

Quality Profile

2018-2019 report to the Ottawa Hills community



Ottawa Hills
Local Schools

Defined by excellence. Supported by tradition.

MISSION

In partnership with our community, Ottawa Hills Local Schools will challenge and inspire each student to realize his or her unique potential; to embrace learning as a lifelong process; and to become an active, responsible citizen.

VISION

Ottawa Hills will be the school of choice by providing innovative learning experiences that have an enduring impact on each child.

CORE VALUES

Acceptance	Honesty
Citizenship	Integrity
Compassion	Leadership
Creativity	Philomathy
Excellence	Respect
Flexibility	Responsibility

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MAARA FINK
ROB GNEPPER
COREY HUPP
BRAD JOHNSON
KATE PIXLER

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

DR. ADAM FINESKE
 Superintendent

BEN MCMURRAY

Principal: Jr./Sr. High School

KORI KAWCZYNSKI

Principal: Elementary School

DARCY BROWNE

Assisant Principal: Jr./Sr. High School
 (interim)

JILL MICHAELSON

Director of Student Services

DR. WILLIAM MILLER

Director of Curriculum & Instruction

SHANE PATACCA

Director of Technology

TAMARA TALMAGE

Athletic Administrator

FINANCIAL LEADERSHIP

BRADLEY S. BROWNE
 Treasurer

OPERATIONAL LEADERSHIP**KEVIN MERRILL**

Director of Communications

ERICA SILK

Director of Development
 and Alumni Relations

DONNIE STEVENS

Director of Operations



Reaching new heights

District achievements start with community

As a high-performing district with a tradition of excellence, Ottawa Hills Local Schools again has wonderful news to share. While we tell pieces of our story every day, once a year we package many of those successes into a single publication: The Quality Profile.

The ability of our district (just two buildings and 1,020 students) to perform so consistently well to produce stories worth sharing can be attributed to four factors: community, parents, teachers, and students. While each is valued individually, it is the combination of those factors that defines our character and provides advantages over other school districts.

Naturally, this Profile places most of its emphasis on student accomplishments. They received numerous individual and group honors within the past 12 months at the national, state, and regional levels. They also changed lives closer to home by presenting wellness workshops for each other or helping those in need through nearly two dozen philanthropic activities.

As a lifelong public school educator and administrator in Ohio, I have been part of many great teams. The greatest are fueled by people with passion – those who take pride in the task before them as well as the larger meaning behind it. They know and live the “why” of their work. From the day in August

I started as the OH superintendent, I began to ask students, parents, teachers, and staff to share with me their “why.” Why do you do what you do?

This concept of “why” as the touchstone of our individual and organizational actions is explored in one of my favorite books: *Start With Why: How Great Leaders Inspire Everyone to Take Action*. I quickly learned that our district’s traditions and never-ending pursuit of excellence are supported by a thousand “whys” – propelling us forward like a thousand oars pulling in unison.

In this Profile, you will find dozens of examples of “why” in action. I encourage you to follow our story year-round on social media. I know you will be amazed by the achievements and activities taking place within Green Bear Nation.

Superintendent Dr. Adam Fineske
afineske@ohschools.org



Twitter: @AdamFineske
 Instagram: fineskeadam

QUALITY PROFILE

Celebrating accomplishments for 2018-2019

INSIDE:

4 Excellence Recognized

Summarizing state and national awards and recognition received by the district, students, and faculty

6 Academics

Examples of innovation and achievement across the district's curriculum

7 The Arts

Participation in performing and visual arts inspires students' creativity, problem-solving, and critical-thinking skills

8 Student Leadership & Activities

Whether in the classroom, on a sports field, or beyond campus, our students set great examples through their actions

9 Responsible Citizens

With support from friends, families, and teachers, students helped those in need through many philanthropic activities

10 Student Services

Recognizing the curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular programs that help students realize their full potential

11 Parent & Community Involvement

Exploring how community groups support our schools through fundraising, volunteers, and programs

12 Fiscal Stewardship



ABOUT THE QUALITY PROFILE

This Quality Profile is part of a coordinated outreach effort by members of the Alliance for High Quality Education (AHQE). The Columbus-based advocacy group represents a voluntary coalition of high-performing school districts in Ohio that share philosophies about K-12 education. This year, 85 AHQE members produced Quality Profiles to supplement information contained within the Ohio Department of Education's annual School Report Cards. Each Profile tells a story of achievement across six categories: Academics, Arts, Student Services, Student Leadership & Activities, Fiscal Stewardship, and Parent & Community Involvement. For more information about AHE, visit ahqe.org.

