



# Circleville City School Foundation RoundAbout

"Enriching Educational Opportunities"

2017-  
2018

## History Taught Through Experience

Eighty excited Circleville Middle School students, CMS teachers Samantha Corbett and Nathan Elswick, as well as six other chaperones, traveled six hours by commercial buses to reach Washington, D.C. during the final three days of school last May. Planning for this excursion began in August of 2016 with parent information sessions held a couple of times during the school year. No students were denied the opportunity to participate in this field trip if they met the academic and behavioral expectations that are required of all CMS students. Need-based scholarships were available from Circleville City School Foundation and Trinity Lutheran Church for any students requesting financial assistance to cover the cost of the trip. Each of these students was required to complete an application and write an essay detailing why he or she wanted to participate in this field trip. The CCSF Board was delighted to award all ten of our CMS applicants' scholarships.

During the three-day and two night stay in our nation's capital, the Circleville group had the opportunity to visit many of the city's memorials. Students walked among several of the memorials honoring United States veterans of wars and conflicts. These memorials were Iwo Jima, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and World War II. Other memorials the students visited honored famous Americans, such as Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Martin Luther King, Jr. A ferry boat cruise across the Potomac River transported students to Arlington National Cemetery, where the tomb of Ohio astronaut John Glenn was viewed. They also roamed the grounds and toured the mansion of George Washington's home, Mt. Vernon. One other memorial visited was the 911 Memorial located by the Pentagon. Ms. Corbett commented that this was only the second year for CMS students to view this memorial.

Completing the trip were stops at several famous landmarks and sites in Washington. A walk through Lafayette Square located across the street from The White House, a tour of the U. S. Capitol Building and Library of Congress, a photo opportunity in front of the Supreme Court Building, a view of Pentagon City Mall and a two-hour tour of the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum rounded out the whirlwind tour of the city.



It was truly a memorable experience, as expressed by the following students:

Kazley Carper commented, "My favorite thing about the D.C. trip was going on the cruise ship along the Potomac River. We were able to dance, sing, and eat a buffet lunch. Also, we made new friends from the other school that was on the boat."

"The D.C. trip was such a fun experience. I had tons of fun and actually learned some really cool things along the way. I encourage everyone to try and go on the D.C. trip!" exclaimed Jayla Parsons.

CCSF is proud to be a partner in this life-changing adventure for CMS eighth graders.

The breathtaking view overlooking Arlington National Cemetery toward Washington, DC was the perfect spot for a group photo!



CMS students listen intently to their tour guide in Statuary Hall located in the U.S. Capitol Building.

## Club Future: Changing Lives, One Student At a Time

"Most importantly, I am proud to say I am drug free." That was the concluding sentence of junior Katie Camp's essay that won the national writing contest sponsored by Drug Free Clubs of America. Katie is one of over 200 members in Club Future, Circleville High School's newest and largest club. Last year was the inaugural year for this group whose number one requirement for each student is to commit to be drug free. As Club Future members, students agree to random drug testing throughout the school year and participate in fun events organized to encourage membership and comradery with their peers.



Katie Camp receives her national award from a DFCA representative.

Circleville City School Foundation, on behalf of its donors, committed its support toward this effort of drug prevention among our high school students. CCSF provides the 501©3 nonprofit pathway required for funding. On a personal level, many of our board members chose to help subsidize students' membership fees for the club.

Chris Thornsley, Circleville High School principal, says the goal of Club Future for the 2017-2018 school year is to become a positive influence on the whole school district. "Our goal of the club now is for this group to become a service organization for our elementary kids as the next thing after D.A.R.E." says Thornsley. "We want them to see a Club Future t-shirt and know they want to be in Club Future."

Each student has a \$15 fee. The rest of the cost is picked up by sponsors and fundraising efforts. Students receive a membership card, which they use for rewards at school and incentives and discounts in the community. Stanley Huang, a Club Future member, says, "I feel like they (businesses) are supporting us too for being drug free."

If a student has a positive drug test, contact is made with the parent by Drug Free Clubs of America. The school district does not make the contact. Principal Thornsley likes the conversations that are being started among students, families, and the community. Jada Truex, club advisor, says, "Club Future is starting to become recognized, and our students are getting questions about it from other students in the county. These are conversations we want to happen and will reinforce the impact of making positive choices."

"One of the things I like about it the most is that it gives you an opportunity and a reason to say no," Thornsley told the student body.

Sponsoring a CHS student's Club Future membership is easy. Visit our website, click on the FUNDRAISING tab and follow the instructions on how to donate to CCSF. By indicating that your donation is to be used for Club Future, you become part of the solution to the drug crisis that our community is facing. Prevention is a key factor in our fight.

## Hands On History Night

The Circleville City School Foundation awarded a mini-grant for the purchase of supplies to be used for the first Hands on History Night which took place March 1, 2017. The Extra Mile after-school program and Circleville Elementary hosted students and families in Grades 3-5.

