



# THE SPENCERVILLE **BEARCAT**



A PUBLICATION OF THE SPENCERVILLE SCHOOL SYSTEM

**Spring Newsletter 2022**

## **FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT**



The 2021-2022 school year has been a year of progress and recovery. As a community, we have had to overcome several challenges that have been thrust upon us. While challenges are a necessary part of life to learn resiliency, grit and build character, it can be frightening and exhausting. We worked through the Pandemic together and are recovering with a much better attitude of gratitude for the smallest to largest things in life. One of the most important aspects of this school year's progress is the ability to socialize and build relationships like we did before the Pandemic began. Due to this, the Spencerville staff have committed to devote time and effort into developing various Parent Engagement initiatives, such as a Back-to-School Fair in August. Please stay tuned for more information on this in the coming months!

I would like to welcome our new Treasurer, Leland Hays, who joined us on April 1st and a new Fiscal Assistant, Amy Donnelly. Amy started on May 2nd and will be working in the Treasurer's office part-time. Congratulations to Jo McConnell and Angel Wagner, who are both retiring in June and good luck to Lori Romie who will be moving on to another district. We will recognize several staff for their years of service at our employee banquet, as well as three incredibly special recognition awards. I am proud of the Spencerville Schools staff and am passionate about showing appreciation for their service!

In addition, I would like to thank those in the community who have helped support our students and staff over the last two years in overcoming some of the unexpected challenges that we have encountered. We have had people offer to help volunteer in classrooms, become substitute teachers and bus/van drivers, volunteer services to repair equipment in the Strength and Training building, assist our needs at sporting events, and several other duties to help sustain strong programs.

Our staff have the privilege to make a difference in the quality of education provided to our students daily. However, many organizations in and around Spencerville also get an opportunity to educate, help build a positive character and offer life skill opportunities that are essential for developing individuality among our students.

Therefore, I would also like to thank the Allen County Education Service Center, Allen County Health Department, Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services, Spencerville Education Foundation, Spencerville VFW and American Legion, LifeWise Academy, and many more for their programming and involvement with assisting in the education and overall well-being of our students.

As you can see, it takes a village to educate and care for our youth! I encourage everyone to make a positive difference by giving of your "time, talents, or treasure". Contact the school if you would like to be a part of the vision: Learning and Growing Together as One School, One Community, One Purpose.

Go Bearcats!

Cindy Endsley, Superintendent

# Prom Night



The 2022 Spencerville High School Prom took place on Saturday, April 30, 2022. The theme this year was Masquerade. Students and parents worked on details and decor hoping to make this a night to remember. Post prom parents set up transportation so that students could park at the location of post prom and be bussed to the Civic Center. This way students would not have to pay for parking and worry about the construction traffic. Lucky Limo provided the transportation. Promenade started off the evening at 7:00pm. This part of the night was open to family and friends to come take pictures and see the students in their fine attire.



The actual prom took place in the hall next to the promenade. Students enjoyed a night of dancing and fun including the announcement of Prom King and Queen and senior awards. The 2022 Prom Court was Sierra Baumgartner, Kenzie Goetz, Isabelle Murray, and Olivia Reed for the ladies. For the gentlemen, the senior class was represented by Cade Elling, Gunner Grisby, Nate Meade, and Tyler Koenig. After the dance, Lucky Limo transported the students back to The Axis Center. There, students enjoyed games, activities and snacks. They were able to climb a rock wall and ended the night with a black light dodge ball game. The post prom parents were able to get donations from the American Legion to cover the cost of post-prom t-shirts, so students who purchased tickets before April 12 were able to get a free shirt with their ticket. We want to thank the entire community for their support through our fundraisers and also for the gifts and donations given along the way. The Junior Class Prom Committee and the Post Prom parents could not have created this night without you.

# Spencerville Educational Foundation

The Spencerville Educational Foundation is a nonprofit corporation designed to promote, improve, enrich, and supplement educational programs and activities beyond what is possible through public funds.

The intent of the foundation is to work alongside the Board of Education, administration, staff of Spencerville Schools, and the community in providing each student with the opportunity to receive the best possible education.

With the help we receive through donations and support from community members like you, we believe we can improve the livelihood and educational experience available to our children.

## ***Goals of the Foundation***

The foundation works to create a student/teacher grant program that promotes and funds educational projects that reach beyond the normal school curriculum. Projects that, with your help, can enrich the experience for the students of Spencerville Schools.

## ***We also strive to:***

- provide scholarships to graduating students for further post-secondary training.
- carry out other specific requests made by you, the donor, as approved by the foundation.
- build an endowment fund to support the purpose of the foundation.
- enrich the educational curriculum.

## ***Why Donate?***

The foundation provides a vehicle for giving -for both individuals and corporations -to enhance the quality of the education in our community.

Each contribution marks another step toward the achievement.

