



# Chagrin Falls Schools



## **NEWS from the CHAGRIN FALLS SCHOOLS**

**For the School Bulletin Board or separate column, June 12, 2008**

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### **HIGH SCHOOL**

On May 29, 2008, Mrs. Paula McVey's Chagrin Falls High School's Foods 2 class won the Rory Borgio Award from the Harvest For Hunger Food Bank in Cleveland. Each year the award is given to a school that demonstrates they made hunger relief a priority during the month of March.

During the Harvest for Hunger Food Drive week, each 8<sup>th</sup> period classroom teacher was given a mini grocery bag to collect change in at the beginning of class. Everyday the students from Mrs. McVey's class gathered the bags from the classrooms. Mr. Matt Ricci's science led the school with an average of \$15.62 per student. Overall, the students raised \$1178 during the 4 days of the drive. The students were very happy with the results and are pleased that they could make such a difference. The statistics from the food bank indicated that 31% of the people who are recipients of their help are children. This fact made our students even more aware of the necessity to help those in need and has brought greater awareness to the school about the increasing need to support the local hunger center.

### **INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

The Intermediate School had the third graders over from Gurney for our yearly visit! This is part of our transition plan and we certainly enjoyed their company. The visit starts in the auditorium with a message from the principal and the counselor. Then the third graders go on a tour of the building with a fourth grade class. Finally, they all spend some time together in a fourth grade classroom asking questions and learning about the Intermediate School.

### **GURNEY SCHOOL**

#### **Students have ID kits created**

On June 2-3 Gurney School participated in Cuyahoga County's Operation Child Protect. The Prosecutor's Office and the FBI were at Gurney all day, both days creating ID kits for our kids. The kits include finger prints, digital photos, and DNA swabs. They also provide parents who give their email contacts with annual updates and tips.

#### **Professional soccer players conduct assembly**

Four members of the Cleveland City Stars Soccer Team recently paid a visit to Gurney Elementary School. The players, Aaron Tredway, Tomiwa Ogunsola, Skelly

Kellar, and Dana McGregor gave some demonstrations and talked with the kids about good nutrition and following your dreams. The Cleveland City Stars are currently 6-1-3 and their next home game is June 20<sup>th</sup> at Krenzler Stadium on the Cleveland State University campus.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

### **Play Production a Hit**

Mrs. Courtney Polcar's Chagrin Falls Middle School students recently produced *Once Upon a Toy Store*. Students auditioned for parts and organized themselves into stage crews for directing (including blocking and some choreography), sets and props, and make-up and costume. Students spent nearly 14 weeks rehearsing for the 2 big shows during the 42 minutes of class time available. The students came from very different groups of friends before this class and many had very little previous stage experience. One of the many benefits of the show was that most students said that they would most likely continue with some aspect of performing arts, but more importantly, they became friends with students they never thought had common interests.

### **French Classes Create Videos**

This past week there was a screening of videos created by Middle School French classes. All performances were in French. The 7<sup>th</sup> graders performed fashion shows that were taped, and each 8<sup>th</sup> grade class worked collaboratively on a final DVD project – one class re-enacted scenes from the popular hit “The Office” and the other class wrote or translated skits based on those seen on “Saturday Night Live.”

## **Senior Projects a Great Success**

This year over 140 Chagrin Falls seniors participated in Senior Projects in a wide variety of settings and interests including teaching, educational administration, physical therapy, ministry, engineering, web design, event planning, alcohol & drug rehabilitation, orthodontic surgery, veterinary, accounting, speech therapy, nursing, real estate architecture, cardiac stem cell research, pathology, genetic research, sports management, catering, landscaping and many other interesting careers.

The Chagrin Falls High School Senior Project is designed to provide interested seniors with the opportunity to work on meaningful, independent hands on project within an area of interest. Senior Projects occurred during the last three weeks of the school year. The students develop a deeper awareness of self discipline, the world beyond the classroom, professional interactions, work ethic, problem identification and action planning. Senior projects encourage a student's individual pursuit of personal interests and can serve as an excellent learning experience as student's gain “real world” experience and information regarding a potential long-term interest.

Students are required to spend a minimum of 4.5 hours per day for 12 days for a minimum of 54 total hours at their mentor's place of business. In addition, they meet with a faculty advisor through out the project, complete hour log sheet and write personal reflections of their experience. At the completion of the project, seniors must present an oral presentation of 5-7 minutes and include some type of visual aid. A panel of 31 community members listened to the presentations evaluating the student's presentations on, evidence of student learning, use of visual, clarity of presentation and overall quality.

## **High School Teacher to Share Daily Experiences With Community**

Chagrin Falls High School Social Studies teacher, Mike Salyers, who was awarded a Fulbright Hayes Scholarship to study the interaction between South Africa and Lesotho, will be visiting these areas during the next five weeks along with 14 other teachers from the rest of the United States. The goal of the project is to learn about the culture and history of both South Africa and Lesotho. On his return Mr. Salyers will use the knowledge that he has acquired to educate his fellow staff members, students, and community members. During his trip he plans to keep a daily blog, much of which will be available to community members on the district web page, with the events of that day so that community members can feel as though they are part of the trip. Some of the highlights of the trip include: visits to the Apartheid Museum, Sharpsville Massacre Memorial, Constitutional Court, Soweto Township, US Embassy in Maseru, Ramabanta, Bloemfontein, schools/orphanages, Thaba Bosiu, Golden Gate National Park, University of Free State, Phuthaditjhaba, Pretoria, & Pilanesberg National Park.

## **2008-2009 School year**

Have a safe and enjoyable summer. The 2008-2009 School Year begins on Wednesday, August 27, 2008.