



SOARING EAGLES NEWSLETTER

LEARN, BECOME, LEAD

Spring Edition

April 2021

Principal's News:

Happy Spring Sherwood MS. Welcome to the April issue of our newsletter. It has been very busy since our students returned to school. I know many of our families have had anxiety about them returning, however, I can assure you our SOARING Eagles have done just fine.

We welcomed back our critical needs students first. They were in the building for a few weeks by themselves. They adapted very quickly to having to come to school and develop a new routine. The teachers and Instructional Assistants made their transition run smoothly.

We then welcomed our 6th graders back the week of March 15th. You could tell many students were unsure and very nervous. As you know, this was the first time they had been inside our school. The staff welcomed them by "clapping them in" as they made their way to 1st period class on their first cohort day. The 6th grade team, as well as all our staff did an incredible job of making sure each student not only followed the COVID protocols we put in place, but knew exactly what to do and where to go.

Lastly, we welcomed our 7th and 8th graders back the week of March 22nd. We hadn't seen them in a whole year! Many of them I personally didn't recognize, as they had grown taller and looked so much more mature than the last time we'd seen them. It was so good to catch up with them and simply to have them back physically with us.

All grade levels and cohorts have done a wonderful job following the protocols and being safe. Everyone is making the necessary adjustments pretty well and students are starting to feel a little more at home. What used to be normal to all of us is no more. A new normal is being created and because of our staff and the support of our families, I believe we will make the transition just fine.

Please know your students and our staff safety is our number one priority. Though we are not allowing visitors in the building this school year, if you ever have a question or concern, please reach out to an administrator. We thank you all for your continued support and look forward to sharing our new normal with you soon. From our family to yours, we wish you all a very Happy Easter and safe Spring break!

Principal Evans

Important DATES at THE WOOD:

Wednesdays:

Building will be closed for cleaning
Asynchronous learning days

April 1st:

Asynchronous Learning Day

April 2nd - April 9th:

Spring Break (no school)

April 12th:

Classes resume

April 15th & 16th:

Cohort B: ELA
Ohio State testing

April 19th - April 23rd:

8th grade Science
Ohio State testing

April 26th - April 30th:

6-8th grade Mathematics
Ohio State Testing

****Make up test will take place throughout the scheduled testing days ****

News from our NURSE:

<https://www.columbus.gov>

Please continue to send in your child's immunization records as you get them, especially those in 7th grade.

You can fax to Sherwood (614-365-8351) or you can take a photo of the record and email it to the nurse- mco-lombo@columbus.k12.oh.us.

Thank you for your help in this!

Stay safe everyone- wash your hands and stay at home as much as you can. We miss you all and can't wait to be in person again!

Nurse Colombo

S.O.A.R. Students of the Month

February

Malik Skinner	Nyree Johnson	Adam Negassi
Matthew Rogers	Keyshawn Prater	Puspa Poudydel
Nayyirah Love	Javien Collins	Elian Sandoval-Nonato
Ayderus Ahmed	Jac'Ques Bole-Jones	
Slayed Chambers	Kaylie Goines	WAY to GO EAGLES!



Our Family Ambassador: **Tiffany Brannon** has created a space for us to share announcements, events, activities, community resources and more! Here is the link to join our family engagement Facebook group **CLICK BELOW** to Join



Counseling Corner:

Ms. Locke

The Panorama Spring Survey window will be open April 12th-April 30th. The survey will be open to all students, families, and staff. Be on the lookout for more information!

<https://sites.google.com/columbus.k12.oh.us/>

FAMILY OUTREACH:

Mayor Ginther announced the Columbus CARES Act Utility Bill Assistance Program, which offers a one-time credit of up to \$750 towards an eligible water/sewer/storm-water bill and/or up to \$500 towards an eligible City of Columbus electric bill. Below is the link to the application. Please share with families.

To be eligible for the assistance, applicants must have an active City of Columbus water, sewer or power account for their residence in their name or their spouse's name, be at least 90 days delinquent in payment, and meet at least one of the following requirements:

- Household income less than 150% of the current U.S. Bureau of Census federal poverty level
- Currently enrolled in a qualifying low-income program with Department of Utilities
- Proof of job loss or reduction in income due to the pandemic

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/4758dbfaaa2d455fb9aaa4104ddd7b565>

Find us on: **facebook**



Café News:

Fuel Up!

School Breakfast Menu

served daily (M - F) at 6:50am

School Lunch menus

CLICK on the Fuel UP app





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"Hello Sherwood Middle School Community!!

My name is Mr. Youmans! Our new Choir and Vocal Music Program is off to an AMAZING start, despite the challenges surrounding the health crisis! We had a successful fundraiser in the first semester, where our campaign got fully funded in just a few days!! We received a new boombox system, ambient lighting, and other items to make the classroom tech-savvy.

We have a new YouTube Channel! I use this space to share the work that the students are doing in class. Please consider subscribing so you can see all the AMAZING talent that the students have! We produce our own music on SoundTrap (Digital Audio Workstation) and make song covers. One 7th grade student even started their own YouTube Channel to share their music! I am very proud of you, Sergio! The links to the channels are below!

