

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**Minutes – Regular Board Meeting**  
**Monday, April 19, 2021**

The Board of Education of the Garfield Heights City School District met in regular session on Monday, April 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. with Mrs. Nichelle Daniels, President presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mrs. Daniels, Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Ms. Thomas  
Absent: Mr. Juby

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. King to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

Caleb McArthur led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance in honor of Autism Week.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Morrison to approve the minutes from the Special Board Meeting of March 8, 2021, Regular Board Meeting of March 15, 2021 and the Special Board Meeting of March 19, 2021, as presented.

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Ms. Thomas, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

**BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Thank you, to the community for your continued interest and support of the Garfield Heights City Schools.

Today is Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> and it kicks off a very special week in the District, our annual celebration of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, or DEI Week. Each day this week, students and staff will be celebrating and recognizing diversity and equity in a variety of instructive and meaningful activities. On behalf of the Board of Education, we invite you to participate, since this year’s theme is *U.N.I.T.Y., or uniting our neighborhoods intentionally through you*. This means that we all play an active role in embracing diversity in our school family...and the greater community. The video that we saw, and that is posted online, asks the question: *What will each of us do to change the world?* And, move a step closer to true equity and inclusion. I ask you all to consider this question and encourage your participation. Thank you to everyone who has played a role in planning and preparing for the District’s annual celebration of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

In terms of Board business, the community should be aware that a Board Retreat took place two Saturdays ago for the purpose of reviewing all aspects of school district governing through the equity lens. A great discussion took place with the Board members and Mr. Hanke, Mr. Sluka and Ms. Hamilton, and the constructive and collaborative dialogue is most certain to translate into actions and policies in the near future. Thank you to all who attended and for your participation.

Finally, as we all know, the April meeting of the Board of Education is annually hosted in part to recognize some of the highest academic achievers in our District, known as roses for teachers. On behalf of the Board of Education, I want to recognize:

- RACHED ARDA
- MATTHEW CERMAK
- RYAN LARSEN
- JOSEPH LENART
- JAMES NEWTON
- CHARITY PERRY
- HALEY SOBOCINSKI
- NATHAN WICHERT

Each of these individuals will graduate with Summa Cum Laude recognition, and what the District considers 'with highest honors.'

Congratulations to these individuals, the teachers who were recognized and their families. Your hard work, determination and dedication is demonstrated with this honor.

That concludes my report!

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

##### *Cuyahoga Valley Career Center – Christine A. Kitson*

This report was given by Board Member Heather Morrison.

The 2021-2022 student calendar has been approved and is available on the CVCC website.

The next CVCC board of education meeting will take place on April 26 at 6:30 pm.

On April 26, 2021 CVCC will recognize outstanding students during a virtual Senior Recognition Ceremony.

The following Garfield Heights students will be recognized as being outstanding students in their programs.

- Elisa Cosme
- Kyle Miller
- Laniya Wiley
- Arthur Sloan

Cuyahoga Valley Career Center is proud to announce that 53 students have been recognized for their scholarship, leadership, service, and character through induction into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS). Attached is a list of the students from your district who have achieved this honor.

This year CVCC's NTHS Induction Ceremony was held virtually on April 14, 2021 and filmed so that it could be shared with students & their families, as well as CVCC Board Members, Superintendents and Principals.

The virtual NTHS Induction Ceremony can be viewed through the link provided below:

<https://www.cvccworks.edu/NTHSInduction.aspx>

GH students inducted include:

- Sofia Fasone Medical Administrative Specialist Grade 11
- Raeonna Henderson Sports Medicine Exercise Science Grade 12
- Charity Perry Digital Design Grade 12
- India Simmons Graphic Imaging Technology Grade 12

*Attachments: News Flash and Student Connection*

***Student Activities - Ashley M. Thomas, M. Ed.***

1. Spring sports are off and running. We experienced a decrease in numbers and had to eliminate the JV softball and freshman baseball teams this year.
2. We had a positive Covid test on our JV baseball team. We shut the team down, monitored other players and quarantined the positive individual. The team has now been cleared to resume competitions.
3. Major recent purchases include: game balls for baseball and softball, additional practice track equipment, game day supplies for baseball and softball, tennis shirts, track warm-ups and baseball hats.