ABOUT OTTAWA HILLS LOCAL SCHOOLS

Established: 1925

Mascot: Green Bears (formerly The Arrows)

Athletic Conference: Toledo Area Athletic Conference

Enrollment: 1,020

CONTACT INFORMATION

Elementary School: 3602 Indian Rd., Ottawa Hills, OH 43606. 419-536-8329

Junior/Senior High School: 2532 Evergreen Rd., Ottawa Hills, OH 43606. 419-534-5376

Main District Offices: 3600 Indian Rd., Ottawa Hills, OH 43606. 419-536-6371



Twitter: @ohschools
Facebook: ohschools





OH earns 5th straight All-A Report

The Ohio Department of Education in 2019 awarded Ottawa Hills Local Schools all A's on the state School Report Card. The grades are for the 2018-2019 school year; the district now has earned all A's for five consecutive years.

Not only did the district receive an overall "A" grade, but so did Ottawa Hills Junior/Senior High School and Ottawa Hills Elementary School. **"We are extremely proud of the Report Card. It validates the team approach we take toward education, an approach that requires the participation of the community, parents, teachers, and students,"** said Superintendent Dr. Adam Fineske. **"As important as the Report Card is, it is only one way we measure our success as a district. There are countless other ways we celebrate our success as well."**

To begin the review process, districts and individual schools self-report information on specific marks of performance, called measures, within broad categories, called components. Each district then receives letter grades (A-F) for each of the following six components that are applicable to it: Graduation Rate, Achievement, Progress, Improving At-Risk K-3 Readers, Gap Closing, and Prepared for Success.

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

High School Top 5 in Ohio, moves up in U.S. rankings

For the second consecutive year, Ottawa Hills High School was ranked as the fifth-best high school in Ohio. As important, the building moved up significantly in national rankings. It is now the 136th best high school in the United States, up from 258 last year.

"We are delighted to be recognized by U.S. News & World Report as one of America's best high schools," said Junior/Senior High Principal Ben McMurray. **"Our faculty and staff work incredibly hard to ensure our students feel valued, challenged, and supported. We are extremely grateful for the strong partnership with our parents and community."**



U.S. News collects data on more than 23,000 public U.S. high schools; it uses that data to rank 17,245 schools in five categories, including performance on state-required tests, graduation, and college preparation.

This year, 736 Ohio high schools were ranked. Among all schools ranked, Ottawa Hills finished tied for first place nationally in the "Math and Reading Proficiency" category.

"This is a high school honor, but it reflects a rigorous curriculum from kindergarten through 12th grade," added Superintendent Dr. Adam Fineske. "Our students take advantage of the 17 Advanced Placement courses at the high school and they perform extremely well in those courses and on their AP tests." The high school has 316 students in grades 9 through 12.

Finding our Niche

Analysis places OH #8 among 608 Ohio districts

Ottawa Hills Local Schools is the No. 1 school district in the Toledo area and Lucas County, according to research company Niche. Niche calculated its rankings using dozens of public data sets and millions of reviews. Factors used in its K-12 rankings include state test scores, college readiness, graduation rates, SAT/ACT scores, teacher quality, and public school district ratings.

In addition to its top Toledo area and Lucas County ranking, Ottawa Hills ranked high in all statewide categories measured by Niche:

- ▶ Best school districts: 8 out of 608 (top 1 percent).
- ▶ Best places to teach: 33 out of 608 (top 5 percent).
- ▶ Safest school districts: 39 out of 608 (top 6 percent).
- ▶ Best school districts for athletes: 69 out of 608 (top 11 percent).
- ▶ Districts with the best teachers: 80 out of 608 (top 13 percent).

STEM



SCIENCE



TECHNOLOGY



ENGINEERING



MATHEMATICS

High School top STEM school in Ohio in 2019

Ottawa Hills High School was ranked as the No. 1 high school in Ohio for STEM and No. 127 in the United States, according to 2019 rankings released this fall by *U.S. News & World Report*.



To determine the top Science, Technology, Engineering and Math schools, *U.S. News* looked at the top 1,000 public schools from its latest Best High Schools rankings, and then evaluated their students' participation and success in Advanced Placement science and math tests.

Those eligible schools were then judged nationally on their level of math and science participation and success, using Advanced Placement STEM test data for 2017 graduates as the benchmark to conduct the analysis.