Sherwood Middle School Music - YouTube

SVG Music (student channel) - YouTube

After visiting our YouTube Channel, please consider supporting our new fundraiser! I seek only to inspire my students as well as innovate and perpetuate the tradition of music in our country. I cannot do this alone! My vision realized for the program would look like this: Creating music videos and recording performances on our YouTube Channel using the Anafi Parrot Drone, improving instructional quality by using modern technology such as the iPad (I'm currently using a computer with low CPU power and none of the modern features which enhance learning like touchscreen, Bluetooth, etc.), traveling around the city (and abroad!) to perform and uplift our community, and have meaningful experiences that will grow their muscles of empathy, service, and perseverance. Thank you for considering our fundraiser! See the link below:

The Modern American Music Classroom Fundraiser

I encourage all teachers, staff, students, and parents, to come in and have a good time with us singing and making music! Bring your talents and abilities, and let's win the world to Harmony!

in Peace,

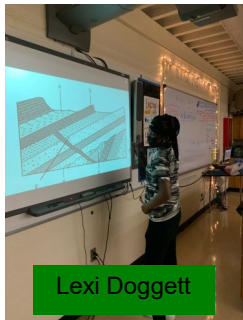
Mr. Youmans

8th Grade Spotlight:

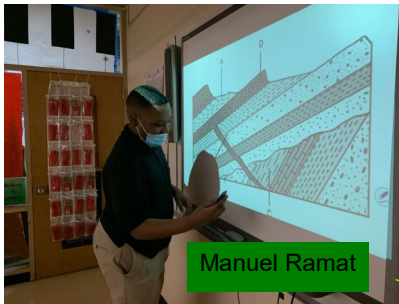
Students met their Achieve 3000 Goals for the 3rd Quarter! Way be leading Eagles here at Sherwood! Keep up the great work 8th Grade & FINISH STRONG

Darrian Jallow	Lexi Doggett	Brandon Rice
Neko Henry	Oshawna Lee	Simon Tekle
Alexia Perry	Aminata Bah	Gabriel Arnold
Ge'Nijah Varner	Rebekah Booker	Jai'Quan Moore
	Nikita Diyali	

Students in Miss Irvin's class taking on a real leadership role as they teach the class about the geologic timescale



Lexi Doggett



Manuel Ramat

Editor's Column -message to Families-

WELCOME BACK EAGLES

It has been such a pleasure to see the students in our hallways again. We surely missed all of their beautiful minds and spirits. They are transitioning well and beginning to get back into the groove!

Spring Break is upon us and we want to remind families as we return back to the building after spring break we will be in FULL EFFECT of Ohio State Testing.

Students are ALWAYS encouraged to eat a well balanced breakfast, get plenty of rest (8 hours, minimum), and do some calming exercises if they find themselves with anxiety during these moments! Be still, well, and mindful as we are embarking on the final days of the school year! Hope everyone has an enjoyable SPRING BREAK!!

**If you would like to add to our newsletter.....

Email information to:

charman@columbus.k12.oh.us

-Mrs. Harman

Library Lowdown:

Sadly students will not be able to freely browse the library this year to find just the right book, BUT they may place a hold in Destiny or email me and I will deliver books to their home-room!

Return books can be dropped off in homeroom library bins!!

Contact the Library:

sroelling@columbus.k12.oh.us

P.B.I.S.

Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports

Next event will be held on Wednesday April 21st @ 1PM

A private link will be shared to students' google classroom

Students needed 400 points by 3/24 and ALL qualifying students will be sent home with a "snack pack box" to enjoy during the event

Disney Pixar's: Onward

Will be shown via Zoom 4/21/21 @ 1PM

Athletics:

We are working with the district to solidify plans for SPRING SPORTS!!

Spring Sports are open to all 7th & 8th grade students

If students are interested in Spring Sports such as Baseball, Softball, or Track & Field, please reach out to our coaches to notify them of your interest. All students MUST HAVE a current physical to participate along with additional paperwork from coaches. Contact information listed below for participation in Spring Sports!

Baseball with Coach Smith - rsmith2@columbus.k12.oh.us

Softball with Coach D - dford2@columbus.k12.oh.us

Track & Field with Coach Weaver - rweaver2831@columbus.k12.oh.us





BLM Movement: Racism in the USA

By Karisma Washington

Fourth Place Winner

“We Are What We Remember”

Franklin County Contest

A fact that we all know is that racism has very deep roots in this country. In the USA we haven't run by equal or fair, and we still fully don't. The ones who don't abide by these customs are labeled abnormal and outcasts from society, even killed in some situations. Over the centuries the battle of freedom was won and most black people were free from slavery. They still didn't see us as equal, so we kept on fighting. To keep fighting to be respected and acknowledged as human beings- an equal. A living thing that should not be looked down on, but across from. They say “All men were created equal.” When that phrase started, they weren't talking about black men. They weren't talking about women or black women. So to be sure when they say that phrase they are including black people. They are including the black community and all that it brings. So we are here now in 2020 again fighting for our rights. On May 25, 2020, the day that George Floyd died of police brutality, and when black people took another rise for themselves, the fighters before them, and for the change in their future, history was made.

