

Important Information Concerning a Large Portion of Our District Funding

I write you today to begin a conversation about a complex issue that could have a significant impact on our school district. As you may know, school funding has traditionally been a less than stable function of our state government. We are on the cusp of an issue that will undoubtedly have a lasting effect, and I urgently need your attention and understanding as we move forward. Here is my sincerest effort to explain the issue in brief using the information I have been given to date:

In 2005, the state legislature passed a law to reduce the amount of taxes (known as tangible personal property, or TPP, tax) that local business and industry must pay.

The effect of the law would have, in some cases, reduced our school district's income and, in other cases, increased taxes to property owners. Therefore, the state legislature replaced (reimbursed schools) the money no longer collected from industry with money from commercial activity, income, and sales taxes (often referred to as "state" money).

Between 2014 and 2022, the state is eliminating this reimbursement to school districts. As a result, our district has been or will be impacted in two ways:

- Our district has lost about \$1.6 million in annual revenue since 2009, which we have not asked taxpayers to replace from our fixed rate levies (the state is keeping this money to use for other purposes)
- Our district property owners will share an additional \$1 million in tax burden due to TPP reimbursement being eliminated from our \$3.7 million emergency (fixed sum) levy that has been in place since 1999. **In other words, the state is going to keep the money they were using to reimburse the district which causes the burden to fall on all taxpayers in the district.** A more detailed explanation of this issue can be found on the district website at: www.bathwildcats.org

Below is a table from the Allen County Auditor's Office received in November 2016 illustrating the estimated increase that property owners will see depending upon the value of our property:

Collection Year	2019 Annual/Monthly Increase	2020 Annual/Monthly Increase	2021 Annual/Monthly Increase	2022 Annual/Monthly Increase	2023 Annual/Monthly Increase
Market Value					
\$100,000.00	\$25.00/\$2.08	\$25.00/\$2.08	\$25.00/\$2.08	\$25.00/\$2.08	\$25.00/\$2.08
\$125,000.00	\$32.00/\$2.67	\$31.00/\$2.58	\$34.00/\$2.83	\$32.00/\$2.67	\$31.00/\$2.58
\$150,000.00	\$38.00/\$3.17	\$41.00/\$3.42	\$38.00/\$3.17	\$38.00/\$3.17	\$37.00/\$3.08

School boards around the state who have similar circumstances have been working to find a legislative solution to this issue without success. I will continue to work with others around the state to find a solution. However, if none is found, the \$1 million reimbursement being phased out will be passed on to you and me, district property owners. The Bath board and administration feel it is important for you to have substantial notice of this issue.

I'm sure you understand that it would be devastating for the district to lose \$1 million annually after the losses we have already suffered. Furthermore, this emergency levy must be renewed before the end of 2019. If this levy does not renew before the end of 2019, we will lose the entire \$3.7 million in revenue, not just the \$1 million in reimbursement revenue. I am here to answer any questions you may have about the loss of TPP. Please do not hesitate to call my office.

Sincerely,



**Dale E. Lewellen, Superintendent
Bath Local Schools**

FIFTH GRADE QUIZ BOWL TEAM

Twenty-two fifth grade students tried out for this year's Quiz Bowl team. Each potential team member was given a test of trivia questions. The top eight scorers were selected as team members to represent Bath Local Schools at this year's quiz bowl meets and tournament. Members of the team are: **Brennen Hughes, Brennon Ryan, Keaton Sexton, Jonah Volbert, Clay Boedicker, Jordyn Sturgeon, Andrew Sheidler and Jaden Augsburg**. Mrs. Wiedenbein is the Quiz Bowl coach. Quiz Bowl is a wonderful opportunity for our academic leaders to show off their love for learning and incredible knowledge. Come and see a glimpse of the future generation's brain power at a quiz bowl meet this season!



SECOND YEAR FOR THE ELEMENTARY NewsCats!