During Hands on History Night, students interacted with different Pickaway County community presenters to learn about local history. Some of these topics included: The Slate Run Historical Farm, The Mt. Oval Historical Farm, Historical Kitchen Tools, Native American Artifacts, Rug Hooking, Life of an Ohio Frontiersman, The Ted Lewis Museum, Stationery Creation, and Ohio Canals.

Three 'Museum in a Box' kits were rented with topics on Pioneer Life, Tribes of the Ohio River Valley, and Early Ohioans from the Ohio History Connection based on Ohio Department of Education (ODE) Social Studies Content Strands and Curriculum for each grade level. These kits, loaned out for a two-week period, became an interactive extension of the event as they were made available to social studies teachers at the elementary school for supplemental classroom instruction.

Students created Pioneer Journals in their art classes with Mrs. Hoskins. During History Night, students checked in to receive their Pioneer Journal before entering the 'open house' style event where they visited different stations to receive a stamp from each presenter – gaining a wealth of knowledge



A fascinated CES student learns the art of rug hooking.

and picking up an appreciation for many historical practices along the way.

Circleville Elementary teacher Evan Debo stated, "the CCSF mini-grant supplies were the driving component to the turn out we saw. To date, this was the largest school-wide function I have been involved in that was not an athletic event or a music program. Students and parents came in droves because students were able to create that pioneer journal we used with the CCSF grant funds leading up to the event and were enthusiastic about the event as a result."

He recommends the following information for future CCSF supporters: "I think many people want to know how to be involved but are not sure where to start. Contributions to CCSF allow board members and educators the fiscal ability to bring the classroom experience to life through events and hands-on activities like this. As an administrator, the CCSF and its supporters have been our vehicle to provide expanded learning opportunities that we would not otherwise be able to provide, and I am incredibly indebted to the entire Board's dedication to make some of those ideas a reality for our students."

"Our staff was thrilled to partner with the many local historical groups set to present at our first ever Hands on History Night," Principal Karen Bullock said. "Students and their families found many of the hands-on activities and presentations interesting and enjoyed learning facts and historical practices from our rich Circleville heritage."

It was estimated that approximately 350-400 people turned out for the inaugural event at Circleville Elementary, and school administrators already have their eye on making the event an annual project moving forward.

The event was made possible by a Circleville City School Foundation grant and the Extra Mile program.

## 2017 Make A Difference Scholarships

The Circleville City School Foundation's "Make A Difference" scholarship was established to encourage the pursuit of a post-secondary degree, certification or license for a Circleville High School graduate from the previous school year or earlier. Thanks to the generosity of donors and the success of the CCSF "Raise Your Paw" auction in February, the Foundation awarded three \$2000 scholarships for the 2016-2017 school year.

Lauren Fox, CHS class of 2012, is studying at The Ohio State University, where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in 2016. She is currently employed at Wexner Medical Center. Lauren is enrolled at the OSU College of Nursing to become a neonatal nurse practitioner.

Whitney Queen, CHS class of 2016, is pursuing a degree in special education at Ohio University-Lancaster. In the fall of 2017, she will transfer to The Ohio State University. Whitney plans to become a high school intervention specialist.

Rebekah Branham, CHS class of 2014, is entering law school in the fall of this year. She plans to pursue a Juris Doctorate degree and work as an attorney in the area of sports law. Rebekah graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a degree in sports management and a minor in communications.



Lauren Fox and Whitney Queen



Rebekah Branham

## Science Day Inspires Learning, Builds Excitement for Camp Oty'Okwa

How do you get 149 unsure sixth graders excited about a three-day science-themed camp an hour away from home? You bring a preview to their school's backyard land lab months ahead of time, of course. It was the premise for the Science Day held at Circleville Middle School last October, and it was an overwhelming success. The Circleville City Schools Foundation supported a grant request to make the event, the first of its kind, possible and recently approved a request to fund the event again this year.

Coordinated by CMS teachers Joe Stitt and Janet Wastier together with representatives for Hocking County's Camp Oty'Okwa, the all-day event included opportunities for all sixth-grade students to learn numerous science concepts using hands-on activities in a relaxed atmosphere. From an oversized Earth Ball transport to a wetlands scavenger hunt and an insect catch, identify and release activity, students were challenged to work together toward a common goal.

Immediately, teachers saw a spike in student interest for Camp Oty'Okwa, now in its 16th year of participation for CMS sixth graders. "The goal was to get more kids interested in camp," Stitt said. Traditionally, sign ups trickle in slowly through the first half of the school year, but at least 50 students were signed up by Christmas break thanks to interest generated by Science Day.

To help strengthen academic and team-building concepts during the off-campus camp in the spring, counselors used the activities and ideas introduced at CMS and built on them.

