



Your Royalton Schools

Winter 2018

North Royalton & Broadview Heights

Working with our Community on Plans for our Facilities



On January 3, more than 100 people attended a community meeting to hear and discuss the progress of our facilities project, as well as provide input on the architectural styles for the exterior of the new buildings. ThenDesign Architecture (TDA) presented the input received from the educational visioning session and various discussions held this fall with faculty and staff. They shared preliminary site and floor plans of the elementary and high school buildings, as well as a tentative construction timeline. Residents viewed more than 10 design examples of what the exteriors of both buildings can look like and shared thoughts on their preferences.

We continue to work with the staff in regards to the educational spaces. We have completed our schematic design phase where we are looking at the spaces in general. This month, we move to a more specific design development

in which we will discuss and plan out the specific contents of a space, such as cabinetry, storage, desks, etc. **Our next community meeting is Monday, March 26 at 7 pm in the North Royalton High School Performing Arts Center** to update everyone on the progress. You can always find information on our website.

The elementary and high schools, due to the new construction that will be done, have specific timelines of design that must be completed so construction can begin late in the fall of 2018 and into 2019. The middle school, as it has no major new construction, will begin the programming and schematic phases later this spring. There are other areas that are currently being addressed at the middle school such as HVAC and roofing, but the discussion of the educational renovations will be later in the spring.



You're Invited to . . .

Superintendent Greg Gurka's
"State of the Schools"

at the North Royalton
Chamber of Commerce

April 18, 2018

Luncheon

at Carrie Cerino's Ristorante

\$17 members/\$20 non-members

8922 Ridge Road

11:45 am networking,

followed by lunch at noon

RSVP at 440-237-6180

Schematic Design



Winter 2017-2018

January 3, 2018
Schematic Design Presentation
& Community Engagement Mtg

Spring 2018



Building Design Approved

Site Construction Begins



Fall 2018

Fall/Winter 2018



Construction Documents Approved

Construction Continues



2019-2020

Fall 2020



Grand Opening

Preliminary timeline is for elementary school only. The high school and middle school projects will be completed in phases. These schedules will be coordinated with the middle school and high school operations. Furthermore, portions of the high school and middle school will be completed and turned over to the students and staff in phases, versus the elementary school which will have a single grand opening day (as shown in the graphic).

North Royalton City Schools Honors Two Dedicated Staff Members with the Crystal Starfish Award

On Thursday, January 11, North Royalton City Schools announced the winners of the first semester Crystal Starfish Award presented by First Federal of Lakewood.

At North Royalton High School, music teacher and band director David Vitale was presented the Crystal Starfish Teacher Award. Besides the award, he also received a \$250 Professional Development Grant from First Federal of Lakewood, a \$50 gift certificate to Cleat's restaurant and flowers from Independence Flowers and Gifts. Vitale was nominated by several students and community members. Highlights of Vitale's nomination state . .

- He makes me work to my potential and beyond.
- He taught how hard it is to be a part of a team and also time management.
- He has helped me build character and self-discipline. He takes his occupation seriously and creates the impression that his job is not even a job. My entire perspective of music and the level of appreciation that I have for it has grown immensely due to the knowledge, care, and dedication he has shown.
- He uses music to not only teach us how to make beautiful sounds, but also to teach us valuable life lessons like punctuality, following instructions, and working together to achieve a common goal.
- He puts countless hours into the band program, starting in the summer when he begins to design a competition show and continuing throughout the year as he teaches us how to improve our skills and techniques as performers.
- He is one of the positive influences on why I want to continue a career with music.

Karen Svoboda, a paraprofessional at Royal View Elementary, was the recipient of the Crystal Starfish Support Staff Award. Along with the award, First Federal of Lakewood presented her with a \$50 gift certificate to Cleat's restaurant and flowers from Independence Flowers and Gifts.

Her colleagues wrote . . .

- She is a true professional. Her role in our co-teaching classroom is instrumental for our students' success. She makes an amazing difference for all students and works tirelessly to ensure the students in our room with special needs are making progress. From writing out the morning message to helping students take notes in social studies, she never stops creating opportunities for all students to show what they know and can do. She is a true champion for students.



David Vitale



Karen Svoboda

- She demonstrates patience, dedication, and kindness. She goes above and beyond her expected duties. She greets each student with a smile and if you stop by her desk, you will see notes displayed from students proclaiming her as "the best teacher ever."
- She is a great example of what makes North Royalton such a great place to work and learn.

"Both David and Karen are deserving of this recognition," said Superintendent Greg Gurka, North Royalton City Schools. "Our vision of providing support to students to meet their individual needs is at the forefront of what each of them do on a daily basis. Whether it is Karen assisting a student in the classroom or David inspiring students to reach their maximum potential, both are an inspiration to those around them. Congratulations to both David and Karen and thank you to those who nominated these staff members."