## ***How to donate?***

Contributions to the foundation can be made in several ways:

Outright Gifts - cash or securities

Memorial Gifts - honoring friends, relatives, alumni or educators.

Deferred Gifts - bequests, life insurance, annuities, and trusts.

Incremental Gifts - gifts made in planned stages over a period of time.

Special Gifts - money to endow a subject area or underwrite or other educational purposes of the donor's choice.

Payroll Deduction - through your employer.

## ***Make a Donation***

Complete this short form and send to the address below.

Spencerville Local School District

Attn: Treasurer

600 School Street

Spencerville, Ohio 45887

(419) 647-4111

Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks are payable to: Spencerville Educational Foundation

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you wish to remain anonymous.

***Thank you for your donation!***

# *Spencerville High School* **MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY**



This year's Make a Difference Day – brought to you by approximately 90 hardworking Spencerville High School students – was a rousing success despite the cold and rain! On Wednesday, May 4th - a very uncooperative weather day - the high school's clubs' and organizations' provided a day of free labor to local churches, groups/organizations, and the Village of Spencerville as well as to individual community members.

Students who were supervised by their club advisors completed a number of jobs at over 20 different locations within the district. Indoor/outdoor spring clean-up and clean-out and landscaping/mulching were some of the most requested services. For students to be eligible to take part in the day, they must be a member of a high school club or organization and be passing all classes. A BIG thank you goes out to those students who worked outside all day with no complaints, a lot of energy, and a happy attitude!

For next year's event, a new coordinator will be organizing the activity. To be added to the job list for the spring of 2023, contact Mr. Greg Ekis at 419-647-4111 ext. 3241 or [ekisg@svbearcats.org](mailto:ekisg@svbearcats.org). And perhaps you are not in need of assistance but know someone that could benefit from the day's activity, such as a neighbor, friend, family member, parishioner, etc. Consider providing that individual's name, address, and work to be done in order to add him/her to the list of jobs. No job is too small to be considered! A reminder will be sent out to the public in the fall and in the winter of 2022.



# SPENCERVILLE SCHOOLS SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The office of Spencerville Schools will be open the following days/hours:

June 3 - June 10, 2022 ---- 7am - 3pm

June 13 - June 17, 2022 ---- 8am - 2pm

June 22, 29, July 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022 ---- 8am - 2pm

August 1, 2022 ---- Office Opens for the 2022-23 School Year

## Administration Building Summer Office House

The administration building will be open from 7am - 4:30pm on Monday through Thursday and from 7am - 11am on Fridays. Please feel free to contact Gayla Metzger at 419.647.4111 ext. 3201 if you need assistance.

## New Student Registration

FinalForms on-line registration is open and available throughout the summer by going to [www.spencervillebearcats.com](http://www.spencervillebearcats.com) and clicking on the FinalForms link under Quick Links. When registering a new student to our district, please have the following information ready as you begin:

1. Valid Custodial Parent Email Address
2. Medical Insurance Company & Policy Number
3. Hospital Preference
4. Physician Contact Information
  - a. Family Doctor
  - b. Dentist/Orthodontist
  - c. Specialist (if applicable)

## 2022 - 2023 School Year

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 - Back to School Fair (more information to come)

Tuesday, August 30, 2022 - 1<sup>st</sup> Day of School for the 2022 - 2023 school year (grades 1 - 12).

Thursday, September 1, 2022 - 1<sup>st</sup> Day of School (Kindergarten Girls Only)

Friday, September 2, 2022 - 1<sup>st</sup> Day of School (Kindergarten Boys Only)

Tuesday, September 6, 2022 - 1<sup>st</sup> Day (ALL Kindergartners)

**Reminder to all Spencerville Students/Parents - FinalForms must be reviewed and signed by the custodial parent/legal guardian prior to the Back to School Fair on August 24, 2022.**

As always, we are here to provide your student with the highest quality of education.  
Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

# BEARCAT ART

## Art Show 2022

This year's K-12 Art Show was held on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. Artwork from students in grades K-12 was displayed in the Cafetorium from 10-2. Also, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade choir sang, along with a recorder performance by the 4<sup>th</sup> graders. Awards were given out by the Principals and Superintendent to Nora McMichael (K), Aubreigh Eutsler (7), Kylee Myers (11) and Roy Howell (12). The Seniors in Art 5 created their own gallery, showcasing their best work from the year. Thank you to students, families and community members for coming to the show and supporting the arts!



## High School Art Club Trip to the Toledo Museum of Art

In the spring of 2020, the High School Art Club was planning to take a trip to the Toledo Museum of Art. Unfortunately, that trip had to be cancelled due to Covid, so they were excited to have the opportunity to go this spring. Nineteen high school Art students and Art Club members took a Docent-led Tour called "Art of Seeing Art: Speaking Visual". The tour focused on different pieces of artwork in the museum and how to look closer in order to understand and interpret the meaning behind the pieces. Students were also able to explore the galleries in groups to get an overview of the collection and look a little closer at those pieces that interested them. Students appreciated seeing familiar names such as Monet and van Gogh, historical pieces from ancient civilizations, and new art they had not seen before.



