



SUCCESS

SPRING 2020



QUARTERLY UPDATE FROM SHELBY CITY SCHOOLS

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Success of Our Students and Schools is No Accident

Dear Resident:

Here we are, almost three quarters of the way through the school year and soon we will be listening to Pomp and Circumstance as our seniors receive their much-deserved high school diplomas. Yes, I may be a bit biased, but this school year has been wildly successful in so many ways. The success of our students and schools is no accident. Our students are supported by an outstanding staff, but more importantly, a community who works diligently to help them to succeed.

Looking ahead, we have much work and planning underway. We are fortunate to have the Rover Pipeline dollars that, in conjunction with dollars from the state, are helping to fund the construction of a much needed new PreK-8 building for our students.



“...I may be a bit biased, but this school year has been wildly successful in so many ways.”

*Tim Tarvin, Superintendent
Shelby City Schools*

And of course, we are frequently asked about the future of Skiles Field. We may have some Rover Pipeline dollars available for this project, too. The question that the board is currently researching is “What is the best solution for our football facility?” What we do know for sure is, something must be done soon, as areas of the stadium are likely to be deemed unsafe for occupancy within 4-6 years.

I hope that this newsletter, highlighting events taking place throughout our school district, will help you to have a better understanding of the excellence taking place in our schools every single day.

Have a great rest of the school year and go Whippets!

Tim Tarvin, Superintendent
Shelby City Schools

Inside:

- [2 New PreK-8 Building is on Schedule](#)
- [2 Approximate Construction Timeline](#)
- [2 Plans for the Old School Buildings](#)
- [3 Pipeline Dollars Make Future Brighter](#)
- [3 Academic Teams - Friendly Competition, Learning](#)
- [4 High School Athletics Honors Military](#)
- [4 Students Collect Spare Change, Help Others](#)
- [5 Recycling Program is Way of Life for Students](#)
- [6 Counselor's Open Door Meets Student Needs](#)
- [6 LEGO Grant Provides Learning Opportunities](#)
- [7 Science Teacher Provides Extra Opportunities](#)
- [7 Fourth Grade Students Show School Leadership](#)
- [8 Lessons Learned from Tower Garden](#)



New PreK-8 is on Schedule

Now that funding is secured, and at zero additional cost to taxpayers, planning is fully underway for the construction of Shelby's much-needed new PreK-8 building. The project is funded using a 50/50 split with half of the funding coming from the state's Ohio Facilities Construction Commission and half coming from the Rover Pipeline proceeds.

"We are fortunate to be one of the districts in the state to receive dollars from these pipelines," stated Tim Tarvin, superintendent. "These dollars, while they will not be available forever, will provide revenue for at least thirty years

"We are fortunate to be one of the districts in the state to receive dollars from these pipelines."



which allows us to match the state dollars for construction of the PreK-8 building. This means we bring state dollars to Shelby that

might have gone to another community.

The new PreK-8 building will provide much-needed space for our students. Currently we have instruction taking place in storage closets and hallways at Auburn and Dowds Elementary Schools because there simply is not enough classroom space available for our teachers and students. With the ages of our current buildings, Auburn Elementary being built in 1948, Dowds Elementary in 1956 and the middle school in 1965 there are constant maintenance needs including window, roof, piping and electrical issues as well as brick and mortar troubles.

Approximate PreK-8 Construction Timeline Developed

The project is still in the early planning phases but is moving along right on schedule. Without a doubt, the most frequent question the District hears is "When will dirt move and construction begin?" We share the same excitement and readiness.

"What most people don't realize is that it takes nearly a year to get the planning and designs in place prior to any dirt moving," stated Tarvin. "We have to take the time on the front end to do the project right."

As for now, the District has established an approximate timeline for the work.

Now – September 2020:

Research, planning, and design stage

Fall 2020:

Groundbreaking; Site preparation begins, the foundation pad will be laid and some utilities and footers may be in place by Christmas (weather permitting)

Spring 2021:

Construction as many of us know it will really begin in earnest. Walls will go up, and the classrooms, gyms, and office spaces will begin to take shape. Ideally, the entire 146,000 square foot facility will be under roof by Christmas of 2021

2022-23 School Year:

Building Grand Opening

What will happen with the current school buildings?

Our current buildings: Auburn, Dowds, Central and the middle school, have served generations of Shelby students very well over the years. The District respects the memories created in these buildings and will ensure that the community has a chance for a final goodbye when the time comes.