First Federal of Lakewood Crystal Starfish Awards are presented to support staff members and teachers who make a difference in their schools and go above and beyond in all that they do. "Every day, teachers and staff of North Royalton City Schools are making a difference," said Branch Operations Manager Michelle Cabassa, First Federal of Lakewood. "Our bank is honored to partner with the district, enabling these special individuals to be recognized publicly for their contributions."



Dollars & Cents . . .

North Royalton City Schools Working Together for Better Value

Over the past several years, we have seen many local governments sharing resources to reduce duplication of services and provide services more efficiently. For many years, North Royalton City Schools has been sharing resources and services.

Highlights of our collaborative efforts include:

- Our district joins more than 200 other school districts and other governmental organizations that belong to the Ohio Schools Council, a purchasing consortium that allows us to bid some of our items in bulk and gives us a greater buying power than going on our own. Expenses include business purchases, diesel fuel, office supplies, custodial supplies, natural gas, and electricity.
- We belong to the Suburban Health Consortium with 19 other schools to “pool” our total number of memberships together to reduce our premium costs and spread our expenses across a number of people insured rather than just our school district.
- Through Interactive Distance Learning, we share class offerings with other school districts to provide course selection choices that individual districts could not offer on their own due to low enrollment.
- We utilize a substitute service along with several other school districts, allowing us to share substitutes and reduce the amount of internal coverage that we need to have. This has dramatically increased our fill rate when staff members are out, which has reduced our substitute expenditures.
- We share resources with other local school districts, reducing costs while increasing instructional services to our students in the areas of programing, special education and transportation.
- We work through the Educational Service Center (ESC) of Cuyahoga County to provide teachers to service our visually impaired and hearing impaired students. In addition, we use this same consortium to provide interpreters, translators, audiologists and orientation and mobility trainers.
- We share the costs of transportation, occupational therapy, physical therapy, translators, residency investigators, health aides, and LPNs with other districts.
- We often work with local schools to share equipment rather than renting it for short-term issues.
- We belong to a consortium of school districts to provide technical training through Cuyahoga Valley Career Center that we would otherwise not be able to offer on our own.

DID YOU KNOW?

▶ North Royalton City Schools will be updating its Strategic Plan

On June 8, 2015, the North Royalton Board of Education adopted a three-year strategic plan for the district. Areas of community engagement, student achievement, communications, facilities, financial, and collaboration all set the course for the successes the district has seen since the adoption of the first strategic plan in 2000. North Royalton City Schools will engage the community and staff once again to refresh the strategic plan, focusing on those same areas and also professional development, technology, facilities, and financial communication.

▶ SaferOhio Hotline provides opportunity to report suspicious or endangering activity

By calling or texting the statewide anonymous hotline, 1-844-SAFEROH, you can report anything that is suspicious or endangering you, your friends or your school. Every tip can remain anonymous. School safety analysts may ask for additional information, but you can remain secret or leave your contact information for later follow-up. The assurance that calls or texts cannot be traced and that serious, proper action will be taken to end any threats will hopefully persuade young people to take a stand against school violence.



Your Royalton Schools

We Inspire and Empower Learners

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North Royalton Educational Foundation

NREF MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Staff Membership - \$10
(current and former school employees)

Merit Roll Membership - \$25-49

Honor Roll Membership - \$50-149

Excelsior Roll Membership - \$150 or more

Please make checks payable to:
North Royalton
Educational Foundation
6579 Ridge Road
North Royalton, OH 44133

Established to enrich educational opportunities for students, the North Royalton Educational Foundation was formed in 1986. Through fundraising efforts, including a yearly membership drive that is going on right now, the Educational Foundation awards grants to teachers each spring. These grants are awarded at every grade level and encompass the needs of students ranging from special education to gifted education. Other fundraisers include the Taste of North Royalton and the annual Pasta Dinner. In addition, the Educational Foundation helps fund district programs recognizing academic excellence, provides a Teacher of the Year, Support Staff of the Year, and a Friend of Education award. It also awards yearly Educational Foundation College Scholarships. The Educational Foundation also serves as a vehicle for individuals and families to set up scholarships/ grants.

When you donate to the North Royalton Educational Foundation, your contribution will go toward items such as: hands-on classroom enrichment materials, reading literacy projects, mathematical skill enhancements, challenging science projects, supplemental art and music equipment, and a variety of other items which all enhance educational opportunities for our students.

Members are invited to the Membership Reception held this year on April 24, 2018

at Carrie Cerino's. Donations can be sent to: North Royalton Educational Foundation - 6579 Ridge Road - North Royalton, OH 44133.

It is the Foundation's hope to continue to grow and help challenge the next generation of students.

For more info or to donate: www.northroyaltoneducationalfoundation.com

