

Comet Communicator

2/14/20

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Board President Urges Support for Renewal Levy

Coventry Local School District has been undergoing an important transformation since entering fiscal emergency four years ago. In that time, Coventry's new Superintendent, Treasurer, and Board of Education, along with the support of our dedicated teachers and staff, have worked diligently with the state of Ohio to reduce costs, improve educational quality, reduce class sizes, and right size our district.

Since 2016 Coventry has REDUCED annual expenditures by over \$2 million, or 9.5% of our budget. For comparison, the cost of living has INCREASED by 6.5% during that same time. We have reduced expenses by liquidating multiple properties, reducing administrative and staff positions, thoughtfully managing enrollment numbers, and paying down debt. Meanwhile, our amazing teachers and staff have successfully increased our state performance index score percentages at every building level during this transformation.

Despite our progress, we are not yet where we need to be and there is still much work still to do.

The Coventry leadership team is currently pursuing multiple strategies to further reduce costs and unlock resources to improve educational quality for our students. Among those strategies are reducing transportation costs, exiting detrimental contracts, restructuring debt, managing personnel expenditures, right sizing our facilities footprint, managing our enrollment numbers, and exploring cost effective alternatives for health insurance. We are working diligently on these initiatives and expect to make substantial progress in the near future.



Students of the Month

Congratulations to the students of the month for December. Senior Makenah Leibert was recognized from the high school.



Cameron Young and Gabryelle Dick were recognized from the middle school.



Josalinn Walker was recognized from the elementary school.

These students were recognized for their achievements and contributions to their schools. They were recognized at the December board meeting.



On March 17th, we are asking voters to renew an existing levy that generates just under \$2 million annually. Voting YES for this renewal will NOT increase your current taxes. Passage of this levy will allow Coventry's leadership team to continue our transformation and cost saving initiatives while improving educational quality.

It is true that if this levy does not pass Coventry will be forced to substantially reduce costs. Unfortunately, this type of immediate and forced reduction would be chaotic, inefficient, and extremely detrimental to the students and families in the district while also impacting the quality of education we are able to provide.

I believe there will come a time where we will be able to reduce the tax burden placed on our residents, but we are not there yet. As board president, I ask that you consider voting YES for this renewal levy and allow Coventry to continue our transformation in an efficient and orderly manner. With your support, the future of Coventry will be bright.

Thank You,
Josh Hostetler
President, Coventry Board of Education

Coventry Elementary School

Carr's Crayon Company

Mrs. Carr's first grade class is recycling old crayons and producing new crayons in the shapes of circles and hearts. Students can then purchase two circles or one bigger heart for 50 cents. This sale is taking place to help raise money to plant trees in a rain forest. She has almost sold out each and every day!



Jaxon Ledford Recognized in Beacon Journal

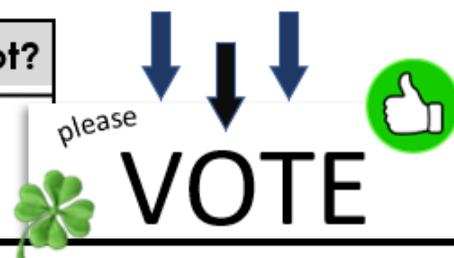
Fourth grader Jaxon Ledford was recognized in the Akron Beacon Journal's "Kids with Character" section. Jaxon is in Mrs. Dimeff's class and comes to school every day with great character and persistence. Jaxon is a student who has an inner drive to come to school, do his best each and every day, and always be a great example for others. Jaxon is kind, friendly and is always helpful to others. In his spare time, Jaxon likes to swim, ride his bike, play Fortnite and participate in Tae Kwan Do.



Q: What type of levy is on the upcoming ballot?

A: A Renewal of a 5-Yr. Emergency Levy.

The levy is referred to as a "**Renewal**" because this particular levy has been in place since 2010 and was renewed in 2015. This current levy expires in Dec. 2020. The levy term is for **5 years**. This levy **does not** increase residents' property taxes. We are simply asking to renew what already exists.



March 17, 2020

Thank you!

Q: Why should I vote?

