



SOARING EAGLES NEWSLETTER

LEARN, BECOME, LEAD

Special Edition

March 2021

Principal's News:

This special issue of our Sherwood MS newsletter is a celebration of Black History Month. All February long our staff and students participated in classroom lessons, heard facts, listened to music, and broadened their young horizons as it centered around the past, present, and future of Black History.

We are excited to share with you a little of what took place during the month. Our staff and students did an excellent job of remembering those in our past, highlighting those in our present, and giving students vision into the future. We hope this issue allows all of you to also celebrate and not just for the month, but all throughout the year. Black History is all of our history – it's American history.

As our Sherwood scholars continue to shape their lives, we hope that what they experienced in February will allow them to dream big, hope with all their heart, and never ever give up, regardless of how hard the road traveled may seem. We encourage families to continue to celebrate anyone that has influenced positivity into others, and has lit a path for our youngsters to continue to grow.

We hope you enjoy this special issue. Thank you in advance for joining us on this journey.

Sheila A. Evans
Principal



IMAGE: EVINFINITE/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

Important DATES at THE WOOD:

Wednesdays:

Building will be closed for cleaning
NO in-person learning
(asynchronous learning day)

Mar 10th & Mar 17th:

Parent Meeting for Return to School 1PM - [Zoom \(CLICK HERE\)](#)

Mar 15th & Mar 18th:

Return to School for 6th grade students (Cohort A – 15th & B-18th)

Mar 22nd & Mar 25th:

Return to School for 7th & 8th grade (Cohort A-22nd A & B-25th)

Mar 23rd:

END OF 3rd QUARTER

Grade Cards available 3/26 in IC

Mar 24th:

No School (Records Day)

Apr 2nd - Apr 9th:

Spring Break

****Please stay tuned for further****
information regarding our Ohio State Testing for English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science as dates become available

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

Black Lives Matter

Create a Protest Poster

By Ms. Enoch's 8th Grade ELA Classes



Counseling Corner:

Ms. Locke

Hello from your School Social Worker!

I am available to provide social emotional support and share resources with students and families. Please visit my website for community resources and how to contact me.

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



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/4758cbf9aa2d455fb9aa4104ddd7b565>

Café News:

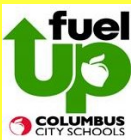
Fuel Up!

School Breakfast Menu

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

School Lunch menus

CLICK on the Fuel UP app





A Message from 8th Grade House A

-Dr. Workman & Ms. Harris

We would like to congratulate the following students on keeping up with their ALEKS and Achieve thus far for Quarter 3:

- **ALEKS:** Dylan Demus, JaOnna Lawrence, Neveah Tuttle, Jacques Boles-Jones, Rhyann Mattox, and Sattyn Medley.
- **Achieve:** Daniyah Atkinson, Ne-yo Henry, Ja'Onna Lawrence, Jac'Ques Boles-Jones, Dylan Demus, Malachi Kahaulelio

Great job - keep reading and learning math!

In class:

- In ELA, we are starting our last formal essay project of the year - this one is called "The G.O.A.T. Project" (Greatest of All Time).. Students need to research two notable people in an area of their choice and write an essay arguing that one of them deserves an MVP award. This essay includes a counter-argument. Writing a solid argument essay is something that 8th graders should definitely have the ability to do before they reach high school - this is a really valuable skill to learn!
- In SS, we are learning about the Revolutionary War. History is a story, and everyone plays a part in it. The American Revolution was a pivotal time in history, and it's pretty interesting! We are still playing ClassCraft and so some of students' SS assignments are grouped and organized into Quests, where students can earn XP (experience points) and GP (gold pieces) for completing the work. They can then use these to purchase equipment and pets for their avatars and also add to their character's powers!
- In mathematics we will continue to work on linear equations for the next week or so and then we will be taking our post test on this unit which includes linear equations, slope, and y-intercept. Students always have access to the book online to review if they wish to do so. We will then move on, studying functions and systems of linear equations. If your student does not have a hard copy of the book, you can set up a time through Sherwood to come up and get one. It is nice to have the hard copy so when we take notes/go over examples from the book, students have something to write in.
- In science we are finishing up our unit on plate tectonics. We will take a post assessment next week on this unit. Students have the ability to study using the notes we have taken in google classroom and looking back at our online textbook via ck12.org. We will study constructive and destructive forces that shape Earth followed by the Geologic Time Scale, which looks at how Earth has changed through the lens of the geologic record.

