

## Contact Information

**Abraham Lincoln School**  
6009 Dunham Road  
216.438.6030  
Dawn Besteder, Principal  
Main Office ext. 5001  
ext. 5021

**John F. Kennedy School**  
5933 Dunham Road  
216.438.6010  
Zelina Pames, Principal  
Main Office ext. 6001  
ext. 6003

**Barack Obama School**  
5800 Glenwood Avenue  
216.438.6020  
Matthew Bryan, Principal  
Main Office ext. 4001  
ext. 4003

**Milkovich Middle School**  
19800 Stafford Avenue  
216.438.6000  
Lori Rodman, Principal  
Ms. Thomas, A/P  
Mr. Forte, A/P  
Main Office ext. 2001  
ext. 2011  
ext. 2010  
ext. 2002

**Maple Heights High School**  
1 Mustang Way  
216.438.6400  
Shay Price, Principal  
Main Office ext. 1001  
ext. 1018  
Mr. Bennett, F/A Principal  
F/A Office ext. 1340  
ext. 1624  
Mr. Sutton, S2C Principal  
S2C Office ext. 1320  
ext. 1026  
Ms. Miklovic, A3 Principal  
A3 Community Office  
Athletic Office ext. 1330  
ext. 1332  
ext. 1090

Visit our website for additional info.

## Winter Sports Update



### Wrestlers off to a Solid Start

The wrestling team is off to a solid start under head coach **Jamie Milkovich**. The team returns five district qualifiers and has not backed down from any competition this year. The team is 8-0 in dual matches, won the Brush Dual Tournament, placed 3rd at the Maple Holiday Tournament, and took 6th at the Hudson Invitational. The team beat Bedford in the first round of the Regional State Dual Tournament, but lost to Solon in the second round. The team will be seeking another LEL Team Championship and looking to advance a few individual wrestlers to the State Tournament.

### Boys Basketball

The team currently has a record of 9-4 and is under the guidance of head coach **Eric Schmidt**. The team is in 3rd place in the LEL and is awaiting its draw for the State Sectional Tournament. **Senior Alfonse Hale** scored his 1000th career point on December 6 at a game against defending State Champions Lutheran East at Quicken Loans Arena. Maple ended up beating Lutheran East 68-48.

### Girls Basketball

The girls team under the guidance of first year head coach **Kanisha Coward** currently has a record of 4-10, and is sitting in 5th place in the LEL. The Lady Mustangs came in second place in the Gator Holiday Classic. The girls' team is awaiting its draw for the State Sectional Tournament.

### Middle School 7th Grade Boys Win Championship

This year's 7th grade boys' basketball team won the LEL championship by beating rival Bedford. The team had a regular season record of 12-2, which put them as the #2 seed in the LEL tournament. During post-season, the team took down both Heritage and Roxboro Middle Schools in the first two rounds before entering the championship. The boys had a tough match up for the Championship against a Bedford team that had beat them once in the regular season. Maple started out with an early lead and never looked back coming up victorious with a score of 55-46. Leading scorers were **Jayvion Moore** with 23 points and **Anthony Jones** with 16 points.



This year's 7th grade class is both the LEL Football and Basketball Champions for 2017-18.

# Maple Heights City Schools Community Connection

News for the community about the Maple Heights City Schools



## A Message From the Superintendent



A reflective look at the school year thus far is done in a framework of amazement at how quickly a semester can pass. I continue to be impressed by our efforts in the classroom with faculty, staff, and students working together to create a wonderful learning environment. Much has been accomplished throughout the district and much is yet to be done. Work to differentiate instruction to reinforce learning and further challenge our students is taking place district wide. Teachers are looking at data, making decisions on necessary, effective interventions, and implementing instructional activities to address specific areas of need. Benchmark assessments given at the beginning and middle of the school year indicate significant growth in math, reading, and science at every school.