# YEARBOOK INFORMATION

## 2022 Elementary Yearbooks

Elementary Yearbooks that were *pre-ordered* have been distributed to students. There is a limited number of extra copies available for purchase (\$20) at this time. Order forms for these extra copies should have come home with students who did not pre-order. You may also contact Mrs. Gratz at [gratza@svbearcats.org](mailto:gratza@svbearcats.org) to purchase an extra copy of the 2022 Elementary Yearbook.

## Pre-Order your 2022 K-12 Yearbook

Don't forget to order your Yearbook! Go to [www.jostensyearbooks.com](http://www.jostensyearbooks.com) or scan the QR code to the right to **order yours online by June 1<sup>st</sup>**.



## Senior Recognition Ads

Recognition ads are available in four sizes: 1/8 page, 1/4 page, 1/2 page and full page.

- Create your ad online and pay with a credit card at [www.jostensadservice.com/student](http://www.jostensadservice.com/student). *This is the preferred method*, as you can upload and place your photos and text exactly as you would like them to appear in the ad. This option is available until **May 12<sup>th</sup>**
- If you would prefer to pay by cash or check, or have printed photographs that need scanned and returned, you may fill out the attached order form and send it in to school, along with your message, photos and payment. Forms can be mailed to the school (*attn: Yearbook Staff*) or dropped off in the office. Digital photos should be emailed to Mrs. Gratz at [gratza@svbearcats.org](mailto:gratza@svbearcats.org). See order form for more information. The deadline for paper order forms is **June 1<sup>st</sup>**

## Requests for the Class of 2022



### Senior Survey 2022

Scan the QR code to the left to answer a few quick questions about your plans following graduation. There is also a link to the survey on the Senior Team.

### Baby Photos

Send us your favorite baby picture to be included in a collage of baby photos in the senior section of the yearbook! The original deadline was May 6<sup>th</sup>, but you can still turn it in to the "Assignment" in the Senior Team, or email it to Mrs. Gratz at [gratza@svbearcats.org](mailto:gratza@svbearcats.org) until May 20<sup>th</sup> to possibly be included (as space allows)

Yearbook Questions? Contact Mrs. Gratz, Yearbook Adviser, at [gratza@svbearcats.org](mailto:gratza@svbearcats.org)

# SPENCERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR RECOGNITION AD ORDER FORM 2022

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Purchaser Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would also like to order a yearbook for an additional \$50!  Please keep this a secret from my student.

**Circle Ad Size:**    **1/8 = \$15**        **1/4 = \$25**        **1/2 = \$50**        **Full Page = \$100**

Photo(s) Enclosed     Will Email Digital Photo(s) [Preferred]

Go to [www.svbearcatyb.weebly.com](http://www.svbearcatyb.weebly.com) to see example layouts.        Layout Design # \_\_\_\_\_

*Check here if you'd like us to choose the layout/design for your ad*

Message: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed: Yearbook \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Ad \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Email any digital photos to [gratza@svbearcats.org](mailto:gratza@svbearcats.org) with the subject heading "Senior Recognition Ad." Please include both *your name* and the *student's name* in the body of the email. If your chosen layout has more than one photo, please indicate which photo should be placed in which space by numbering the photos. I will email you a proof of your ad once it is complete.

If you send printed photos to be scanned, please include a self-addressed envelope for the return of your photo(s) if you'd like it to stay secret, or indicate that the photos may be returned to your student. Photos should be provided as soon as possible so we may meet our deadlines. **THANK YOU!**

# ONE-TO-ONE TECHNOLOGY

Spencerville Local Schools made significant advances in technology for all students in 2018. As the need for more technology for every student presented itself, our district responded in the best and most appropriate way for our students. Keeping the families in our community in mind, the school district wanted to assume the cost of the technology and not shift that responsibility to our families like other districts may do. As a result, the administration and the technology department recommended we house the devices inside our own building. We have carts containing thirty touch screen laptops running Windows 10 in all classrooms and study halls grades one to twelve. Students throughout the district use these laptops daily and within each class. Because the laptops are inside the classrooms, all students always have access to a working device throughout the day. As a result of doing one-to-one internally and not having students take devices home nightly, we are avoiding the following things: damage that may occur to individual devices inside a book bag, dead battery issues, lost chargers, and no additional costs and responsibilities to our parents. We also have ninety iPads with sixty of these in the kindergarten classrooms.

## ***Remote Learning***

March of 2020 presented a new challenge for our district when our school relied on remote learning for everyone. Although many families have devices at home to use, we understand that not everyone has laptops or devices at home. The district responded to this need by pinpointing those students who required additional technology. A device and/or hotspot was provided for those students.