Bath Elementary School fifth grade students **Trey Welsch, Erik Staley, Alex Miller, Claire Armentrout, Krissy Kohlrieser, Kaelyn Harris, James Ward, Alivia Greaves, Jackson Kohlrieser, Joe Mosley, Claire Foust and Tyson McGee** are this year's staff for the Elementary NewsCats! They are learning how to put together recorded video announcements for our students to watch as well as live video productions streamed to parents and grandparents if they are unable to make it to an event. Most of the time, the NewsCats are able to put together and record video announcements for the students to watch once every two weeks. After several productions this year, it appears The NewsCats are well on their way to producing some high quality news reports.



WILDCAT KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP

Bath Elementary School is taking names for 2017 - 2018 Kindergarten. To be eligible, a child must be 5 years old on or before August 1, 2017. If you have a child who meets this qualification, contact the elementary office during regular working hours. Parents will need to provide the school with the child's birth certificate (which includes mother's maiden name), social security card, immunization information, custody papers (if applicable including all pages of the document and the judge or magistrate's signature), and three documents providing proof of residency in the Bath Local School District. All of these items must be submitted to the elementary office before registration forms may be completed. Parents should pick-up the initial information packet in the elementary office as soon as possible. Parents will also sign-up for a screening time for their child at that time. Screenings will take place March 7, 8 and 9. The elementary office is open to pick-up packets from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and from 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. daily.

Ohio Assessments 2016 – 2017 School Year

AIR-American Institute for Research

3rd Grade Language Arts	April 4, 2017
4th Grade Language Arts	April 5, 2017
5th Grade Language Arts	April 6, 2017
3rd Grade Math	April 19, 2017
4th Grade Math	April 20, 2017
5th Grade Math	April 21, 2017
4th Grade Social Studies	April 25, 2017
5th Grade Science	April 26, 2017

5TH GRADE BAND

The 5th grade band presented their premier concert in December to a packed house of parents, friends and family members! The 85 member ensemble will be performing on May 8th at 7:00 p.m. at our annual Band-O-Rama concert with the other Bath bands. They are a fantastic group of students and doing well in learning all about being in "the Tradition of Excellence!" Mr. and Mrs. Grim look forward to "showing-off" this talented group in May!

The Bath High School Interact Group is sponsoring a Father Daughter Dance for all girls grades K-5 on Saturday February 11th 7pm to 9pm in the elementary gym. Admission is \$5 per adult. Music, food and fun!





BATH ELEMENTARY SPELLING BEE

Congratulations to **Madison Fifer**, who finished in first place in the Bath Elementary School Spelling Bee and is the daughter of Jeremy and Adrienne Fifer. **Madison King**, daughter of George King III and Natalie Price, was our runner-up, and **Brady Hale**, son of Anthony Hale and Jaime Garver, took third place. Madison, being Bath Elementary School's winner, will be participating on February 18 in the Allen County Spelling Bee at 10 am at OSU-Lima against other fourth through eighth grade students from area schools.



1ST SEMESTER GOOD CITIZENS

In first and second semester of each year, three students from each of the first through fifth grade classrooms are recognized for being Good Citizens in our school. Congratulations to all of our Good Citizens pictured below.

FIRST GRADERS



SECOND GRADERS



THIRD GRADERS



FOURTH GRADERS



FIFTH GRADERS



5TH GRADE CHOIR

The Fifth Grade Choir has been working incredibly hard this year. Before break, they were asked to learn a lot of music for our Christmas Program "Crazy Christmas". They did a wonderful job and put on a great show that involved over 100 students, many of which had singing and speaking solos. I couldn't be more proud of them all!

Now that Christmas is over, the choirs will continue working on reading music, singing technique, and many other musical ideas. Soon, they will begin preparing for their next concert to be held on May 22 in the Middle School Gym. This concert will give students the chance to see what they will do in the future, as this concert will be with the rest of the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade choirs.

The first half of this year has been so much fun! I look forward to the rest of the year working with these great singers!

~ Mrs. Sarah Haselman



BATH MIDDLE SCHOOL SPELLING BEE

On Thursday, January 12, 2017, the school-wide spelling bee was held in the middle school library. Forty-five sixth, seventh, and eighth graders competed in the event. Preliminary spelling bees were held in the individual classrooms in order to determine the forty-five qualifiers.