A: Coventry Schools is accomplishing their financial & academic goals:

- ✓ Right-sizing open enrollment #s
- ✓ Decreased long-standing debt
- ✓ Paid back state solvency loan
- ✓ State-ranked music programs
- ✓ Competitive athletic programs
- ✓ Improvement of State Test Scores
- ✓ Reduction of district-level administrative personnel
- ✓ Closed & sold administration building and unused property

Q: How much \$ does this Levy cost me?

A: Homeowners **currently pay & will continue to pay**, upon renewal, the following amount:



\$16.72/Month (\$200.66/ Year)
(Tax value based on a \$100,000 Home)



Can we count on you?



Coventry Middle School

Greenhouse Featured in Beacon Journal

The Beacon Journal featured the middle school's greenhouse in one of their articles this month. In addition to growing their greens, the students are starting to hatch 100 rainbow trout in a specialized 75 gallon tank to simulate their natural habitat.



[Star Students]

5th Grade Star Students

Front Row (L to R): Peyton Batley, Allyn Bell Jr., Lee Bekelesky, Kylie Huwig

Back Row (L to R): Landon Hazelett, Jeff Lin, Kayla Jordan, Bella Dean, Kara Esterak

Movie Club Critiques Dolittle

CMS Hollywood Movie Club enjoyed a screening recently of the movie Dolittle starring Robert Downey Jr. at Lake 8 Theater. They went to see this with critical eyes to find out why critics reviews were poor and why regular audience members reviews were favorable. The majority of the group agreed it was a good, fun family movie, while a few agreed with critics. Most of the group gave it 3 out of 5 stars.

COVENTRY LSD – Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) – Shall a levy renewing an existing levy be imposed by the Coventry Local School District for the purpose of

providing for the emergency requirements of the school district in the sum of \$1,985,175 and a levy of taxes to

be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county fiscal officer to average 6.27 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to 62.7 cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for a period of 5 years, commencing in 2020, first due in calendar year 2021?

A Renewal Levy – On

- March 17, 2020 -

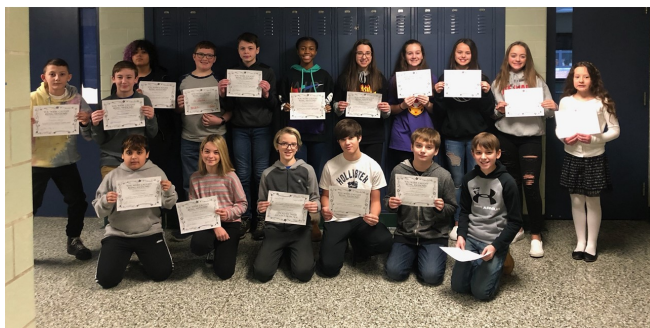
Please Remember to Vote!



Come Together ~ Comets Forever

Upcoming Dates

- 2/17—No School (President's Day)
- 2/19—Board Meeting



The 7th grade students pictured at left were recognized for being "awesome" during the month of December.

Coventry High School

4 Guys Recognition Night

Mrs. Parker's 4 Guys were recognized by the boys basketball team for their hard work at Coventry High School. Each 4 Guy member was introduced with the varsity starting 5 and also received a jersey as a token of appreciation. The team also gave a huge shout out to Mrs. Parker and her staff for their hard work and dedication. The 4 Guys run a business out of their classroom, selling muffins, smoothies, and puppy chow, among other things.



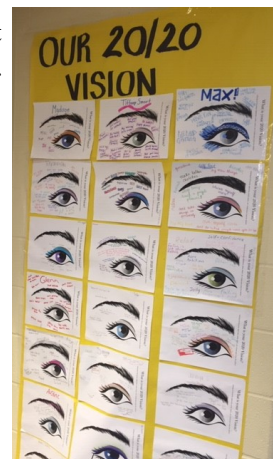
NHS Blood Drive

The National Honors Society recently hosted one of their blood drives in cooperation with the American Red Cross. The group had over 40 students volunteer to donate blood that day. In addition to saving lives, hosting the blood drives will provide for a scholarship for an NHS student.



