes to our incredible school counselor, Stacey Froning, for her leadership in organizing and supporting this meaningful initiative. Her dedication, along with the contributions of our amazing Coldwater Elementary staff, made it possible to bring smiles and joy to these families during the holiday season.

This effort is a beautiful reminder of what makes our school community so special—coming together to care for one another and make a difference. Thank you to everyone who helped make this holiday season one to remember!

2nd Grade Christmas Musical/Senior Citizens Breakfast Spreads Holiday Magic

Our 2nd grade students delivered an outstanding Christmas Musical performance that truly captured the magic of the season! Their heartfelt songs and festive spirit reminded everyone of the joy and wonder that Christmas brings.

The students first performed for the community on December 3rd, followed by a special appearance at the Senior Citizens Breakfast on December 4th, where they brought smiles and holiday cheer to our cherished guests. They then took the stage one final time at the school Christmas Assembly on December 20th, spreading even more Christmas joy to their fellow students before the holiday break began.

A huge thank-you to Mrs. Petersen for her incredible dedication and hard work in preparing our students for this special holiday tradition. Her passion and guidance helped create a memorable experience for both the performers and their audiences.

We are so proud of our 2nd grade students for sharing the true spirit of Christmas with our community. Bravo on a job well done!



CWEL Santa Shop Brings Holiday Cheer and Real-Life Lessons



The Coldwater Academic Promoters, in collaboration with the Santa Shop Committee and a team of amazing parent volunteers, hosted the annual CWEL Santa Shop from Dec. 16th-19th—and it was a resounding success!

This much-anticipated event has become a favorite holiday tradition for our students. The Santa Shop is a pop-up store filled with a variety of items that students can purchase as Christmas gifts for their family, friends, and even pets. Parents and guardians send in money and work with their children to create a shopping list and budget, allowing students to experience the joy of giving while also practicing essential real-life skills like budgeting and money management.



budgeting and money management.

The excitement and pride on the students' faces as they carefully select gifts for their loved ones are priceless. It's an awesome opportunity for them to think of others, take responsibility, and experience the true spirit of the season.



A huge thank-you goes to the Santa Shop Committee, whose dedication and hard work make this event possible. They oversee everything—from shopping and planning to organizing, setting up, and tearing down. Their efforts ensure that the Santa Shop runs smoothly and brings joy to everyone involved.



We also want to express our heartfelt gratitude to all the parent volunteers who helped make the Santa Shop a success. Your time and support mean so much to our school community.

Coldwater Elementary is incredibly thankful for all the effort that goes into this special event, which creates lasting memories and valuable lessons for our students year after year.

K-Kids: Building Leaders and Making a Difference

At Coldwater Elementary, our 4th grade K-Kids program is helping students become leaders and make a meaningful difference in their community! Sponsored by Kiwanis International, K-Kids provides opportunities for students to develop leadership skills, build strong character, and engage in impactful community service projects.

The program teaches the importance of helping others, fostering a sense of responsibility, and showing students how their actions can create a positive impact on their school and community. Through team collaboration and service projects, K-Kids participants learn the value of making a difference and grow into caring, engaged citizens.

This year, our 4th Grade K-Kids have been incredibly active, with approximately 60 students participating as proud members. A heartfelt thank-you goes to Joan Gilliland, Christine Hannewald and Stacey Froning for their dedication and hard work in organizing meaningful opportunities for our K-Kids to shine. Their leadership has been vital to the program's success and to creating an environment where students can thrive.

We are so proud of our K-Kids for their hard work and enthusiasm as they make our school and community a better place. Way to go, K-Kids! The following articles are some of the activities that the K-Kids have been leading and doing which includes Operation Christmas Child, outdoor classroom sit-upon making, community Christmas caroling, and a community food drive.

Operation Christmas Child

Our K-Kids recently embraced the true spirit of giving by helping fill shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, a program dedicated to spreading joy and hope to children in need around the world. These shoeboxes, packed with toys, school supplies, hygiene items, and other small gifts, are distributed to children in over 100 countries. Thanks to the hard work and generosity of our K-Kids, an incredible 700 shoeboxes were filled, bringing smiles to countless children around the globe. This heart-warming project not only helps brighten the holidays for others but also teaches our students the importance of compassion and serving their community in meaningful ways. We are so proud of our K-Kids for making a positive impact and sharing the magic of the season with those who need it most.



Outdoor Classroom "Sit-Upon" Making

Our amazing K-Kids have been hard at work making our outdoor classroom even more enjoyable! Over the course of a couple of evenings, they created "sit-upons" for students to use while accessing the outdoor learning space. A sit-upon is a lightweight, portable cushion designed to provide a clean, dry, and comfortable surface to sit on—perfect for outdoor activities, especially when the ground is wet, cold, or uneven. These thoughtful creations will ensure that students can comfortably engage in learning and exploration in the outdoor classroom, no matter the weather! A big thank-you goes to Christine

Hannewald, Ben Hannewald, and Jay Liette for their efforts in cleaning up the outdoor classroom space and preparing it for student use. Your hard work has made this area a welcoming and inspiring place for our students to learn and grow.



Community Christmas Caroling

Our 4th grade K-Kids, accompanied by wonderful adult chaperones, filled the Coldwater community with the sounds of the season during their recent caroling adventure! Divided into two groups, the carolers spread Christmas cheer by visiting homes throughout the community and making a special stop at Briarwood. Their festive songs brought smiles and holiday joy to everyone they met, reminding us all of the magic of the season. To wrap up the evening, the carolers enjoyed delicious cookies and hot chocolate—a perfect way to celebrate their hard work and spread even more cheer! A big thank-you to our amazing K-Kids and the fantastic chaperones who made this evening so memorable. Your kindness, spirit, and joy truly made a difference in our community.



Community Food Drive

The K-Kids organized a heartwarming food drive at Coldwater Elementary, challenging the entire school to contribute to the Coldwater Food Bank. With their thoughtful leadership, students and families came together to collect essential items such as mac & cheese, canned fruit, canned chili, boxed cereal, toilet paper, and more. Each day, K-Kids members took on the responsibility of counting, boxing, and loading the donations—ensuring everything was ready for delivery to the food bank. Thanks to the generosity of our school community, we are thrilled to announce that over 800 items were collected, making a real difference for those in need. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the students and families who donated food for this wonderful cause. Your kindness and generosity are deeply appreciated, and we are so proud of our K-Kids for leading this impactful project. Together, we're spreading hope and making our community stronger!



Math, Science, & Tech Day 2025: A Day of Hands-On Learning and Fun

On Thursday, January 9th, fourteen of our gifted 4th-grade students attended the exciting Math, Science, & Tech Day at the WSU Lake Campus. This enriching event provided a fantastic opportunity for our students to dive into STEM activities and learn alongside students from other schools in the county. Students who attended were: Hayden Miller, Knox Dobmeyer, Lily Dues, Jack Galyardt, Ellis Gansert, Emily Geier, Sophie Guggenbiller, Zoe Guggenbiller, Gavin Heitkamp, Helen Hileman, Lincoln Homan, Maddox Kahlig, Mackenzie Muhlenkamp and Baylen Scott.

Throughout the day, students took part in a series of hands-on sessions designed to ignite their curiosity and challenge their thinking. They had the chance to participate in five of the following seven activities:

- Drones
- Roller Coasters
- Makey-Makey
- Squishy Circuits
- Turing Tumble
- Ozobots
- Legos

Elementary Educational Aide, Mrs. Christine Hannewald, joined the group and helped lead the students through the fun and engaging Roller Coaster activity. Thank you, Christine, for volunteering your time and making this special day possible for our students!

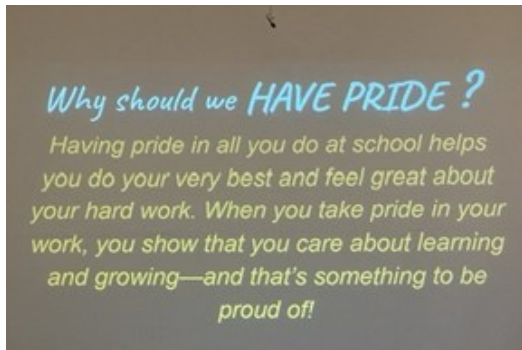
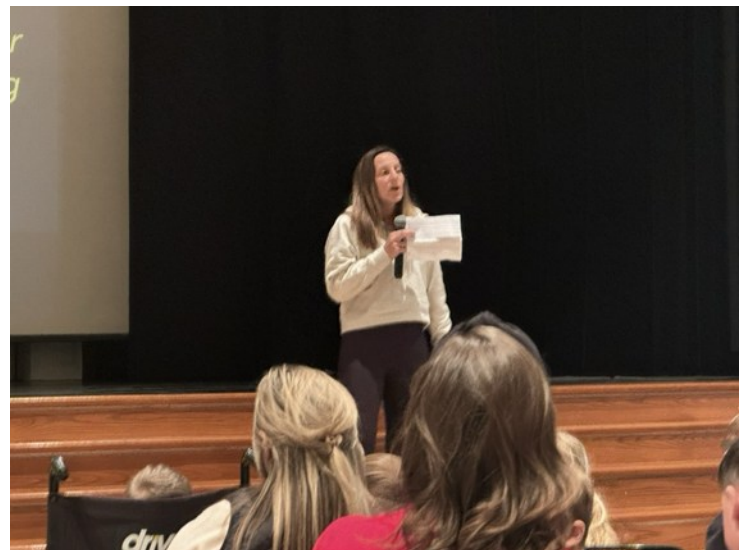
Overall, the students had an amazing experience—they learned so much and had a blast along the way. Below are some photos capturing the excitement and creativity from the day.



2nd Quarter Cavalier Way Assembly: Celebrating Pride, Effort, and Community

On Friday, January 17th, our Coldwater Elementary students and staff gathered for the 2nd Quarter Cavalier Way Assembly, a celebration of our school community and the values that make us proud to be Cavaliers. This assembly provided a wonderful opportunity for everyone to reflect on the importance of "The Cavalier Way" expectations and what it truly means to be a CAVALIER!

The assembly kicked off with a sense of school pride as students sang our school song "You-nique," the Coldwater Fight Song, and joined in on Cavalier Way chants. It was a powerful reminder of our shared values and pride in our school.