Charlie Schneider (grade 8) was crowned the champion, **Peyton Moyler** (grade 8) was named the first runner-up, and **Magellan Liechty** (grade 6) was the second runner-up. Charlie is the son of Tina and David Schneider, Peyton is the son of Brandy Horstman and Jeff Moyler, and Magellan is the daughter of Julie and Chris Liechty.

Charlie will represent our school in the Allen County Spelling Bee at OSU Lima as well as at the Regional Spelling Bee at the Civic and Convention Center. Congratulations to these finalists and to all students who participated.



NEW SCHOOL NURSE

A new nurse was recently hired to help meet the medical and health care needs of our middle school students. Ashley Schulte will now serve as nurse at the middle school. Mrs. Schulte brings a great deal of talent and experience to our school, including ten years at Mercy Health prior to taking the position at Bath Schools. Mrs. Garver will now spend the vast majority of her time serving the needs of the elementary students.

**BATH MIDDLE SCHOOL
2017 TESTING**

Please do not schedule any appointments, vacations, etc. on these days. Thank you in advance for making attendance a priority!

Monday, April 3 rd	8 th Grade English Language Arts
Tuesday April 4 th	7 th Grade English Language Arts
Wednesday, April 5 th	6 th Grade English Language Arts
Tuesday, April 18 th	8 th Grade Math
Wednesday, April 19 th	7 th Grade Math
Thursday, April 20 th	6 th Grade Math
Monday, April 24 th	8 th Grade Science
Tuesday, April 25 th	6 th Grade Social Studies

All tests will be divided into two 90-minute sessions

BOY SCOUTS TROOP 82

SPRING CRAFT SHOW

Bath High School Gym

Saturday, March 25, 2017

\$1.00 Admission

*Interested in a booth?
Call Shannon 419.350.0688*



PROCTOR AND GAMBLE DONATIONS

Bath Middle School would like to thank Proctor and Gamble for their generosity. Just prior to the holidays, Proctor and Gamble donated bags containing a variety of personal hygiene products to each middle school student. Wilma Kirkman, from Proctor and Gamble, worked with the middle school student council to assemble and distribute the bags to our students. Again, a big thank you to Proctor and Gamble for thinking of our students.

8TH GRADE HEALTH CLASS

Upcoming 8th grade guest speakers and topics coming to our students:

Jan. 30-Feb 2 --Safe Dates and Relationship Violence Issues

Feb 21-24 --Partnership for Violence Free Families presents Suicide Prevention and Awareness

April 4 -- Lifeline Ohio – What it means to be an organ donor

April 24-28 --Relationships Under Construction – Taking relationships slowly

REAL MONEY REAL WORLD

On February 26th, eighth-grade students at Bath Middle School will take part in the Real Money/Real World activity. This activity involves each student being assigned a career and a corresponding salary. Students then go about budgeting their money as they purchase items and services necessary in the lives of an adult. Area business representatives, financial advisors, law enforcement officers and others donate their time to provide assistance and guidance in this “real life” activity. The activity is coordinated by Bath High School teacher Jennifer Brachok, in cooperation with The Ohio State University and the Apollo Career Center. The activity serves to give our students an understanding of the costs of goods and services as well as the budgeting of money based on earned income. The middle school would like to thank the area business representatives for donating their time and knowledge to benefit of our students. We also wish to thank the Bath PTS for helping fund the activity.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are permitted to miss 4 days per semester (8 for the year) without medical notes. In order for these absences/ “call ins” to be excused, a parent or guardian must speak to the office explaining the absence within 24 hours of the absence. Excused absences entitle a student to make up any school work missed. These absences are based on one or more of the following conditions: (1) personal illness (2) death or illness in the family (3) observance of a religious holiday (4) other circumstances which may constitute an excused absence will require prior approval from the principal or assistant principal. Students with excused absences are solely responsible for making up any schoolwork missed.

Students with unexcused absences will not be given credit for any school work missed. Unexcused absences usually consist of, but are not limited to, one or more of the following conditions: (1) truancy-no note (2) needed at home (3) gainful employment (4) oversleeping and /or missing the bus (5) car trouble of any kind (6) non-emergency errands of any kind (7) personal reasons will be unexcused unless the reasons are specifically identified and prior approval is given by the principal or assistant principal.

