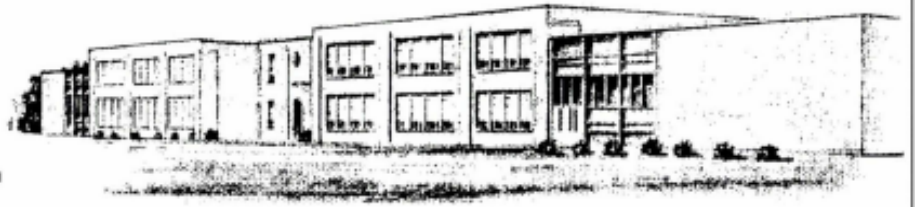


Your School



September 2006

A Publication of Hopewell-Loudon Schools
"An Excellent School Striving To Become Better"

Volume 3

Issue 1

From The Desk of Geoff Palmer, Superintendent

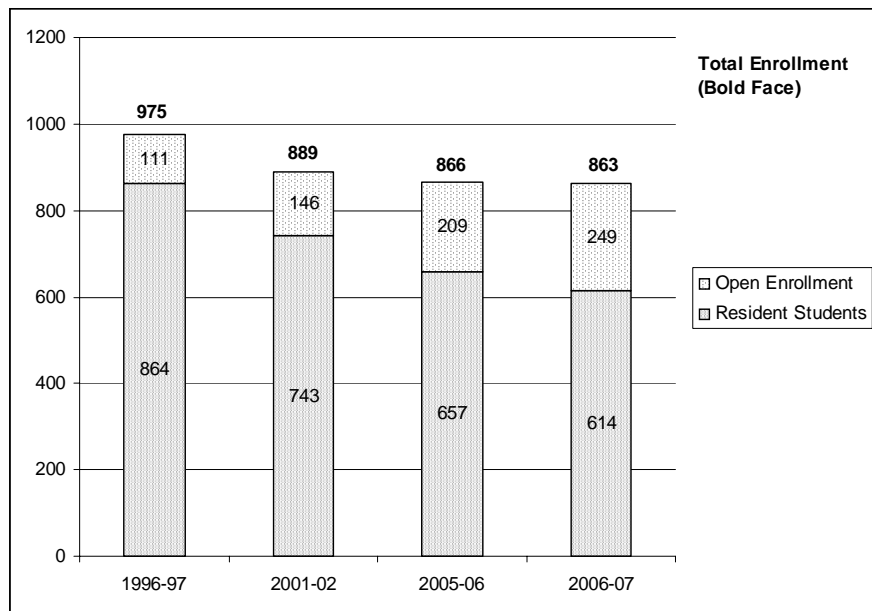


Welcome Back!

In the September 2005 issue of *Your School*, I promised you our staff would "closely evaluate" their past state testing results and would "take steps to insure our students are prepared to perform at an even higher level" on last year's state testing. There is no doubt what they did was effective as the district met 24 out of 25 indicators compared to 23 out of 25 in 2004-2005. Hopewell-Loudon Local Schools have achieved an EXCELLENT Rating on the Ohio School Report Card for the third straight year! This tremendous level of ongoing excellence places your school district as one of the top 10-15% of school districts in the state who have achieved this rating for three consecutive years.

Again this year I will express my confidence our staff will continue to use the data and other information to continue to provide the best for your students.

With another school year underway, I would also like to share some information with you regarding our student enrollment. There is no doubt our school district, like many others around us, is impacted by declining enrollment numbers.



As the chart shows, just 10 years ago, there were over 100 more total students in attendance than there are this year. During this same 10 year span, our resident student enrollment has decreased by 250. Fortunately for us, our district continues to provide an attractive alternative for parents of students in neighboring communities as indicated by the dramatic increase in Open Enrollment students from 111 in 1996-97 to 249 this year.

These numbers provide us some interesting perspectives:

- While our overall numbers are significantly down over a 10 year span, the rate of decline has slowed in the past five years.
- The rate of decline of resident students has stayed approximately the same during the first five years of this span compared to the last five years.
- Open enrollment generates the equivalent of over 10 mills of revenue.
- Our district continues to attract many students through Open Enrollment. We must be doing many things right!