Students also revisited the Cavalier Way expectations,

reinforcing the importance of respect, responsibility, and integrity. Positive rewards were given out, including the Cavalier Way Awards.

The highlight of the assembly was our guest speaker, Mrs. Kelly Hoying, who inspired students with her message about the importance of giving your best effort, maintaining a positive attitude, and always working hard. Her words were a great motivation as we continue to push forward into the second half of

the school year.

Overall, the assembly was a huge success—an exciting and uplifting way to celebrate our students and keep the momentum going as we move into the rest of the year! Go Cavaliers!

Cavalier Way Award Winners - 2nd Quarter

At the end of each quarter, Coldwater Elementary teachers honor two outstanding students with "The Cavalier Way" Award, a recognition for students who consistently demonstrate and model the core values of "The Cavalier Way." These students embody the principles of respect, responsibility, and integrity each day and serve as wonderful role models for their peers.

We are excited to announce the winners for the second quarter! These students were celebrated at the 2nd Quarter Cavalier Way Assembly, where they received a Cavalier Way backpack tag, a free Kona Ice certificate, a Cavalier Way certificate, and had their photo proudly displayed on our school's Facebook page.

Congratulations to all of the winners for being exceptional role models and inspiring others to follow in their footsteps! Keep up the great work!



Kindergarten: Elliot Brackman, Ezra Fader, Aubrie Platfoot, Khloe Miller, Aspen Meadows, Kolton Hoyng, Justin Diller, Brinley Reinhart, Huck Pease, Kendall Knapke, Marissa Muhlenkamp, Beckham Baucher, Emi Knap-schaefer, Warren Link, McKenna Felver



1st Grade: Andre Buehler, Shannon Eyink, Merritt Bihn, Luke Homan, Emery Pohl, Rocco Sudhoff, Delilah Kunk, Levi Simper, Natalie Delzeith, Jett Tobe, Brooklyn Dues, Beckett Gross, Quinn Fowler, Kelby Muhlenkamp



2nd Grade: Winslow Lefeld, Louis Lennartz, Iris Fritz, Mack Muhlenkamp, Isaac Wolf, Sydney Selzer, Eloise Sudhoff, Reya Schmackers, Maggie Muhlenkamp, Luke Fennig, Kacie Matauto, Cole Rutschilling, Karner Silk



3rd Grade: Clara Grieshop, Briston Heitkamp, Bennett Dobmeyer, Kya Menchhofer, Arlow Homan, Cooper Schoenherr, Addi Zerkel, Hayden Dippold, Janessa Schwieterman, Ryker Schwieterman, Mack Bruns, Emma Selhorst, Paisley Dunaway, Brayden Stachler, Brigham Braun



4th Grade: Elanor Woeste, Sawyer Sudhoff, Emmett Bruggeman, Abby Wenning, Lana Biersack, Jackson Vajra, Olivia Schmackers, Georgia Sudhoff, Eva Bruns, Henry Uhlenhake, Tucker Schlarman, Brielle Kessen, Mason Reichhart, Peyton Delzeith

2nd Quarter Kona Ice Day

On January 23rd, our 2nd-4th grade students were treated to delicious Kona Ice as part of our PBIS Cavalier Way program, and it was a sweet celebration of all the hard work and positive behavior our students have shown! Students who won the Cavalier Way Award received a free Kona Ice coupon as a special reward, and all other students had the opportunity to purchase a Kona Ice if they wished. The students had a fantastic time enjoying their treats and spending time with their teachers and friends! It was a fun and refreshing way to celebrate their efforts and positive behavior.

Our K-1st grade students will get their chance to enjoy Kona Ice on February 7th. A big thank-you to Kona Ice for donating 20% of the sales back to Coldwater Elementary to support our PBIS efforts



Cav Coin Store: Rewarding Students the Cavalier Way!

At the end of each quarter, our students eagerly look forward to one of the highlights of the school year—the chance to shop at the Cav Coin Store! This unique reward system allows students to exchange their hard-earned Cav Coins for exciting, kid-friendly items, making it both fun and educational.

Throughout the quarter, students earn Cav Coins by showing great effort and demonstrating "The Cavalier Way." Whether it's through kindness, hard work, or positive choices, their achievements are celebrated in a meaningful way. The store offers a variety of items priced at 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 coins. Students love having the option to spend their coins right away or save up for a bigger purchase next quarter. This encourages them to practice budgeting, goal-setting, and decision-making—important life skills wrapped in an enjoyable experience.

The Cav Coin Store is a hit with students, thanks to the dedication of our amazing staff. A special shoutout goes to 1st-grade teacher, Mrs. Samantha Klenke, and technology teacher, Mrs. Lexi Hemmelgarn, for their incredible work behind the scenes. From ordering and organizing merchandise to setting up the store each quarter, their efforts ensure the Cav Coin Store is a



special and memorable experience for every student. With so many awesome items to choose from and the excitement of saving and shopping, the Cav Coin Store is a wonderful way to motivate and reward our students for their hard work and positive behavior. Thank you to everyone who makes it possible!





School Safety/Winter Safety

Here is another friendly reminder of some safety tips to reinforce with your child at home to help them stay safe when walking, riding a bike, or getting dropped off/ picked up at school.

Walking/Biking

- Walk/Ride with a friend when possible.
- Ask your parents to help you pick a safe route to school; one that avoids dangers.
- Stick to the route you picked with your parents. Don't let friends talk you into shortcuts that are more dangerous.
- When you are near the street, don't push, shove, or chase each other.
- Always use the crosswalk.
- Pay attention to cars and always be looking out for vehicles. Don't expect them to notice or stop for you as you always need to make sure there are no cars coming when crossing a street or intersection.

Dropped Off/Picked Up

- Enter through the assigned door before 8:00 a.m. After 8:00 a.m. enter at the most convenient door from Circle Drive.
- Parents when dropping your child off at the beginning of the day, please use the Circle Drive drop off line, or park in the visitors lot and walk your child across the crosswalk.
- DO NOT use the staff parking lot as a drop off/pick up area for your child. Please park in the visitors parking lot to drop off/pick up your child at the beginning and end of the day if you do not wish to use the Circle Drive drop off line.
- While waiting to get picked up at the end of the day, please listen for your car number or name and slowly walk to exit out of the building to Circle Drive.

- Stay beside Mr. Etzler until he or a staff member tells you what cone to stand by. Then WALK to your car after it has stopped.
 - Always enter/exit the vehicle on the curbside.
 - **Parents are asked not to use their cell phones as their children are in the drop off zone for safety purposes.**
 - **Please be very careful pulling out of the pick up line. SLOW DOWN...everyone's safety is at risk!**
- ◆ As a reminder, please talk with your children about winter safety when traveling to and from school and to wear proper clothing for those cold days. Please note the guidelines we will follow for inclement weather for recess.
- ⇒ 20 degrees or lower: Students stay inside
- ⇒ 21-32 degrees: Students can be inside, outside, or combined depending on wind chill and precipitation
- ⇒ 33 degrees or higher: Students outside unless precipitation
- ◆ PLEASE REMEMBER TO DRIVE SLOWLY THROUGH THE SCHOOL ZONE, DROP OFF/PICK UP ZONE AND THROUGH THE ELEMENTARY PARKING LOT. PAY ATTENTION TO PEDESTRIANS AND CARS PULLING OUT OF SPACES. You as a driver have a big responsibility in keeping our students safe. Thank you!

Kindergarten Screening and Registration

There will be an informational parent meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the elementary/JH gym (The Pit) for all parents who will be having a child attend Kindergarten during the 2025-26 school year. The child must be 5 years of age by August 1, 2025 to be eligible for kindergarten. This is an informative meeting about the screening and also an overview of what is covered throughout Kindergarten. Parent expectations to help their child prepare for entering kindergarten successfully will also be addressed. Also, at this time parents/guardians will be able to schedule an appointment for Kindergarten screening. If parents are unable to attend the meeting, please call the Elementary Office (419-678-2613) to schedule an appointment.

Coldwater's Kindergarten Screening will be held on Thursday, March 20 and Friday, March 21 in the elementary library center and kindergarten classrooms. At the time of the screening, parents will **NEED** to bring a birth certificate, immunization records, and custody papers (if applicable). We look forward to this time we get to spend with you and your child.

Mercer County Educational Service Center Early Identification Child Find

If you have concerns for your 3, 4, or 5 year old child about their speech or any potential developmental delay, the Mercer County ESC is here to help! The Child Find will be held at the Mercer County Educational Service Center on these dates: February 21 and March 21, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. This screening is not a requirement in order to enroll in preschool but can be used to help identify any potential learning needs. The free screening will cover:

- Articulation/Language
- Fine Motor/Gross Motor
- Hearing/Vision
- General Knowledge/Pre-Academics

**Please contact the Mercer County Educational Service Center at 419-586-6628 Ext. 221 to make an appointment.

Excellent Attendance

Being in school every day means your child won't miss out on many valuable learning opportunities. Try to schedule appointments and family trips outside of school hours if possible. If your child asks to stay home "just because", remind him of what he'll miss, such as reading group, math, science or gym class etc. Explain that school is a privilege, priority, and is very important.

It is vital to encourage your children to regularly attend school, as it will lead to better performance not only in school but throughout their lives. Encouraging consistent attendance helps your child get better grades, develop healthy life habits, and create positive behaviors. Students who frequently attend school feel more connected to their community and develop strong social skills and friendships, which are important life skills.

Coldwater Elementary thanks you for all of your support and appreciates you communicating with your child about the value of school/education.