## ***Moving Forward***

We are extremely proud of the opportunities provided by our school system since 2018 and feel that our plan serves our students with the best one-to-one opportunity. As a district, we are always assessing how we can serve our students with the best technology and opportunities for them. We will continue to update machines and programs, provide training to our staff, and work with parents and students who need support at home with devices and/or hotspots.





Spencerville Local Schools  
is proud to present our **1st Annual**



# TO **BACK** **SCHOOL** **FAIR**

**Wednesday, August 24, 2022**  
**12:00pm to 2:00pm**  
**4:00pm to 6:30pm**

Everything you and your student will need for a great start to the school year  
***ALL IN ONE PLACE AT THE SAME TIME!***

- ◆ Visit Your Student's Classroom
- ◆ Meet the Teachers and Administration
- ◆ School Pictures
- ◆ Schedule Pick-up
- ◆ View Homeroom Lists (K-5)
- ◆ Fee Payment
- ◆ Meet with Guidance Counselors
- ◆ ProgressBook InfoSessions
- ◆ Food Service (lunch money, applications)
- ◆ Technology (device request)
- ◆ Complete Your FinalForms
- ◆ Donated School Supplies (while supplies last)
- ◆ Bring Your School Supplies
- ◆ Find your Locker
- ◆ Tour the K-12 Building
- ◆ Student Organization Information (Art Club, Spanish Club, FCA, Student Council, etc.)
- ◆ Clinic (Bring Medications, Meet the Nurse)
- ◆ Pick up pre-ordered Class Kits
- ◆ Lifewise Academy
- ◆ Lima Public Library - Get your card!
- ◆ Local Vendors / Businesses
- ◆ Refreshments and Prizes
- ◆ Boy / Girl Scouts
- ◆ .....and more!

**You won't want to miss this opportunity to get connected with our school and community!**



# FROM PRINCIPAL WAGNER



What an amazing year this has been!! I'm so thankful to our staff and families for working together to manage another year of Covid. Aside from a few weeks of outbreaks, we were able to maintain a "normal" school year. Your cooperation and willingness to keep the lines of communication open was invaluable. I'm sure we can all agree that students learn best when they attend school in-person. This setting allows students to interact with one another, have differentiated instruction and hands-on experiences. This brings me to discuss attendance. According to HB 166, students with a nonmedical excuse or without legitimate excuse are only allowed to miss 65 hours of school. Once 65 hours has been attained, a doctor's note will be required to excuse further absences. Please refer to the handbook for details regarding this policy.

I would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to our PTO. They work tirelessly to ensure both staff and students have many opportunities to extend learning both inside and outside of the school building. Please check the elementary school's calendar for May

to check for your child's scheduled field trip. The Laps for Learning PTO fundraiser will be held on May 19 at 9:00 am on the football field.

It's not too late to register for kindergarten for the 2021-22 school year. Contact Kim Ekis at 419-647-4113 for more information.

Your feedback and opinions are truly valued. Please take the time to complete this parent-involvement survey so we can continue to make Spencerville Elementary School the best it can be!!

We are partnering once again with Friends Office for school supplies. For kindergarten-fourth grade students, you can purchase a class kit with most of the necessary supplies your child needs for the school year. The kits will be delivered to school with your child's name on it. The kits can be delivered to their classroom, or you can pick it up to take it home. If you would like to order, please see the enclosed flyer for details.

Spencerville Elementary School strives to offer the best academic experience for your children. Please take the time to complete this survey as we value your input. <https://forms.office.com/r/Ncwx1Y8WV6>

Please feel free to contact me any time regarding any concerns or questions you may have. Spencerville Elementary has such a caring staff, respectful students and supportive parents and I'm truly blessed to be a part of this community!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Susan Wagner



# EMPOWERED POETRY CONTEST



Mrs. Prichard's 8th grade ELA students entered a poetry contest entitled "Empowered." Young Writers, the national organization, invites students aged 10 to 18 years old to write a poem for this amazing new poetry contest designed to help students find their voice and express themselves. Each student wrote an original poem to inspire others-the theme for this year. Of the 5,000 entries submitted, sixty-seven of Mrs. Prichard's students will be published poets and have their work printed inside the publication Empowered-Verses from the USA. Selection for publication is not guaranteed.

In a congratulatory letter to Mrs. Prichard and her students, Young Writers stated, "Having your student's work chosen is something to be proud of, it doesn't happen every day! I was impressed with their writing-it's a privilege to read and every piece selected will make a fantastic addition to Empowered-Verses from the USA."

The criteria for selection are imagination, creativity, expression, originality, and word choice. The publication is scheduled for release on July 31st, 2022, and Mrs. Prichard will receive a complimentary copy of the book.