There is no doubt about it, Hopewell-Loudon School is

An EXCELLENT School Striving to Become Better!



Hopewell-Loudon Local Schools
P.O. Box 400
Bascom, Ohio 44809
Admin. and High School 419-937-2216
Elementary School 419-937-2804
www.hlschool.org

Board of Education

Karen Lang, President
Vocational Board Member
Robert Bodart, Vice President
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Geoff Palmer, Superintendent
Veronica Reinhart, Treasurer
Bill Dobbins, HS/MS Principal
Elaine Nye, Elementary Principal
Suzanne Frank, K-12 Asst. Principal

Hopewell-Loudon Local Schools

P.O. Box 400
Bascom, Ohio 44809

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HOPEWELL HAPPENINGS

Bill Dobbins, HS/JH Principal



Welcome to all students and staff to the 2006-07 school year. We are all very excited to get this year started. Before we go into upcoming activities, I would like to share some very important information with our students and parents. Prior to the start of this school year, we were once again awarded a rating of "Excellent" by the Ohio Department of Education on our building and district report card. A lot of hard work and dedication to academic excellence has afforded us this high honor. Congratulations go out to all staff and students for once again receiving this high award.

Last year we said good-bye to several staff members who have either retired or moved on to another stage of their career. To replace those staff members we welcome new faces into familiar places. Please join me in welcoming all of our new staff. Coming to Hopewell-Loudon from Heidelberg College is Ms. Ashley Frankart. Ms. Frankart is our new Special Needs teacher for grades 7-8. Mr. Mike Haynes is our new Special Needs teacher for grades 9-12. Mr. Haynes comes to us after teaching last year at Mohawk. In our Math department we welcome Mr. Brian Rothrock. Mr. Rothrock is a Heidelberg College graduate who had been teaching in Rockford Illinois for the past several years. He will be teaching our 7-8 math classes. In our social Studies department Mrs. Sarah Haynes will be our new 7-8 grade social studies teacher. Prior to coming to Hopewell-Loudon, Mrs. Haynes taught at St. Michaels School in Findlay Ohio. Finally, Mrs. Suzanne Frank has made the move from the classroom into the role of Assistant Principal and Transportation Coordinator. We welcome these new staff members to Hopewell-Loudon and wish them well.

As we begin our daily routines I would like to ask parents and students to please review the following information. Students who find it necessary to arrive to school prior to 7:45 am will be asked to report to the cafeteria. Students are permitted to enter the building at 7:30 am for our breakfast program, any student who must be here prior to 7:45 must also report to the cafeteria. If parents drop off their son or daughter at school, please drop them off in the designated areas in front of the building. Our buses are entering the parking lot and we want to avoid any accidents that may occur.

At the end of the school day we ask that if our students are not involved in after school activities to exit the building no later than 3:15 pm. Please make sure arrangements have been made for a ride home if students are not riding the bus. We ask for parent and student cooperation so we as a school community can ensure the safety of our students before and after school.

If your son or daughter is absent from school please use the following procedure to notify the office. On the day of the absence, please call the office to report the absence. The number to call is 419-937-2216. When your son or daughter returns to school, please provide a written excuse for them to give to our secretary. This will be a big help in keeping accurate attendance.

Last year the pre-pay system for lunches was put into place. This year we would like to expand that program to allow students to buy athletic tickets, t-shirts, etc. Parents may send a check to school and it can be deposited into the student account and can be used to purchase items in addition to lunch. Our hope is to allow parents the opportunity and convenience of limiting the amount of cash and checks they write to the school. Students who wish to deposit money into their account are asked to bring that to Mrs. Brickner in the Board Office prior to the start of the school day. If there any questions concerning the pre-pay system, please call the office so we can help in any way possible.

