

Fort Hayes Opus

Volume 7 Issue 2 October 2024 Organized

The mission of Fort Hayes is to create expectations of excellence within students through challenging and collaborative learning by blending the arts, academic and career programs.



Friday Fiestas – hosted during lunch throughout Hispanic Heritage month – are fun for both students and staff!

School Organizing Tips to Start the Year Strong

By Ann Dolin

There's that famous quote that holds true in almost every area of life: "80% of success is showing up."

For our purposes, though, let's amend it slightly: *80% of school success is showing up AND staying organized.*

I've worked with tremendously gifted students for whom learning came easy, but their performance in school did not reflect their true abilities. I've also worked with many students over the years who struggled to pick new things up but managed to keep at it, stay motivated, and achieve success. Surprisingly, it's organization that usually makes or breaks students' level of success in school because it's one of those "cornerstone" habits that impacts almost every other area in their academic lives.

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Main Number (614) 365-6681

High School Office

7:00 am – 3:30 pm

<https://www.ccsch.us/FortHayesHS>

Office 380-977-5640

forthayeshs@columbus.k12.oh.us

Attendance 380-977-6024

attendance.fhsarts@columbus.k12.oh.us

School Counselors:

Gillman: class of '27 & class of '25 (O-Z)
380-997-6186

Palmer: class of '26 & class of '25 (G-N)
380-997-5395

Plesea: class of '28 & class of '25 (A-F)
380-997-3410

Career Center Office

7:00 am – 3:30 pm

<https://www.ccsch.us/FortHayesCC>

Office 380-977-6050

fhcc@columbus.k12.oh.us

Attendance 380-977-6139

attendance.ffccc@columbus.k12.oh.us

School Counselors:

Bryant: Health and Performing Arts
380-977-4890

Matunas: Visual and Construction Arts
380-977-6052

Main Offices

High School in Building 101

Career Center in CAATC & Health

Career Center Highlight:

Habitat for Humanity MidOhio joins City of Columbus and Fort Hayes MEC in partnership to build homes

In the next few years, two Columbus families will move into new homes that will be built by construction trades students from the Fort Hayes Career Center. Habitat for Humanity MidOhio today announced that it has partnered with Fort Hayes to provide students with hands-on homebuilding and construction experience. The two homes will be built on City-owned lots located on Old Leonard Avenue, near the schools' campus. Habitat expects to begin construction on the first home fall 2025 and the second in 2026.

The Habitat partnership provides students with work-based learning opportunities and will introduce students to the work that Habitat is doing to increase affordable homeownership opportunities. Habitat also announced that beginning spring 2025, students will be able to work at sites where new homes will be under construction. This partnership will be exciting, as it will allow the partnership between Habitat for Humanity-MidOhio and Ft. Hayes students to be re-established and strengthened.

The partnership announcement came during a Department of Building and Zoning Services-Fort Hayes partnership event, "BZS Day." The event introduces students to building inspectors who spend the day with students who are learning to become electricians, HVAC techs, construction workers, and other skilled tradespersons.

Check out the full article from [CCS](#), the [Columbus Dispatch](#) or watch news coverage from [NBC](#).



Organizing Tips...

Set up a regular school "check-in" time

Set up a regular meeting time with your son or daughter to talk each week about assignments, what's going on in class, upcoming tests, and any other concerns they might have. This shouldn't be a lecture, so frame it as a conversation: "Can we set aside a few minutes to talk each week about school?" And leave it open for them to discuss how they're feeling and what they would like to see you do better.

Set up a homework routine

Making the best use of time after school can be a BIG struggle, especially for busy families. Your kids just finished sitting in class all day, and the last thing that they want to be thinking about is studying and homework. First, set a regular start time to help avoid the "I'll do it later" syndrome. And consider scheduling some downtime after school or other activities to give your student a break. For high schoolers, it's hard to tell them exactly when they have started, but using one of those "blocks" as a general rule can help curb the late-night stress of realizing it's time for bed and their homework isn't done.

Keep homework contained

Another problem that crops up during homework time is the seeming explosion of papers and books and binders all across the house. So first off, make sure you've designated at least one to two spots in your home where your child can complete their homework and try to stick to them. This will help eliminate some of the clutter if you have a space cleared off already. For older students in middle or high school, you can try helping to set up their backpack so that it permanently holds all of the supplies they'll need to do their homework on a regular basis. This will also allow them to do homework during study hall, breaks, at the library, after practice, etc.

Get everything ready the night before

Now a lot of the family energy during the school week is spent on the mornings, making sure that everybody is ready to go and out the door on time. But as they say, a truly productive morning starts the night before. So instead of leaving everything until the morning of, a great way to stay organized is to do things like packing backpacks the night before, making sure that all assignments are there and ready to go, and making lunches the night before. You can even put it all together into a basket or in a specific spot next to the door each time, something we call "The Launching Pad."

