



# ELIDA LOCAL SCHOOLS DAWG BYTES

*Inspired By Tradition, Educating For Tomorrow*



May 26, 2017

## U.S. Senator's Aide Visits Elida Local Schools

Elida School District was happy to welcome Ohio's US Senator Rob Portman's Aide, Kelsey Krull, for a recent visit on May 11th. School Board President Pat Schymanski along with other Elida staff members had an opportunity to discuss many topics with Ms. Krull, including food nutrition standards as well as President Trump's proposal to cut after school programs.

Mrs. Mariah Ross, Food Service Mgr. and Mrs. Keisha Larimore, teacher for family and consumer science discussed the proposed changes to the current calorie, whole grain and salt requirements. They spoke on why these changes are needed to help better manage reasonable food services and what it takes to balance the many requirements and still find food to serve to students. Mrs. Larimore explained how in her world foods class, some students had never been to a store and purchased fresh food and then used that food for a home cooked meal. They remarked how different the food tasted different from what they were used to, primarily because less salt and more alternate spices were in the recipe.

Mrs. Allison Jones and Mrs. Erin Morton discussed the work they perform in the elementary school helping some of our struggling students deal with life issues.

Mr. Dan Swick, Elementary Asst. Principal, and Mr. Darren Sharp, High School Principal, discussed the importance of after school programs. President Trump's cabinet has proposed reducing or eliminating the money for after school programs because they do not show improvement in test scores. Mr. Schymanski pointed out that the programs were effective and you cannot measure success by just test scores and that these programs are important because they develop reading and math skills needed in high school for career and technical education programs.

Thank you to Ms. Krull for visiting on behalf of Senator Portman, and hearing our concerns regarding education of our students in the Elida School District.

### TRACK ATHLETES ADVANCE TO REGIONAL FINALS

We have 2 relay teams moving on to REGIONAL FINALS in Piqua tomorrow:

4x200 team: Lewis/Jones/Bott/Jenkins

4x100 team: Moening/Bott/Pinn/Lewis

Cienna Kuhn will also compete in pole vault on Saturday.

Congratulations to senior Gabe Makin for qualifying for the Division 1 State track meet in pole vault and setting a new school record with a vault of 14 feet 8 inches! Day 2 of the Regional track meet at Amherst is today. Senior Ke'Juan Frazier will compete in the shot put and Junior Xavier Gilkey will compete in the finals of the 300 meter hurdles.

***Congratulations to ALL the track athletes on a great season!***



Back row: Elementary Asst. Principal Dan Swick, School Board Pres. Pat Schymanski, High School Principal Darren Sharp, Front Row: Social Worker Allison Jones, Sen. Portman's Aide Kelsey Krull, Home Economics Teacher Keisha Larimore, Food Service Supervisor Mariah Ross, 4th grade Special Ed. Teacher Erin Morton.



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## **124th Annual Commencement: Sunday, May 28th**

The 124<sup>th</sup> Elida Commencement Ceremony will be held this Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 in the Elida Fieldhouse. The valedictorian of the class of 2017 is Lauren Bull.

This year's Distinguished Alumna and Commencement Speaker is 1973 Elida graduate Jane Phillips. Jane is a 1973 graduate of Elida High School and started her exciting career in Lima, at WLIO-TV station. This led to unbelievable adventures and inspiring successes in the field of television.

Jane was the 1<sup>st</sup> female to work for ABC News in Washington DC during the Watergate scandal. Then Jane was off to working at Television stations in Ft. Wayne and Dayton. This was before landing on the beaches of Los Angeles and working for NBC in local news for 29 years where she won multiple local Emmys. While working for KNBC-TV in L.A., Jane attend Woodbury University in Burbank California. Although working in television news for 37 years was her passion and lifelong career, Jane switched channels. She moved onto her 2<sup>nd</sup> passion, charitable work, giving back to the less fortunate. This is when Jane founded the "Crown Jewel Club" in 2005.