***Legislative Committee – Ashley M. Thomas, M. Ed. & Nichelle N. Daniels***

***City Liaison – Millette King, M. Ed. L.S.W.***

Garfield Hts. City council met on April 12, 2021. They announced the inaugural member of the community relations committee. The members are: Pastor Ian Cox, Pastor Ralph Faulkner, Sara Lyons, Vanessa O'Malley, Bob Stemnock and Minister Kevyn McHenry.

Nora Banks was ratified as an appointment by the Mayor to the Planning Commission.

There will be a special board meeting on Thursday April 22<sup>nd</sup> and a regular board meeting on Monday April 26<sup>th</sup>. Both can be viewed via Zoom. The meeting ID is 893 1547 4985.

Congratulations to all of the scholars and teachers being recognized this evening.

Thank you to the Yolanda Hamilton, Gina Wilson and everyone that has worked on DEI Week.

***Finance Committee – Heather Morrison & Nichelle N. Daniels***

The committee met before Board meeting. Discussion covered establishing a framework for the committee agenda/topics, bringing thoughts on a Mission Statement(s), and setting meeting times and dates. Treasurer Sluka then gave the committee an overview on the status of the Ohio House's State Budget Bill HB110, the Fair School Funding Plan HB1, the Governor's Student Wellness and Success funding proposal and the savings from the proposed High School transformer project.

***Policy Committee – Joseph Juby & Nichelle N. Daniels***

**PRESENTATION**

DEI Week Video

**RECOGNITIONS/COMMENDATIONS**

**Roses For Teachers**

In the course of doing our jobs as Administrators and staff here in the Garfield Heights School District, we have all sorts of tasks. One of our favorites is introducing our Summa Cum Laude and 4 Star Award students. This night is our opportunity to recognize the top students in the class of 2021 and the teachers that had a lasting impact on them during their school careers. While we would love to recognize every teacher, there are simply too many. Each year we ask the students to choose that one "special" teacher that stood out in their memories and has made a lasting impression on them that they will carry with them forever.

Tonight, as we introduce our Summa Cum Laude and 4-star award-winning students and tell you a little about each of them, the student will read a short essay that they wrote about their memorable teacher. That essay was framed and will be presented as a plaque to that honored teacher.

Ms. Hager will now introduce our Summa Cum Laude and 4-star Award winners and "Roses for Teachers".

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

The Garfield Heights City Schools is proudly celebrating the week of April 19<sup>th</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup> as Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Week throughout our District. This is our annual effort to showcase our collective belief that diversity is celebrated, and that inclusion is promoted, in all aspects of the Garfield Heights City Schools. [A special online video demonstrates our love for one another and encourages us all to be, and to live-out, the change we hope to see in the world by asking ourselves the question, \*what can I do to promote diversity, equity and inclusion?\*](#) Best of all, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion week is intertwined with the values and beliefs associated and involved with the newly adopted Portrait of a Graduate and District Strategic Plan. Thank you to Yolanda Hamilton and Gina Wilson and all the others who have helped to create meaningful activities and events in which students, staff and families can participate throughout the week.

The testing season is forthcoming, and the Garfield Heights City Schools thanks all of the students, staff and families for their resilience, patience and preparation as we approach these exams. Please ensure restful evenings, avoiding stressful matters and eating properly during our testing durations. To all of our students, do the very best you can. I know you will make us proud as Bulldogs.

Finally, my highest congratulations goes out to the young men and women from Garfield Heights High School who comprise this year's honorees for our annual Roses for Teachers. Your diligence and hard work has paid off in a grand fashion. These individuals are:

- RACHED ARDA
- MATTHEW CERMAK
- RYAN LARSEN
- JOSEPH LENART
- JAMES NEWTON
- CHARITY PERRY
- HALEY SOBOCINSKI
- NATHAN WICHERT

I congratulate the teachers and staff members who will be receiving roses as part of the annual, time-honored Garfield Heights tradition of Roses for Teachers. Our staff members have invested countless hours over the academic journeys to ensure that our students have the skills and understanding to succeed. Congratulations to all!