13 receive Edison Award for STEM excellence

Thirteen teachers and staff from Ottawa Hills Junior/Senior High School received The Governor's Thomas Edison Award. Ottawa Hills



was the only district in northwest Ohio selected for the honor. The award recognizes excellence in STEM education and student research in 2018-2019. Congratulations to **B. Tim Adkins**, math and science teacher; **Gerry Davis**, STEM teacher; **Patty Dowd**, STEM teacher; **Diane Drabek**, math teacher; **Daniel Feuerstein**, math teacher; **Paul Genzman**, math and science teacher; **Mary Kate Hafemann**, science teacher; **Joan Keckler**, math teacher; **Michael Leeds**, instrumental music director; **Jeremy Nixon**, science teacher; **Nicole Silvers**, science teacher; **Brooks Spiess**, technology coordinator; **Tony Torio**, math teacher.

High School #2 in state, #61 nationally for STEM

Newsweek named Ottawa Hills High School as the second-best high school in Ohio for STEM and No. 61 nationally among all high schools



Ottawa Hills High School also was ranked No. 1 in the region and No. 43 nationally among all public high schools. The news magazine, working with STEM.org, released its rankings of 5,000 top high schools on National STEM Day. The full list of 5,000 top STEM high schools is available at Newsweek.com.

The purpose behind the research was to determine which primary and secondary institutions in the nation best offered students experiences in STEM while preparing them for post-secondary outcomes, according to the two organizations.



'Sun' shines on Torio

High school math teacher Tony Torio was named the 2019 Sun Federal Credit Union "Extraordinary Teacher of the Year." The award came with a \$500

check for him and a \$1,000 check for him to award to an OH senior in the form of a scholarship. "I am very thankful to have the support of my students and this great community," Mr. Torio said. In addition to teaching classes such as algebra and statistics, he has advised the school's Academic Quiz Bowl team for the past nine years.



Students honor mentors

High school teachers Tim Adkins (pictured, left) and Tony Torio and seniors Daniel Liu and Ashleigh Smirnov were honored at the annual "I Make A Difference" Breakfast

sponsored by the Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West. The seniors were asked to select a teacher that had a profound impact on them during their time at Ottawa Hills. Daniel chose math teacher and Quiz Bowl advisor Mr. Torio; Ashley chose math and science teacher Mr. Adkins.

Miller receives 'Superintendent of the Year' award from BASA

Former Superintendent Dr. Kevin S. Miller was honored in 2019 as the "Superintendent of the Year" by the Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA). More than 700 individuals were eligible for the award. Each year, the last five Ohio superintendents of the year form a committee to review the details of all nominee submissions. They send their individual scoring results to BASA, which undertakes the final tabulation. (Earlier this year, Dr. Miller joined BASA as its director of governmental relations.)

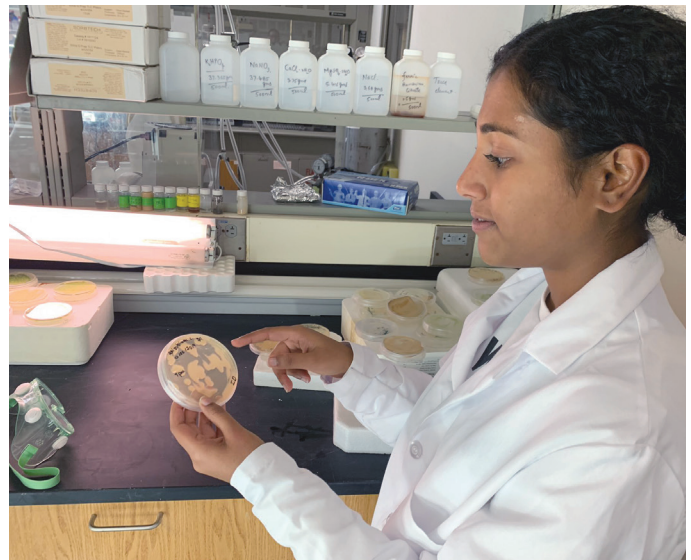
Classroom innovation



THE WRITING STUDIO

Student-to-student learning

A college-inspired academic service is in place at the Junior/Senior High School, enabling students to get help with writing and literature assignments. Much like similar services at colleges, the Ottawa Hills version – The Writing Studio – also is largely run by students who help create and deliver the lessons, either in small groups or one-on-one tutoring. The Studio shares three elements with similar college programs: academic coaching, one-on-one tutoring, and Structured Learning Assistance (SLAs, or micro lessons). The OH version adds a fourth element because of its place within a junior/senior high school environment: family conferencing.



HONORS SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COURSE

Real-world scientific experience

An Honors class is generating academic opportunities for high school students, from publishing research in academic journals and receiving coveted college admissions to winning summer-long internships at world-class labs. The course debuted in 2018 and connects students with scientists at the University of Toledo to gain real-world experience. "The goal was to find a way to bridge the gap between the local research community and our students," said biology teacher Jeremy Nixon, who originated the idea. "I wanted our kids to be able to walk into the college interview of their dreams and say they had experiences that set them apart even more. And it's working as planned."