In this edition, we are excited to share the happenings in our schools. From one of our own teachers winning an "Oscar for teaching", students receiving opportunities to prepare for life after high school, and the elementary schools focus on literacy and school climate, our students are enriched by many opportunities to stretch and grow academically and socially. As we continue all of the growth and progress in our school system, we certainly thank you for your role and your continued support in helping all children succeed.

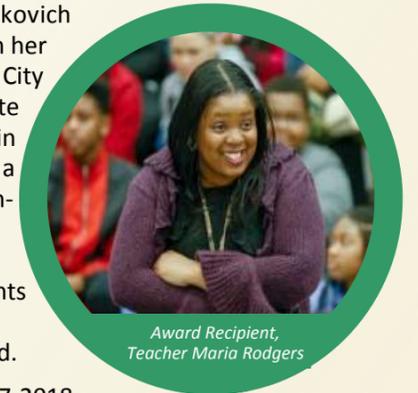
Dr. Charlie Keenan, Superintendent

## Our Schools are the Heart of Our Community!



## Teacher, Maria Rodgers Honored Recipient of \$25,000 Milken Educators Award

**Maria Rodgers**, a math teacher at Milkovich Middle School, wears many hats. Through her 12 years as an educator in Maple Heights City Schools, she has been known to coordinate her lesson plans with her outfits, coming in one day in a bee costume and another as a drill sergeant, running a "boot camp" complete with games and learning stations to prepare students for a state assessment. It's all part of her approach to help students better conceptualize mathematical ideas through activities that keep them engaged.



Award Recipient,  
Teacher Maria Rodgers

Rodgers is among 44 honorees for 2017-2018 to receive the national recognition of the prestigious Milken Educator Award, which comes with an unrestricted cash prize of \$25,000. She is the only Ohioan to receive the award this 2017-2018 season and the first from Maple Heights City Schools.

**The Milken Educator Awards**, hailed by *Teacher* magazine as the "Oscars of Teaching," has been opening minds and shaping futures for 30 years. Research shows teacher quality is the driving in-school factor behind student growth and achievement. The initiative not only aims to reward great teachers, but also to celebrate, elevate and activate those innovators in the classroom who are guiding America's next generation of leaders. Milken Educators believe, "The future belongs to the educated."



Ms. Rodgers' classroom celebrating her award



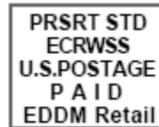
## Community Connection

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

### Board of Education

Michael A. White, President  
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## Get Involved!



### It's a Bird, It's A Plane... No, It's JFK School's Superheroes!

Batman, Superman along with Captain American joined together for a night just for moms and sons. On January 26, over 200 moms and sons dressed as their favorite superhero and made their way to the **Mom & Son Superhero Night at John F. Kennedy School**. There was something for every superhero! Superheroes enjoyed bouncing in the bouncy house and shooting basketball. There was dancing, and a photo booth to capture the memories of the fun-filled night. The superheroes powered up with pizza and punch. The big hit of the night was playing laser tag! It was a wonderful night for all moms and sons in attendance.

This event was organized by JFK Room Moms.



# Preparing Our Students for the Future

## Cleveland Clinic ASPIRE Program at High School

Students from the Class of 2019 were invited to apply to the **Cleveland Clinic ASPIRE Nurse Scholars Program**. This program is open to students from schools in and surrounding Northeast Ohio. The program is designed for high school juniors interested in pursuing a career in nursing. The 12-week enrichment program will offer instruction to juniors to develop their understanding of a nursing career and Expect to be enlightened on such topics as CPR certification, Nurse Shadow Experience, Simulation Healthcare, Patient Experience, Presentation Skills, and Cultural Diversity. A \$500 monetary stipend will be awarded upon successful completion of the program and, select participants will be invited to return for a second year as mentors to incoming students. The returning seniors will have the opportunity to earn a full scholarship at Cuyahoga Community College to complete their RN degree.

This year, Maple Heights High School had five young ladies chosen for the **ASPIRE Program**.

