

*The Mission of Southern Local Schools is to provide a quality,
child centered education where all students can succeed.*

Welcome to another exciting year at Southern Local Schools. Our staff and administration have worked diligently to prepare for a smooth start to the year under the unusual circumstances we are faced with. We are pleased to have the students, parents and communities working with us to ensure another successful year. Please remember that situations can change quickly so we have to be prepared to adjust to any changes.

To start the year, we will be operating on our Instructional Plan B, which has students attending in person Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday each week as well as participating in remote learning on Wednesdays. This will last for the remainder of the first grading period. Near the end of the grading period we will make a decision regarding the plan for the second grading period.

Before coming to school each morning, we ask that parents and students do a home health assessment to determine if the student should attend school on that day.

- A Home self-assessment is a daily health check prior to going to school which should include taking a student's temperature and assessing for COVID-19 symptoms:
 - Symptoms include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.
- Anyone with symptoms or a fever above 100°F should stay home.

We also ask that parents contact the school whenever a student or household member display symptoms of COVID-19. By working together, we can ensure a safe and successful school year. Thank you all for be patient and understanding as we navigate through the first few weeks of school. Have a great year.

Scott Christman
Superintendent

News from Special Education

Guy Williams, Special Education Director

The Special Education Department is off and running this year! We are providing a wide variety of special services for our students and our families. If you have any questions related to special services, please don't hesitate to call us at 740-721-0523.

Expanding Opportunities for Each Child Grant

Kim Jones, TAG Coordinator

Southern Local School District has received an Expanding Opportunities for Each Child grant for \$6,889.39 for the '20-'21 school year. This grant money will be used to "expand access to and enrollment in school improvement activities for low-achieving students and students from low-income families" through increased opportunities within the district. More information will be provided as opportunities become available.

Sports

Miller beats Rosecrans in the varsity football season opener 40-6

Blayton Cox 8/12 passing 139 yds 2TD--13 rushes 61 yds
Calib Russell - 9 rushes 106 yds 2TD
Tommy Mitchell - 6 rushes 99 yds 1 TD
Kylan McClain - 3 catches 76 yds 1 TD-8 Tackles
Damon Brooks - 7.5 Tackles -5 Sacks



Miller Volleyball opens league play 1-1

The Lady Falcons return excited and hopeful for an amazing season this Fall. Sixteen athletes round out the JV and Varsity roster this season: four seniors Alaina Boyden, Josie Crabtree, Taylor Hinkle, and Alaina Weiner. Five Juniors, Jace Agriesti, Shainna Greenwich, Alyssa Kiefer, Sydnie Hoskinson, and Haylie Hawkins. Six Sophomores Breanna Allen, Courtney Glenaman, Olivia Dishon, Katie Palmer, Layla Robinson, and Torin Hinkle. One lone Freshman, Jayden Agriesti rounds out a very athletic and exciting group of athletes. The girls worked hard in the offseason attending weight lifting sessions and workouts three times a week in preparation for the new Mid State League.

Walter Harrop Field Renovation



The renovation of Walter Harrop Field is currently underway. New bleachers are being installed on the Home and Visitor sides of the field. The project also includes a new pressbox. After completion the stadium will seat around 1100 people and will be handicap accessible.

This project was funded through the district's capital improvement fund and part of the five-year improvement plan.

The planned completion date is Friday September 11th.



\$3,600 Grant Awarded

Jesse Harvey, Network Services Coordinator



Southern Local Schools recently applied for and was awarded \$3,600 in grant funding through the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio and in partnership with AEP Ohio. COVID-19 has forced all schools to embrace remote learning and rely more on technology than we ever have before. Connectivity in rural Ohio can be non-existent if you live outside the boundaries of a city or main highway thus making it impossible for students to get connected and have a reliable form of communication for remote learning. With nearly 35% of our district without high speed internet, we knew we needed to act swiftly to help our students and community in every way possible. The technology staff at Southern Local Schools have been working diligently to install new wireless equipment all around the school grounds to provide a safe and secure space for students and community members to come and get a reliable connection so our students can complete school assignments and/or download items to their chromebooks. Community members also have a way of staying connected if they don't have internet at home or can't get it. This funding will allow us to install new outdoor wireless access points covering the remaining areas of the grounds that did not have coverage. This will complete our outdoor wireless coverage project and allow students and members of the community to park anywhere on the school grounds and have access to a reliable WiFi network. We would like to thank the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio and AEP Ohio for making this WiFi project possible and successful. Without grants such as this one, it would make these projects nearly impossible to accomplish. We feel this will greatly help our students and members of our community stay connected not only during this pandemic but for many years to come.

\$10,700 Grant Awarded

*John Arkley, Technology Coordinator /
Maintenance Supervisor*

On Friday September 4th Southern Local was awarded a grant of \$10,700 from the Ohio K-12 Broadband initiative. The State of Ohio earmarked 50 million dollars from the CARES Act to improve connectivity for students.

Southern Local has partnered with New Straitsville Public Library, Village of Shawnee and Perry County District library Corning branch to deploy WiFi access points at their facilities. These access points will provide a point for students to access and work on remote assignments. However, they will also be available for the public to use.