- The high school **Science Olympiad** team finished 13th at the State Science Olympiad competition in April. This was the eighth-straight year the team qualified for states.
- OH students collected more than **\$5,000 in science-related scholarships, prizes, and awards** from local and state conferences – the highest single-year amount ever.
- All seven students presenting at The Ohio Academy of Science State Science Day in May **received "superior" scores** for their work – the first time every OH student attending scored at the highest level. To earn a Superior rating, students needed to earn a minimum of 36 points across five categories.
- Students' collective achievements at the May State Science Day helped Ottawa Hills High School take home the **Harold C. Shaw Outstanding School Award** for the district – a first for the school. Only 12 schools statewide receive the honor.

- The **Junior High Science Olympiad** had 17 top-six finishes and a 7th-place team finish at state regionals.
- Twenty-five fifth graders presented research on northwest Ohio water quality at the **2018 Student Watershed Summit** at the University of Toledo. Another 16 students returned in 2019, and their presentation won the event's **"Best Use of Technology"** award.
- Over the past year, nine seniors were named National Merit Semifinalists, one of the most recognizable national academic honors for high school students. Recipients for 2019 were **Neha Kazmi, Daniel Liu, Mazin Omer, Gabrielle Thurston, and Katherine Wilmore**. For 2020, recipients were **Joshua Assi,**



Priya Bhatt, Hank Griffin, and Jennifer Hsu. They represent the top 1 percent of U.S. high school seniors. Three seniors were named National Merit Commended Students: **Amy Sun** for 2019 and **Rhi DeMilt and Drew Hoffman** for 2020.

- **Eighth graders made their annual trip to Washington, D.C.,** and visited many famous monuments and destinations. They also met Congressman Bob Latta (*pictured, left*), who spoke them inside the Capitol. The four-day trip also included stops at the Gettysburg Battlefield and Flight 93 National Memorial.
- The **Quiz Bowl Team** finished third in the Small School Division and as runner-up in the Very Small School Division at the 2019 NAQT Small School National Championship. Earlier in 2019, the team won the 2019 NAQT Ohio Small School State Championship as well as defended its TAAC title.



A Beauty of a show

The four performances of *Beauty and the Beast JR* will long be remembered for more than acting, staging, and entertainment value. In the grand tradition of Ottawa Hills theater, it's now in a league of its own. The February 8-10 performances sold 2,013 tickets – a new record for an Ottawa Hills “Acting Out!” Productions. Two performances (Friday evening and Sunday afternoon) were sell-outs (excluding blocked-out aisle seats on either side of the 593-seat auditorium); prospective attendees were turned away from the 2 p.m. Sunday finale. The show featured 160-plus cast members in grades four through eight. In addition to *Beauty and the Beast JR*, the district's theatre program produced two other shows in 2018-2019: *Next to Normal* and *Newsies*.

► Four Junior High School students received awards for entries submitted to the **University of Toledo's Lake Erie Center 2018 Photo Contest**. Students used techniques learned in art class to take photos of nature in the Toledo area.

► The work of more than a 100 Junior/Senior High students was displayed at the 14th annual **smART Show** in May.

The show has grown more varied and entertaining each year and now includes musical presentations, hands-on activities, and artist talks. Senior **Grace Dunbar** (pictured, left) won the smART Prize as the top-voted work by attendees.



► The **Elementary School Brown Bag Chorus** sang the U.S. and Canadian National Anthems at a Walleye hockey game. The Chorus is led by music teacher Kimberly Manchur and has about 70 fifth and sixth graders. The **Choraliers** sang the National Anthem at the Huntington Center before an appearance by the Harlem Globetrotters.

► Five junior high students participated in the **2019 BGSU Middle School Honor Band**. Middle-school students from northwest Ohio and Michigan applied for consideration for the May event. It was the district's most representation ever at the event.

► Elementary School students showed off their acting skills at the annual **March Variety Show**. There were 38 performances filling three stages featuring everything from gymnastics, singing and dancing, to karate and hula-hooping.

► The **Symphonic Band** announced plans for a Jan. 17-20, 2020, group trip to Toronto, the first of its kind for the band.

► At District Competition in March, The **Choraliers** received an “excellent” rating for their group performance, musical expression, and sight reading.



► The 2019 **Spring Choir Concert** received star treatment as acclaimed pianist and performer Alvin Waddles accompanied The Choraliers on stage.

► In 2019 for a sixth consecutive year, Elementary School students (pictured, left) took part in **International Dot Day**. To celebrate, they did something they can't at home: put stickers on furniture! Yayoi Kusama was the district's 2019 Dot Day inspiration. She is famous for covering flowers, furniture, and even pumpkins with polka dots.