***Congratulations to the published poets in the 8th-grade class!***

~Melissa Prichard  
8th Grade ELA



# PRINCIPAL EDINGER



Another school year is coming to a finish with several outstanding accomplishments from our students. I want to personally thank the parents, community, teachers, and most importantly the students for managing another year of uncertainties that have been encountered all year in the COVID pandemic. We have great teachers, great parents, and a supporting community; this is why SMS is successful.

I still believe the number one factor in your son or daughter's education is YOU! As the kids get older, you have to "let go of the leash" and have them learn through experience, the difficult task is when do you lengthen or shorten the leash. This is what makes you part of a team member of the most difficult yet rewarding job you are in – being a parent! Thanks for all you do!

Here are a few highlights of the second half of the school year:

## February

- The 8th grade boys basketball team won the NWC Title – "Back to Back Titles!"
- The wrestling team took 3rd at the NWC Meet. Champions were Cory Wannemacher, Blayke Grothjan, and Braylon McNett
- Science Teachers, Sarah Hemker and Rachel Munshower applied for the Battelle Grant last month and were awarded \$5000 for MS STEM Club.
- Congratulations to the four members of the eighth grade Power Of The Pen team who qualified for the regional tournament in March. The four eighth grade writers are Naomi O'Neill, Cole Suever, Lauren Shields, and Brielle Strunk.
- These 8th grade students were chosen as Patriot's Pen Essay finalists this year in the Local VFW Essay Contest: Gavin Schwartz, Cheyenne Shartzter, Emersyn Shellabarger. Gavin was the over-all winner.
- 5th/6th grade Quiz Bowl wrapped up their seasons. County results were: 6th Grade – 2nd Place, 5th Grade – 3rd Place

## March

- 4 Students were selected to participate in the District 3 OMEA Band Concert: Kyleigh Foust, Lynsey Rowland, Lauren Shields, Eliza Stemen
- 7 students were selected to participate in the District 3 OMEA Choir Concert: Jamison Poling, Cloey Coulter, Leah Elling, Elijah Johnston, Naomi O'Neill, Emery Richardson, Brian Armstead
- 5-8 Band and Choir Concerts were well attended, and the kids did wonderful April
- State Testing in ELA/Math/Science

## April

- 55, 7th & 8th grade Band Members participated in the Solo and Ensemble. Our judge was highly complimentary of their professionalism, kindness, and preparation. We ended the day with 20 Superior ratings, 8 Excellent ratings, and 1 Good rating.
- 58, 7th & 8th grade Band Members participated in the Solo and Ensemble. Superior Ratings I (highest rating you can receive): Soloists: 7, Ensembles: 3 (1 Full Choir/2 Groups). Excellent Ratings II (second highest rating): Soloists: 6, Ensembles: 1 Group. Good Ratings III: Ensembles: 2 Groups
- Art Show was another great success
- 6th Grade won the United Way Penny Challenge – earned a trip to the Van Wert Cinemas
- Mrs. Prichards class participated in the Young Writers Empowered Poems. All 67 entries were accepted to be published.

"Everyone must decide at some point in their life to either become a vision of the future or a shadow of the past."

- John Lawson

# YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT

The Spencerville Youth and Government program was so excited to actually get to travel to Columbus this year for the Ohio Alliance of YMCA's Youth and Government conference. While in Columbus, the students started off with a luncheon that included activities with some of our state Representatives and Senators. After the luncheon, the students played some icebreaker and team work games to get to know the students from the other schools that were present. From there, students made their way from the hotel down to the Ohio Statehouse where they were taken to the House Chambers and "sworn in" for their work over the conference. They then spent the rest of the conference working in the House Chambers and House Committee rooms practicing their legislative procedure and the debate process.

This year, the Spencerville Youth and Government took six bills to Columbus. The students did a wonderful job presenting and defending their bills as well as debating the bills of the other Ohio students. We had two of the bills make it to the House floor and one of those bills passed on the floor. Unfortunately, the bill was vetoed by the student "governor" for the simulation. The students felt the thrill of success and the frustration of defeat throughout the conference. The students enjoyed meeting new people and exploring the Statehouse. Some of them faced some tough debate with their bills as they fought to defend their work. Abbie McGaughy said, "I personally love debating and learning about the ins and outs of the Government so the whole experience was great." Spencerville is hoping the program will continue to grow as more students learn about the experience.