Class of 2017 Valedictorian  
Lauren Bull



Distinguished Alumna  
Class of 1973 Graduate Jane Phillips

She started this non-profit charity with the goal of introducing manners, etiquette and social skills to underprivileged 10 year old girls in an after-school program in the inner city. The CJC program allows girls to dream and the ability to seize incredible opportunities in their future lives. Jane and the Crown Jewel Club have lovingly guided 1,000 disadvantaged girls into college and many into successful life journeys.

Jane has been recognized with accommodations from the Governor of California, Arnold Schwarzenegger, from both California Senators, LA's Mayor and two Los Angeles Councilmen.

**Congratulations to all of  
our Graduates:  
*The Elida Class of 2017!***



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## Senior Woodworking Project

The final Senior Woodworking project to share with you is from Canyon Bechdolt. Canyon is a Senior in Construction Tech Design-Build II, and he built a Harvest Table at the request of his mom. Canyon built it out of Red Oak and then stained it an early American stain, and applied 5 coats of lacquer. Beautiful craftsmanship, Canyon! Thank you Mr. Matt Amstutz for your instruction and guidance on all the student projects.



## Students Complete 380 Community Volunteer Hours

The YWCA of Northwest Ohio has facilitated an after-school club to middle school students this school year, **Teen Outreach Program (TOP)**.

21 students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades have met weekly as a club to explore social and emotional topics such as decision-making and peer pressure. They also invested in and connected with the community by completing over 380 hours of community service as a group. The students have learned valuable skills through the volunteer work and gained a sense of accomplishment and pride.

They enjoyed working with multiple community partners including the West Ohio Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Ottawa River Clean-Up, Salvation Army Toys for Tots, and the Lima Convalescent Home.

YWCA Youth Development Coordinator Lynne Focht says "It has been a great pleasure to watch the students learn about the needs of others and get excited about making a difference. Elida Middle School has wonderful kids who really care about the world around them."

As a reward for their community service work, students were treated to a skating party and a day at the Ft. Wayne Children's Zoo. Elida Middle School Asst. Principal Nick Morris said, "TOP has been an excellent addition to our building. I'm so happy to see our students involved in the community."

## District Buys Back Land

Elida Local Schools recently purchased back 4 acres of land from the Lima Library Association. It was purchased for \$25,540 which was the same price the library paid the school back in 2002.

The property located on Sunnysdale Avenue was purchased with the intention that it may be used for part of the construction of a new elementary school.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 28	124th Commencement Ceremony	1:00 pm	Elida Fieldhouse
May 29	Memorial Day	<b>NO SCHOOL</b>	
May 31	8th Grade Graduation	10:00 am	HS Auditorium
May 31	<b>Two Hour Early Release</b>	Last Day for Students	



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## Students of the Month May 2017

The following students were named Students of the Month for May 2017:

**Elementary:** Fernando Ayala, Reagan Balmer, Cooper Rummel, Savannah Swickrath

**Middle School:** Isabella Carbetta, Brock Lyons, Zoey Rizer, Doran Warner

**High School:** Valedictorian: Lauren Bull Salutatorian: Olivia Morales



Pictured at May School Board Meeting: Back row: School Board Pres. Pat Schymanski, Zoey Rizer, Doran Warner, Brock Lyons, Lauren Bull, Supt. Joel Mengerink, Front row: Savannah Swickrath, Reagan Balmer, Cooper Rummel and Isabella Carbetta

### BAND BOOSTER MEETING

The June 12th meeting of the Elida Band Boosters will be held at 7:00 pm at Immanuel United Methodist Church, 699 Sunnydale Avenue in Elida.

Please pass the word, we'd love to see you there.

## 8th grade students travel to Washington, DC

Some of our 8th grade students and chaperones left Monday evening for a tour of our nation's capitol. The group is touring many historic locations, monuments, museums, and even participated in the wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Thanks to the adult chaperones who went on the trip, including parents, Elida staff members, teachers and Middle School Principal Doug Drury. The group returns Saturday morning with wonderful memories and an incomparable learning experience. Just another way that Elida Schools is *Educating For Tomorrow!*