"It was great because they personalized (Camp Oty'Okwa) to Circleville and our kind of kids," Wastier said.

In addition to boosting interest in Camp Oty'Okwa, Science Day made it possible for students who aren't able to or choose not to attend the off-campus camp in the spring to experience many similar activities.

Al Marietta, education coordinator for Camp Oty'Okwa, said support for learning opportunities outside the classroom is invaluable.

"It's refreshing to find individuals and organizations such as CCSF who value nature, science and the intrinsic benefits of getting students outside more often," he said. "Camp Oty'Okwa was glad we could help CMS in that endeavor."



Sixth graders prepare for a group activity with an over-sized Earth Ball.

Board of Directors		
April Dengler Shauna Goodhart Ashley Hoskins Justin Jacobs Lynn Kraus	Joanna Mullins Pinkerton Dan Pohl Robert Sneed Tonja Spiller Dumm	Patty Truex, Chair Michele Walters Ian Webb Chris Williams
Ex-Officio		
Jonathan Davis, Superintendent	Kristen Rhoads, CCS Treasurer	Mollie Hedges, Immediate Past Chair
Student Representatives		
Emily Dengler - Website		Andrew Hedges - Facebook
Newsletter Formatting		
Leah Hooks		

## CHS Budding Scientists

With the grant money received from Circleville City School Foundation CHS Science teacher Matthew Fausnaugh ordered a three-tier grow light for his classroom.

Throughout the year the students tested several experiments to see the scientific method first hand. Through hands-on learning, his students gained the knowledge of variables and collecting data. Two simple experiments they did were to test what amount of fertilizer is best to grow grass the fastest and what amount of water is ideal for growing grass. At the end of the year Mr. Fausnaugh grew a flower for all 120 of his students to take home for Mother's Day. The students also started growing zucchini, cucumber, tomato plants, and sunflowers for any staff who has a garden. In these last two experiments they discussed climate, how to determine when to plant certain varieties relative to weather patterns, and how early to start growing certain species in order to transplant them outside after the frost-free date. Along with the students, Mr. Fausnaugh admitted that he learned a lot as well. He plans to use this apparatus for years to come and expand how it can be used. CCSF was pleased to fund this worthwhile investment for CCS students to use now and in the future.



This multi-tiered grow light will be utilized for years to come.

## A Timely Reminder

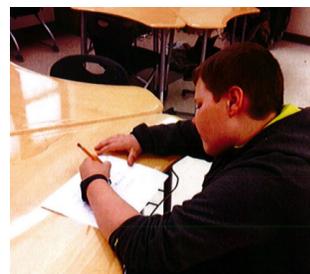
Circleville Middle School intervention specialist Tiffany Lewis has a new best friend, so to speak. It's the WatchMinder3, a watch that allows the teacher to program messages to alert the student at different programmed intervals throughout the school day. This assistive technology allows students to be more independent in their self-monitoring of any targeted behavioral intervention. Teachers can set the watch to send an alert at intermittent or intervals of time. Timers can also be faded as the student develops his/her skills in self-monitoring.

The WatchMinder3 allows teachers to successfully implement behavioral interventions for multiple students in their classroom without needing to redirect students to self-monitor and self-assess their behavior. With this tool, the teacher can 1) collect data on a student's behavior, 2) improve data driven decision-making about the success of behavioral interventions, and 3) decide whether to continue the intervention or plan for a different one. The WatchMinder3 also enhances the students' educational experiences because it allows them to be more independent in the classroom.

Before implementing this intervention, baseline data was collected on the student's targeted behaviors. A self-monitoring intervention was put into place without the WatchMinder3. The data was analyzed and indicated inconsistent student progress. The following school day the WatchMinder3 was included in the intervention. This time the student's

behaviors showed improvement and were more consistent. Not only did the student's behavior improve, but his grades also improved by one letter grade.

According to Ms. Lewis, with continued use of the WatchMinder3 more students will become independent learners. CCSF applauds the district's staff in implementing innovative ideas to foster the growth of their students, both academically and behaviorally.



The Watchminder3 makes it easier to stay on task in the classroom.

[www.CirclevilleCitySchoolFoundation.org](http://www.CirclevilleCitySchoolFoundation.org)



[www.facebook.com/CirclevilleCSF](https://www.facebook.com/CirclevilleCSF)

Circleville City School Foundation invites you to the 5th annual "Raise Your Paw" Auction on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at AMVETS on Tarlton Road.

If you would like to donate to the event, please contact:

April Dengler (adengler@pickaway.org) or Justin Jacobs (justinr.jacobs@yahoo.com)

Please consider making CCSF the recipient of your rewards at Kroger (go to Community Rewards) or Amazon (register at AmazonSmile).

Gifts to CCSF are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

CCSF can accept and facilitate matching gifts and gifts of appreciated stock.