The next few weeks will be exciting in the Garfield Heights City Schools. Please be sure to check our website and social media for updates, activities and year-end events.

Thank you for your continued support and Go Bulldogs!

## **REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS**

No Remarks

## REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TREASURER

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. King to approve the financials for March 2021, as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. King to approve Resolution No. 2021-05, a resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Cuyahoga County Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the Cuyahoga County Fiscal Officer.

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. King to approve Resolution No. 2021-06, a resolution approving the following appropriation/budget amendments as presented.

Fund	Current Appropriation Amt	Amended Appropriation Amount
Building (004)	\$295,000.00	\$310,000.00
Blaugrund Scholarship (008)	\$500.00	\$1,500.00
Preschool Handicap (587)	\$18,750.00	\$23,750.00

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

## SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS - CERTIFIED PERSONNEL:

Moved by Ms. Morrison, seconded by Ms. Thomas approve the Certified Staff items as presented.

Approve the following Leave of Absences:

Name	Bldg.	Type	Dates
Dempsey, Julie	Middle School	Maternity LOA	4/19/21 - 6/1/21
Regan, Sharon	William Foster	Medical LOA	3/22/21 - 5/2/21
Spelich, Carrie	Elmwood	Intermittent Medical LOA	3/01/21 - 3/01/22
Dunn, Melissa	Middle School	Maternity LOA	05/18/21 - 09/13/21
Barber, Kimberlee	High School	Medical LOA for Family Member	5/17/21 - 5/31/21
Drennan, Deborah	Maple Leaf	Medical LOA	4/5/21 - 5/24/21

Approve the following Certified Contract(s) effective at the beginning of 2021-2022 school year as follows:

Name	Bldg	Position	Degree	Step	Effective
Smith, Rebecca	William Foster	Speech/Language Pathologist	M+0	6	08/23/21

Approve the Branching Minds professional development and training stipend in the amount of \$1000, to be paid out of Title I funds, to Angela Varga.

Approve teachers providing supplemental tutoring for specific students identified as at risk in reading and/or math be paid at the hourly Curriculum rate of \$26.02 funded by Title I.

Approve the following teachers participating in the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio's "Intermediate Edition (grades 3-5) Reading Interventions in the Digital Environment" professional development be paid at the Curriculum rate of \$26.02/hour, not to exceed 1.5 hours, funded out of Title I:

Christina Brown
Honora Lopez

Approve the following teachers participating in the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio's "Middle & High School Edition Reading Interventions in the Digital Environment" professional development be paid at the Curriculum rate of \$26.02/hour, not to exceed 1.5 hours, funded out of Title I:

Megan Chapman	April Kossman
Jennifer Corrado	Lillian Sandefur
Pamela Dorton-Farr	Amanda Skarupa
Kristen Jedlicka	Amy Tomon
Paula Kijowski	Holly Gray

Approve the following teacher participating in the additional McGraw Hill "Math Is... K-8 Leadership" professional development courses be paid at the Curriculum rate of \$26.02/hour, not to exceed 2 hours, funded out of Title I:

Jamie Shaw
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Ayes: Ms. Morrison, Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Mrs. Daniels  
 Nays: None

**CONTRACTS FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR**

Moved by Ms. Morrison, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the appointment of Certificated Teaching Staff for the 2021-2022 School Year as follows:

**Continuing Contracts:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Building</b>
Duhanich, Timothy	Middle School
Dunn, Melissa	Middle School
Emery, Tessa	Middle School
Ferguson, Bridget	Middle School
Guba, Christina	High School
Jennings, Anne	Maple Leaf
Neluna, Meghan	Elmwood
Pavelek, Andrew	High School
Pernod, Stephen	High School
Rickus, Caitlin	Learning Center
Richardson, Kristen	Middle School
Swope, Benjamin	High School
Turner, Ashley	High School