For those families who have internet access, I encourage you to visit our school web site. <http://www.hopewell-loudon.k12.oh.us/>. Mr. Acton, Mrs. Kelbley and our Web Page Design Class post information to our web page. A few of the items that can be found are: staff e-mail addresses, parent and student access to Progress Book, our daily announcements, lunch menus, and many other items of interest are posted regularly.

Finally, there are several dates to place on your calendars that are of importance in the near future.

Oct 5 th	HS/JR High Picture Day
Oct 9 th	No School Teacher In-Service
Nov 16 th	Picture Re-take
Nov 20 th -22 nd	Parent Teacher Conferences

Thank you to all of the students, staff, and parents for everything each of you contribute to Hopewell-Loudon HS/JR HIGH. Because of everyone working together we are an excellent school striving to become better. Good luck to our staff and students for a successful and safe 2006-07 school year.

Bill Dobbins
Principal





Alex Robert Barchus

August 14, 1995 - August 23, 2006

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Hopewell-Loudon student Alex Barchus. Alex was in the fifth grade.

He is survived by his father Allen, mother Laura, and siblings Adam, Adrienne and Lacey.

Alex will be sadly missed by the students and staff at Hopewell-Loudon.

From the Tech Desk Steve Acton, Technology Coordinator

Another excellent school year has started here at Hopewell-Loudon and I have quite a few students to thank for helping us get ready for the first day of school. Mariel Huss and Adam Ramsey assisted me by setting up the new lab to include installing new network cabling and software installation. Marissa Reinhart, Austin and Brandon Burns helped with classroom computer setup, and Jon Maxwell, Matt Ritter, Luke Fuller, Derek Reinhart, Mike Fraver and Lucas Hartsel assisted with workstation transition from Symantec to Vexira Anti-Virus.

I would also like to thank Tom Swanagan, Dave Hossler, and Dave Depinet for their after hours work in helping with the cabling for the new security system. Their efforts have helped to save the district money in making this new security system a reality.

Progress Book has evolved over the summer into a useful tool for the district. We will start training staff on the enhancements this year. I have made the parent access page public at the following link <https://parentaccess.noeca.org>. You will still need to click on the red HL logo to get into our district information and users will now see the login link in the upper right corner of page to check student progress. Once the parent or student logs in, the changes are denoted by red asterisks*. Parents can now reset your student's password from the parent account screen. As the year goes along hopefully you will see this website evolve with more useful information. For your best information you should still go to the school homepage at www.hopewell-loudon.org or www.hschool.org.

Parents can be the key to safe and rewarding online experiences for the whole family. i-SAFE helps educate parents about hazards in cyberspace, and gives them opportunities to spread this valuable information within their communities. I would like to begin the fall community training session with i-SAFE training on Wednesday, October 18 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm in the High School Computer Lab. Please email me at sacton@hlschool.org if you are interested in this training and I will put you on my class list and send out reminders before the class. There will be no charge for this training.

From The Desk of Veronica Reinhart, Treasurer

As the new year is getting underway, we are happy to expand our prepaid account system to include items beyond just the cafeteria! While we are working our way through the the processes, there have already been numerous items this year that you could 'buy' through your child's account. Our goal is that any item that requires payment to Hopewell-Loudon can go through this system. This allows you to deposit money into the account that can be used for many purchases. Hopefully, this will reduce the amount of check writing that you have to do to the school and will make your life a little easier. Currently, we are allowing for the following purchases through the system: Lunches, fees, T-shirt sales, OGT calculators, spirit signs, pay-to-participate, athletic passes, etc. As more items come along that we can think of, we'll add them to our system.

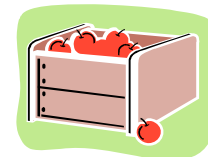
Another feature this year on the online monitoring system at www.myschoolaccount.com, is the ability to not only pay via credit card, but also ACH transfers. An ACH transfer is just having the money come directly from your checking or savings account into your child's pre-pay account. There are fees for both services, however. The web site charges (not H-L) 6% of the transaction to accept credit cards, but only charges \$1.50 for ACH payments. That fee is per total transaction, not per account money goes into. If you haven't signed up for an account, we encourage you to do so to watch your child's purchases and monitor their account balance. Those of you with bright.net email accounts may have a little more trouble signing up for an account as bright.net seems to block the verification notices. If you have problems, contact me via email and I will try to help you through that (vrehart@hlschool.org).