► The annual week-long **Elementary School Art Fair** displayed almost 500 pieces of work from K-6 students. The event was celebrated with morning breakfasts that allowed parents and other guests to enjoy the art.

► The **Ottawa Hills Marching Band** members joined with more than 1,000 students in Bowling Green in September 2018 to play as one “superband” at Doyt L. Perry stadium.



Every voice, every instrument

Junior/Senior High School instrumentalists and vocalists made district history in December when about 130 students from three performance groups shared a single stage as one – an event that took months of planning and ended with a standing ovation. The Symphonic Band, Choraliers, and Concert Choir perform each fall at the Fall Collage Concert. But never before had they performed simultaneously, executing a single work of instrumental and vocal music.



Agora: Opening worlds and minds

The biannual tradition of Agora delivered a lifetime of memories in 2018 for students, whether they were involved in one of 20 local workshops or rafting in Costa Rica (above). Named for the Greek marketplace where people met to exchange goods and ideas, Agora provides a forum for students to experience ideas outside the traditional classroom. Every Junior/Senior High School student took part, with more than 120 traveling abroad to destinations such as Switzerland, Germany, Italy, France, and Spain.

► Sophomores **Sophia Stone** and **Zak Maaieh** completed Youth Leadership Toledo training and were honored at a ceremony at the University of Toledo's Nitschke Auditorium.

► Seventh-graders **Nash Malczewski** and **Leo Chow** won the "People's Choice Award" at the annual SATELLITES Conference at the University of Toledo.

► Fifth-grader **Rohan Padhye** participated in the 2019 National Elementary Chess Championships and tied for second in the K-5 Championship Section.

► Junior **Rhi DeMilt** and seventh-grader **Emme DeMilt** placed first in their respective divisions in the Toledo Bar Association Caty Armstrong Memorial Law Day Essay Contest.

► Sophomores **Meredith Randall** and **Ishan Khare**, juniors **Conor O'Loughlin** and **Amelia Frueh**, and seniors **Neha Kazmi** and **David Heuring** were honored for high scores on the Americanism and Government Test sponsored by The American Legion.

► The **OH Model UN Club** participated in the Canadian-American Security Council. More than two dozen OH students joined more than 600 other

Midwest and Canadian high school students to represent nations as part of different international organizations such as the UN and NATO.

► Parents and other family members shared their cultures with third graders at the annual "**Culture Fair**." The event showcased the food and traditions of other nations.

► The Ottawa Hills International Student Exchange Association and AFS (American Field Service) hosted the annual **Diversity Weekend** in January. Eight international students studying locally (*pictured, left*) including three in OH, participated in events in both buildings.



► **Student Ambassadors** hosted welcome luncheons for new students at the Junior/Senior High School in order to cultivate a sense of community.

► Seventh and eighth graders at the Junior High School began publishing their own monthly publication, **BearPause**.

► Seventh-grader **Sevar Mian** received the Toledo Symphony League's Remembrance Fund Scholarship.

► The **Safety Patrol** at the Elementary School continued its tradition of ensuring safety through the hard work of a group of dedicated sixth graders.

SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

STATE HONORS

In 2018, **Kevin Hileman** and **Dylan Schreder** were named to the boys' soccer First-Team All-State team; **John Kight** was named Second-Team. In 2019 as a senior, John was named First-Team All-State and senior **Drew Hoffman** to Second-Team. Sophomore **Meredith Greeley** was named Second-Team All-State in girls' soccer in 2019.

TOP COACHES

Soccer coach **Nate Baer** was named Division III "Coach of the Year." Lacrosse coach **Tim Best** was named "Coach of the Year" by the Ohio High School Athletic Association.

SIGNING DAY

Nine seniors took part in "Signing Day" ceremonies to play collegiate sports: **Joe Boesel** (lacrosse) at Kenyon College, **Maya Chandar-Kouba** (squash) at Bowdoin College, **Austen Charles** (soccer) at Wittenberg University, **Tommy Coil** (soccer) at Saint Michael's College, **Caroline Dayton** (golf) at Loyola University Chicago, **Kevin Hileman** (soccer) at the United States Naval Academy, **Ethan Krupp** (lacrosse) at Adrian College, **Michael Nichols** (track) at the University of Findlay, and **Sophie Summers** (basketball) at North Central College.

TITLE RETAINED

The collective efforts of Green Bear teams allowed the district to retain the **Alltel All Sports Cup** for a second consecutive year as the best sports program in the Toledo Area Athletic Conference.