**Limited Contracts:**

<b><u>Last Name</u></b>	<b><u>First Name</u></b>	<b><u>Bldg.</u></b>		<b><u>Last Name</u></b>	<b><u>First Name</u></b>	<b><u>Bldg.</u></b>
Bailey	Mary	GHMS		Lubera	Ethan	GHMS
Balika	Brett	GHMS		Lupica	Dominic	LC
Bandiera	Katie	GHHS		Lupica	James	ML
Banyasz	Michael	GHMS		Lyons	Sarah	WF
Barnes	Katherine	WF		Maki	Alyssa	GHMS
Bartlett	Laura	WF		Markiewicz	Michelle	WF
Bauman	Rebecca	WF		McConnell	Kelsey	WF
Baxter	Chelsi	ML		McWilliams	Ashley	Elm
Bergmann	Sylvia	GHMS		Mercsak	Sherri	WF
Bowen	Julia	GHHS		Millard	Trent	WF
Brooks	Kathryn	ML		Molnar	Laurie	Elm
Chenoweth	Joshua	ML		Myslenski	Amanda	GHHS
Cohn	Stacey	GHMS		Nekl	Mackenzie	GHHS
Cooke	Jill	GHMS		Newburger	Serena	GHMS
Corporan	Heather	WF		Norris	Debra	GHHS
Costello	Brittany	GHMS		O'Hanlon	Marcie	WF



Cross-Kimbrough	Khiara	WF	Oravec	Kirsten	ML
Cruz	Michael	LC	Osborne	Jason	GHHS
Daddario	Rosemarie	WF	Papesh	Jeffrey	GHHS
Dempsey	Julie	GHMS	Peck	Brianna	GHHS
DiSanto	Alexandra	WF	Pope	Devlin	GHHS
Dise	Molly	GHMS	Posendek	Margaret	GHMS
Doyle	Riley	GHMS	Puchmeyer	Linda	Elm
Drennan	Deborah	ML	Rathge	Brittany	GHMS
Duhn	Emily	ML	Rauschkolb	Kelly	GHHS
Durey	Tina	GHMS	Reichard	Alyssa	WF
Estvanic	Matthew	GHHS	Rengh	Jasmine	WF
Funk	Brittany	GHMS	Richter	William	GHMS
Galaska	Michael	GHMS	Rigutto	Amanda	Elm
Gehring	James	WF	Routh	Sarah	GHMS
Gilliland	Megan	LC	Russ	Kimberly	Elm
Gray	Holly	GHHS	Saluan	Heather	GHMS
Gregan	April	Central Office	Schillero	David	GHMS
Hach	Martha	WF	Schmalz	Jennifer	WF
Harding	Angela	GHMS	Shotliff	Rebecca	GHMS
Hartley	Ashlyn	GHMS	Skarupa	Amanda	GHHS
Herman	Melissa	ML	Snodgrass	Britny	GHMS
Higginbotham	Megan	GHMS	Soriano	Deanna	WF
Hirter	Amanda	WF	Sroka	Katharine	GHHS
Howells	John	GHMS	Stoss	Rachel	ML
Hultine	Jamison	GHHS	Szabo	Anna	GHMS
Irvine	Melissa	WF	Ullemeyer	Stephen	GHMS
Jedlicka	Kristen	GHMS	Varga	Angela	ML
Jones	Turner	GHMS	Vullo	Anthony	ML
Kalnitskiy	Stephanie	ML	Ward	Taylor	GHHS
Kamps	Rebecca	ML	Warren	Melanie	GHMS
King	Valerie	ML	Watt	Constance	ML
Kneisel	Keith	GHMS	Wessel	Henry	GHMS
Kossmann	April	GHMS	Wiemken	Alexandra	GHMS
Kusnerik	Robert	ML	Williams	Erica	WF
Kyser	Paula	GHMS	Wilson	Robert	GHMS
Lanse	Candice	ML	Wise	Kelly	ML
Lawrinson	Nicholas	GHMS	Wright	Joanne	GHMS
Lieberth	Daniel	GHMS	Zappola	Mark	ML
Louvain	Rebecca	GHHS			