With any new system, there is certain to be a few bugs. If you find any problems or concerns, please notify us right away and we'll look into it for you. We certainly appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation using the new system. We also hope that this new system will make your life just a little bit easier!

FFA News

The Hopewell-Loudon FFA will be raffling off an 8 x 12 storage shed that the Ag. 3 class is building. Tickets are \$5.00. The drawing will be held at halftime of the Hopewell-Loudon homecoming football game. For more information, please contact an FFA member or the FFA department at school.

Fruit Sale



Hopewell-Loudon FFA will be selling fruit starting October 9. Fruit will be delivered during the second week in December. Please contact an FFA member or the FFA department at school.

2006-2007 Parent Educational Meetings

Sponsored by the Seneca-Wyandot Parent Mentor Program of
The North Central Ohio Educational Service Center and
The Seneca County Help Me Grow Family Support Specialist

All Parent Meetings will be held at
The Family Learning Center at Sentinel
797 East Township Road 201, Tiffin
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. - unless further noted

Tuesday, October 17, 2006
“Attainments Breakthroughs” -
How to reach students with Autism
This will be a video featuring Kare Sewell,
the Autism Society of America’s Teacher of the Year.

Tuesday, November 14, 2006
“Holiday Make It Take It” Adults Only!
Spend a relaxing evening making holiday crafts.
All supplies are furnished free.



Pictured above is math teacher Mrs. Theresa Lucius using one of the new Smartboards that were installed in 5 classrooms last school year. To see how this interactive technology is used to help your student, please go to the Hopewell-Loudon webpage and click on the High School/Jr. High tab. Select any math teacher’s webpage to see a demonstration.

FCCLA Blood Drive

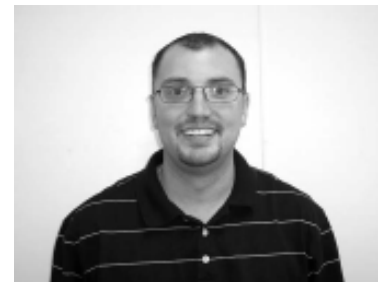
The Hopewell-Loudon FCCLA Chapter will be holding its annual blood drive on Tuesday, November 28, 2006 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

INTRODUCING...

We are pleased to welcome several new members to the Hopewell-Loudon staff this year. Our best wishes for a successful school year.



Ms. Ashley Frankart
Grades 7-8 Special Needs



Mr. Brian Rothrock
Grades 7-8 Math



Mr. John Mora
Bus Driver



Ms. Louisa Fry
Grades 4-6 Resource Room



Mr. Michael Haynes
Grades 9-12 Special Needs



Mrs. Sarah Haynes
Grades 7-8 Social Studies



Mrs. Pat Tennihill
Custodian



Campbell’s Soup Labels and General Mills Box Tops

The elementary school is collecting Campbell’s Soup labels again this year. When sending in labels, please send in only the front portion of the label. We are also collecting box tops from General Mills cereals. We are asking students and their families to save box tops from participating General Mills cereals, snacks and Yoplait Yogurt multi-pack products. Thank you for your help!



**From The Desk of Elaine Nye,
Elementary Principal**

Welcome back to school! Unfortunately this year started off on a sad note as one of our 5th grade students, Alex Barchus, passed away due to injuries from an accident. He will be greatly missed by the students and staff. His family continues to be in our thoughts.

Once again this year Hopewell-Loudon was rated excellent on the state report card. You should all be very proud of the hard work that the students did last year to accomplish this task.

The school year has begun with 421 students enrolled in the elementary. The class of 2019 has a total of 48 students in it, and we have 42 new students to welcome to our district! You have sent us a wonderful group of children to work with once again this year!! Thank-you!