GEOGRAPHY BEE 2017

Can you answer this question: “Jura and Lucerne are cantons of what mountainous country?”

The correct answer is Switzerland. This question was one of many given during this year’s Geography Bee Finals at Bath Middle School in January. The questions were difficult, but the students did an excellent job with their knowledge of U.S. and World Geography.

8th grader **Josh Horton**, son of Diana Schroeder and Lloyd Horton, was the 1st place winner in the 2017 Geography Bee; 8th grader **Elijah Miles**, son of Nicki Fuqua and Mark Miles, finished 2nd place; and **Charlie Schneider**, son of David and Tina Schneider, finished 3rd.

Congratulations to all of the students that competed in the 2017 Geography Bee.

SIXTH GRADE QUIZ BOWL

The Bath Middle School sixth grade Quiz Bowl team is currently competing in matches scheduled and sponsored by the Allen County Educational Service Center. Our team will compete against teams from nine different area schools. Team members are:

Elise Branin
Cohen Callahan
Rachel Clark
Logan Roush
Robert Shaffer, Jr.
Kris Shields

The Quiz Bowl team advisor is Adam Rohrbaugh



BATH HIGH SCHOOL 2017 TESTING DATES

Please do not schedule any appointments, vacations, etc. on these days. Thank you in advance for making attendance a priority!

OGT TEST DATES	March 13 th – March 26 th	Writing, Reading, Math, Science and Social Studies
ACT TEST DATES	March 21 st	All students in the Class of 2018 must take the ACT this date
AIR TESTING DATES	March 24 th – April 13 th	English Language Arts
	April 11 th – May 3 rd	Math, Science and Social Studies
ACT MAKE-UP DATES	April 19 th and May 3 rd	All students in the Class of 2018 must take the ACT this year
AP ENGLISH & LITERATURE	May 3 rd	AP English Literature Testing Date

ACT Free Prep Sessions at Lima Public Library from 6:00-7:00 p.m. English: Feb. 7, Mar. 14th, April 18th, Reading: Feb. 14th, Mar. 21st, April 25th, Math: Feb. 21st, Mar. 28th, May 2nd, Science: Jan. 31st, Feb. 28th, Apr. 4th, May 9th, Writing/Open Lab: Mar. 7th, Apr. 11th, May 16th.

BATH ACADEMIC TEAM

The Bath Academic Team, both JV and Varsity, placed first in the Allen County League hosted by the ESC, where the varsity team finished 11-0 and the JV finished 10-2. The Academic Team is comprised of: **Vincent Abrams, Alexis Ball, Seaira Ball, Paul Blasiman, Tony Camps, Tristam Cheeseman, Natalie Crowe, Allison Fisher, Riley Iames, Derek Inskeep, Rachel Inskeep, Ashtyn Jefferson, Noah Kindig, Katie McNamara, Meagan Plikert, Cody Rieman and Savannah Stahl**, and led by coach Daniel Grime and assistant coach Ryan Schadewald. The team will head into the Bath Invitational with a record of 20-3.



Emma Deter and **Charis Barnes** became the first females in the 21st Century to compete at the Regional Cross Country meet for Bath on October 29th at Tiffin Hedges-Boyer Park. Charis placed 41st with a time of 21:13 and Emma placed 46th with a time of 21:31. Both ladies helped the team achieve a program milestone in winning the Elida Invitational in September.



Looking Ahead...

Honors Banquet will occur on **May 3rd @ 7:45 p.m.** in the auditorium. Invitations will be mailed out in April.

CLASS OF 2017 Upcoming Events:

Senior Breakfast - May, 26th @ 8:00 a.m. in Cafeteria.
 Graduation Practice (mandatory) immediately after breakfast.
 Graduation - May 27th @ 10:00 a.m. in Stadium (weather permitting)

The Lima Chapter DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) Good Citizens Award ceremony was held on November 19, 2016. Bath High School's nominee was **Keianna Sturgill**.

The DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) Good Citizens program and scholarship contest is intended to encourage and reward the qualities of good citizenship. Keianna was selected as Bath High School's DAR Good Citizen for exemplifying dependability (which includes truthfulness, loyalty, and punctuality); service (which includes cooperation, courtesy, and consideration of others); leadership (which includes personality, self-control, and ability to assume responsibility); and patriotism (which includes unselfish interest in family, school, community and nation) to an outstanding degree.



The DAR Good Citizen scholarship contest consists of two parts. Part I consists of the student describing how he/she has tried to manifest the qualities of a good citizen. Part II is a timed essay. Each contest entry is evaluated by independent, non-DAR judges. Congratulations Keianna!



“BEAUTY AND THE BEAST”

Bath High School proudly presents Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" as our spring musical this year. Performance dates and times are:

Friday, April 7th at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 8th at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 9th at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$10.00 each for reserved seating and will be on sale in March. Call 419-221-0366 for more information. You don't want to miss this amazing performance!

Volunteer

Volunteer Opportunities at St. Rita's Medical Center

2017 Summer Volunteer for students ages 14-18. Please contact the guidance office for more information or St. Rita's Medical Center. Various areas for service: Thrift shop, gift shop, escort patients, deliver flowers, clerical and administrative duties, etc.

STUDENTS GIVE BACK

The high school student council collected money and goods for the annual Christmas Basket drive. With that money, baskets were provided to 16 families from our own Bath community. Not only did the baskets contain food for over the holiday break, but additional items were donated by other groups in the school. The National Honor Society provided gifts for nearly 50 children, the Spanish Club donated canned goods to each family, and FCA donated hats and gloves for the families. This year was a very successful year, and we hope to help additional families each year.



BLOODMOBILE

The annual Bloodmobile will be **Monday, February 27th**
8:15 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

in the High School Gymnasium

Please contact Mr. Gross if you would like to donate blood.
(419) 221-0366 or GROSSR@BATHWILDCATS.ORG





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BATH SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER – WINTER 2017

BATH LOCAL SCHOOLS DIRECTORY			
BATH ADMINISTRATION	BATH ELEMENTARY	BATH MIDDLE SCHOOL	BATH HIGH SCHOOL
Dale Lewellen, Superintendent Annette Morman, Treasurer 2650 Bible Road Lima, OH 45801 (419) 221-0807	Chris Renner, Principal Chris Clark, Asst. Principal 2450 Bible Road Lima, OH 45801 (419) 221-1837	Brad Clark, Principal Rich Dackin, Asst. Principal 2700 Bible Road Lima, OH 45801 (419) 221-1839	Rick Gross, Principal Brian Jesko, Asst. Principal 2850 Bible Road Lima, OH 45801 (419) 221-0366



Monday, February 13 – P.T.S. @ 7 p.m.
Monday, February 20 – Bath Parents Sports Club @ 8 p.m.
Monday, March 13 – P.T.S. @ 7 p.m.
Monday, March 20 – Bath Parents Sports Club @ 8 p.m.

*All meetings are held in Community Room #1

WANTED

Bath Schools is looking for people who are interested in becoming a substitute bus driver. People adapt easily to driving a school bus with the training provided. If you like working with children, have a good driving record, and are chosen through the interview process, we will assist you through the steps of becoming a certified bus driver! Sub drivers are paid \$18.78 per run with up to four runs per day. Hours are 6:15 am to 8:15 am and 2:10 pm to 4:10 pm. For more information, contact Keanna McNamara at 419-221-0807 extension 6160.

Ohio's no-cost, career planning system offers comprehensive, career explorations tools, online training and resources specifically for students, teachers and school counselors. OhioMeansJobs.com allows students to learn more about their career interests and in-demand jobs, build resumes, search for college and training programs, create a budget on future expenses, and develop meaningful academic and career plans for high school and beyond. Visit OhioMeansJobs.com !

UPCOMING DATES:

February 8 th – 2 Hour Delay (Staff Development)	May 26 th – Last Day for Students
February 20 th – No School (President's Day)	May 27 th - Graduation
April 13 th – Last Day Before Easter Break	May 29 th – Memorial Day
April 18 th – School Resumes After Easter Break	