SMASHING DEBUT

In its inaugural season, the **eSports Club** earned a first-place plaque by winning the "Smash Brothers Ultimate" division crown at the year's final tournament.



Can-do spirit!

Elementary school students and their families contributed nearly 1,000 cans of food to help a local church and its food pantry last holiday season. For their winning efforts, the girls were able to wear pajamas to school. The Elementary School Student Council (grades 4-6) organizes the annual drive, which for many years has benefitted Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church on Hill Avenue. All grades participate in the friendly competition. When the cans were counted, girls outraised the boys 487-470. It's up to council members each year to select a theme for the fund-raising event as well as the winning prize.

Throughout the year, OH students learn to become responsible citizens — a central tenet of the district's mission — by volunteering or raising money for others. Here are examples from the past year.

► Eighth-grader **Libby Hagenbuch** started a drive to collect used mascara wands for a nonprofit group Appalachian Wildlife Refuge to help rehabilitate orphaned endangered wildlife. She collected more than 250.



► **Volley for the Cure** (pictured, above) raised more than \$500 in 2018 and another \$750 in 2019. The fundraiser is organized by members of the volleyball team and their supporters. The efforts supported The Victory Center of Toledo and the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

► Sophomores **Abby Dewhirst** and **Abbie Westmeyer** and Village resident **Grace VanSlooten** were named "Students of the Year" by the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. The trio raised more than \$45,000 to help find a cure for blood cancer.

► Ottawa Hills first-grader **Nathaniel Hollie** and sixth-graders **Olivia Bridges** and **Israel Hollie** organized a food drive to stock a pantry serving University of Toledo students.

► The **junior varsity and varsity girls' basketball teams** volunteered for an 18th straight year at the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northwest Ohio. They made crafts in "Santa's Workshop" with families staying at the facility.

► Students donated food items to benefit Seagate Food Bank of Northwest Ohio as part of the **"Pack-A-Pick Up Challenge!"** organized by WTOL 11 and sponsored by Charlie's Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram.

► The **Junior High Advisories** organized holiday collections to send to U.S. troops stationed overseas. Each advisory class brought items to pack into a box for active-duty troops in Kuwait and Afghanistan. They also collected items for Hurricane Florence victims and recovery efforts. Collected items were sent to Impact with Hope (ISOH/ IMPACT).

► **Student Council** officers organized a food drive competition in partnership with Maumee Valley Country Day School. Students from both schools donated more than 400 food items at a boys' basketball game in February.

► The **baseball team** volunteered at the Feed Our Children event at the University of Toledo. Volunteers packed more than 203,000 hunger-relief meals for Haiti. The team has performed community service for more than 30 years.

► **"Hoops for a Cause"** raised more than \$3,400 through bake sales, online donations, donations at games, and a \$1,000 match from Lambie's Legacy. In the past five years, the girls' basketball program has raised more than \$13,000 for charities.

► Led by Elementary School-based **The Learning Leaders**, students and their families donated 25 pounds of aluminum pull-tabs to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northwest Ohio, which uses money raised from selling the donated pull-tabs to provide services (pictured, right).

► **Challenge Crew** hosted a Winter Coat Drive in December 2018 to benefit the Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital.

► The National Honor and National Junior Honor societies conducted a **"Hoops for Hope Puck Chuck"** with proceeds benefitting Good Grief of Northwest Ohio.

► The **Environmental (ECLIPSE) Club** cleaned a section of the Ottawa River within the Village boundaries by removing more than three large garbage bags of litter.





SPOTLIGHT ON DYSPLEXIA

To better align programs and resources with need, the district conducted a review of its dyslexia programs in 2019. The audit, prepared by the consultancy 3LI at the Board of Education’s request, contained recommendations across three tiers. The audit collected data from many sources, including focus groups and online surveys of parents. The district has started to formulate a plan of response.

To bring more attention to the issue, the Ottawa Hills Schools Foundation in the fall of 2018 invited to the district David Flink, founder and chief empowerment officer of nonprofit Eye to Eye and a national advocate for those who learn differently. His national mentoring program focuses on “unlocking greatness in the one in five who learn differently” through a proven social-emotional learning curriculum. Mr. Flink met with students in small groups and also delivered an address to students in grades 5-12. He tours the country to share stories about learning disabilities such as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and dyslexia.

OHbreathe: Exhaling together

Started in 2017, OHbreathe allows students to learn or try something new within the normal school day, such as reading books to elementary students, learning about plant therapy, or working with essential oils. The program’s guest speakers and student-led workshops foster personal growth and deepen connections between Junior/Senior High School students and teachers.