Ayes: Ms. Morrison, Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None

## **SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS - CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL**

**Moved by Ms. Morrison, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the Classified Staff items as presented.**

Accept The Termination Of A Probationary Contract As Presented Below:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Bldg.</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Wilson, Andru	Part-Time Vehicle Driver	Bus Garage	3/24/21

ACCEPT THE RETIREMENT RESIGNATION AS PRESENTED BELOW:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Bldg.</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Years Of Service</b>
Papesh, Kathleen	Instructional Assistant (2B)	High School	6/4/21	25 (w/GHCS)
Hanus, Kathleen	Supervisor of Fiscal Operations/Payroll	Central Office	6/30/21	14 (w/GHCS)
Ricciuti, Michael	Building Custodian (5D)	Middle School	6/30/21	22 (w/GHCS)
Raleigh, Donna	Instructional Assistant (2B)	Maple Leaf	6/30/21	21 (w/GHCS)

Approve The Classified Contract(S) As Presented Below:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Bldg</b>	<b>Step</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Lucas, Megan	Athletic Dept. Secretary (6A)	HS	0	7	4/12/21
Evans, Patricia	Bus Aide (1E)	Garage	1	4	4/12/21
Rodriguez, Michelle	Elementary Office Asst. (2A)	ML	0	6	4/19/21
Shipta, Kenneth	Maintenance Mechanic (1F)	Maint.	0	8	5/3/21

It is recommended the Board approve the change of hours for the following Building Assistant, based on operational needs effective March 15, 2021 as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Bldg.</b>	<b>Current Hours</b>	<b>New Hours</b>
Williams, Breanna	ML	3	6

Approve The Classified Substitutes As Listed Below:

Olivia Pohl - Housekeeping Substitute  
David Kazik - General Cafeteria Substitute

Ayes: Ms. Morrison, Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

Moved by Ms. Morrison, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the Summer Office Manager Job Description for the Summer School Program as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Morrison, Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

Moved by Ms. Morrison, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the Supplemental Contracts as presented.

**Athletic Supplemental Positions - Spring Sports:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Athletic Supplemental</b>	<b>Bldg.</b>
Allums, Isaiah	Assistant Baseball Coach	HS
Klag, John	Spring Weight Room Supervisor	HS
Wells, Mariah	Assistant Track Coach (eff: 3/10/21)	HS
Dawson, Ike	Assistant Track Coach	HS

**Termination Of Supplemental Contract - Spring Sports:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Athletic Supplemental</b>	<b>Bldg.</b>	<b>Termination Date</b>
Adams, Eboni	Assistant Track Coach	HS	4/14/21
Wells, Mariah	Assistant Track Coach	HS	4/14/21

Ayes: Ms. Morrison, Ms. Thomas, Ms. King, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD: POLICY:**

None

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD:  
CONTRACTS:**

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Morrison to approve the agreement between Garfield Heights City Schools and North Coast Therapy Associates, Inc. to serve students on Individualized Education Programs needing physical therapy services for the 2021-2022 school year.

Ayes: Ms. Thomas, Ms. Morrison, Ms. King, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD:  
MISCELLANEOUS:**

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the following Resolution No. 2021-07, a resolution giving authorization to purchase from school bus bids received by Ohio Schools Council:

WHEREAS, the Garfield Heights City Schools Board of Education wishes to advertise and receive bids for the purchase of 2 – 85 passenger school bus chassis and bodies and 1 – 65 passenger handicap school bus chassis and body.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Garfield Heights City Schools Board of Education wishes to participate and authorizes the Ohio Schools Council to advertise and receive bids on behalf of said Board as per the specifications submitted for the cooperative purchase of 2 – 85 passenger school bus chassis and bodies and 1 - 65 passenger handicap school bus chassis and body.