Improve the sleep schedule

A big part of staying organized is actually having enough focus during the day to make sure that you remember assignments, that papers go in the right places, and you have the ability to sit down without distraction and study or do homework on time. And probably the number one contributing factor to that is getting enough sleep at night. A great way to do this is to set an electronics curfew and enforce an hour of quiet time before bed for winding down. This may not be a popular decision, but they'll thank you when they're not dragging when they get out of bed the next morning.

“School Organizing Tips...” concluded

Schedule a weekly “Clean Sweep”

Although kids don't have the paper flow they once had, kids are still bringing things home from school and still need a system. This is a time when you can file papers into labeled folders. Even the most organized among us tend to build up clutter over time, no matter how hard we try. A great way to combat this is to schedule a 20-minute pre-arranged session each week where everyone in the house drops what they're doing to clean and get organized. Not only will this help your kids stay on track with their school organization efforts, but will also help foster a sense of family involvement so that it's not just that your child is being singled out. They can see you and other members of the family doing the same.

Archive old assignments

Along those same lines, your kids are also going to have a buildup of old papers and assignments that aren't necessarily relevant to what they're doing in school right now. Archiving all assignments should be a regular part of your organization routine. A great rule of thumb is to make sure that you're keeping old tests and quizzes and then tossing everything else. That way, if there are any cumulative tests throughout the year, your child will be able to reference back to previous questions to study and will know which areas they need to work on where they may have gotten marked off previously.

With your child, check a calendar or agenda book

It's incredible the impact just getting something down on paper or in a digital calendar can have. For students in high school, a digital calendar or an agenda book should be the official holding place of all things important. Students can also maintain their own digital calendar or paper agenda to keep track of what homework is due, what tests are coming up, projects or after-school activities, and anything else that's important to remember each day. Then once it's in their calendar or agenda, it's going to be easier for your student to figure out how to schedule a time to complete their assignments based on when they're due and how important they are. I often encourage students to write everything down on a weekly calendar when they hold their weekly “check-in” with their parents.

Stay consistent

Many families start off the school year by making a real effort to establish great organizational procedures. But as the months go by, inevitably, many of these new school year habits just don't stick. Staying consistent is tough, but it's crucial for your child's academic success.

Although these are just a few organization techniques that you can apply to your kids' schoolwork and other activities, they can have a huge impact if used regularly. That being said, there are a virtually unlimited number of organization ideas you can try, so don't feel limited to just this list. Use it as a starting point that experiment and customize for what makes sense for your family.

Red Tailed Defender Acknowledgement



Mr. Eric Burns has just entered his second year of the teaching profession and is more raring to go than ever for a great year. He has made great progress in enhancing the high school theatre department at Fort Hayes to a new level with captivating set, light, and costume designs, and only hopes he can help students reach even greater heights in the world of theatre this year. Aside from the theatre department, Mr. Burns is also excited to be the new faculty representative for the student council, and hopes he can foster a professional and progressive environment for the school through them as well. Overall, he feels that there are many strides to be taken in order to bring forth the dedication and effort he hopes to see from students, but has already caught glimpses of that from his students this school year. He is very appreciative of this nomination, and hopes to continue striving for success as a teacher, faculty member, and community leader of Fort Hayes!

Lewis Drafton from Fort Hayes High School is a dedicated and passionate musician inspired by his father. He began his musical journey playing drums at a young age, often performing at church alongside his cousin. When his cousin went to college, he was excited to play all the songs by himself until 8th grade. Lewis then shifted his focus to the piano, discovering his talent while experimenting on an old keyboard in his basement. He quickly taught himself chords and composed his first song, eventually mastering pieces like "Isn't She Lovely" and "Claustrophobic" by PJ Morton.

A highlight of his musical career was performing with the school band "Investments" at a recent concert, an experience made memorable by the camaraderie backstage and the excitement of the performance. Additionally, his participation in the Summer Jazz Academy at Lincoln Center in New York significantly advanced his skills, teaching him the importance of quick learning and ear training.

Lewis is motivated by his love for music, constantly analyzing songs he enjoys and incorporating their elements into his playing. His ultimate goal is to win a Grammy, and he continually works on improving his technique, overcoming challenges like finger exercises through dedicated practice. His journey exemplifies perseverance and passion for music.



