

MESSAGE from the SUPERINTENDENT

Congratulations Class of 2022



Chardon Schools celebrated its 149th Commencement on Saturday, May 28, at Chardon's Memorial Field,

a most-fitting setting to recognize this talented class of 230 graduates.

We are proud of the many accomplishments of this class, including their academic achievements through coursework, skills acquisition via career programs, service to our community, success on the field of play and fine arts stage, scholarship awards, and many more.

The commencement event provided an opportunity for everyone to see the culmination of the efforts of our staff and administration in preparing students to pursue one, or more, of the Four E's — Enrollment, Employment, Enlistment or Entrepreneurship.

Of our 230 Class of 2022 graduates:

- 75% are **Enrolling** in a two- or four-year college
- 25% are pursuing **Employment**
- and Anthony Bucco is **Enlisting** in the military (U.S. Navy)

This year's commencement ceremony brought to mind the following quotation from the Roman philosopher, Lucius Seneca, "Let us also produce some bold act of our own—and join the ranks of the most emulated." The message—Don't be Inspired, Be Inspirational.

Congratulations Class of 2022.
You are inspirational!

Michael P. Hanlon, Jr.

Dr. Michael P. Hanlon, Jr.
Superintendent

A New Journey Begins



Pastor Photography



Pastor Photography

IT doesn't matter
if you came from
this little town on the hill,
you can still make it to the
big city . . . Always dream
big dreams, and always
have heart."

—Mr. Dominic Ferrante
CHS Class of '16
2022 Commencement
Speaker



Pastor Photography



photo: G-TV

DISTRICT CONTINUES STRATEGIC PLANNING

The District is actively engaged in revamping our five-year strategic plan, which will help guide the District over the next several years. Community listening sessions and other input opportunities were completed and provided valuable input to shape the vision, mission, core beliefs and strategic goal areas that will steer the future of our school district.

Workgroups comprising community members and school personnel began meeting in May and will continue work over the next several weeks to develop specific action plans in the following areas: Communications, Community Connections, Engaged Student Learning, Safety and Security, Resources and Fiscal Responsibility, and Facilities and Operations.

Following completion of the workgroup process, the District plans to offer a final opportunity for community feedback on the strategic plan prior to presentation to the Board of Education for their approval. It is projected that this will occur in August of this year.



CAREER VEHICLE DAY *A Community Collaboration*

Munson Elementary and Park Elementary schools hosted their first-ever Career Vehicle Day on May 19, an educational and community joint venture that added a hands-on, outdoor twist to the more traditional career day typically held in a school gymnasium.

Nearly 20 local organizations and businesses volunteered their time and expertise (and career vehicles!) for a three-hour career exploration event in the Munson Elementary parking lot, providing first- through third-grade students with up-close career vehicle demonstrations, question and answer sessions, and time for exploration of the vehicles.

On-site vehicles included medical helicopters, law enforcement vehicles, fire trucks, ambulances, garbage collection trucks, tow trucks and more. For a full list of participating businesses, visit the News page of chardonschools.org.



Student Launches LAX-ABLED Adaptive Lacrosse

For many months, Chardon High School student Makenna Ricketts, an incoming junior this fall, has been committed to working, networking, fundraising and planning her Girl Scout Gold Award project. Officially launched by Makenna this spring, LAX-ABLED is an adaptive lacrosse initiative offered to 10- to 21-year old community members. Hilltopper students are among the summertime participants who have been enjoying the new program.



ACADEMIC STATE QUALIFIERS

This spring was an extraordinary season filled with Chardon students and their teams qualifying for state academic competitions, bringing honor to themselves, their families, and the Chardon Schools community. Following are results from a few of those State tournaments:



ACADEMIC DECATHLON

- Chardon—14 State medals, including 5 gold

ENVIROTHON

- Chardon Red Team—State runner-up and 1st overall in the Forestry Division

FAMILY, CAREER AND COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA

- Interior Design Contest—Chardon senior Charlotte Kurtz, 2nd-place gold finish (via Auburn Career Center three-member team)

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

- Chardon Division B Team—9th in State out of 40 teams overall; 7 individual medals, 26th consecutive year qualifying for State tournament
- Chardon Division C Team—26th in State out of 40 teams overall; 2 individual medals, 24th year qualifying for State tournament

SKILLSUSA OHIO

- Teamworks Event (construction)—Chardon seniors Alex Johnson and Evan Wolcott, silver medal (via Auburn Career Center four-member team)

The CREW Career Program

Chardon High School's fast-growing, career-based program, The CREW, completed its second year of operation this spring, facilitating career exploration opportunities and internships for students while ensuring students meet the state graduation requirements.