This year we welcome one new teacher to Hopewell-Loudon Elementary, Ms. Louisa Fry is teaching in our 4th, 5th and 6th grade resource room. While Mr. Ream is not new to the district, his position as elementary PE teacher is new to him.

Overall the first few days of school have gone smoothly. The students seem to be excited to be back. I would like to remind you about a few items:

1. Students are not to arrive at school prior to **7:45** – the only exception to this rule is if they are purchasing breakfast from the cafeteria, then they may arrive at 7:30
2. Please avoid charging lunches if at all possible – see page 6 in the student handbook for the charging policy
3. Parents **MUST** check in with the office prior to going anywhere else in the school, you will then be given a visitor's badge so that teachers are aware you have checked in
4. Almost any school item that you need to pay for such as fees, lunches, field trips, t-shirts etc can now be paid for through the pre-pay system. Every child should have received a pin number for this system. This system allows you to write only one check for many items. Check out the information available on the web at www.hlschool.org.
5. All elementary activities, as well as copies of the Smoke Signals are also available on the web.
6. Please make use of progress book to stay updated on your child's grades and monitor their progress. If you have questions about this process, please contact the school at 419-937-2804.

As always I am available to discuss any questions or concerns you may have about Hopewell-Loudon Elementary. You may contact me at 419-937-2804, ext 315.

Parent Teacher Conferences

The conferences will be scheduled in the same manner as last year. Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on the evening of November 20, November 21 and all day on November 22, 2006. We ask that you call the school to schedule your conferences beginning on October 24, 2006. It is our hope that this will enable you to attend at the time that is most convenient for you.

Magazine Sales

We kicked off our magazine sales on September 13 and are continuing our sale until September 27, 2006. This is the *elementary school's* only fund raiser and all proceeds are deposited into an account which pays for new playground equipment, assemblies and other rewards for students. In the past two years we have added two new pieces of playground equipment, plus the required safety surfacing, provided at least three assemblies for students each year, purchased numerous reward items for students including items for Right to Read Week. We appreciate the generous support the community gives to this fund raiser and would like to thank you in advance for your support again this year.



MARKET DAY: A DELICIOUS SOLUTION FOR BUSY COOKS

The Hopewell-Loudon PTO is continuing Market Day, a monthly fund-raising food co-op. Each month there is a new order sheet with over 150 quality food products including meats, seafood, poultry, breakfast items, family meals, lunchbox items, and desserts. All items are frozen and conveniently packaged to meet the needs of both large and small families.

There are several options for placing Market Day orders. Order forms are available in the elementary or high school office, and completed forms can be returned to the elementary office or orders can be called in to Sue Bodart at 419-435-4924. You can also order on-line at www.marketday.com.

The profits from this project have been designated to help purchase new playground equipment. We are planning on having our first equipment installed by December with other pieces to follow as money is available.

The pick-up dates are:

September 26	January 30	May 22
October 24	February 27	
November 21	March 27	
December 19	May 1	

Won't you help us by participating in this tasty activity?

Personalized H-L Yard Signs Available for school groups

Show your pride! 18 x 24 inch corrugated plastic signs personalized with your favorite student's name (and number) for only \$25.

Payment must accompany each order (make checks payable to Hopewell-Loudon School) and may be turned in to the high school or elementary office. Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.



Show your Chieftain Pride!

Here are **some** of the designs available, *just specify the team or group and a sign will be designed.*

—
 Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____
 Team or Group Desired _____ Qty _____
 Name on Sign _____ Jersey # _____
 Total \$ _____

H-L ATHLETIC BOOSTERS

At the beginning of August, our student athletes went door to door through the district and successfully enlisted over 300 booster members, raising over \$3,000.00 for 2006 – 2007. We thank everyone for your generous support. Our constitution and by-laws allow us to collect memberships through Dec. 31st. If you would like to join, send \$5.00 for an individual, \$10.00 for a family, or \$25.00 for a 'Super-Booster' membership to P.O. Box 79, Bascom, Ohio 44809.