To that end, the District would like to get the community involved to plan events and activities that will allow residents to do just that. The District will communicate more on that at a later date but it's anticipated that it will occur during the spring of the 21-22 school year.



Rover Pipeline Dollars Make Future Facility Issues Possible

Shelby is fortunate to be one of the districts in Ohio that has pipelines running through it because of the dollars they provide to our schools.

“Frankly, it is a tremendous relief to receive this funding and the District is very grateful, and although it is providing significant funding, we remain frugal and intent on stretching these dollars at every turn so that we maximize them for our taxpayers,” stated Tim Tarvin, superintendent.

Right now, the District is using some of the Rover proceeds to provide a new PreK-8 school building. However, other needs still exist within the District, and clearly the most pressing need, outside of a new PreK-8 school, is Skiles Field, which gets flooded on a regular basis.

The home grandstands at Skiles Field were constructed in the 1950's. Over the past 60 plus years, Skiles Field has brought much joy, and even some heartache, to Shelby fans. And yes, those who have attended an event at Skiles Field in the past few years know that age and weather have begun to take a toll on the grandstand and surrounding site.

“Our maintenance and custodial staff have done the best job they

...clearly the most pressing need, outside of a new PreK-8 school, is Skiles Field, which gets flooded on a regular basis.

could do keeping up and maintaining the site, especially considering it sits in a flood plain/floodway,” stated Board president, Scott Rose. “There just comes a point where we can't outwork an antiquated structure without a significant overhaul or other solution.”

Right now, the Board is weighing the pros and cons of renovating Skiles Field along with other options. At the February 24 board meeting, the architectural firm that is designing the PreK-8 building laid out the preliminary costs and logistics of rebuilding the stadium downtown versus building on the school campus. If the Board were to renovate the existing site, then the costs would need to include the entire Skiles Field site which includes the grandstand, the playing field, the concession stands,

the restrooms, the locker rooms, parking and all of the surrounding grounds, which would include the roadway behind Central Elementary, as well as the three bridges located on the site.

At some point in the next 4-6 years, experts estimate that the site may be deemed unsafe for occupancy. This is why the Board is exploring all options now and with renewed urgency.

“No one wants a situation where one day the stadium is unsafe to use and we have no field and a season or two with no home games,” stated Rose.

The Board recognizes that the Skiles Field versus the School Campus decision is an extremely important topic throughout the community.

Board President Scott Rose continued. “We will absolutely keep the community informed and involved because the site is only going to get worse with time. And, while we are facing some tough choices we feel that regardless of where the funding comes from, the Board must weigh what is fiscally responsible with many other factors.”

Shelby Academic Teams Spark Friendly Competition, Learning

Shelby City Schools fields three academic challenge teams that compete with area school districts. The members are all fourth graders from both Auburn and Dowds Elementary Schools.

In her first year as advisor, Elementary Art Teacher Kelsey Felgner has seen a lot of growth in her 12 team members.

“Even in the last week it's been cool to see who steps up and decides to be the person who talks in a given round,” she said. Questions cover a variety of topics, ranging from school related topics to pop culture knowledge.

“It's fascinating seeing the things that they are interested

in,” Felgner said. “I love seeing their faces light up when they know an answer. It's good for their confidence.”

Academic Challenges were held January 29 and February 17.

Felgner and the team meet once a week for 45 minutes before school to practice. She has set up a Google Classroom folder with sites the students can use to get additional practice on their own.

Being a part of the team has been important to the participants, as has the fact they get to compete with students from the other elementary school.



Shelby High School Athletics Honors Military With Appreciation Events



...players about to square off against one another can take a few moments to join together in a collective effort.

For the last three years the Shelby High School athletic department has hosted Military Appreciation Nights during both a girls and boys basketball game.

The Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) began the initiative as a statewide program. Shelby has a long history of community members serving in the military so the appreciation nights are a natural fit.

"In our hallway outside the gym, Principal (John) Gies has collected all the past graduates' names who have served in any one of the military branches," said Athletic Director Pat Lewis. "It's a beautiful display and he's constantly trying to update it, looking for new names that might be missing.

"When you see the list out there, you see that Shelby's had a long history of individuals serving and protecting our country. This is a very small way for us to give back."