The power of “YET”...Help your Cavalier have a GROWTH MINDSET

“5 Easy Ways to Encourage a Growth Mindset in Your Child”

from: EDUCATION, PARENTING on 04/10/15

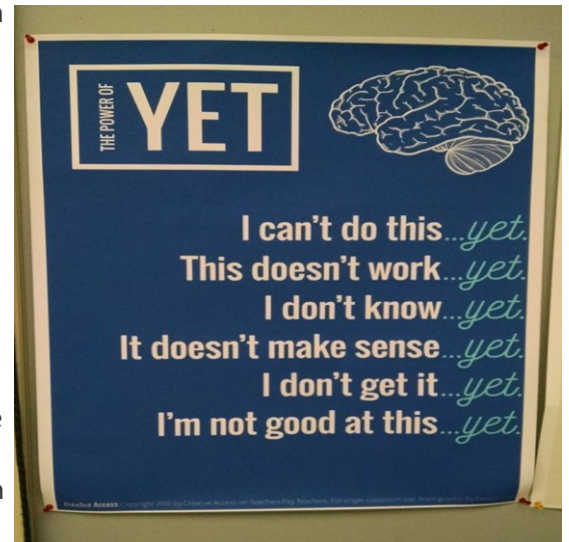
1. Lead by Example: Many of us have a fixed mindset about something in our life, and it is important for us as parents to challenge ourselves as much as we seek to challenge our kids. If they see us tackle our own problems as a challenge to be solved, they'll learn to do the same. Conversely if they see us lash out and blame others for our own failures, they will learn to think that they are not in control of their destiny and that life is nothing more than the roll of the dice.

2. Call off the rescue mission!: As parents, all we want to do is protect our children from life's hurts and disappointments. Unfortunately, when we constantly bail them out of difficult situations caused by their own poor choices, they never gain the opportunity to develop their own coping strategies to manage setbacks.

3. Failure is a good thing! : Without a sense of failure, we would never be motivated to learn anything new. If everything came easy to us, life would be incredibly boring. We can all remember a time in our life where we worked really hard on something and it paid off. Few of us can recall the time we got an A on an assignment that came easy to us. This is because the reward is actually in the hard work (and the struggle). Children need to learn that it's okay to make a mistake. In fact, it's a necessary part of the learning process.

4. Change your vocabulary: Henry Ford once said, “Whether you think you can or you think you can't, either way you're right!” Instead of “I can't...” “I'm bored...” “I give up...” it's important to teach children to approach difficult tasks with “I can...” “What am I missing?” “What strategies have I learned before that could help me now?” The words we choose are a powerful indicator of the type of mindset we carry with us through life.

5. The Power of Yet: Instead of dwelling on their shortcomings, children need to learn to identify the next steps to greater achievement. It's not that they don't understand something...it's that they don't understand something yet! Next time your child comes home with a bad grade, instead of focusing on all the things that went wrong, focus your energy on the next steps they can take to improve their skills. Do they need to study more? Develop strategies to cope with test anxiety? Put in more effort? Whatever it is, teach them to learn from their mistakes and move on. The learning that comes as a result of the grade is much more valuable than the grade itself.



Kindergarten Readiness: What does it look like? - “Is My Child Ready for Kindergarten?”

To prepare for kindergarten, our Little Cavaliers need to be supported and nurtured in all areas of development. It is also important that your Little Cav is physically, socially and emotionally ready to participate in school. Our team of teachers are very well trained and prepared to help your child be their best academically. If your child is kindergarten ready, our team will make sure your child gets the academic instruction needed for them to be their best self. The following list can serve as a guide as you and your child prepare for the exciting transition to kindergarten at Coldwater Elementary!

Can your child...

- **Separate from primary caregiver without anxiety?**
- **Use self-control?**
 - ⇒ Keeping hands to self
 - ⇒ Sharing and taking turns
 - ⇒ Cooperating and playing with other children
 - ⇒ Using classroom supplies appropriately

- **Cooperate with adults and authority figures?**
 - ⇒ Following directions
 - ⇒ Communicating needs effectively
- **Demonstrate self-help skills?**
 - ⇒ Using the restroom independently
 - ⇒ Putting on and zipping your own coat.
 - ⇒ Tying shoes.
- **Use classroom tools and toys efficiently?**
 - ⇒ Cutting with scissors
 - ⇒ Holding and using a pencil, crayon or marker
 - ⇒ Building with blocks or Legos
- **Express self-awareness in a variety of ways?**
 - ⇒ Knowing first and last name.
 - ⇒ Writing first name.
 - ⇒ Naming the letters in the first name.
 - ⇒ Knowing the name of the primary caregiver(s).



Please remember, young children develop and change constantly. Help your Little Cav make successful transitions from home to school. If he or she cannot do something this week, you may see them do it a couple of weeks later. Providing opportunities to practice these skills through daily routine and experiences will help foster your child's independence and love of learning.

Early Literacy Tips for Preschoolers

At Home

- **TALKING** - As you are preparing a meal, invite your child to help. Talk about what you are doing, how you are doing it or the food you are preparing (name, color, texture, taste, or where it comes from).
- **SINGING** - Singing is a great way to learn new vocabulary and help children understand sentence structure by slowing language down. Try to sing songs about everyday routines such as getting dressed, washing hands, or making breakfast.
- **READING** - Encourage your child to choose books he/she is interested in, even if you feel that the story is too long for their attention span or bedtime. Try going on a "picture walk" through the story where you discuss what you see going on in the illustrations; you can even make up your own story about what is happening in the pictures you see.
- **WRITING** - When coloring or scribbling, encourage your child to write as much as he/she can about what they are drawing. This will help him understand that written words stand for spoken language.
- **PLAYING** - Dress-up is a fun and inexpensive way to introduce your child to storytelling. Provide them with old clothes and other household props to help them act out favorite stories - or make up their own! Encourage them to think about how a story progresses through the beginning, middle, and end.

On the Go

- ⇒ **TALKING** - Engage your child in conversation while in the car. Talk about where you are headed, what you did last time you were there if it's a familiar place, or what new and exciting things you will do if it's somewhere your child has never been.
- ⇒ **SINGING** - Keep a CD or a playlist of your child's favorite songs in the car. Sing along with them (or sing made-up songs!) to help your child hear syllables, word sounds and new vocabulary.
- ⇒ **READING** - Words are all around us! Point out letters or simple words that your child may recognize, such as ones that start with the same letter as his name or easy rhyming words.
- ⇒ **WRITING** - While waiting in line or at the doctor's office, do a simple finger play or rhyme that gets their hands

moving, like “Itsy, Bitsy Spider” or “Open Them, Shut Them”. Moving and stretching their fingers will help them build the fine motor skills they’ll need to write and draw.

⇒ PLAYING - Play a game of “I Spy” while in the car. Take this opportunity to work on building your child's vocabulary by picking things they may be unfamiliar with or by using very descriptive language to help them guess the item you see.

5 Parent Tips for “Little Cav” READING Success

1. Read Regularly

Try to read to your child every day. You might aim for 10-15 minutes of bedtime reading for a peaceful end to the day. Bring along a book, and read to your child during a sibling’s sports practice. Or curl up together with a book when you get home from work.

2. Take Turns Choosing Books

Your child may want to hear old favorites again and again. Use your turn for new titles and variety (nonfiction, poetry).

3. Let Them Participate

Ask your child to turn the pages while you read. Also, they can finish sentences that rhyme or fill in the words they know. Go slowly so they have time to understand the story and look at the illustrations. They’ll enjoy read-aloud time more if they play an active role.

4. Be Playful

You can use different voices for different characters (a high, squeaky voice for a mouse or a deep, booming voice for a horse). Or substitute your youngster’s name for the main character’s name, and use family members’ names for other characters. Note: You don’t have to be an expert reader - your child will love it when you read aloud because it’s *you*.

5. Boost Their Vocabulary

A large vocabulary can turn your child into a better reader and writer. Try these everyday ways to help them learn new words:

Keep your ears open: When you and your youngster go places, point out words that people use. Maybe a waiter describes an *entree* or the dentist talks about *molars*. Encourage your child to figure out what they mean by the way they’re used.

Go beyond nouns: Help your youngster add verbs and adjectives to their vocabulary. Sports and games offer opportunities to use action words. Let your child hear you comment on the softball that *soars* or the runner who *sprints*. When they write or send thank you notes or greeting cards, suggest descriptive words (a *polka-dot* shirt, a *fantastic* birthday).



*****You're invited to the Coldwater PTO Carnival*****

When: Sunday, March 16, 2025, from 1:00–5:00 p.m.

Where: Coldwater High School Palace and Commons area

Fun activities: hoop shoot, cake stand, face painting, football toss, golf, grocery stand, plunko, treasure chest, youth bowling, jumpy houses, prizes and much more!!! Tours of the Life Squad Ambulance available, weather permitting. Carnival games will require tickets, which can be purchased on the day of the carnival for \$0.25/ticket.



Food: Romer's Catering BBQ chicken dinners* (pre-sale only), K-burgers, Kona Ice and a food stand will be open during the event.



Volunteers: We are asking for volunteers to donate baked goods for the cake stand and drop them off from 10am - Noon in the commons area on March 16, 2025.



Raffle: PTO raffle will be held for students grades K-4. Participating in the drawing will give students the opportunity to win many exciting new prizes! Winners will be announced the week before the carnival and prizes sent home at that time.

*Romer's Catering BBQ chicken dinners are presale ONLY tickets. Tickets can be purchased starting early February at Chief Supermarket in Coldwater, Rooster Joe's in Coldwater or from Elementary Students for \$10/dinner. Tickets may also be purchased by calling/texting Carnival Chairpersons, [Vanessa Cooper \(317\) 450-9698](tel:3174509698) or [Amber Young \(419\) 305-2300](tel:4193052300) before March 1st, 2025. Dinners will be ready for pick up from 3:00-4:30 p.m. on March 16, 2025, at the high school commons cafeteria.

Note: Raffle information and chicken dinner ticket forms will be sent home with students soon.

We hope you and your family come out for a fun-filled day and help support

Little Cav Kinders!



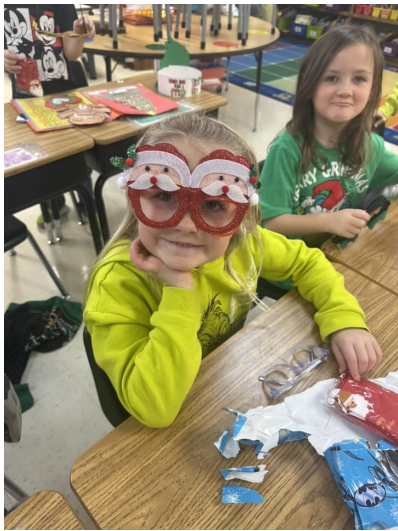
It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!
Gingerbread fun and Polar Express with tickets, stories and hot coco! Each class also makes their very own Gingerbread cookie as we read many different versions of the story!