*Emma Core*



*Allie McGaughy, and  
Emily Byglin*



*Top Row: Cassidy Hartman,  
Emma Core, Emily Byglin;  
Middle Row: Dylan Cook,  
Katherine Lee, Megan  
Baughman, Hayden Haman,  
Carter Ringwald; Front  
Row: Ryan Kaverman, Abbie  
McGaughy, Allie McGaughy,  
Ruth Brenneman*



*Megan Baughman, Katherine Lee,  
Cassidy Hartman, Emma Core,  
Allie McGaughy, Abbie McGaughy,  
Ruth Brenneman, Emily Byglin*



*Ryan Kaverman, Carter Ringwald,  
Dylan Cook, and Hayden Haman*



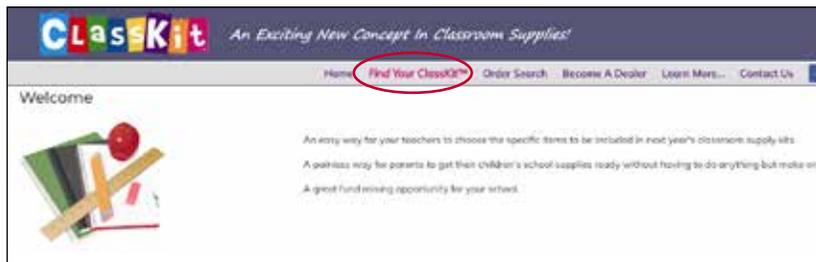
**SPENCERVILLE**

**BACK TO SCHOOL BOXES**

To order your School Supply Kit online, follow the steps below.

**Step 1**

Visit [www.classkit.com](http://www.classkit.com) and click "Find Your Classkit".



**Avoid the stores...Order online!**

These boxes fulfill the requirements for school supplies put out by your school. Even though some items are listed as "boys" or "girls", there is no need to purchase anything else.

**Questions?**  
Contact your school's administrator with additional questions or for pickup dates.

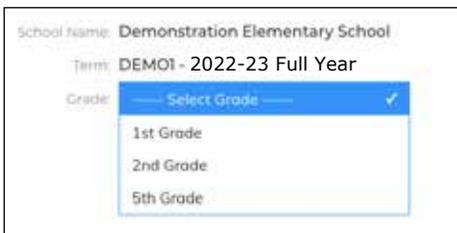
**Step 2**

Enter your school's city, state, and zip code and click "Search"



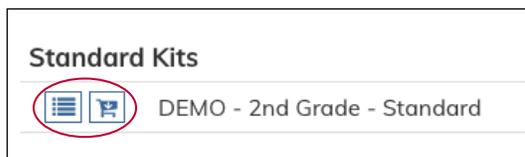
**Step 3**

Once you've selected your school, click on the grade your student will be entering.



**Step 4**

Once you select your grade, you can expand the list of items to see the contents of the box or add to your cart directly.



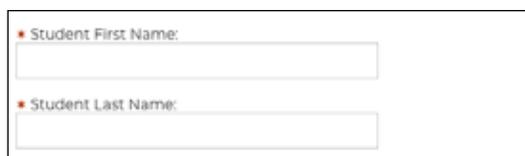
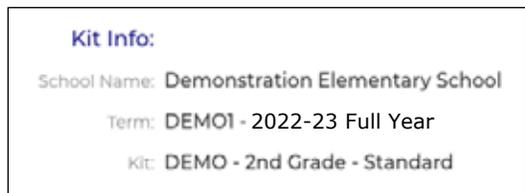
**Step 5**

If you click the button on the left, you will see a full listing of products for that box. From here, you can add to cart as well.



**Step 6**

After clicking "Add to Cart", enter your student's name and click "Submit/Checkout". Enter your credit card info to complete your order. You will receive an email notification if successful.



# PRINCIPAL GEPHART

As we approach the end of another great school year at Spencerville Schools, I would like to extend a huge “Thank You” to our staff, students, parents, and community members. We could not have made it successfully through this school year without everyone doing his or her part as we returned to some sense of normalcy.

The sun is shining today, but weather this spring has not been kind to our student athletes. I hope it will turn around for the month of May and we can watch our students do what they enjoy. In addition, there are a lot of other activities coming up as we finish out the month. The FFA will have their annual banquet. The high school band and choir will hold their formal concerts. Finally, we will celebrate our graduates on Sunday, May 29th, at 2pm in the competition gym. Please come and join us as we wish our 2022 graduates all the best as they pursue their next adventures in life!



As the school year comes to an end, we will not only be saying good-bye to our senior graduates but also some of our Bearcat staff. Mrs. Jo McConnell and Mrs. Angel Wagner will be retiring. These women have had a huge impact in the lives of our current students and hundreds of alumni over the years. We wish them the best with their retirement! In addition, Ms. Lori Romie will be leaving the halls of Spencerville Schools to continue her educational career teaching Ag classes at Ridgemont Local Schools. It has been an honor and privilege to work with these fine women the last several years. They have been a great asset to this school and community. We wish all three of them the best with their future endeavors!

Lastly, I hope everyone will have the opportunity to relax and enjoy the summer with family and be ready to return in the fall refreshed. Please know, if you have any questions or concerns, you are always welcome to call me at 419.647.4111 or email me at [gepharts@svbearcats.org](mailto:gepharts@svbearcats.org). It takes each of us working together to make Spencerville Schools the best it can be. Take care!

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## *From our Bearcat Treasurer*

One month down and the staff and Board have been very supportive. I want to take a moment and recognize the efforts of my predecessors. Without their commitment and hard work in managing the District's fiscal resources. We would not be in such a strong fiscal position.