The Military Appreciation Nights were held on January 18 (girls)

and January 23 (boys), both coincidentally against Marion Harding. Thanks to the donation of a large American flag, the event takes on a sense of teamwork, even between opposing schools.

"It was super this year," recalled Lewis. "We made t-shirts for our kids to wear during warmups and we offered them to the players from Marion Harding. Both teams were wearing those shirts and the coaches were wearing them."

"Then, we invited both teams to unroll and hold the giant flag. We wanted both teams' players to be involved."

And that was the lesson that supersedes athletics and competition; the idea that players about to square off against one another can take a few moments to join together in a collective effort.

"They recognize that, 'Yeah, we're going to compete here in a few minutes, but let's think about how we are really all together in this,'" said Lewis. "We're in different communities, but we're all together in the United States.'"

Middle School Collects Spare Change, Helps Others

The Shelby Middle School Student Council spends the school year looking to do good for others. Advisor Jordan Nelson and his 51 representatives of grades 5-8 are constantly looking for ways to help the community.

"We're pretty active in trying to make sure we help our community as much as possible," said Nelson. "I think the biggest thing I want is for the kids to see the world outside of themselves."

One of the more remarkable events

put on by the student council is Stall Day. Students are encouraged to bring loose change and place it on their teachers' desks. The idea is that the teacher in a classroom cannot begin class until after he/she has counted all of the loose change.

"The kids love piling coins on their teacher's desk," said Nelson. "It's pretty awesome. They do a great job."

Students also learn that loose change can add up pretty quickly. The student council splits the money it

receives, half going to the United Fund of Shelby and the other half funding the group's Angel Tree efforts.

Each holiday season, the student council goes to Target with a list of items for needy students. Nelson hands out \$100 for each student on the Angel Tree list. This year the student council bought gifts for 26 different students.

"It's been nice because every year the stall money has gone up some



Middle School Recycling Program Expands, is Way of Life for Students

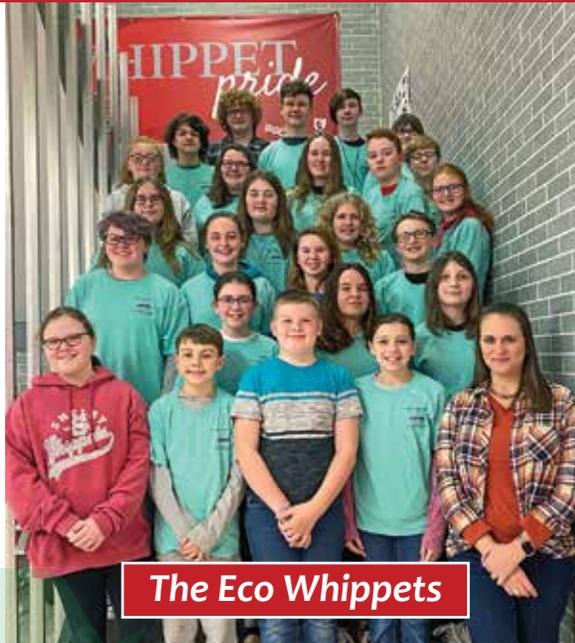
When Mindy Rowlands arrived at Shelby Middle School as a teacher four years ago, she immediately saw an opportunity to incorporate recycling as a daily practice for the building.

“We were throwing away a lot of paper,” Rowlands said. “Having a personal background of living in Europe for 13 years, that was overwhelming.”

In her second year at the school, Rowlands shifted to a position as Science and Social Studies teacher and she and Principal Barb Green agreed she would start a recycling club, which has become known as the Eco Whippets.

That first year 12 students joined the club. Rowlands let the children take the lead on what was important to them and where they should go with their program. After looking around the area, they found that Milliron would offer the best and easiest way to hand over recycled materials.

“Milliron gives us a percentage for every pound that we recycle,” Rowlands explained. “We recycle aluminum, paper, tin and plastics with No. 1 or 2 on them. Within just the first year we recycled about 5,000 pounds of products. That was a lot when you consider all of that was going to a



The Eco Whippets

“Kids have a natural desire to do good things for our planet... recycling is a very simple habit to form...”

landfill previously.”

The club made videos to promote the program and even added an electronics drive, which was initiated by Technology Director Luke Foley. Initially the kids thought they would fill a small room full of donated products,

but the club ended up filling the entire stage at Central Gym.