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

Moved by Ms. Morrison, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve Resolution No. 2021-08, a Resolution to Authorize the Treasurer to enter into a Lease Purchase Financing, Escrow Agreement, and a Construction Contract to procure Electrical Transformers for the Garfield Heights High School in an Amount Not to Exceed \$850,000, for a Term Not to Exceed 7 Years and a Rate Not to exceed 2.49% as presented.

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

Moved by Ms. Morrison, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve Resolution No. 2021-09, a Resolution Authorizing the Administration to Provide Information to the County Prosecutor Relating to its Contract with Innovest Energy Group and to Pursue Recovery in Bankruptcy Court as presented.

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Morrison, Mrs. Daniels  
Nays: None

**REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING MISCELLANEOUS SCHOOL ITEMS**

None

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT BOARD MEETINGS**

Board of Education Special Board Meeting/Work Session - 6:00 P.M.  
May 10, 2021

Board of Education Regular Meeting – 6:00 P.M.  
May 17, 2021

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Morrison to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

Ayes: Ms. King, Ms. Morrison, Ms. Thomas, Mrs. Daniels

Nays: None



Michelle McOmie  
President



Aubrey Shub  
Treasurer

# News Flash!

CVCC Board of Education-  
Garfield Heights District



March 25, 2021

## **2020-21 Scholarship Information**

It is that time of year again for CVCC students to apply for the various scholarships offered at CVCC. The deadline for submission of scholarship applications is Monday, April 5. All applications can be emailed to Principal Mike Hall at [mhall@cvccworks.edu](mailto:mhall@cvccworks.edu). For further details and application information, visit: [https://www.cvccworks.edu/highschool\\_home.aspx](https://www.cvccworks.edu/highschool_home.aspx)

## **Student and Parent Information Night Videos**

Did you miss CVCC's Virtual Student and Parent Information Night in January? No worries, we have recordings of the zoom sessions from that very informative night! Go to <https://www.cvccworks.edu/Student-ParentInfoNightVideos.aspx> to view the videos. For further information, contact Admissions Counselor, Kelli Buccini, at [kbuccini@cvccworks.edu](mailto:kbuccini@cvccworks.edu) or 440-746-8286.



## **Virtual School of Nursing Information Night**

The School of Nursing at Cuyahoga Valley Career Center held a Virtual Information Night on Tuesday, March 16. Attendees were able to meet the supervisor, Pattie Mandula, MBA/HCM, BSN, RN and staff, who highlighted the program's requirements, curriculum, student clinical and classroom expectations and more. Additionally, Susan Kelley, CVCC's Student Support Services presented information on the financial aid process. The opportunity to ask questions regarding the program ended the session. What a great event! For information on CVCC's Practical Nursing Program, visit: <https://www.cvccworks.edu/Nursing.aspx> or contact the nursing department's administrative assistants, Lea Bacci at [lbacci@cvccworks.edu](mailto:lbacci@cvccworks.edu), 440-746-8232 or Stephanie Ciesla at [sciesla@cvccworks.edu](mailto:sciesla@cvccworks.edu), 440-746-8332.



### **Adult Education LPN Students Candle Lighting Ceremony**

On Friday, March 12, CVCC hosted a virtual Candle Lighting Ceremony for 18 Adult Education Licensed Practical Nursing students. The Candle Lighting Ceremony marks the finishing of the Basic Nursing Program for the students. The ceremony also marks the halfway point of the program and is celebrated in honor of Florence Nightingale. Ms. Nightingale was a nurse who started the first nursing program. Students attended the event in person and were able to light their symbolic candles one at a time in a socially distant fashion, while their family and friends celebrated from afar through Zoom. What a wonderful celebration, keep up the great work!



### **CVCC Student Employees**

CVCC believes in our students' skills and that they are so well trained we proudly hire them on to our staff as Student Employees. CVCC appreciates the Board of Education for approving the following Student Employees for the 2020-2021 school year, as these students greatly add to the efficiency of our organization. Contributing to the IT Department is junior David Eichler from Independence and senior Edison Kroft from North Royalton. Both students are in CVCC's Computer Network Academy program instructed by Mr. Moore. David and Edison work at the CVCC Help Desk within the IT Department two afternoons a week.