Please congratulate **Amari Sledge, Tamara Morris, Anique Travis, Shelby Eggleton, and Demetria Rousseau.**



## Maple Heights High School Competes in Academic Challenge

The **Maple Heights Academic Team** was selected this year to appear on the **WEWS television program Academic Challenge**. This is the 8th time the team has appeared on the program in the last 13 years. Competing on TV this year were juniors **Amari Sledge** and **Joshua Carr**, and senior **Allison Ivicic**. The team is composed of students in grades 9-12 practice twice a week after school. In addition, this year the team joined a new league for a weekly competition called **Quiz Bowl**. They compete in two matches per week for five weeks in the Fall and five weeks in the Spring. The team also attends multiple competitions on Saturdays to compete with other schools.

The team loves working together and challenging their **Coach, high school teacher Dan Kovalak**.



## College & Career Pathways Offered at High School



The Maple Heights High School has been restructured to how we teach. This new structure is to increase job readiness and graduation rates of our students. Whether a student's next step is college or pursuing a career, the high school has been redesigned to better meet the goals of the students and the employment demands in the area. Starting their freshman year, students will need to choose one of several pathways, similar to choosing a college major. From there, they will take courses to hone their skills and prepare them for a college or a technical career.

In conjunction with our career pathways offered in the building, Maple Heights High School is also member of the Tri-High consortium, with Warrensville Heights, Bedford, and Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School Districts, allowing us to provide over 20 opportunities to participate in a Career Tech Education (CTE) programs. The programs help prepare students for future career opportunities and/or college program majors.

Our three Pathways are **STEM**, for students interested in the sciences, **Human & Public Service** for students who would like to serve the public, and **Arts, Business & Communications (ABC)** which includes courses for students in creative or business fields. Freshmen explore our three pathways and potential careers through advisories they attend each week. Sophomores work with their advisor teachers and counselor to determine if a CTE class is appropriate for their future career aspirations or Pathway specific electives are more beneficial for students in their junior and senior years. Students who choose a program that is not located at MHHS are provided transportation to their chosen school for part of the day and spend the remaining part of the school day at MHHS taking their core academic courses. Current program offerings are listed below. The addition of programs is on-going and based on the needs of our students.

**STEM CTE:** Home Improvement & Maintenance (MHHS), Engineering Technology (WHHS), Clinical Health Careers (CHUH), Exercise Science and Sports Medicine (CHUH), Health Science (BHS), Biotechnology (BHS), Pharmacy Technician (CHUH), Digital Design (BHS), Computer Networking (CHUH),

**ABC CTE:** Audio Engineering (CHUH), Digital Video Production (CHUH), Media Arts (MHHS), Graphic Imaging Technology (WHHS), Business Management (BHS & CHUH), Finance (BHS), Marketing (MHHS)

**Human & Public Service CTE:** Teacher Academy (MHHS), Cosmetology (CHUH & MHHS), Criminal Justice (MHHS), Firefighting/EMT (WHHS), Automotive Technology (MHHS)

## Schools Earn Bronze

**John F. Kennedy School** and **Barack Obama School** earned Bronze Level status for their success with **Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS)**. PBIS involves teaching students expected behaviors in a consistent and positive way, modeling and acknowledging those behaviors, and helping all students meet expectations and be successful. PBIS has been shown to improve student achievement, student behavior, and school climate.



## Success!

### Classroom Book A Day Program

**Abraham Lincoln School** is excited to participate in the **"Classroom Book a Day" Program**. The program which began in January and continues through the end of the year was created to improve literacy by increasing and encouraging the joy of reading. Each teacher is asked to read one or more books to their classroom each day. The teachers then make a copy of the cover of the books to be displayed on the cover of the windows in the library. The students can then see just how many books the entire school is reading. Students also count and graph the totals.



To help with the Program, **Maple Heights Regional Library** provides the school with 20 to 30 books each month to share. The teachers can Google **#classroombookaday** to find links to other schools that are using the program and get creative ideas and suggestions. They can also go to [www.heisereads.com](http://www.heisereads.com) to read book reviews and locate much loved titles that the children will enjoy.