Now, the recycling effort continues to grow. We are now up to 35 Eco Whippets. Education of the school and community continues, and other school districts have contacted Rowlands to inquire about how to get similar clubs off the ground.

The club has successfully spread the message to students and their parents that recycling doesn't take much more effort than throwing something away in a trash can.

“Kids have a natural desire to do good things for our planet,” Rowlands said. “Recycling is a very simple habit to form and it's just about training yourself to look at every piece of trash and determine if it could be recycled instead.”

“I think the biggest thing I want is for the kids to see the world outside of themselves.”

and we've been able to take on more angels,” the advisor said. “This year we had the most angels we've ever had.”

Other efforts include Can the Principal – a canned food drive that involves walling off Principal Barb Green's office and taking the food to The Help Line food pantry – and raking leaves or shoveling snow.



A walk-a-thon is in the works and the group has done 5Ks before to raise money for a student with cancer or to give to a charity like Ronald McDonald House.

Members of student council get an opportunity to learn about helping

others while also having fun, something Nelson enjoys witnessing.

“I think my favorite reaction is when we go Angel Tree shopping at Target,” he said. “Normally when they go shopping, it's for themselves and this trip has absolutely nothing to do with them. I think they remember those things and see that they're not the center of the world.”



Auburn Counselor Goes Above and Beyond to Meet Student Needs

When Elizabeth Eyring goes to work, she makes it a point to have an open-door policy. The Auburn Elementary counselor is “there” for students with all types of needs.

“I meet with students both individually and in groups for things like anxiety or anger management,” she said. “If a student is struggling with anything individually at school or at home, I’ll meet with them.”

Eyring’s job is to be the go-to person for students whether they have what might be considered a small concern or if their life feels overwhelming. Finding ways to be there for students helps them have better focus in the classroom.

“The problems range in size for an adult, but for children, if they don’t know how to regulate how they’re feeling, their whole day is going to be thrown off. I see kids all day, whether it’s about something that happened that morning or something that happened three weeks ago.”

Finding ways to be there for students helps them have better focus in the classroom.

Eyring teaches guidance lessons to students from grades K-4 each week. She

also works with Community Action for Capable Youth (CACY) throughout the year. One person from CACY teaches third and fourth graders each Thursday for 10 weeks early in the year and another comes for 10 weeks later in the year.

Having a counselor at Auburn full-time is important when it comes to helping students learn the value of how their actions affect themselves and those they encounter daily.

“I try to cultivate an atmosphere of kindness; caring about themselves, caring about each other, and caring about their community,” said Eyring.



LEGO Education Grant Provides Math, Science, Writing and Problem Solving Learning

Late last summer, Dowds Elementary first-grade teacher Brittany Ream was informed she was awarded a LEGO Education product grant. The \$1,800 award funded the addition of 12 tubs of LEGO and instructions to turn the popular toys into learning for every conceivable subject in a first-grade classroom.

“There is a full LEGO pack that comes with it and there are different activities that you do,” said Ream. “You test different things, you look to see if you can build on your own and it’s centered around math and science principles, as well as engineering.”

“I love their interest and excitement as well as how it integrates all the subject areas together.”

The students also learn to problem solve, work together in pairs and groups and the project has had a huge effect on Ream’s writing instruction.

“It’s cool to watch them problem solve and process,” she said. “We’re also incorporating it with writing. Right now, we’re working on procedural writing; following steps like a how-to piece. This is so you can tell someone else how to do something.”

The idea of using a toy that many children have been exposed to in one way or another was appealing to Ream.

The students have really enjoyed working with LEGO and often ask Ream if it’s time to get the tubs out and dig in again, sometimes unaware about all they are learning.

“It just incorporates science, math and everything all in one activity,” Ream said. “I absolutely love their interest and excitement as well as how it integrates all the subject areas together.”



Shelby Science Teacher Provides Extra Opportunities For Students

Shelby High School provides opportunities for students who may want to explore work in the medical or other science-related fields. Linda Worley, who has taught Anatomy and Physiology and AP Biology at the school for 12 years offers an array of experiences that can help give her students a leg up when they enter college.

"I'm a tough teacher," she assured. "But I want my students to be able to compete with anyone. I care about them way beyond the Shelby High School walls."

Worley put in a request to purchase new microscopes two years ago but didn't get them. Then, last summer, while speaking to present Faith Robertson '09 into the school's Hall of Distinction, the teacher put out a call.