Helping out CVCC's Facility and Operations Department with maintenance tasks is Joshua Sanicky from Cuyahoga Heights who is a junior in Electrical Systems program instructed by Mr. McNamee. Joshua works two afternoons a week. In addition, seniors from CVCC's Auto Body Repair and Refinishing, Dedrick Lynch from Garfield Heights and Kenneth Strugill from Twinsburg, are utilizing their Student Employee role as Early Placement and working in lieu of their CVCC class on Tuesdays, Wednesday, and Thursdays.

Several current CVCC employees started their career here as Student Employees, including: Allison Jouriles, CVCC's part-time Adult Education Evening Receptionist, Justin Hensley, Custodian, Adam Karpowicz, part-time Computer Technician in CVCC's IT Department, Sandra Leech, Administrative Assistant/Data and Accountability, Michele Nakonieczny, Executive Administrative Assistant HR/Payroll, and Mark Pruchnicki, Maintenance.

### **Communication Skills and Teamwork with CVCC's Hotels and Resorts Students**

CVCC's Hotels and Resorts program recently completed a unit on communication skills and teamwork, including active listening, effective speaking and working together. The students participated in the Marshmallow Challenge, in which they worked in teams for 30 minutes, the goal was to have a marshmallow be the highest off the table by only using 20 spaghetti

noodles, one yard of tape, one yard of string and a marshmallow for the top. This lesson showed students that teamwork in the workplace is essential. Many students felt they already knew how to communicate and work together; however, having to actually work as a team to demonstrate a task tested everyone's skills. Hotels and Resorts student, Donta Robinson



from the Brecksville-Broadview Heights district stated, "You need teamwork because [it] makes the job easier and more fun." Additionally, student Hanna Trivonovich from the North Royalton district noted that having these skills "makes it go faster and be more effective as a team." In addition, Joseph Wray from Twinsburg exclaimed that this lesson reassured him that he "can communicate with other[s] to figure out the problem." This lesson was an excellent way to remind students that these basic life skills are needed and aid in making a better candidate for any position. Keep up the wonderful work!

### **BYTE Competition**

On Wednesday, February 24, four CVCC students enrolled in the Programming and Software Development I program competed in the virtual BYTE (Bring Your Tech Expertise) competition hosted virtually by Hathaway Brown School. Students



competed to solve AP Computer Science-style problems. CVCC's teams consisted of: Christian Auman and Preston Kruty from Nardon, as well as Jessica Gyorki from Nardon and Brody Zack from Twinsburg. What a wonderful event to take part in!

### **Upcoming Events**

- ◆ Monday, March 29 - Friday, April 2 ♦ Spring Break
- ◆ Wednesday, April 7 ♦ Virtual National Technical Honor Society Induction Ceremony
- ◆ Thursday, April 29 ♦ Board of Education Meeting ♦ 6:30 p.m.





# *The Student Connection*



***With: Shavanna Bates***

***From: Garfield Heights District***



Shavanna Bates is an adult student from the Garfield Heights area enrolled in CVCC's full-time Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) program, supervised by Mrs. Mandula. Shavanna chose to enroll in CVCC's LPN program because of its affordability, as well as the quality of testing to qualify for the program. She enjoys the hands-on skills she has obtained throughout the program, specifically during clinicals. Shavanna also appreciates the quality instruction she is receiving as well. Shavanna praises the instructors at CVCC, as they are very caring and provide help to students. Along with being a full-time student, Shavanna works as an STNA at a local healthcare facility, as well as has three children that keep her very busy.

Outside of school and work, Shavanna enjoys cooking, swimming, and watching movies. Looking ahead, Shavanna hopes to continue her education to obtain her bachelors of science in nursing and become a Registered Nurse. Her career goal is to obtain the education and training needed to become a nurse practitioner. What exceptional goals, best wishes in all you do Shavanna!

Written By: Gabrielle Scorzino, CVCC Media Specialist

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