We are still in dire need of new officers. The treasurer and secretary offices are currently filled and we have a candidate willing to accept a nomination for vice president once a president is elected. Volunteers to chair various fund raising events would be a welcome addition also. This is a time of re-organization and planning for our club. It's a great time to step in and get active. Our meetings typically will be less than an hour and a half in length. We do not want to burden anyone. The more involvement there is from all members, the lighter the load will be for each of us.

Athletic Booster meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m., usually in the Distance Learning Lab. At presstime, our September 20th meeting is scheduled to be opened with Head Football Coach Brian Colatruglio giving a brief talk followed by some question and answer time. The twelve senior football players are to share some of their favorite 'inside' stories of humorous happenings on the playing field.

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m. Please join us for an enjoyable and productive meeting.



HELP WANTED!

Hopewell-Loudon School is in need of substitute bus drivers. If you are interested, please contact Alicia Swartzmiller at the school, 419-937-2216, ext. 329.



TIFFIN
UNIVERSITY

BLACK SWAMP AREA COLLEGE FAIR

Tuesday, October 17, 2006
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Tiffin University – Gillmor Student Center

Come meet and talk to Admission Representatives from more than 50 Ohio and surrounding state colleges and universities, including:

**The Ohio State University
Bowling Green State University
Ohio University
Xavier University
Baldwin-Wallace College
Ball State University
Kent State University
and many others...**

Tiffin University, 155 Miami Street, Tiffin OH 44883, 800-968-6446

Thank you!

The 2006 H-L Mat Shark Mini Wrestling Clinics were held this summer at the school. The H-L Wrestling Team would like to thank the following organizations, businesses, and persons for their kind donations and support for the camp this year:

\$150.00 Donors

Corporate One Benefits Agency, Inc., Fostoria
Dr. Tim and Mrs. Jill Beidelschies

\$100.00 Donors

Thyssen Krupp Crankshaft Co. Atlas, Inc., Fostoria
Progress Plastic Products, Inc., Bellevue

\$60 Donor

Anese Masonry, LLC, Tiffin

\$50.00 Donor

Bush Chevrolet Cadillac, Inc., Tiffin



Thank you also to the following persons/businesses for their help and support:

Connie Traxler	Doug Jesse
Eric Beidelschies	Tom Amiot
Travis Traxler	Joe Hada
Joe Hoelzle	Brandon Brissette
Shawn Contos	Jeff Ratliff
Kevin Contos	Marvin's Deli
Brian Driscoll	Snakesters Restaurant
Mike Feeney	

October 2006						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	P FB @ Carey 4:30 PTO 6:30 Rm 115	LPDC Meeting 7:30 am Rm 212 JHVB @ SE 4:30 HSVB H 5:00		HS/JH Picture Day T-Th Kg Pictures JHVB @ Mohawk 4:30 JHFB H 4:30 HSVB H 5:00 Title I Open House 6:30 pm	Elem. Picture Day	CC @ Fostoria 9:00 VFB @ Calvert 7:30
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	NO SCHOOL -- Teacher Inservice JVFB H 4:30 HSVB H 5:00	JHVB @ OF 4:30 7 th FB @ Mohawk 4:30 HSVB @ NR 5:00	Bd. of Ed. Meeting 6:15	8 th FB @ Mohawk 4:30 HSVB H 5:00 (PN)	VFB H 7:30 (HC)	JHVB MAL H 9:00 CC MAL @ Bettsville 9:00 JVFB @ NB 10:00
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	FFB @ Calvert 4:30	FVB H 4:30 NHS Induction 7:00			VFB H 7:30 (PN)	JVFB @ SW 10:00
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	PTO Book Fair 8-3 Marching Band Concert 7:00	PTO Book Fair 8-3 Market Day Pickup 2:30 - 5:00	PTO Book Fair 8-3		End of First Quarter VFB @ Mohawk 7:30	
29	30	31				
HS Band @ Fostoria Parade 5:00						

