

Superintendent's E-blast - Nov. '17

In advance of the Thanksgiving Holiday, I write to the community to share a few highlights of some of the students' involvement and successes in the Garfield Heights City Schools. First, you may have recently seen the spotlight that was given to our instrument donation initiative. With special thanks to the Neighborhood News for covering a story we recently sent to them, our friends at Channel 19 News picked up on the release, and came out to Maple Leaf Elementary School to run a great story. You can view the full story by clicking [here](#). The district is asking for unwanted and unused trombones, trumpets, clarinets and saxophones for our fifth-grade students. Generally, formal band classes do not begin until a student is in an older grade, so the district views this as an opportunity to get more students in Garfield Heights, at younger ages, more instructional experiences. We thank Channel 19 news for their coverage of this initiative and for their positive reporting. Band teacher Stormi Fletcher and her students that were spotlighted did a terrific job. If you have not seen the story, [it is also posted on the district website](#). Special thanks also goes out to those who have donated instruments to our students. To date, we have received 3 trombones, 1 saxophone, 1 trumpet and 2 clarinets. These donations are giving Garfield Heights students opportunities. Those interested can take their donations to the Board Office. Thank you to all those involved.

Finally, students from Elmwood Elementary School had the solemn privilege of participating in the Jennings Hall Veterans Day ceremony. Led by advisor Jen Huncharek and with the help of Principal Gwen Abraham, these fifth-grade student leaders had the honor of carrying the flags of the various Armed Services during the ceremony. They also helped to raise the flag. Then, each student read a prepared essay answering the prompt, 'why Veterans are so important.' I am not exaggerating by stating that there was not a dry eye in the room when our students were finished with their essays. The Garfield Heights City Schools is grateful to Jennings for the partnership it has created over the last few years and thanks them for allowing us to engage with our nation's Greatest Generation during such a memorable Veteran's Day ceremony.

Happy Thanksgiving to the Garfield Heights Community,

GO BULLDOGS!

Terry Olszewski

Superintendent