Faculty members Mrs. Tracey Britt and Mrs. Kim Butala are The CREW's career navigators overseeing an enrollment of 47 this past school year with enrollment to exceed 115 students in the upcoming year.

Highlights for The CREW this spring included feature segments on News 5 Cleveland; an open house for community members and businesses; and Smart Automation Certification Alliance Industry instructional certification earned by CREW navigator Mrs. Britt. The SACA teaching credential will allow CREW students to learn specialized skills that give them a competitive advantage in today's job market.



Community organizations and businesses interested in partnering with The CREW are encouraged to reach out to Mrs. Britt at tracey.britt@chardon.schools.org or Mrs. Butala at kim.butala@chardonschools.org.

BUSINESS HONOR ROLL



Chardon Schools was pleased to nominate Chardon Smile Center, Junction Auto Family, The Middlefield Banking Company and Preston Superstore to the Ohio School Boards Association's 2022 Business Honor Roll for their exceptional commitment to the District's schools. The recognitions were presented in-person to representatives from each of the four organizations at Chardon's May 16 regular board meeting.

Fiscal Responsibility

Expenditures: Salaries, Benefits & Current Trends

As a service-oriented operation, staff salaries and benefits account for the District's two largest expenditures. Salaries comprise 59 percent and benefits account for 26 percent of all District spending, representing a total of 85 percent of all our expenditures.

FAST FACTS: DID YOU KNOW?

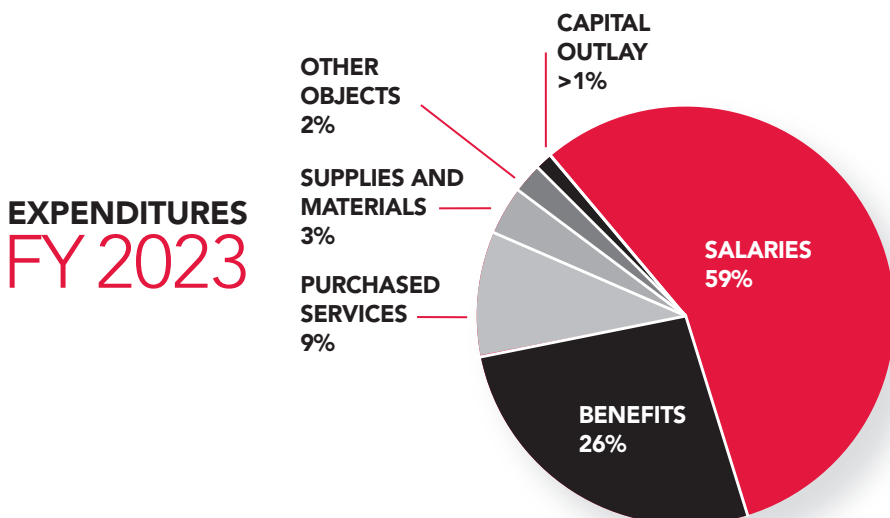
- Chardon certified teaching staff have a three-year contract to receive 2.25-percent annual increases through 2025.
- Chardon Schools operates a self-insured fund wherein most of the District employees are on a high-deductible health plan.
- For the calendar year 2022, the District has experienced a two-percent increase in health insurance costs, one of the lowest increases in the area.
- Total expenditures increased 2.14%, or approximately \$701,781, annually during the past five years.
- Inflation is on the rise for the next several years.
- Chardon staff, on average, are the third-highest paid school staff in Geauga County.

A POSITIVE FIVE-YEAR FORECAST

- Though expenditures are expected to increase annually through 2025, the Chardon Schools May 2022 Five-Year Forecast shows a positive cash balance of \$19,602,764 before open encumbrances. This indicates a strong financial position for the District with no planned operating levies.

LEARN MORE ABOUT DISTRICT FINANCES

Visit [BoardDocs](#) linked on the [Board of Education](#) page of [chardonschools.org](#) or contact [Treasurer/CFO Mrs. Deb Armbruster](#) at deb.armbruster@chardonschools.org or 440-285-4052.