We hope to have these locations active by October.

Physical Science

Austin Hook, Teacher

Freshmen physical science students (Sunny Mauller left, Alex Pierce middle, and Scott Manlet right) engaging in an exploratory measurement laboratory experiment. COVID-19 protocols make it a challenge to keep learning engaging. I place emphasis and importance on learning proper lab techniques. In order to keep the students safe, I split the classroom into two groups and alternate the days students participate in the lab. While in the lab, students must maintain a 6 ft distance and wear their masks, while also being mindful of all other lab safety protocols. I intend to continue furthering my students' education and experience in the lab throughout the COVID-19 pandemic so long as safety measures are met.



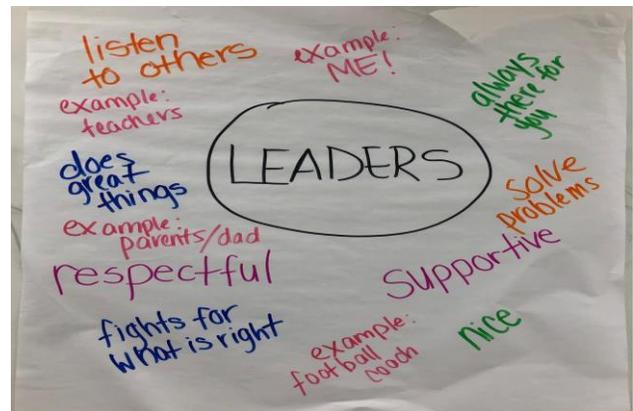
The Academy for Leadership Abilities

Kari Spring, ALA Teacher

The Academy for Leadership Abilities (ALA) class (9-12th graders), showing a couple of the activities that they completed last week. ALA is a class offered through a partnership with School Districts, Job and Family Services and the Perry County Board of Developmental Disabilities.



Ryleigh Wolfe is demonstrating the Can't Take It Back Activity, that demonstrates that once you say something, or do something, you can't take it back (like squeezing toothpaste out and attempting to put it back in the tube). They talked about why it is important to be deliberate in what we say and do, making sure that we think before we act.



This is a Leaders organizer that was completed when the class was talking about what a Leader was to them.

TRiO

Talent Search

Missy Jones, Coordinator

Welcome back to the 2020-2021 School Year! TRIO programs have been established in the U.S. to make it possible for more students to attend and graduate from college. I am proud to say the TRIO Talent Search has been a part of Miller High School for over 15 years.

College/Post-Secondary Education can come in a variety of forms and I use the term college loosely. It could be a 2 or 4-year college, an Adult Education Program, or a Union Apprenticeship Program. We all know that they may change their mind and that is okay, however having an idea of what you are good at, the skills you have, and continuing to build on those will lead to a more successful student and more prepared for life after high school.

As the school year starts to get into full gear I want to remind students and parents how Hocking College TRIO Talent Search can assist you. Our focus this year will be:

7th Grade: Organizational and Study Skills, Panel Discussions regarding High School

8th Grade: Organizational and Study Skills, High School Course Selection, Understanding High School Graduation Requirements, Career Exploration

9th Grade - Career and College Exploration, Study Skills, How to stay Involved/Volunteering

10th Grade - Career and College Exploration, Miller and Tri-County differences and opportunities at each, How to search for colleges, Collaboration with teachers for Pre-ACT Prep

11th - College Exploration, ACT Prep (all Juniors in the state of Ohio have to take the ACT), How to set up college visits and planning them

12th - Navigating College Costs and Financial Aid/FAFSA, Assist with planning college visits and college applications, scholarships, and assistance with end of the year final college process

If your student would like to be a part of the TRIO Program and has not completed an application, they can be found on the school's website on the High School website under the TRIO tab located on the left side of the page. You can complete it online and email it back to me or you can print it and mail it to me. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at missy.jones@southernlocal.org or call 740-721-0585. I am also available for Google Meetings Monday - Friday if you would like to meet Face to Face.

I wish you all the best this academic year. We are all in this together; Falcon Strong!

Missy



Millcreek Elementary Yearbook

Cherie Irwin, Millcreek Elementary Yearbook Advisor

There are copies of the 2019 - 2020 Millcreek Elementary Yearbook available for purchase!

If you would like a yearbook, please send in the payment to Mrs. Irwin and a yearbook will be sent home with your child. Cost is only \$12.00

Any questions, please email cheri.irwin@southernlocal.org.

Miller High School Yearbook

Keista Wickham, High School Yearbook Advisor

We are sorry to announce, due to COVID-19, the 2019-2020 Miller High School Yearbook was delayed in being processed. The yearbooks will be ready for pickup at the end of October. Once they are delivered a one call will be made about pickup times.

There are copies still available for purchase for \$25.00. Please send payment with your student or mail to:

Miller High School
Attn: Keista Wickham
10397 St. Rte. 155 SE
Corning, OH 43730

Thank you so much for your continued support of the Miller High School yearbook. If you have any questions please call Miller High School at 740-721-0521 or email keista.wickham@southernlocal.org