You can find the Family Ambassador Newsletter [here](#)

School Calendar

Friday, October 11

Shot Tower Gallery Pop Up Show: Latino
Heritage Month through October 12

Saturday, October 12

Saturday School
8:00 – 12:00 pm

Thursday, October 17

Principal's Show

Friday, October 18

Professional Development Day for Staff
no school for students

Senior Hayride

Tuesday, October 22

End of Quarter 1

Wednesday, October 23

Records Day
no school for students

Thursday, October 24

Shot Tower Gallery Region 1 Teachers Show –
with student pieces through December 12

Shot Tower Show Opening 6:00 pm

Friday, October 25

Fort Hayes Dance Department Performance
Performing Arts Auditorium 7:00 pm

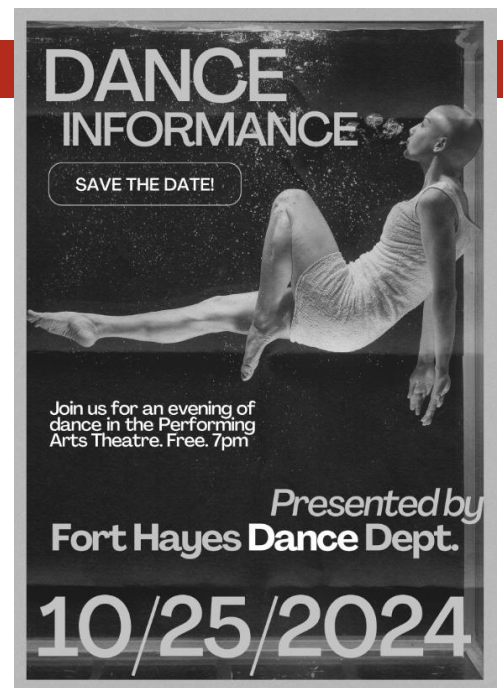
Saturday, October 26

Saturday School
8:00 – 12:00 pm

Driving Simulator Lab
8:00 – 12:00 pm

Friday, November 1

Career Center Honor Roll Assembly



BE EXCELLENT.
BE THE EXCEPTION.
BE FORT HAYES.

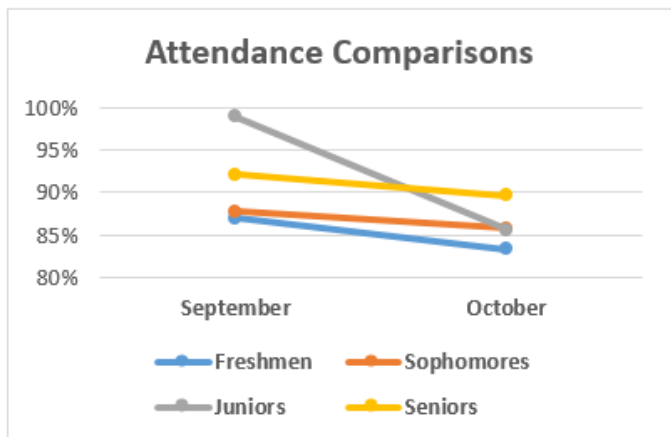
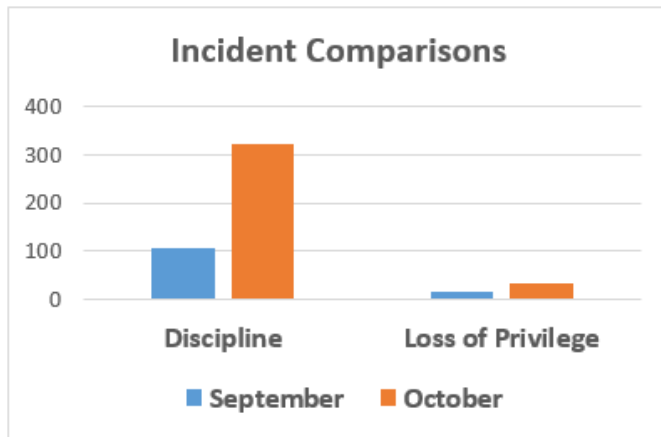
Focused
Organized
Resourceful
Teachable

Hardworking
Artistic
Yearlong
Engaged
Scholarly



Parent Page

PBIS Trending Data



News you Need to Know:

Your **Parent Portal** account allows you to access the following information on your student(s) teacher contacts, grades and course schedules, daily attendance, missed assignments, fees and how to pay them, as well as paperless applications (for school choice, summer school and career tech).

Parent Portal Annual Update

The Annual Update can be accessed in the Parent Portal by clicking "More" and then "Annual Update."

Forgot Your Password? Email: parentportalaccess@columbus.k12.oh.us

Overview of the Portal and the Mobile App

Important New Security Measures for CCS Sporting Events

Columbus City Schools is committed to ensuring the safety of our students, staff, and visitors. As we begin the new school year and the fall sports season, we want to inform you of new security measures that will be in place starting with our first football games in August.

All spectators will be processed through a single-entry point using EVOLV High-Speed Weapons Detection Systems to enhance safety.

Key guidelines include:

- Student IDs: Required for entry.
- Middle School Students: Must be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian.
- Bag Restrictions: No bags larger than 5x8 inches, and no strollers allowed.
- Ticket Sales: No admission or ticket purchases after the third quarter.
- New this year, admission or ticket purchases will be prohibited after the end of the third quarter. Spectators are also prohibited from re-entering after leaving the facility.

We appreciate your cooperation in following these measures to ensure a secure and enjoyable experience for everyone. Your support is vital to maintaining a safe environment.