Capital Improvements Spring and Summer 2022

Following are progress updates from Assistant Superintendent of Business Affairs Mr. Steven Kofol on the spring and summer projects occurring in our facilities as detailed in Mr. Kofol's presentation to the board earlier this year. The projects are being funded by ESSER/federal monies and Permanent Improvement (PI) funds.

Chardon Early Learning Center

- Partial window replacement—slated to begin July 2022

Chardon High School

- Partial window replacement—slated completion June 2022
- Full roof replacement—in progress

Chardon Middle School

- Full window replacement—completed
- Full roof replacement—in progress

Munson Elementary School

- Plumbing replacement—began in June 2022
- Touchless faucet installations—in progress

Memorial Field

- Visitor bleachers
New concrete pad poured
First section of bleachers installed
Second section of bleachers—installation began in June 2022





SENIORS VISIT WAX MUSEUM

Munson Elementary third-grade teachers Mr. Brian Buemi, Mrs. Michelle Burress, Mrs. Asha Dinko and Mrs. Alexandra Woodrow hosted

community seniors at the annual third-grade Wax Museum dress rehearsal event held on the afternoon of May 17 in the school gymnasium.

The staff was pleased to have community members engaging with the young Hilltoppers. Visitors commented on how impressed they were with students' creativity in portraying historical figures.

Also in attendance were City of Chardon Mayor Chris Grau and G-TV, conducting spot interviews with the third-grade students. The one-hour G-TV production can be accessed via the video on-demand page at geaugatv.org.



New Assistant Principal Welcome



Assistant superintendent Dr. Ed Klein and Chardon High School principal Mr. Doug Murray welcomed Ms. Mary Pat Pavicic aboard during the May 26 special board of education meeting in which Ms. Pavicic was officially approved for the assignment of CHS assistant principal, effective August 1.



PEN PALS in CINCINNATI

Chardon Middle School teacher Mrs. Rita Richardson initiated a pen pals project with another Ohio fourth-grade class this spring, writing letters and drawing self-portraits to send across the miles to Little Miami Elementary in Cincinnati. The recipient class is taught by Mrs. Richardson's very own daughter—Miss Emily Richardson! This is Miss Emily's first year of teaching. Though the miles separate mom and daughter, they share a love of teaching fourth-grade and creating this writing opportunity for students.



2022–23 Enrollment Underway

The first day of school for K–12 students is August 17. Enroll today by visiting the Registration page at chardonschools.org or call 440-285-4052.

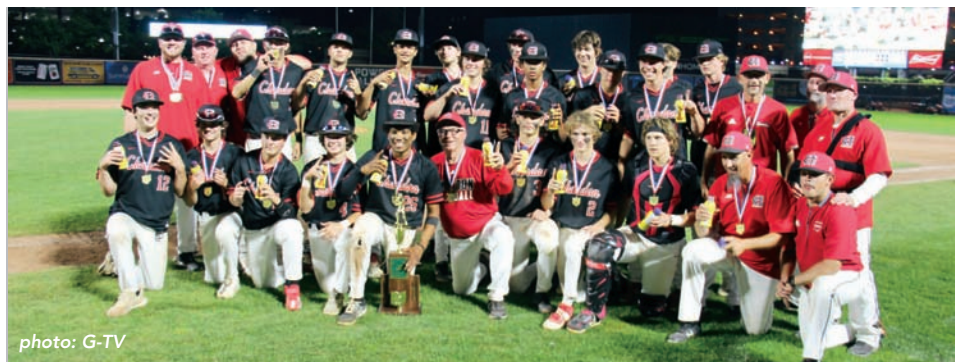


photo: G-TV

Congratulations to the Chardon High School varsity baseball team on a phenomenal season that culminated with a thrilling 8–5 Division II State Championship win over Archbishop Hoban High School on June 11 at Canal Park in Akron. Full media release on the News page of chardonschools.org.



#WeAreChardon

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CHARDON, OH 44024

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A Newsletter for the Chardon Community

Mission Statement

High achievement for all students where learning is our most important work.

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In lieu of an in-person event, the District produced a virtual art show this spring featuring hundreds of images of outstanding K-12 student artwork selected by Chardon art teachers

Virtual Art Show

Mrs. Beth Stickle, Mrs. Kristie Heron, Mrs. Kathleen Dafoe, Mr. Erik Hauber and Ms. Christina Blaschke.

We invite the community to admire the Hilltopper masterpieces linked at

bit.ly/ART22