Our 8th Grade Buddies visit to help us prepare for Christmas and Santa's arrival!



All Kindergarten students enjoy a Thankful Feast all the way down the hallway!



Upcoming Events

- 100th Day
- Valentines Day
- Kindergarten Screening
- *Call the office to register!



Left: Train conductors Mr. Mader and Police Officer Kevin Wynk punching each students' ticket as they board the Polar Express!

Little Cav Kinders!



Thank you, ITR, for your wood/board donation!!!



Above: Rhett L., Kaitlyn S. and Hayln S. from Mrs. Osterfelds class working hard to create their snowman!

We used the wood to cut into pieces for just our size, painted it white with the help of the High School FFA students...



...then, with a sock hat, ribbon, carrot nose, along with our fingerprints our snowmen were complete and ready for Christmas!!

3RD GRADE CAVS

What's happening in 3rd Grade

Students who demonstrated Cavalier Way behavior during the 2nd nine weeks were rewarded with a visit to Pla Mor Lanes at the end of the quarter! Students were able to bowl a game with classmates. We are so proud of our outstanding 3rd graders! Thank you for hosting us, Pla Mor Lanes!



We had SO much FUN bowling together!



Pictured Above

Top Left: Mrs. Garman's Class

Top Right: Mrs. Pohlman's Class

Bottom Left: Mrs. Wenning's Class

Bottom Right: Mrs. Rowen's Class



Kona Ice

To wrap up the 2nd Quarter, students enjoyed a visit from Kona Ice. Those who earned the Cavalier Way Award earned a free Kona Ice for their excellent Cavalier Behavior! Pictured above is Mrs. Geier's Class.



Middle School News

Mr. Dan Pohlman, Principal

CAV P.R.I.D.E.

Personal Responsibility In Developing Excellence!



I hope this message finds you well and that your year is off to a wonderful start. It's hard to believe we're already halfway through the 2024–2025 school year! The second semester began on January 21st, and by now, students are fully immersed in their third nine weeks of learning. As we embark on this next chapter, our focus naturally shifts toward preparing for state testing. While these assessments are significant, we're careful not to lose sight of our greater mission: nurturing well-rounded, character-driven students who will grow into outstanding citizens of our community, state, and nation. With the incredible families, students, and staff that make up the Coldwater School community, I'm confident we'll excel in both academics and character development.

At Coldwater Middle School, our daily mission is to cultivate excellence in one another through everything we do and everyone we meet. Of course, some days are more challenging than others. Maybe the weather isn't cooperating, you didn't get enough sleep, you're fighting off a cold, or you're navigating a tough season in life. We've all been there—feeling short on patience and in need of some space. But during those times, there's always someone who helps us keep moving forward with a bit of advice or encouragement. For a child, that person is often a parent.

I feel fortunate to have many of those supportive people in my life. On any given day, one of them might offer just the right encouragement to guide me. One person who stands out is my dad. Growing up, my dad often communicated through handwritten notes. These notes became invaluable during my adolescent and young adult years. They weren't written because we had a strained relationship—far from it. Instead, I think he found it easier to express certain things on paper, especially during those awkward teenage years when face-to-face conversations could feel uncomfortable.

Those notes contained advice, reflections, and wisdom that shaped me profoundly. Though I wish I had kept every single one, I find myself drawing from their lessons as I raise my own children, hoping to leave a similar impact.

Even now, my dad continues to share his wisdom, though the format has evolved with technology. These days, his notes often come as texts. One in particular that stands out in my mind was sent to me via text with a link entitled, *"A Simple Formula for Living."* He wrote, *"Still being a dad with my advice. Share with my grandkids."* and it goes like this. *"Live beneath your means. Return everything you borrow. Stop blaming other people. Admit it when you make a mistake. Give clothes not worn to charity. Do something nice and try not to get caught. Listen more; talk less. Everyday, take a 30 minute walk. Strive for excellence, not perfection. Be on time. Don't make excuses. Don't argue. Get organized. Be kind to unkind people. Let someone cut ahead of you in line. Take time to be alone. Cultivate good manners. Be humble. Realize and accept that life isn't fair. Know when to keep your mouth shut. Go an entire day without criticizing anyone. Learn from the past. Plan for the future. Live in the present. Don't sweat the small stuff. It's all small stuff."*

These simple truths resonate no matter your age. They remind us of the lasting influence we can have on those around us. Adolescence and young adulthood are among the most formative—and often most challenging—times in a child's life. While they might not always seem receptive to what we say, a written note can speak volumes. Consider leaving a thoughtful message on your child's nightstand. It will be read, heard, and remembered, planting a seed of excellence that will grow over time. Together, let's continue to lead by example and build a culture of excellence, one person at a time. CAV P.R.I.D.E.

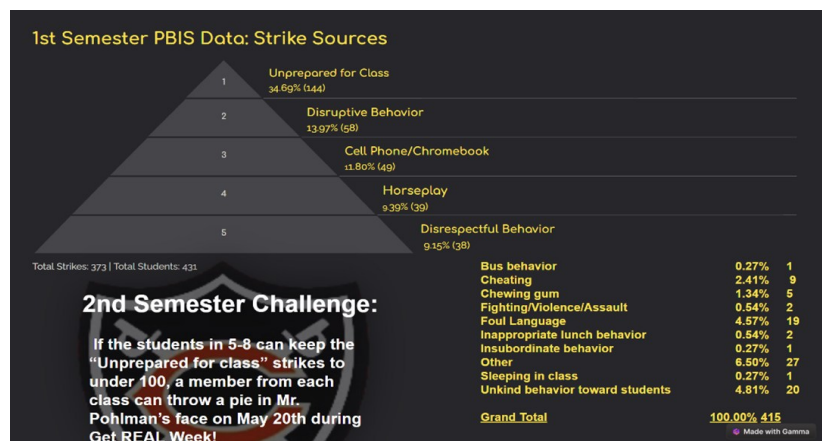
First Semester PBIS Rewards/Get R.E.A.L. Assembly

With the first semester of the 2024-2025 school year officially behind us, it was time to celebrate our students' hard work, great behavior, and achievements! To reward those who met expectations, students who stayed within the 3-strike limit during the final six weeks of the semester were treated to a warm, delicious cup of Rooster Joe's hot chocolate. On Thursday, January 23rd, our 5th and 6th graders kicked off their day with this sweet treat, and on Friday, January 24th, it was the 7th and 8th graders' turn to enjoy. There's truly nothing like starting your morning with a cozy cup of hot chocolate! A huge thank you to Rooster Joe's for preparing this special reward and to the Coldwater community for your support during our Fall cookie dough sale. It's because of your support that allows us to provide these fun and memorable experiences for our students.



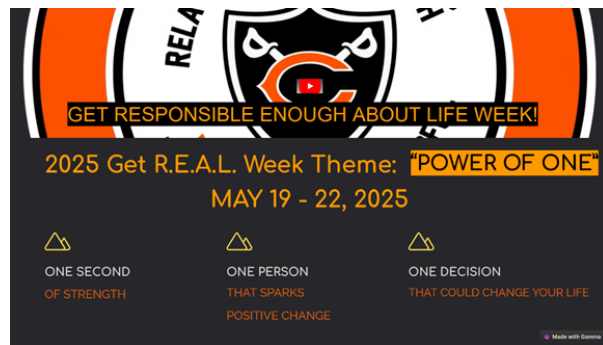
Also on Friday, January 24th, we brought the entire student body together in the Palace for our First Semester Rewards Assembly. The energy in the room was awesome as the event kicked off with the school fight song. Students and staff stood proudly, singing and clapping in unison, celebrating not only our athletic victories over but also our academic and behavioral successes.

Following this celebration, we reflected on the first semester's PBIS data, identifying areas where we shined and where we could grow. The biggest challenge? Being more prepared for class—a goal we're determined to meet with renewed effort and enthusiasm. To make it even more exciting, we added a little extra incentive to motivate students to rise to the challenge!



At the assembly, the highly anticipated unveiling of the 2025 Get REAL theme took place. Building on last year's theme, "With a Purpose," we are revisiting the foundation of our program by reaching back 22 years to the very first Get REAL Week theme: "Power of One." This year, we are reimagining and revitalizing that concept, bringing its timeless message back into focus.

As the theme was introduced, students were captivated by engaging videos that explored the meaning of the "Power of One." But *one* what, exactly? That *one* could be a single second, one person, or even one decision. Imagine the incredible power each of these can have in shaping your life.



Our goal is for students to recognize and embrace the many forms of "one" in their lives and understand how harnessing this power can lead to positive, life-changing outcomes, steering them away from potential challenges or regret.

Leading up to Get REAL Week in May, students will participate in monthly presentations featuring inspiring speakers designed to prepare and energize them for an unforgettable experience. This year's Get REAL keynote speaker is Tanner Clark, whose message, "One Second of Strength," will inspire students to fight for what truly matters most in their lives. We are thrilled to welcome him and eagerly anticipate the impact of his empowering message.

PBIS Rewards Field Trip to Valley's Edge Snow Tubing

The 7th and 8th grade students enjoyed a day of snow tubing at Valley's Edge Snow Tubing in New Paris, Ohio. This was a part of their PBIS Reward Incentive for the first semester and took place on Friday, January 24th. This was definitely a crowd pleaser for the students as they truly look forward to this trip all year. In order to qualify the students had to stay under the strike threshold for 2 of the 3 PBIS reward periods through the first semester. We are extremely happy to report that the vast majority of students were able to enjoy this trip. A big thank you goes out to the parents for sending great kids to school each and everyday. The following are some pictures from the day.



The Middle School Lego Robotics compete in competition

On Saturday, January 11th, our 5th, 6th, and 7th-grade LEGO Robotics teams showcased their skills at the FIRST® LEGO® League Qualifier Competition held at Dublin Jerome High School. Competing against teams from across the region, they demonstrated exceptional preparation, teamwork, and perseverance.

We are thrilled to announce that both the 6th and 7th-grade teams advanced to the next round of competition, which will take place on Saturday, February 8th, in Newark, Ohio. Additionally, the 6th-grade team earned the prestigious **Motivate Award**, recognizing their enthusiasm and efforts to inspire others in the STEM community. While the 5th-grade team did not qualify this year, their hard work and enthusiasm in their inaugural season set the stage for exciting opportunities next year.