Messenger of hope

Speaker and author Rodney J. Walker, whose life experiences include living in 12 foster homes on Chicago’s south side as well as graduating from Yale, brought his story of perseverance and success to the Junior/Senior High School in September 2019. His appearance was the inaugural event in the Kadens Family Leadership Series.

- To help students and their teachers deal with any exam-season stressors, **OHbreathe** created a “Top 10 Avoidable Stressors” posters for placement around the Junior/Senior High School.
- The **Ottawa Hills Gay-Straight Alliance** passed out free cookies (and compliments to students and staff) as part of National No-Name Calling Week.
- **P.A.K. (Positive Attitude Kids)** continued creating positive environments for Elementary School students. Throughout the year, students focus on elements of character education such as social-emotional learning, mindfulness, diversity, and inclusion. The message is reinforced weekly through P.A.K. “Thoughtful Thursday” announcements.
- Junior High School students enjoyed “**Unplugged**” events throughout the year. The events give seventh and eighth graders a chance to have fun with board games, fun sports, and food in a technology-free environment. Initiatives like “Unplugged” play a special role in providing junior high students with meaningful opportunities to strengthen their relationships with each other and their teachers in a relaxed atmosphere.

- The district celebrated “**Red Ribbon Week**” with activities and a blood drive, supported by artwork (*pictured, below*) and guided by daily themes different for both the Junior/Senior High School and Elementary School. Red Ribbon Week is a national prevention-awareness campaign focused on alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, and violence.
- **OH21** created and sold “De-Stress Packs” to help Junior/Senior High School students cope with the stress of final exams. In addition, the parent-support group presented a talk on vaping as part of its “Chew on this!” series of discussions.
- A new generation of leaders received training as part of **Teen PEP**, a student-led program that provides meaningful peer interactions aimed at facilitating wellness discussions on topics such as bullying, adolescent relationship violence, gender stereotyping, and forms of abuse.





A festive feeling

Nothing says "community" like a festival. For 16 years, the annual Fall Festival & Marketplace has celebrated life in Ottawa Hills – and raised money to support district programs. From vendor booths and dunk tanks to rock-climbing walls and pumpkin carving, the event celebrates the sights and sounds of fall for guests of every age.

It is produced annually by the Ottawa Hills Schools Parent Association with support from the Office of Village Life, and supported by many sponsors and volunteers. In addition, the 2019 Ottawa Hills Fall Festival Auto Show raised more than \$6,000 for Impact Teen Drivers.

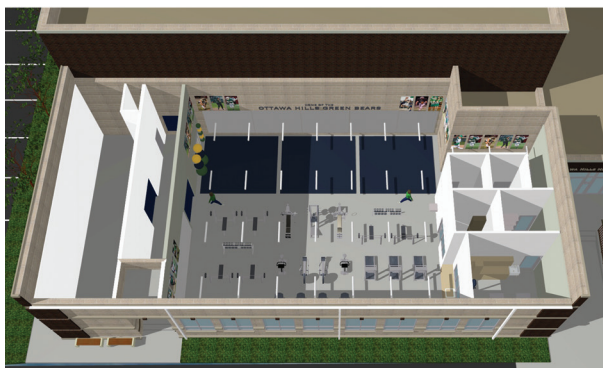
► The **After Prom Committee** organized another successful Pancake Dinner in February in support of After Prom, a parent-chaperoned evening of fun, food, games, and prizes in a drug- and alcohol-free environment.

► The last two Ottawa Hills **Community Rummage Sales**, a fund-raiser for the International Student Exchange and Band programs, brought in nearly \$16,000.

► Receiving the 2019 **Distinguished Alumni Award** were Betsy (Carson) Brady ('64), Pete Kadens ('96), Rustin "Polly" (Steele) Levenson ('65), Robert "Bob" Shopneck ('68), and Dr. Catherine Webb ('66). To celebrate the achievements of athletes, the Foundation this year created the **Ottawa Hills Athletic Hall of Fame**. Members of the first class were Jim Tenney ('58) and John Hill ('56), who won the state boys' tennis doubles title in 1956; and Laurie Imes ('81) and Kelly Coleman ('82), who won the state girls' tennis doubles title in 1980.

► With the turn of a few shovels of dirt, Ottawa Hills Local Schools started building a healthier future for its students. The groundbreaking this summer for **The Kadens Family Fitness Center** (pictured, below) marked another milestone in a year-long project to raise \$1.5 million and create state-of-the-art health facilities. The Kadens Family Health & Wellness Capital Campaign also will provide funding to upgrade varsity locker rooms for boys and girls and a remodeled and more versatile Multipurpose Room.

► The district hosted its biannual **Legacy Luncheon**, a community-wide event honoring Village residents for their role in maintaining a legacy of excellence in our community and schools.