"I mentioned it at the Hall of Distinction and said, 'If any of you out there want to donate, that would be phenomenal,'" said Worley.

"We got more money than I asked for, all of it local," said Worley. "The kids are getting 16 scopes and one for me, with a trinocular – a camera – so I can put slides on it. I'll use the scopes for all three classes."

She also teaches at North Central State College and has many models on loan for her high school students to use.

"I don't think most kids know how developed our science programs are and how lucky we are to have the opportunities that we do," said senior Logen Cline. "And Mrs. Worley really opens it up for us. She wants us to be able to go out and do something. It really pushes you, but it also makes you such a better student and you learn so much more."

In addition to the borrowed models, Worley takes her students to the college, where they have access to many more models and even cadavers.

Worley also encourages her students to job shadow in the field they hope to one day work in and believes in using hands-on enquiry labs.

Many students find that their work in high school counts toward similar classes when they arrive at college, saving time and money in competitive programs.

For Worley, the work is truly a labor of love, as she's often referred to as "Mom" rather than "Mrs. Worley".

"I'm in touch with a lot of these kids years after they graduate," she said. "I truly care about them."



Fourth Grade Students Show School Leadership

This year, Dowds Elementary School Counselor Molly Fairchild joined Auburn Elementary's Elizabeth Eyring in forming a Fourth Grade Leadership Group. Interested students filled out an application in order to be considered.

"They had to get signatures from teachers and write a short essay on why they wanted to be a part of it," said Fairchild. "It's been kind of experimental so far. They were able to lead some things during our start to the school year with Hello Week."

"We had a Kindness Week, so they did some things for that and they helped with a food drive in November, loading food into cars. I

just try to use them where we can and give them some opportunities to be leaders."

Fairchild hopes to give fourth graders the opportunity to learn to be leaders both for their own benefit and to show younger students the importance of taking charge, especially since those in fourth grade are the oldest students in the schools.

There are currently 10 students taking part in the Leadership Group. Students are held to high standards of behavior and are expected to be good role models.

Fairchild hopes to see the process continue to evolve, with 20 students eventually eligible to take part.

"We are extremely fortunate to have a counselor in both of our elementary schools and to be able to offer a student leadership group like this," said Fairchild.

Students are held to high standards of behavior and are expected to be good role models.



Shelby City School District
25 High School Avenue
Shelby, Ohio 44875

Phone (419) 342-3520

Website: <https://www.shelbyk12.org/>

 @shelbywhippets

 @shelbywhippets

 shelbywhippets

Garden Lessons Extend to the Classroom, Dinner Table



“It’s a good way to learn scientific method because we’ve used trial and error on some things.”

her class. Each student has taken home a bag of lettuce for his/her family and they have eaten lettuce in the room.

The hope is that the tomatoes and basil yield enough that they can make spaghetti sauce and have a spaghetti lunch for all the third-grade classes at Dowds. If the garden yields as much as expected, Mullet may take the opportunity to teach her students about helping the surrounding community and giving some to Help Line, a local pantry.

Thanks to a grant from the Richland County Foundation, Carol Mullet is teaching her third-grade students at Dowd Elementary a bushel of lessons with the help of an in-class Tower Garden.

“It’s a vertical garden,” she explained. “It grows up, so it uses a lot less space. It doesn’t use soil; there’s actually rockwool cubes that the seeds grow in and then it uses an aeroponic system of water that makes it almost like rain falling inside the tower.”

The tower is fitted with lights to simulate sunlight – although

people use the gardens outdoors in metropolitan areas and don’t use the lights – and the water gets minerals and nutrients added to overcome the absence of soil.

The class has experimented with many plants, trying to find the best fit for an indoor garden.

“It’s a good way to learn scientific method because we’ve used trial and error on some things,” she said. “They’ve learned that some plants need more space than others. They were fascinated when we took out our lettuce because it had gone through its cycle and we had to plant fresh seeds. The root system inside was unbelievable.”

But the garden has also provided a way to connect the students in

The garden will be used well beyond this year, which makes it an excellent use of the Richland County Foundation’s resources.

“I think that was part of them being willing to fund this project. They saw the value in how long it will last,” Mullet said. “I have enough supplies to last several years and the PTO has agreed to buy any extra nutrients that we would need if we run out. They’re awesome. But we’re still on the starter that it came with and I have two big jugs left, so we’ll have enough left for multiple years.”