FIRST® LEGO® League is a dynamic program designed to engage students in STEM by challenging them to solve real-world problems through innovation, teamwork, and LEGO® technology. Each year, participants explore a new scientific theme while upholding Core Values, including discovery, inclusion, and fun.

This year's theme, **SUBMERGED**, dives into the fascinating world of ocean exploration, encouraging teams to investigate marine ecosystems and discover innovative solutions to maintain healthy oceans. Through creative thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving, our students contribute to a greater understanding of this vital environment.

Congratulations again to all three teams for their outstanding efforts and best of luck to the 6th and 7th-grade teams as they continue their journey. We are proud of your achievements and look forward to seeing what you accomplish next!



Attention Parents of 7th Graders

An informational meeting concerning your child's upcoming Washington DC trip will be on Monday March 3rd at 7:00 pm in the Auditoria. Items to be discussed include: proposed itinerary, cost, payment schedule, chaperone sign-up, fundraiser, etc... Please plan to attend this important meeting with your son/daughter.



Coldwater Middle School Hosts Power of the Pen District Competition

Ten local schools brought their seventh and eighth grade writing teams to Coldwater Middle School on Saturday, January 25 for the Northwest District 1 Power of the Pen competition. Over 75 seventh and eighth graders wrote creatively in three 40-minute rounds of writing.

The Coldwater seventh-grade writing team placed third overall in the competition. Team members were Elisabeth Ebbing, Kennedy Giesige, Allie Evans, Audrey Miller, Adrian Walker, and Mya Grieshop. Of these seventh-graders Elisabeth Ebbing placed as the 8th overall individual, and Audrey Miller placed 9th.

Coldwater's eighth-grade team, consisting of Jenny Burrows, Brady Diegel, Grace Heyne, Kyrie Reineke, and Becca Wendel, also finished the day strong.

A big thank you to everyone who helped make the day a success! We appreciate the parents who volunteered in the Tab Room; students Grant Diegel, Chloe Miller, William Walker, and Wyatt Walker who all volunteered as runners; Grace Swander for judging; and the Coldwater custodians and tech department for their support in setting everything up. We also would like to thank the Coldwater Chamber of Commerce, the Buzzard's Glory Community Club, The Daily Standard, and the St. Mary's Rotary Club for their donations to this event.



Ten local schools traveled to Coldwater on January 25 for the District Power of the Pen Competition.



The seventh-grade team—Elisabeth Ebbing, Adrian Walker, Audrey Miller, Kennedy Giesige, Mya Grieshop, and Allie Evans—placed third overall



Here are members of the Coldwater Middle School Power of the Pen team: (front l. to r.) Adrian Walker, Elisabeth Ebbing, Audrey Miller, Kennedy Giesige, Allie Evans, and Mya Grieshop, (back l. to r.) Grace Heyne, Kyrie Reineke, Jenny Burrows, Becca Wendel, and Brady Diegel.



Elisabeth Ebbing and Audrey Miller placed individually in the competition

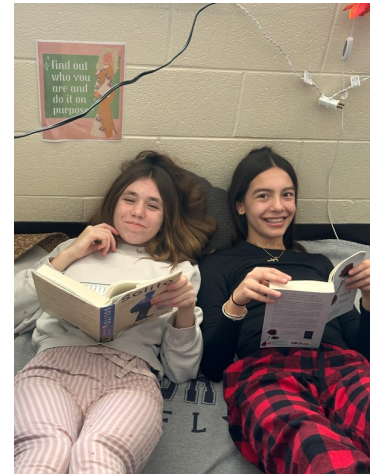
6th Graders Receive Letters from Uganda

Sixth-graders in Mrs. Oh's honors language arts class have begun corresponding with a class in Kisoro, Uganda as part of the Books as Bridges program sponsored by the International Book Project. Mrs. Oh's students wrote their first letters to their pen pals in Uganda before Christmas, and in January received their first letters in return. Here, students are reading their first letters from their pen pals.



Teen Read Week 2025

During Teen Read Week (January 13-17), 7th and 8th-grade students embarked on a "Pure Imagination" adventure. Inspired by Willy Wonka, the week featured whimsical decorations and engaging activities. Students competed in their Cav Pride rooms to earn points. Points could be earned in a variety of ways: visiting the public library after school to complete activities, reading during study hall, winning Cav Pride competitions, dressing up on theme days, and much more! Classroom activities included an exciting All-Day Read day on Monday. Students also shared their love of reading with younger learners by visiting the preschool and kindergarten classrooms. A captivating library scavenger hunt guided students on a journey of discovery through the library's resources. Overall, it was a great week full of fun and reading! We would like to thank everyone who helped make this week a success!



Get R.E.A.L. 2025

COLDWATER MIDDLE SCHOOL



*ONE CHOICE...ONE MOMENT...
ONE SECOND...ONE THOUGHT...
ONE PERSON...ONE IDEA...
ONE DECISION...ONE LIFE...
ONE ACTION...ONE SMILE...
ONE WORD...ONE COMMITMENT
ONE HELPING HAND...ONE ...ONE...ONE...*

Dear community members and business owners,

We, Coldwater Middle School and the Get R.E.A.L. Committee, are excited for the opportunity to provide our students with Get R.E.A.L. Week again this year. Get R.E.A.L. is a program that unites the community, families, and school together to help instill in our students a sense of pride, worth, and responsibility for one's own actions. Get R.E.A.L. is a motivating and educational program to help our middle school students understand the importance of this central message:

Get Responsible Enough About Life

Each year, we focus on a theme for this program, and this year is no different. This year's theme is "The Power of One." This was the theme the year of the very first 5K, but we have brought it back as an important reminder that there are so many little things in our lives that really have a great deal of power: the one person that influences you or inspires you, the one decision that has a positive or a negative impact on you, the one smile you give that changes another's persons day for the better. There is so much power in all of those things that we often take for granted. These are just a few examples of "The Power of One" to help you see what we hope our students understand throughout this year's program.

Through our activities, speakers, and 5K during Get R.E.A.L. week, we want our students to recognize the power in each of the little things we do in our lives and the influence of the people we choose to surround ourselves with. Also, we want them to realize that they have the power in their lives, especially in their choices with social media and how they treat others, to become the best version of themselves.

As many of you know, over the past 20+ years, Get R.E.A.L. would never have happened without the help and support of our local businesses. You are a large reason why this program has turned into a county-wide event with many local schools modeling what we started. As we continue forward with this program, we are once again asking for your financial support to make it happen. Much of the money raised will be used for our shirts that the entire middle school staff and students will wear united as we participate in our 5K event, while the rest of it will be used to provide speakers and meaningful activities throughout the week. We hope that you are willing to join us in our mission as we know you all are the heart and soul of this awesome community we live in.

If you are willing to donate, please fill out and return the enclosed paper. If you are looking for more information about the program or have an idea that you would like to share with us, please feel free to contact one of the Get R.E.A.L. Committee members. We thank you again for your past support and look forward to your continued support as we work together to help our youth continue to Get R.E.A.L.

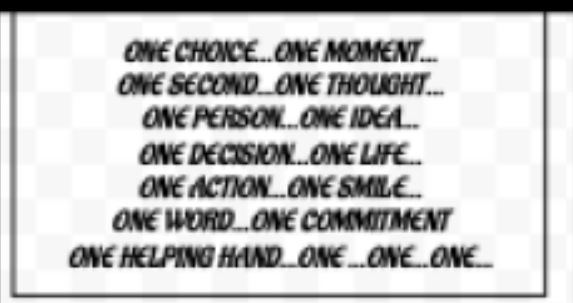
The 2025 Get R.E.A.L. Committee

Dan Pohlman, Connie May, Beth Thomas, Karen Wenning, Sue Lovell,
Grace Swander, Lindsey Moellenkamp, and Jackie Homan

Sponsorship/Donation Form

Get R.E.A.L. 2025

COLDWATER MIDDLE SCHOOL



Name of Business/Individual: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____

Amount of Donation: _____

Make checks payable to Coldwater Schools

Once again, thank you for your support of our Get R.E.A.L. Program here at Coldwater Middle School. Please mark below if you need a receipt for your records and we will get one to you. Thank you for teaming with us to help make this program possible; together we can all do great things!

**Please return this form with your donation to
Coldwater Middle School, % Get REAL Committee**

310 North 2nd St. Coldwater, OH 45828

_____ **Please provide us with a receipt for our donation.**

Awards: Several students were awarded with pizza at lunch for doubling their AR goal in Mrs. Schwieterman's ELA class. Way to go!



Students who completed their goal for AR in Miss Swander and Mrs. Schwieterman's ELA classes were rewarded with hot cocoa and sugar cookies this week. Congratulations!



The 6th Grade Box Project

As part of the sixth-grade math curriculum, students need to understand surface area and create 3D nets. What better way to learn than by creating real-world projects?

In December, 6th grade students got to work creating fleece blankets to give to special recipients. Students then had to create a box using a 3D net to put the blanket in. The blanket needed to fit in the box perfectly. After creating the box, students decorated the outside in a way that was meaningful to their recipient.

This project isn't just about Math, though. In Science, they explored the effects of heat by melting decorated plastic cups to make ornaments. In Language Arts, they wrote heartfelt messages for the recipients.

We wanted to inspire our students to think beyond academics. We selected individuals who have made significant contributions to Coldwater, often facing challenges with courage. We believe that education isn't just about reading, writing, and arithmetic. It's also about fostering kindness, empathy, and a desire to serve others. This project was a way to instill these values in our students and show them the power of giving back.

In all, students made 17 blankets and boxes to give to recipients. Pictured are some students giving their boxes to their recipients.



"LION KING" JR TICKETS NOW ON SALE!!

The Coldwater Middle School Drama group will be presenting "LION KING" JR **March 6, 8 and 9** in the Coldwater Auditoria. Tickets are open to the public and are now on sale! It is going to be an awesome production! At this time, there are no audience restrictions, so all tickets are general admission and there is no limit! What is made each year is what we use to pay for licensing, set materials, props and other expenses involved in producing and presenting a show at this level.

Because there are no restrictions, we do have more pre-sale options and tickets will be available at the door as well. Tickets sales are as follows:

Pre-Sale tickets Available: \$8.00 Adults \$7.00 Students

This is **per show** so please be sure to order enough tickets for all the shows you want to attend. There are no dates on the shows so they are good for any of the 4 performances.