Please welcome Amy Donnelly as our new part time Fiscal Assistant in the Administrative Office. We have been impressed by her ability to adapt and quickly learn the processes involved in the Accounts Payable roll.

The 5-year forecast will be presented at the May Board meeting. Spencerville School District is expected to maintain a balanced budget and sufficient cash reserves in fiscal year 2022. Both are essential components to long-term fiscal health. Operating within a carefully developed fiscal spending plan is a districtwide commitment. We are extremely grateful to our community for their support. Spencerville offers a great education to our students; we are a great location for young families looking for an outstanding education for their children.

### ***Fiscal Beliefs***

As fiscal stewards for Spencerville taxpayers, we believe it is prudent to have adequate cash reserves. This is a long-term goal that with time, deliberate discussion, and sufficient planning, will be accomplished by focusing on the following:

1. As educational leaders, we are committed to investing district resources in effective and innovative teaching and learning opportunities.
2. All fiscal decisions will respect the District's educational goals and financial plan.
3. We will focus on efficiently and proactively managing expenses to prevent deficit spending.
4. Continuous and proactive planning for curriculum, technology and capital improvements will be monitored and followed.

*Leland Hays, CFO/Treasurer*

# SCHOLASTIC CHALLENGE

Fifth grade students read an article in the Scholastic News Magazine about the “Kindness Kid,” Orion Jean, who entered a writing contest about kindness. The 11-year-old won a \$500 prize for his essay and decided to inspire people to be kind in their community by spending his prize money on toys for a local hospital. The article highlights how this one contest developed into a lifestyle for Jean. He has taken his love for kindness and reading books and has turned his passion into a desire to inspire other kids. He has written a book called, A Kids Book About Leadership. The Scholastic News article included its own Kindness Contest that classes could enter for a chance to win a copy of Orion Jean’s book.

The fifth graders at Spencerville were inspired by Jean and wanted to enter the contest and did this spring. The contest ballot asked the students to identify why they want their fifth grade classrooms to be a place where kindness shines and to provide three steps that they plan to take to make the classroom a kinder place. The students brainstormed and came up with this goal—“We, the students of the fifth grade class at Spencerville Local School, want our classrooms to be a place where kindness shines. This goal is important to us because ‘even small things can make a difference.’” The students have decided to take three steps for spreading kindness amongst their peers, with younger students in the school, and with elders in their community.

The editor of the Scholastic News emailed the class that they were one of five classes to win the contest! The students do not want to give away any specifics about what random acts of kindness they will be working on for the Elementary students and elders of Spencerville this spring, but the Scholastic News has asked for a picture of the Kindness Tree that they want to create to spread kindness amongst their peers. So be on the lookout for lots of kindness being spread by the fifth graders, one of those being donating Orion Jean’s book they receive as a prize to our school’s media center. The fifth grade teachers, principal, and superintendent are proud of the kindness leadership role that the fifth grade class has taken in the community. Congratulations to these youngsters for making kindness a commitment in their learning!

Amy Hoback, Julie Woods, Bev England  
and Lori Schwartz



## 5th Grade students celebrating their Scholastic News Kindness Challenge win!

*Picture left to right standing:* Averie Hollar, Adam Cockerell,  
Abigail Kill, Carson ZLuke, Jenson Henline, and Kennon Richeson,  
Stryker Stockstill

*Kneeling:* Zaedyn Wagner and Delanee Roof



## PTO NEWS

National Reading Month (March 2022): Bounce Into a Good Book! Fun things we did this year for National Reading month:

- had a dress-up day (dress as your favorite book character) in Honor of Dr. Suess's birthday
- had a reading contest to help promote reading
- had Jim "Basketball" Jones come for a school assembly for the K 4 students
- had high school basketball players come read to the elementary students during library time

Spring Scholastic Book Fair: We had a very successful Book Fair this spring. Our total sales were just shy of \$4000 which gave us approximately \$2000 in Scholastic Dollars. These Scholastic Dollars will be used to help purchase lots of books for all the K-4 teachers as well as the school library. Thank you to all those who purchased books, either in person or on line, we ended up selling over 711 items. Wow! The support is greatly appreciated!

Field Trips: The K-4 students will be (or have already been) on a spring field trip this year.

Kindergarten: MVP Dairy Farm

1st grade: Boonshoft Museum

2nd grade: Ft. Wayne Zoo

3rd grade: Ft. Wayne Zoo

4th grade: Ohio Caverns & Science Central

The kids always love going on field trips and PTO is so grateful we are able to provide this for them.

Teacher Appreciation (May 2-6, 2022): We have some special treats planned for the teachers this year to show how much they mean to us and how much we appreciate them! Thank you to everyone who donated items for this. Our elementary teachers are awesome!

