



## Community Connection

Maple Heights Board of Education  
5740 Lawn Avenue  
Maple Heights, Ohio 44137-1023

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# Maple Heights City Schools Community Connection



News for the community about the Maple Heights City Schools

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### Contact Information

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## Destination Imagination Competition

### Teams Place at Regionals, Team Advances to State Event

Thirty-three Maple Heights students competed on Destination Imagination teams this year. **Destination Imagination** is a fun, hands-on competition that encourages creativity, courage and curiosity through open-ended academic challenges. Participants learn patience, flexibility, persistence, ethics, respect for others and their ideas, and the collaborative problem solving process. Maple teams showcased their solutions at the regional tournament at Beachwood High School in March. Students spent months preparing for the competition by meeting after school with their managers.



Ms. Keller and Ms. Hamm with the 4th grade improv team that placed 1st and advance to the State Tournament.

The **6th grade service learning team** and the **5th grade fine arts team** both placed third in their categories. The **4th grade improv team** placed first in elementary improv and will compete at the State Destination Imagination tournament in Mt. Vernon, Ohio in April.

Special thanks to DI parents who supported the team as they prepared and then the day of the competition. Thanks to Maple Heights challenge appraisers **Mary McDermott, Eboni Mikel, Donna Sommer** and **Danna Tenorio** who represented our teams as judges.

The first Maple Heights Destination Imagination team competed in 2014. Every one of the students who were on that first team competed again this year.



Members of the 2014 team at the 2017 competition. Students (l-r): Destiny Green, Ashyra Barnett, Christian Edge, Johntez Crawford, Rachel Wagner, Clint Hall.

## A Message From the Superintendent



In this edition of Community Connections, we are pleased to highlight some of the outstanding accomplishments of our staff and students this year, the exciting work started through our three pillars to live out school mission and vision, highly effective curriculum and instruction, culture and climate and college/career readiness. Our district is able to provide a variety of quality educational experiences to our students because of the generous support of our community, parent involvement and the outstanding efforts of our dedicated staff. In 2012, we asked the public to consider our proposal for an operations levy. The community responded by approving the levy. Now 5 years later, we are once again asking you to consider our proposal to renew our expiring levy on the Tuesday, May 2nd ballot.

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles T. Keenan  
Superintendent



## Maple Heights City Schools' Renewal Levy on May 2nd Ballot



As the election nears, Maple Heights City Schools would like to remind our community of the renewal levy (**ISSUE 10**) which appears on the May ballot. Issue 10 is a ten-year renewal of an existing operating levy and is **NOT A TAX INCREASE**. Issue 10 will continue to fund operating expenses by generating \$6.7 millions annually and keep our school district moving forward. Issue 10 provides a high-quality education for our students and community by ensuring:

- ◆ Increased classroom computers and technology
- ◆ Acceptable teacher/student ratios
- ◆ Staff training to improve teacher and student learning
- ◆ Award-winning extracurricular programs and sports are maintained
- ◆ Students are prepared for jobs, college and life

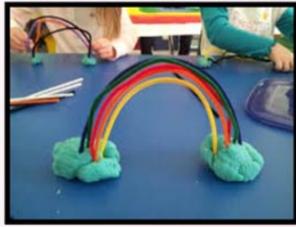
Maple Heights City Schools will continue to ensure sound financial management practices while maintaining high quality educational experiences for all students through alignment of district resources to district initiatives.



## Marketing Students Advance

### Scheduled to Compete at International DECA Event

**Eric Moon** and **Jakobe Harris** wrote a manual on the School-based Enterprise (SBE), or school bookstore, at Maple Heights High School which ranked as gold level certification. This level competes at the international competitions in Anaheim, California, April 26-29, 2017, with a presentation in front of judges covering their student run business. The SBE is a "learning laboratory" for marketing students to practice and implement concepts learned in class. The student run business is operated 100% by marketing students and incorporates the spirit of entrepreneurship, selling, advertising, promotions, human resources, financial planning, inventory control, strategic planning and many, many more concepts.



## All About Rainbows

Preschool STEM Coordinator, **Kathie Bartholomew** visited Lincoln Preschool classes and led the STEM investigation: *All About Rainbows*. Ms. Kathie shared that rainbows are made of light, and when light bends inside a drop of water, it will make a rainbow. The classes discussed what colors they saw as they observed the rainbow.

The classrooms then created their very own rainbows by using colorful pipe cleaners and play dough. The students were predicting and questioning whether their rainbows were tall enough for a pot of gold to fit under it. It was wonderful watching the students put their plans into action and try to figure out several different methods of building their rainbows.



## Daddy & Daughter Dance

Hosted by Abraham Lincoln School

On March 10, 2017, Abraham Lincoln School held its **first annual Daddy & Daughter Dance**. It was a magical night in Maple Heights as 250 guests attended this special event. The dads were dressed up in their suits and the little girls looked beautiful in their amazing dresses.