ALL TICKETS AT THE DOOR \$10 Regardless of age (Pre-School and up)

If you are interested in purchasing tickets, please fill out the attached form and send it back to school with your name along with cash or a check made out to **Coldwater Schools**. Forms are to be brought to Mrs. Petersen. You can also come to the **Elementary office** and Shirley Mathewson will take care of your purchase. If you know a student at school, you can ask to have them bring your tickets to you or you can drop off your form and pick up your tickets right then.

Remember, the money paid to see the show goes towards licensing, sets, supplies and costume pieces. We understand it does get costly to see the show with a family but it is supporting a great cause! If you have any questions, please email me at petersen.denise@coldwatercavs.org or call 419-678-2613. **Also, check us out on Facebook: Coldwater Middle School Drama. Like our page and get any updates that are posted there as well.**

Thank you!

Denise Petersen

LION KING JR Pre-Sale Tickets Order Form

NAME _____

Please mark what you would like to purchase:

Quantity: Total:

Single Show Adult Ticket (each show requires a ticket): _____ X\$8= _____

Single Show Student Ticket (each show requires a ticket): _____ X\$7= _____

of tickets: _____

Grand Total: _____

If writing a check, please make it out to **Coldwater Schools!**

PRE-SALE ENDS Wednesday, 03-05-2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Tickets at the door: \$10 for all!

_____ I will pick tickets up at my earliest convenience from the
Elementary office.

_____ Please send my tickets home with a student.

Student Name _____



Coldwater Middle School Second Nine Weeks Honor Roll – January 2025

Grade 7

High Honors (11.00 GPA or Better)

Sophie Borger, Mallory Braun, Miles Bruns, Reid Dingedine, Elisabeth Ebbing, Mya Grieshop, Quinn Kanney, Zane Keller, Levi Kornegor, Reagan Liette, Ryan Mathewson, Randy Micheal, Audrey Miller, Maddox Moorman, Bryce Rolfes

Honors (9.0 – 10.9)

Brynn Ahrens, Ian Ahrens, Cameron Bergstrom, Archer Bihn, Abigail Bollenbacher, Jacob Bollenbacher, Ava Dobmeyer, Allie Evans, Mason Evers, Max Galyardt, Kennedy Giesige, Weston Heyne, Shianea Hoffman, Will Huwer, Hallory Kahlig, Emersyn Knapke, Graham Knapke, Elliot Kuhn, Natalie Link, Blake Muhlenkamp, Makayla Myers, Ethan Rutschilling, Austin Schlater, Liam Schmackers, Brooke Schwieterman, Dylan Sieftring, Lane Sieftring, AJ Steinbrunner, Loretta Sudhoff, Max Sudhoff, Ben Voskuhl, Jackson Werling, Hailey Williams, Nathan Wills, Grant Winner

Grade 8

High Honors (11.00 GPA or Better)

Abby Alig, Kynlee Botkin, Lucas Broering, Layla Dawson, Audrey Diller, Brielle Dingedine, Audrey Franck, Alyssa Froning, Jonah Gruss, Josh Harrison, Briggs Hileman, Kratyn Homan, Ben Houts, Cami Lisi, Emmitt May, Kaiden, Will Moorman, Haley Qiu, Ethan Schmitmeyer, Isabelle Schwieterman, Leah Serr, Natalie Timmerman, Courtney Uhlenhake, Kate Uhlenhake, Bennet Unrast, Rebecca Wendel,

Honors (9.0 – 10.9)

Hayden Berger, Jack Bettinger, Brooklyn Coats, Sam Finke, Kiya Frysinger, Paige Guggenbiller, Owen Heitkamp, Kirsten Heuing, Grace Heyne, Charlotte Hoying, Evelyn Kahlig, Chris Kremer, Griffin Lefeld, Bentley Mohler, Norah Moreland, Brayden Pohl, Kyrie Reineke, John Roberts, Breah Roessner, Julianna Sager, Cami Saunders, Hayden Schwieterman, Breckin Scott, Owen Stough, Alex Stump, Savannah Sutherin, Jacob Uhlenhake, Praline Unrast, Blake Wenning, Emmett Wermert, Lucas Winner, Evelyn Woeste

The TRADITION continues...PRIDE INSIDE!

Principal Jason Hemmelgarn



"The school must be a genuine form of active community life, instead of a place set apart in which to lessons." – John Dewey

Recognition Overdue

Coldwater High School would like to recognize and thank Food Service Director Mrs. Ashley Ahrens and her dedicated staff & volunteers for all they do on a daily basis. Ashley is in her 2nd year in the Director position, but is a lifelong member of the Coldwater community. Mrs. Ahrens brings a great deal of knowledge and expertise to the food service operation for our district, but most importantly, she is super positive and her enthusiastic disposition resonates with everyone.



We are also fortunate to recognize our full time employees (to the left) Darlene Schmitz, Tina Diller, Tina Schmitmeyer, Stacy Larkin and Carol Ranly. Our part-time employees (below) Tana Sudhoff, Carol Vagedes, Leah Kaup, Jessica Ross, April Braun and Rita Pottkotter, and the countless volunteers who come in each and every school day to help serve our students. They all exemplify and compliment those same characteristics working each day to serve our faculty and students in such a positive and effective way.

As referred to in the quote above, we could not be prouder or more blessed to have Ashley and her entire staff here at CHS, working hard every day to create a safe, inviting, and positive environment for our students and community!

CavPride is everywhere around us and it starts right when you walk in the doors here at .Thanks again for all you do to make that happen!!



J Hemmelgarn, HS Principal

Ohio Dept. of Education End of Course (EOC) Exams for English/Language Arts, Algebra, Geometry, Biology, American History

Each of the subject-based tests is comprised of two sections (taken on the different days) and will only be taken by students who are enrolled in those courses. The following information is provided to give the parents of all high students an advanced notice of the schedule for **this school year**:

English II: April 9th/10th (All Students at once – 8:13A start)

Algebra & Geometry: April 15th/16th (All Students together at once – 8:13A start)

Biology & American History: April 28th – May 1st (during Block periods – double block week)

To the Parents of ALL Juniors:

This is now the fourth year for the State mandated requirement for Schools to offer a one-time (paid for by the State Department of Education) opportunity to take the ACT Test. CHS will be administering the **ACT test for ALL JUNIORS on March 11th at 8:15 am**. Please be sure to mark your calendars and stay tuned for any additional information to follow.

American Legion Government Test Winners



Front Row: Olivia Broering, Madison Bruns, Ava Schmitmeyer
Back Row: Michael Braun, Andrew Moorman, Leo Fella, Ben Hannewald

The winners for this year:

- Sophomores: Top Female – Ava Schmitmeyer
Top Male – Ben Hannewald
- Juniors: Top Female – Madison Bruns
Top Male – Leo Fella
- Seniors: Top Female – *Olivia Broering
Top Male – *Andrew Moorman

*Indicates County level winners

Congratulations to them for their high level of performance and thank you to Mr. Bruns, Mr. Pleiman, Mr. Miller, and Mr. Hamberg for their help in administration of the test. But most of all, Thank you to Mr. Michael Braun (A & G Test Chairman) and American Legion Post 470 for organizing and providing the opportunity for our students to take this test.

Blood Drive held December 20, 2024

Forty CHS students generously donated 34 units during our annual Christmas Blood Drive of the year! A Special Thank you goes out again to All who gave and to Mr. Mark Bruns for all his efforts in organizing and promoting the event. The second and final Blood Drive of the year will be Friday, March 2nd.

PROM

Senior/Junior Prom is set for Saturday April 12th, with Promenade beginning at 6:00 pm.

FTC Robotics team



The FTC Robotics Team finished 3rd place at the Sinclair Community College Regional competition recently. The team finish 10-3 out of 24 competing schools. Congratulations to Mr. Chuck Alig and everyone involved with this year's team and Good Luck in the upcoming competitions!

Choir Notes

Congratulations to our High School OMEA District 3 Festival Honors Choir and Band Participants: Izaak Botkin, Rudi Gross, Rebecca Simper and Kenna Wolfe. The students auditioned and were selected by OMEA teachers in our area. After a series



of 3 Saturday rehearsals, the final concert was presented to a full house at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center in Van Wert, Sunday, January 19th.

Mark your calendars:

High School Winter Concert : Sunday, March 2nd at 3:00 in the Palace.

ETHICS BOWL



(L-R) Back: Russell Moorman, Ben Hannewald, Josh Schoen, Drew Moorman, Keaton Tebbe; Front: Mr. Forsthoefel, Brayla Rasawehr, Fiona Qiu, Caden Seager

10th Annual Ohio High School Ethics Bowl

On Saturday, January 18th, Coldwater High School competed in the 10th Annual Ohio High School Ethics Bowl. This year's competition was held at the University of Findlay's College of Business. Ethics Bowl competitions have occurred at the collegiate level all over the country for almost 30 years but starting in 2011 competitions were extended to high school students. This was the 10th and the only event in Ohio involving the discussion of ethics. Twelve teams from six high schools competed in the 6-hour long event. Teams competed in dual events over the importance of ethics in our society. Two Coldwater teams competed in six dual events against Findlay, Hilliard Darby, Hilliard Bradley, Hilliard Davidson, Shadyside Academy (Pittsburgh, PA). Each match lasted for 35 minutes and required calculated deliberation, eloquent speech, and thoughtful responses from rigorous questioning. Teams were awarded points (based on presentation, cordialness and rational ideology) from three judges. By the end of the day, Coldwater had two wins against Hillard Bradley Team 2 and Findlay Team 3 and one tie but losses to Hilliard Darby 1, Hillard Davidson and a close loss to Shadyside Academy. We are excited to compete in the State Ethics Bowl next year. Coldwater is the only school to compete in this event in all 10 years.



Honors Festival Selections We are thrilled to recognize the following talented students who have been accepted to the following honors festivals:

- **OMEA District 3 High School Honors Band:** Izaak Botkin (euphonium)
- **Wright State University Honors Band:** Izaak Botkin (euphonium), Makenzie Norris (horn), Jady Nye (flute)
- **OMEA District 3 Junior High Honors Band:** Abby Bollenbacher (trumpet), Breckin Scott (tenor saxophone), Kynlee Botkin (clarinet)

Congratulations to these outstanding musicians for their hard work and dedication!