Laps for Learning (May 2022): This is our yearly (and only) fundraiser. This year's theme is Sweet Treats (Candy Land). To kick things off we had a t-shirt design contest and the winners were Elliana Stemen & Nora Tucker. Congrats girls! Thank you so much to all those who collected and/or donated money to our fundraiser this year – we really appreciate it! We are looking forward to a very fun Laps Day on Thursday, May 19th.

**COME JOIN US & BE A PART OF PTO!!!!**

Spencerville-Jennings PTO is a great group of parents and teachers working together to provide extra activities and incentives to benefit the K-4 students and teachers. We are a non-profit organization and we rely on the support of donations from parents, teachers, and community members.

The PTO meetings are scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 4pm at the school (room 304). Meeting dates are subject to change due to schedules and timing of activities. Meeting reminders will be posted on the PTO Facebook page each month.

Help support the PTO all year long with Box Tops & Kroger Community Rewards!

- Box Tops: download the app, add Spencerville Jennings as your school, scan your receipts

- Kroger Rewards: visit [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com), sign into your account, link your Kroger Plus Card to our organization (Spencerville-Jennings PTO, Inc, Org#: XB857)

We thank everyone for their continued support! If you would like to be a part of the PTO or have suggestions, please reach out to us.

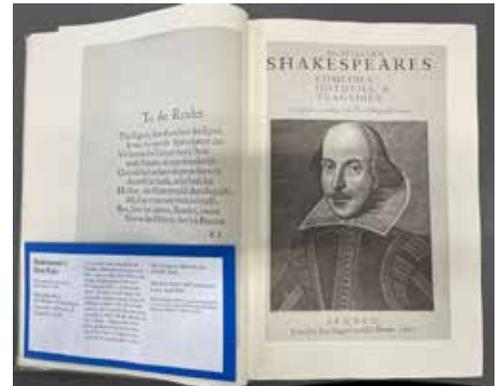
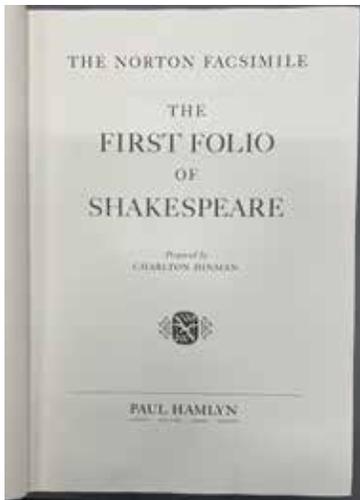
PTO Facebook page: Spencerville-Jennings PTO

PTO Email: [SpencervillePTO@yahoo.com](mailto:SpencervillePTO@yahoo.com)

Spencerville School District Webpage: Departments, PTO

# 2021 SHS Graduate Paris Prichard Donates Rare Book to Spencerville High School's English Department

Paris Prichard, a 2021 Spencerville High School graduate and current student at the Ohio State University in Lima where she is majoring in English, generously donated a facsimile copy of William Shakespeare's 1623 first folio to Spencerville High School via Mrs. Emily Klosterman, Sophomore and Senior English Teacher. Paris won the book through an essay contest and was presented the book by its donator, David S. Adams, Associate Professor Emeritus, at an OSU Lima awards ceremony. According to Paris as quoted in the Lima News article, she was inspired to donate her prize because she has a "sentiment for giving back" to her community. When Paris learned that a new elective was being offered at SHS—Shakespeare Appreciation—she reflected on her own studies of Shakespeare and "thought it would be cool for [students] to be able to look at the facsimile copy as well as promote Shakespeare as a whole when discovering Shakespeare's plays." Paris shared with Mrs. Klosterman how much she appreciates the value of books and how important it is to teach students to not only love reading, but also to respect the value of the printed book—especially historically significant publications that are rare and should be seen, read, and appreciated rather than kept behind glass in a library where they would otherwise go untouched, unread, and unknown. Mrs. Klosterman delightfully accepted Paris's generous donation on behalf of Spencerville High School where the book will most definitely be appreciated for many years to come. Thank you, Paris, for your generosity: we at SHS all wish you continued success in college!



# BEARCATS



## *Voice of Democracy*

***Voice of Democracy winners:*** Kirsten Voice (third place), Commander Jessica Wegesin, and Emma Core (first place). These students were recognized at the VFW Anniversary banquet on May 23rd and were given a plaque, engraved portfolio, and monetary prize for their accomplishments. Not in attendance was second place winner Jonathan Knight from Lima.

## *Patriot's Pen*

Patriot's Pen Essay contest. Pictured are: Commander Jessica Wegesin, and Hannah Stirn (second place). Hannah was also recognized at the VFW Anniversary banquet on May 23rd and was given a plaque, engraved portfolio, and monetary prize for her accomplishments. Ms. Stirn earned first place at the VFW District level and third place at the State level competition. Not in attendance was first place winner Naomi O'Neill and third place winner, Taliyah Pearson.