► The basketball court at the Junior/Senior High School was rededicated as the **John Lindsay Court** in honor of the teacher/coach and his contributions to the sport and his many athletes over the years (pictured, right).

► The **Ottawa Hills Schools Parent Association** put on another successful year-end carnival at the Elementary School. This year's edition was titled: "2019 Spring Jam-Bear-ee."

► **OH Boosters** raised money for athletes and teams through their annual spring mulch sale and fall Pigskin BBQ.

► Thank you to Elementary School students and families for another successful **Fall Scholastic Book Fair** in October 2019. The fair was open for only 11 hours, but a record \$8,775 in books and other items were purchased. The support generated \$2,363.46 in cash and "Scholastic Dollars" to spend on books for students to share and enjoy. The spring 2019 fair generated more than \$10,450 in revenue.



► Through its annual wishlist funding program, the **Ottawa Hills Schools Parent Association** continues to enrich student lives. In 2019, the group funded calm-down kits and mindfulness tools; iPads and associated pencils; music-go-rounds; collaboration chairs and sectional furniture; area rugs, 24 wobble cushions; lounge-and-learn Ottomans, chairs, and couches; a test kiln; a commercial-grade grill; and robotics equipment.

Giving Thanks

Thanks to these organizations for providing Ottawa Hills Local Schools with volunteers, financial contributions, programs, and year-round support:

- OH Boosters
- Ottawa Hills Schools Parent Association
- Ottawa Hills Music & Theatre Association
- OH 21
- Ottawa Hills Schools Foundation



Ottawa Hills Local Schools

3600 Indian Road
Ottawa Hills, OH 43606

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TOLEDO, OHIO
PERMIT #311

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

(fiscal year: July 1-June 30)	FY2017 (actual)	FY2018 (actual)	FY2019 (actual)	FY2020 (forecast)
REVENUE				
General property tax (real estate)	\$10,417,728	\$11,138,850	\$9,918,382	\$10,466,207
Public utility personal property	\$257,731	\$275,334	\$288,943	\$297,826
Unrestricted grants-in-aid	\$2,531,564	\$2,593,171	\$2,642,377	\$2,700,059
Restricted grants-in-aid	\$2,102	\$2,220	\$6,725	\$5,000
Property tax allocation	\$1,492,519	\$1,479,962	\$1,460,837	\$1,458,870
All other operating revenue	\$345,912	\$402,801	\$459,793	\$397,499
TOTAL REVENUE	\$15,047,556	\$15,892,338	\$14,777,057	\$15,325,461
Other financing sources	\$138,050	\$323,435	\$368,353	\$1,053,284
TOTAL REVENUE AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	\$15,185,606	\$16,215,773	\$15,145,410	\$16,378,745
EXPENSES				
Personnel services	\$7,973,334	\$8,234,080	\$8,695,733	\$9,611,721
Employees' retirement/ insurance benefits	\$2,995,786	\$3,231,550	\$3,302,758	\$3,695,449
Purchased services	\$1,994,147	\$2,126,214	\$2,210,463	\$2,484,448
Supplies and materials	\$659,211	\$587,558	\$573,193	\$701,287
Capital outlay	\$47,462	\$36,555	\$61,921	\$85,106
Debt service total	\$203,924	\$240,300	\$190,079	\$235,340
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$13,873,864	\$14,456,257	\$15,034,147	\$16,813,351
Other financing uses	\$3,167,629	\$100,000	\$1,092,997	\$400,896
TOTAL EXPENSES AND OTHER FINANCING USES	\$17,041,493	\$14,556,257	\$16,127,144	\$17,214,247
EXCESS OF REVENUE AND OTHER FINANCING USES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES				
	(\$1,855,887)	\$1,659,516	(\$981,734)	(\$835,502)
Cash balance July 1	\$8,869,158	\$7,013,271	\$8,672,787	\$7,691,053
Cash balance June 30	\$7,013,271	\$8,672,787	\$7,691,053	\$6,855,551



HONORING PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

The district honored four local businesses for their contributions to students and the community by adding their names to the state's "Business Honor Roll." The award comes from the Ohio School Boards Association and recognizes collaboration between public schools and businesses to strengthen schools and the business community.

Local honorees were **Effler/Schmitt Co.**, **Howard Hannah Realty (Tom and Nancy Kabat)**, **JupMode**, and **Sun Federal Credit Union**. They help in many ways, including providing internships or job-shadowing programs; volunteering in schools and offering employees time off to volunteer; serving as a mentor or tutor; supporting extracurricular programs; and hosting company tours or sponsoring field trips.

To view the district's five-year forecast and other financial documents, visit ohschools.org/treasurer.