Firstly, I would like to explain that BLM stands for Black Lives Matter. The main goals of the movement are to eradicate white supremacy, anti-black violence, police brutality, and all racially motivated violence against black people. The movement started in July 2013 using a hashtag on social media called #BlackLivesMatter. It was after the acquittal of George Zimmerman in the shooting death of Trayvon Martin, an African-American teen. Now before George's death happened, 2020 wasn't going very well. Coronavirus had broken out, and people were scared and were getting ready for lockdown. I was personally worried about me and my sibling's education and how my parents were going to settle with this since they move around a lot. As time passed, news about the death of George Floyd spread. People were angry, and they had enough of the injustice going on. So wherever they could, they took to the streets of cities and protested. It started off peacefully, but then it took a predictable turn and groups had started to riot. While that was happening, my family and I had alerts on our devices saying for nobody to come downtown, and that we should stay in our homes. On my phone, I could see videos on the news of police throwing tear gas and protesters with signs shouting “I can't breathe” (The slogan “I can't breathe” originated from the last words of Eric Garner, an unarmed black man who was killed in 2014 after being put in a chokehold by New York City Police). My older sibling had a friend who was downtown while the protests and riots happened and got tear-gassed with the crowd. I saw videos and pictures of police in regular uniforms and protective suits throwing tear gas and pushing back the crowd with their shields. I saw protesters on their knees while holding signs and rioters breaking glass on stores. I saw news of the coronavirus cases getting higher and higher. In those moments all I can think of is “The world is ending.” Those moments were some of the scariest moments in my life. I knew I was safe in my home, but I feared for the police. I feared for the innocent protesters. I feared for the people who had the virus. It has died down a bit now, but in different parts of the world, it is still happening. We are still fighting for equality. Just more virtually now because we don't need more people getting sick.

At this point, I believe that with every challenge comes a new opportunity. We have fought this long to where we can't stop now. We can't back down because every day someone is targeted or looked down upon because of their skin color. Tomorrow is not guaranteed and yesterday is in the past. So we must make a change now. We can't let this go on and I hopefully wish for it not to happen to anyone ever again. Unfortunately, we know this will continue well past 2020. The year 2020 will be remembered for those connected to the Black Lives Matter Movement as the year the world joined the movement.

BLACK HISTORY
24/7/365



Injustice

By Keivon Ragland
Racism in the US and the Black Lives Matter Movement

As we all know, 2020 has brought some terrible predicaments and caused a lot of panic, but I will be focusing on some of the many social injustices towards the black and brown community which had come to its climate in 2020. George Floyd was killed unjustifiably by 4 cops on the street just because he was said to have bought items with a counterfeit 20 dollar bill. Someone had put their phone to use and recorded the confrontation while George Floyd was being dragged out of the car and held to the ground with a knee to his neck for almost nine minutes, killing him.

Then there's another case where Breonna Taylor was shot in her own home by three officers in plain clothes. Confusing Breonna Taylor and her boyfriend who had a legal gun as they fired. He fired back, their shots were fatal and killed Breonna, and they never had the ambulance try to supply her with the help she needed.

I think that this will change everything because I think the law will change for the cops will not be able to come into houses in normal clothes while on duty because that could cause an even worse situation than it needs to. I also think that there will be a law passed saying that if so all victims of anything that caused harm to them will have to be seen by medical staff and that there will have to be an ambulance on site.

Now that all of these things haven't been silenced, and they are opening up I think this will encourage anyone else who is in a confrontation with the law, and they think that they are wrong. Some police forces have changed the way they train their officers to be biased and work off what the skin color of the “suspect” is and that could help and change a bunch of confrontations. In that case, there would be fewer deaths of black and brown people, so they can be with their families and live their life to their fullest and then black and brown people won't have to look over their shoulders and worry if they can come outside or not.

I feel as though it is unfair that black and brown families have to tell their next generation that we will never be treated the same as everyone else just because of what is on the outside and that try not to get into a confrontation with the cops. They fear that they will be the next person on the news dead because they were black. I watch the news and I feel every week there is a dead black person on the news because they had gone and was flashing or pulled a “gun” towards officers, and the cops felt the need to pull the trigger and shot that person if not once but multiple times and then when they search them they say that they “accidentally” mistook a bright yellow phone case for a gun then they get took off the hook just because that victim was “acting suspicious” and that's ok to that officer for what they did.

I'm not saying that all cops are bad, but I feel that too many are flawed officers in the police force that have a long record of being prejudiced and causing a horrible scene. I also think that if an officer has a record of being biased that they should be at least pulled off the field for a period of time until they decide to do the right thing and if they don't then just don't let them be on the field at all and that is just my point of view. All of this shows the injustice that the Black Lives Matter movement stands up against.