The couples enjoyed pizza and punch in the cafeteria. The couples also visited the "princess castle" where they took a father and daughter picture. The evening ended with the girls participating in a beautiful slow dance with their fathers. The staff worked very hard to make this a memorable night for both the fathers and the daughters. It was a tear jerking experience witnessing all off the love in the air on this night.



## Teacher Academy Students Earn Top State Honors

Students Elected to State Offices, Advance to Nationals

This year our Teacher Academy Program has several students who will be competing at the **Educators Rising National Conference** in Phoenix, Arizona, June 23-27. The Teacher Academy is under the direction of Mr. Rick Wakefield. Students advancing are as follows:

- ◆ **Tyler Gholston, Melvin Sales and Evan Wheeler** who placed third in the Ethical Dilemma competition at the state conference. Seventeen schools competed.
- ◆ **Naseya Owens** placed fifth in the state competition, qualifying her for Nationals. **Naseya** competed against 22 students from around the State of Ohio.

Additionally, two Juniors in the Program, **Keiara Hansberry** and **Dennis Sanders**, were elected to State Officer positions for Educators Rising Ohio. Each will serve with two other students and will represent Ohio for the 2017-18 school year. **Keiara** is the Vice-President of Competitions and Community Service and **Dennis** is the Public Relations Secretary.

## We're Going to College!

Student Visited by College Students

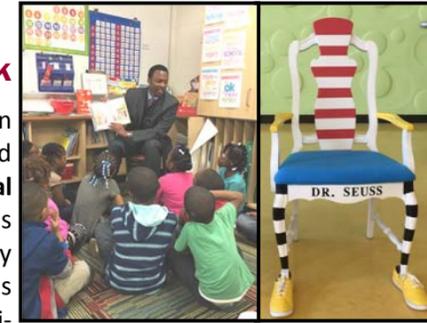
Students in **Mrs. Mays'** class had the opportunity to learn about the journey to getting to college from current college students. Young African-American men from **Morehouse College, Benedictine College** and **The Ohio State University** visited the class during their winter break. The visitors shared with the students the experiences and challenges they face in college. Additionally, they shared ways to overcome obstacles. Following the discussions, they used iPads and allowed the students to explore more information about their schools. The second and third grade students were encouraged to continue to work hard in school and persevere.



## Read Across America

School Celebrates with Dr. Seuss Week

Students at **Abraham Lincoln School** took part in **Read Across America** on March 2nd. In honor and celebration of that day, the school held its **annual school-wide Dr. Seuss Week**. Events and activities included a spirit week to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday as well as engaging the students in special activities that incorporated reading, writing, and math activities with Dr. Seuss' books! Some of the themes were, Silly Sock Day, Red and Blue Day and Hat Day. The student activities included sight word games, matching games, sorting, measurement, graphing, opinion writing, etc. Guest readers from throughout the district came to every classroom to read a book! A special thanks goes out to **Ms. Ita** for planning the week and our librarian, **Mrs. Tirpak**, for our special "Dr. Seuss" chair and table.



## Here Come the Chicks!

"Bring the Farm to You" Visits JFK School

**Bring the Farm To You** visited **Mrs. Peake, Ms. Kimmel, and Ms. Chiantis'** classrooms and all the children became chicken farmers! Ms. Christa, a farmer from the Columbus-area visited the students. Along with Ms. Christa came 7 eggs for each of the classrooms, and an incubator to keep the eggs nice and warm. And then....just 21 days after the hens laid the eggs, the chicks began to hatch! The students were able to observe this process closely and document by taking pictures, creating videos, drawing diagrams, and discussing with their peers.

Once the chicks hatched, students were responsible for caring for the chicks and even cleaning their cages! The children in these classes had the opportunity to hold a baby chick. Students created presentations on these experiences and shared with other classes. Many other classes at JFK were able to visit during this incredible experience. **Bring the Farm To You** was an incredible experience !



## It's A "Frozen" Party

It hasn't been just chilly *outside* at **John F. Kennedy School!** This entire school year, we have been practicing our motto to **Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Responsible** and **Be Safe**. Our students have continued to work hard to meet our school-wide expectations. At the end of each quarter, students who have not had any discipline referrals or detentions are treated to a well deserved incentive.



For the second quarter, students were treated to cookies that they decorated, hot cocoa and a viewing of the movie *Frozen!*

## Looking Ahead to Bright Futures

Kindergarteners Focus on Careers

Kindergarteners have had a very busy year focusing on careers. The goal is to increase awareness about college and expose students to various careers as a young age. Earlier in the year, students learned about how food is farmed and how it comes to be in the grocery stores. Each class visited **Patterson Fruit Farm** to see the process first hand. Next, the kindergarteners focused on dental health. Classes received dental hygiene kits from **Colgate** and read books about dentistry. The district's mobile dentist also visited the students at Lincoln as a service provided to those who signed up for the program.