Solo and Ensemble Highlights Despite the weather causing the cancellation of the OMEA Solo and Ensemble Adjudicated Event, eleven students showcased their dedication during a special recital the following week. These talented soloists impressed everyone with their preparation and performances:

- Fiona Qiu (flute)
- Isabelle Ruckman (flute)
- Kirra Burtch (clarinet)
- Abigail Pax (contrabass clarinet)
- Aiden Zibrida (alto saxophone)
- Braylon Thobe (baritone saxophone)
- Makenzie Norris (horn)
- Makenzie Miller (trombone)
- Charlotte Lefeld (trombone)
- Izaak Botkin (euphonium)
- Caden Sager (tuba)

Thank you to these students for sharing their incredible talents with us!

Support the Cavalier Band Program :With 250 students involved in instrumental music, your support is vital to the success of our program. Thank you for being an essential part of the Cavalier Band family!

To help us continue to provide exceptional opportunities for our students, please consider contributing to our annual “Music is Instrumental” campaign. This year’s funds will go toward purchasing a new drumline. For more information, visit: <https://www.cavalierband.org/ways-to-help/Music-Is-Instrumental>

Upcoming Fundraiser: Mother’s Day Flower Sale Don’t miss our annual Mother’s Day Flower Sale! Orders will be accepted until **Friday, February 28th**, with pickup scheduled for **Tuesday, May 6th**. Proceeds will support our band program. For sale details, visit: <https://www.cavalierband.org/ways-to-help/fundraisers/2025-spring-flower-sale>

Thank you for your continued support of the Coldwater Cavalier Band Program. Together, we can keep the music alive for generations to come!

Cavalier Athletic Report



We are past the halfway point. We are on the tail end of the winter sports season already, which is hard to believe. Teams continue to work hard and get better as the tournament season approaches. It has been a very exciting season already for the winter sports. Be sure to follow all of our scores and accomplishments at www.coldwaterathletics.org. We try to keep adding new features, scores, updates, etc. every day to highlight all Coldwater Athletics.

It has been a busy winter already with more to come with tournament hosting. We are hosting some of our Annual tournaments and tossing in a few new ones as well. This winter we hosted the 2nd Annual Cavalier Wrestling Invite on Dec 14th followed by 4 more Wrestling Invites, including 1 new one. We hosted the 23rd Annual Sielski Memorial on Jan 11th along with our second ever Junior High Invitational on Dec 27th and our second ever Coldwater Varsity Individual tournament on Feb 1st. Since this wasn't enough, we added in another Junior High Team dual tournament on Feb 8th. To go along with Wrestling, we will also be hosting higher seed tournaments for Varsity Boys and Girls Basketball Sectionals. On Saturday, Jan 25th, we also hosted the annual Cavalier/MAC Swim Invitational. These tournaments are great to host for the community as it helps to bring outside people into our town. It is also great to see the faces of new people when they see all of the banners hanging in our gym.

We have had some new updates to the Cavalier Athletic programs with some equipment purchases. If you attend any of our Wrestling Invitationals, you will notice a new 3-sided tournament scoreboard to go along with the one we purchased this past year. This has been a great addition for our 4th mat. The scoreboard will also work with our volleyball and basketball events in which we use side courts.

We are now looking at new scoreboards in the Palace gym. The current ones are now approaching 25 years in age and are starting to have some issues. Fortunately, we can shake them a little bit and they keep turning on. However, with scoreboards, you need to be proactive and purchase prior to them going out. With our current scoreboards, we can no longer purchase controllers. The one scoreboard actually goes out from time to time, but if we blow the horn, it will turn back on. This is a sign that new ones are needed for the next 25+ years. We will also be putting another "band aid" on the track. We will repaint it this spring and fill in some more cracks. We are "hoping" to get another 2 years out of it. Tracks should last 15-20 years and our track is now approach year 30.

I would like to Thank all of my workers that help me get through the year. People often don't understand that without ticket takers, ticket sellers, scoreboard workers, officials, custodial, timers, announcers, managers, bus drivers, etc. we wouldn't even have events for these student/athletes to participate in. This goes for all levels as well. It is a thankless job but without them, we don't have athletics. People don't put two and two together, but if you think of all of the events we have all year long at all levels, it takes hundreds of workers to get these events accomplished for our kids. If you get a chance sometime when attending a game, just take a quick second to Thank one of the workers for running that scoreboard, keeping time, selling those tickets, etc. Doesn't take much but they would truly appreciate it and deserve it.

Hudl live streaming updates. I am working on several new things for Hudl live streaming. One, we added a camera at the baseball field at diamond 3. We are working on Softball yet, but they do not have internet available there at this point. Keep in mind, that although Hudl has been around for coaches for years, this is their first year of live streaming. We are aware that their phone and computer streaming apps work well, but their tv app is simply awful right now. I have another meeting with their corporate people in April and this will be one of the topics. We are also working on developing a league usage policy so that you can view any game in the league. At this point, you are permitted to view any game Coldwater plays in with your yearly purchase, but we are working on so you can view other league games that Coldwater does not play in. Also keep in mind, All league schools now use Hudl but some non-league do not. If they do not, you obviously cannot view games from their site as they don't have cameras. Thank You to Lefeld Welding and Upper Deck Sports for sponsoring Hudl. Year one has been pretty good with the switch, but year two should be even better!

Lastly, I would like to wrap up with some individual accomplishments including Lefeld Industrial & Welding Supplies Athlete of the Weeks.

Go Cavs!

Eric Goodwin

Athletic Director/Assistant Principal

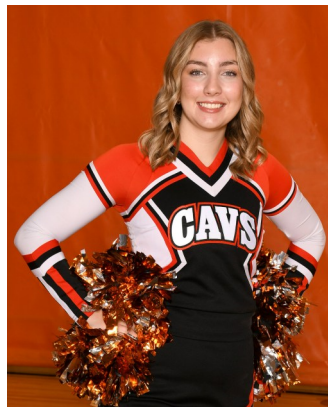
Athletes of the Week



Riley Eales



Jenna Heuing



Sarah Seitz



Tanner Stammen



Kelly May



Brady Hamilton

Special Recognition – Coldwater Ring of Honor



Baylen Blockberger



Cody Depweg



Mason Welsch



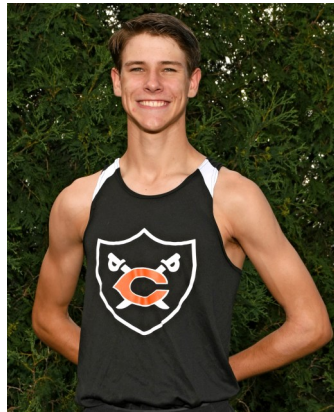
Owen Kunk



Spencer Etzler



Morgan Blasingame



Mason Ayers



Avery Knapke

COLDWATER HIGH SCHOOL
2nd Nine Weeks Honor Roll

HIGH HONORS (11.0-12.0)

Grade 9

Collin Bergstrom, Claire Bertke, Avery Bruns, Wendy Buening, Kirra Burtch, Alessandra Cervantes, Isaac Delzeith, Campbell Etzler, Andrew Garrison, Brent Heuing, Harlow Heyne, Ashlynn Homan, Averi Kahlig, Alivia Klingshirn, Leah Kunk, Emily Larkin, Ava Lefeld, Carter Miller, Andrew Myers, Carson Pax, Brayla Rasaweher, Tate Rismiller, Mariah Ross, Jackson Serr, Ava Smith, Lila Sudhoff, Shea Sudhoff, Austin Uhlenhake, Ella Werling, Lanna Zahn

Grade 10

Audrey Alig, Aubrie Davis, Parker Doenges, Emma Eyink, Alaina Froning, Karsyn Homan, Breann Mathewson, Rachel Moeller, Noah Obringer, Fiona Qiu, Lydia Rainey, Aidan Rose, Ava Schmitmeyer, Cara Schwieterman, Kelsey Seitz, Joshua Sheets, Kiersten Weigel, Bradley Wendel, Abigail Will

Grade 11

Mariah Bonifas, Madison Bruns, Aiden Burtch, Amanda Clune, Alayna Dawson, Ava Doll, Carson Dues, Aidan Fiely, Grace Huwer, Ella Kahlig, Ella Kaiser, Keira Knapke, Maxwell Koch, Madelyn Lange, Kelly May, Edward Obringer, Kaylie Rutschilling, Rebecca Simper, Sarah Stewart, Elle Weber, Emma Weber, Dana Zahn

Grade 12

William Barry, Izaak Botkin, Olivia Broering, Liam Davis, Cody Depweg, David Dippold, Spencer Etzler, Drew Franck, Owen Hamberg, Mandi Hart, Monica Hemmelgarn, Jenna Heuing, Zachary Homan, Aaron Kaup, Kiersten Keller, Lucy Langenkamp, Shelby Larkin, Sidney Linn, Brady Mathewson, Andrew Moorman, Russell Moorman, Tyler Overman, Abigail Pax, Miles Pottkotter, Joshua Schoen, Sarah Seitz, Brennan Sudhoff, Mason Welsch, Isabella Zahn

HONOR ROLL (9.0-10.9)

Grade 9

Lauren Beckman, Bryce Bonifas, Claire Broering, Jack Bruns, Mark Dues, Bryant Evans, Weston Fisher, Chloe Frysinger, Landon Garcia, Trenten Gross, Nolan Gruss, Carter Heitkamp, Maddison Hobbs, Haley Huwer, Jacob Kaiser, Lana Kaiser, Heidi Klenke, Brylee Knapke, Alex Lefeld, Channing Lefeld, Benjamin Liette, Owen May, Alex Penno, Bryleigh Quinn, Andrew Schulze, Marcus Sieftring, Myra Stammen, Andrea Vargas, Lance Vian, William Wehrkamp, Emily Wendel, Collin Westgerdes, Kenna Wolfe

