

Eblast – November 2018

Thank you, Mr. President. It's been an exciting few weeks in the Garfield Heights City Schools and for this month's report, I'd like to share a cross section of some of the successful opportunities and activities in which our students and staff have been engaged.

First and foremost, my highest congratulations are in order for Coach Lance Reiland, the entire coaching staff, and the student-athletes of the Varsity Football team. Their season was historic, with their undefeated regular season record of 10 and 0 and winning a playoff game for the first time in school history. They have grit and they have class. Some of the departing seniors will go on to play in college next fall. The team's efforts were recognized by Mayor Vic Collova and City Council at their October meeting. Again, Congratulations to the players, coaching staff, and families of the Garfield Heights Varsity football team. A special word of gratitude is also extended to the cheerleaders, drill team and marching band for keeping the spirits high for our Bulldogs.

Garfield Heights students continue to engage various segments of our community, and the Board should be aware of such activities. Recently, senior citizens and community members visited the Center for Performing Arts to watch a preview of the Theater Department's fall play, Check, Please. Thank you to Mr. Benjamin, Mr. Satola and their team for entertaining the community in advance of opening night, once again.

Our 5th grade student ambassadors from Elmwood Elementary School were invited to participate in the Veteran's Day ceremony held at Jennings Home last week. In what has become an annual partnership, these student leaders, along with Jen Huncharek, were given the solemn honor of carrying the flags representing the branches of the Armed Services. During lunch, our Garfield Heights students were given the opportunity to share how important Veterans are to them. Thank you to Jennings Home for your partnership and invitation to this special event.

Last week, a dozen Garfield Heights High School science students planted trees in Garfield Park to help promote an eco-friendly environment. In total, more than 50 trees were planted as part of this event and students used shovels and properly staked trees to withstand cold winter temperatures. The delegation of students was led by veteran High School teacher Mr. Joe Dunbrook.

All Pro Dads has seen some very impressive participation numbers of late, and I want to thank the fathers who have taken time to come to our buildings and involve themselves in their students' academic lives. 94 fathers and 115 students gathered at our recent meetings. Please visit the website for more information on All Pro Dads and how you can attend an upcoming event at your child's elementary school.

Currently, the District's next online parent's survey is available to take regarding our PBIS initiatives, and I strongly encourage our families to participate. These surveys

will continue to be a regular opportunity to obtain valuable feedback from our parents on important District topics. Once again, please visit the website for your chance to participate in the PBIS online survey.

Finally, and on behalf of the Garfield Heights City Schools, I wish a Happy Thanksgiving to the Board of Education, the staff, students and families of our District. Be thankful, enjoy some turkey...and as always... GO BULLDOGS!

Terry Olszewski

Superintendent