Vision Boards

Ms. Nuosce's freshman English classes wanted to begin the new year by creating reality-based vision boards that had manageable goals on them. The students were required to come up with 15-20 words, phrases, simple sentences, or inspirational quotes that they felt they could achieve in the year 2020! Students loved seeing their work displayed and many students stop to read the posters when changing classes. What vision do you have for 2020?

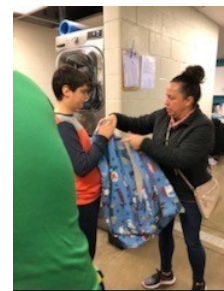
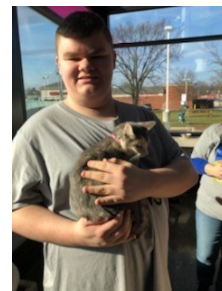


BAND DOES WELL AT CONTEST

The high school band had a very successful day at the Solo and Ensemble competition. There were 11 events that went for a rating. Seven of those events earned the highest rating (Superior - I) and four of those events earned an Excellent rating (II).

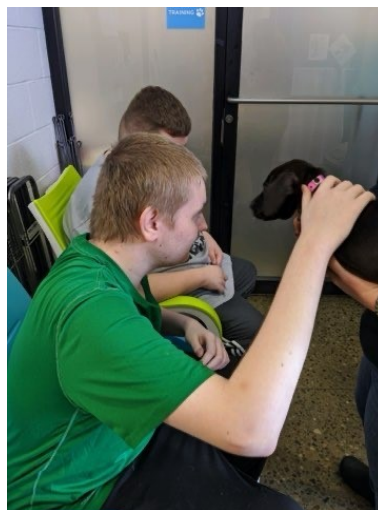
WINTER FORMAL

The High School Winter Formal "The Roaring 20's" was a roaring success. We had over 300 tickets sold and students had a great time dancing the night away! Special congratulations to our King and Queen – Carter Derrig and Madison Whipple!



4 Guys Volunteer at One of A Kind Pets

Mrs. Parker and the 4 Guys class went shopping and collected donations for cats and dogs at One of a Kind Pet Rescue in Akron. The guys bagged food, did laundry, collected and took out the trash, and interacted with a few pets! It was a great day and a fantastic learning experience for the students.



Upcoming Dates

- 2/17—No School (President's Day)
- 2/19—Board Meeting
- 2/20—Pre-District Band Concert
- 2/25—ACT
- 2/29—Reverse Raffle

Athletics

Boys Basketball

The boys basketball team is 12-7 on the season and currently tied for 2nd in the PTC. They recently held a Comets vs. Cancer game vs. Field. They travel to Woodridge tonight then wrap up the regular season at home against Marlinton on 2/18 and away at Springfield on 2/21. The team earned a home playoff game and will host Norton on Tuesday 2/25 at 7:00 pm.



Wrestling



The wrestling team is 0-8 on the season and has placed well at the tournaments they have gone to. Junior Kyler Barnett placed 4th at the Patrick J Morales

Tournament in New York and junior Colby Simon and sophomore Kody Arntz both placed 6th at the North Coast Classic in Independence. They have one more dual match at Cuyahoga Falls on Tuesday before starting their postseason run with the PTC Tournament at Rootstown on 2/21 and 2/22 and the Sectional Tournament at Northwest on 2/29.



Girls Basketball

The girls basketball team finished the regular season with a record of 8-14. They had a 3 game win streak in early January, including an upset of perennial league powerhouse Ravenna and won 3 out of their last 4 games. The girls earned the #10 seed in the Uniontown District and will travel to Copley tomorrow to take on the Indians at 1:00 pm.



Bowling

The boys and girls bowling teams have wrapped up their PTC match play with successful results. The boys finished with a record of 6-3 in the PTC and 8-3 overall and the girls finished with a record of 6-3 in the PTC and 7-3 overall. The girls finished 2nd at their Sectional Tournament which qualified them on to the District tournament on Monday at Nautical Lanes in Avon Lake. The boys will have their Sectional Tournament at Eastbury Lanes tomorrow.