Grade 10

Tegan Berkenstock, Joseph Buschur, Alexis Coats, Derek Dues, Gena Fisher, Ava Fortkamp, Alexis Gerlach, Benjamin Hannewald, Alexa Kunk, Charlotte Lefeld, James Liette, Chase Linn, Emma Luebke, Paige Ontrop, Lauren Overman, Alex Rutschilling, Joshua Schroer, Zachary Schwieterman, Grace Sieftring, Kennley Siegrist, Hailey Stough, Brookelyn Sudhoff, Braxton Taylor, Braylon Thobe, Tori Timmerman, Conner Tobin, Keaton Tobin, Evan Winner

Grade 11

Kaia Behm, Quinn Brandon, Kaylee Buening, Brittany Burden, Mia Byer, Davian Coleman, Bryce Couchot, Dillan Evers, Brady Hamilton, Ashley Hicks, Landon Knapke, Mia Knapke, Gavin Lefeld, Owen Lefeld, Eve Lisi, Nolan Mescher, Makenzie Miller, Makenzie Norris, Myles Quinter, Maximus Ross, Emma Wehnes, Nora Wehrkamp, Ty Wenning, Madison Zwiebel

Grade 12

Mason Ayers, Morgan Blasingame, Baylen Blockberger, Austin Burden, Braylon Dawson, Trent Ebbing, Ethan Elander, Owen Fennig, Lia Frank, Rudi Gross, Kristopher Hughes, Tyler Jones, Avery Knapke, Owen Kunk, Jonathan Lange, Brady Lefeld, Shelby Linn, Nicholas Moeller, Drew Muhlenkamp, Jayden Nye, Isabelle Ruckman, Brooke Schmitmeyer, Shanna Schmitmeyer, Troy Schoen, Jake Seitz, Alec Stammen, Carson Stammen, Tanner Stammen, Haley Tobin, Oliver Vickery, Noah Welsch, Gavin Wenning, Andrew Wermert, Olivia Will, Allison Wills, Nicholas Zahn

ACT[®] TEST PREP

- Go to the school website:
<https://cw.noacsc.org/>
- Click on **High School** under **Schools**
- Scroll down to **ACT Preparation** for help with:

State-funded ACT Test date for all juniors:

MARCH 11, 2025

Test Strategies
Practice Tests

“NEWSIES” TICKETS NOW ON SALE!

The Coldwater High School will be presenting “NEWSIES” **April 3rd at 7:00, April 4th 7:00, April 5th at 7:00 and April 6th at 3:00** in the Coldwater Auditoria. Tickets are open to the public and are now on sale! It is going to be an awesome production! We have over 30 cast members working hard to make this the best High School production yet! Be sure to come check out the show! This is going to be an amazing show which includes some of our very own Elementary students!

As stated, tickets are not limited and all seats are general admission! We can do special pre-sale pricing as well. Tickets can be purchased as follows:

Pre-Sale tickets Available:

\$8.00 Adults

\$7.00 Students

This is **per show** so please be sure to order enough tickets for all the shows you want to attend. There are no show specific tickets and there are 4 chances to see the show!

ALL TICKETS AT THE DOOR \$10 Regardless of age (Pre-School and up)

If you are interested in purchasing tickets, please fill out the form and send it back to school with your name along with cash or a check made out to **Coldwater Schools**. Forms are to be brought to Mrs. Petersen. You can also come to the **High School Office** and the ladies there will take care of your purchase. If you know a student at school, you can ask to have them bring your tickets to you or you can bring in your form and pick up tickets right away.

Remember, the money paid to see the show goes towards licensing, sets, supplies and costume pieces. We understand it does get costly to see the show with a family but it is supporting a great cause! If you have any questions, please email me at petersen.denise@coldwatercavs.org or call 419-678-2613. **Also, check us out on Facebook: Coldwater High School Drama. Like our page and get any updates that are posted there as well.**

Thank you!

NEWSIES
Pre-Sale Tickets
Order Form

NAME _____

Please mark what you would like to purchase:

Single Show Adult Ticket (each show requires a ticket): _____ X\$8= _____

Single Show Student Ticket (each show requires a ticket): _____ X\$7= _____

of tickets: _____

Grand Total: _____

If writing a check, please make it out to **Coldwater Schools!**

PRE-SALE ENDS Wednesday, April 2nd at 7:00 pm


Tickets at the door: \$10 for all!

_____ I will pick tickets up at my earliest convenience
from the
_____ High School office.

_____ Please send my tickets home with a student.

Student Name _____

Coldwater High School Drama
Proudly Presents



Coldwater Auditeria
Thursday, April 3 @ 7:00 pm
Friday, April 4 @ 7:00 pm
Saturday, April 5 @ 7:00 pm
Sunday, April 6 @ 3:00 pm

Presale tickets Adults \$8.00/Students \$7.00
Tickets available from Mrs. Petersen
or the High School Office
Presale ends April 2nd at 7:00 pm
ALL SALES FINAL
Admission at the door \$10 for Everyone
(preschool age and up)

Music By Alan Menken. Lyrics by Jack Feldman. Book by Harvey Fierstein. Based on the Disney Film written by Bob Tashler and Noni White. Originally produced on Broadway by Disney Theatrical Productions. Orchestrations by Danny Troob. Incidental Music & Vocal Arrangements by Michael Kossin. Dance Arrangements by Mark Hummel. NEWSIES is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

FFA Members & Kindergarteners Make Snowmen

The FFA members had the pleasure of making wooden snowmen with all seven classes of kindergarten students. The FFA members are paired with a kindergarten student to help cut the wood to the kindergartener's height, sand the board smooth, and paint it white. After painting, the members took the students into Mrs. Wenning's room to color Christmas pictures and chat. The kindergarteners then took the boards back to their classroom and decorated them to give to their parents for Christmas.

The Coldwater FFA and the Kindergarten students would like to send a BIG THANK YOU to ITR Manufacturing in St. Henry for the generous donation of lumber for the students to use!



Coldwater FFA Seniors Advance to State Ag Technology & Mechanical Systems Competition

Brennan Sudhoff, Darren Diller, Gavin Wenning and Owen Fennig advanced to the State Finals at OSU-ATI for the State ATMS Career Development Event. They were required to do numerous skills like electrical wiring, welding, and construction. They finished 8th placed in the state.

Lighted Christmas Parade at Coldwater Memorial Park

Oh what fun it is to ride in the Lighted Christmas Parade! The third ever Christmas at Memorial Park was a success! When our FFA chapter was asked to include lighted tractors and more, many members jumped at the opportunity to participate. They filled the Ag shop with tractors and troubleshooted how to attach strands of Christmas lights to the tractors and how to connect them to the tractor's power supply.

Thank you to all the families who allowed our members to use tractors, lawnmowers, rangers, and gators in the parade.



FFA Apple Pie Bake Off

The annual Apple Pie Bake-off was held on December 21st and lasted the entire day of school. The day consisted of eating many sweets and playing fun games! There were multiple categories for the pies to be classified, and the 2024 winners of each category were:

- *Martha Stewart "Best Looking" Award: Cecilia Mendoza*
- *Betty Crocker "Best Tasting" Award: Owen Boeckman*
- *Iron Stomach "Worst Tasting" Award: Brady Meyer*
- *Pinterest "Most Creative" Award: Brennan Sudhoff + Jonathan Lange*
- *Sweet Tooth "Other Dessert" Award: Kameron Bird*

Congratulations to all the winners, and thank you to our judges! The Judges this year were Ohio FFA Officers Lacie Bochman and Jayden Hicks. The Apple Pie Bake-off was a great way to show everyone's cooking talents and gave us plenty of time to talk and play games with the Ohio FFA Officers.



FFA Fresh Strawberry Sale

Everyone loves fresh, sweet Florida strawberries; especially when the strawberries are picked at the peak of the season and delivered to chilly Ohio the week of February 24. The FFA strawberries come packed in one quart clear plastic clamshell containers.



2025 FFA Strawberry Sale Prices

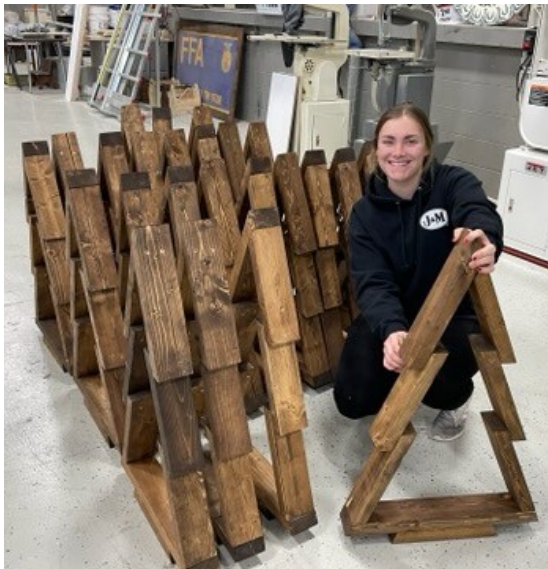
- Full Flat (8 quarts) \$26
- Half Flat (4 quarts) \$15

FFA members will be selling the strawberries through February 10.

Delivery will be the week of February 24th.

Contact any FFA member to place your order, or call the high school office at 419-678-4821.

Orders can also be placed by emailing wenning.deanna@coldwatercavs.org.



Thank You FFA Members and Mrs. Wenning

Coldwater High Scholl staff would like to thank the FFA members and Mrs. Wenning for the nice surprise outside our doors the last week of school before Christmas break. We were all treated with a wooden Christmas tree one morning as we came to school outside of our classroom or office. It was truly appreciated and again thank you for the nice surprise.



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

BOOSTER BASH

**ENJOY FOOD, DRINKS AND
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
AS WE SUPPORT OUR
COLDWATER STUDENT
ATHLETES**



2025 Spring Sale

**Be on the lookout for our upcoming spring sale.
We will have clothing and accessory items to
help you cheer on the Cavs during the spring
and summer seasons!!**



**Boardwalk
BOAT & BIKE SHOW**

May 16-17

**Again this year the Boosters will be helping
work the Boardwalk Boat and Bike show on
May 16-17, 2025. Join us at this outdoor event
with boats, motorcycles, jet skis, ATVs,
razors, golf carts and more for sale! There
will be live music, drinks, food trucks and a
whole lot of fun right on Grand Lake! All
proceeds from our work at the beverage tent
will benefit our Coldwater Athletes. We hope
to see you there for some fun in the sun!!**