Below are a few reminders for 8th grade students:

- Please have your student show you their grades on Infinite Campus to see if your student is actually turning in work. Additionally, they can show you the work they have completed on Google Classroom (they can click on the actual work to show you answers, so that you know it wasn't just turned in "blank" with nothing on it). There are also some PDF files on Ms. Workman's Google Classroom with screenshots of what the student view of the platforms should look like and where to look/where to click to see what students have done.
- Most students are now coming to the zoom sessions, but there are a number of students still not participating, turning in assignments, or even starting on them during class time. There are also a number of students not responding to the teacher either verbally or in the chat. Merely logging on for zoom sessions does NOT mean your student is doing work, or even listening/paying attention! We are already halfway through the third quarter, and we really need students to engage with their learning and assignments in order to learn and be successful!
- Administration and teachers met with all 8th grade House A students during first period class on February 9, 2021.. We discussed expectations for zooming, class attendance, and assignment completion, and also outlined the requirements for promotion and the promotion ceremony. Please ask your student about these requirements. Whether we are back in the building or not, we are planning end-of-the-year festivities for students who qualify to attend!
- Finally, thank you to all of the parents who have been involved and supportive this year. Our students have been very polite this year while on zoom (although some should be attending more often and doing much more work - see above!) and we hope that we will have the chance to meet them in person sometime this year! Thank you very much for your continued encouragement and engagement, and know that we appreciate you. It takes a village!

Editor's Column -message to Families-

A big shout out to our Students for all their significant creations for this Special Edition of our Black History Month Newsletter.

A special Thank You to all our Teachers and Staff for all their efforts in making this Black History Month memorable for our Sherwood Family.

If you have something you would like to share with our Sherwood Eagles and their families, please feel free to send photos, literature, or resources at any time!

As we welcome more students back to our building, we are looking forward to all the new growth our students will continue to make as we near the final stretch of the school year. Be well & Be blessed!

Email information to:

charman@columbus.k12.oh.us

-Mrs. Harman

Library Lowdown:

Black History Month:

In honor of Black History Month, everything in Library Lowdown will be BHM related. Look out for virtual field trips, books (of course), links to live lessons and activities, and so much more.

[10 Little Known Black History Facts](#)

Check out the Collections from National Museum of African American History and Culture

CLICK on the LINKS below to explore

[African Americans at NASA](#)

[George Washington Carver](#)

[Henrietta Lacks](#)

[Dr. Charles Drew](#)

[Onesimus](#)

[Black Arts Movement of 1960's-70's](#)

[Analyzing Images: Everyday Essential Workers](#)

[African American Historians of the 19th and Early 20th Centuries](#)

[James Baldwin: The Transatlantic Commuter](#)

Contact the Library:

sroelling@columbus.k12.oh.us

P.B.I.S.

Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports

Our next event will be held in-person, look for more details to come

Athletics:

Suspension of Athletics and In-Person Extracurricular Activities

UNTIL FUTHER NOTICE.....

More information to come with the announcement of in-person learning!!

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

January

Jordan Taylor

Khari Jones

Oliad Geda

Cameron Hart

Willie Poindexter

Dontaevious Wall

JeriMaya Jackson

James Campbell

Sarha Green

Rhyann Mattox

Simon Tekle

Kayla Rogers

Blessing Messan

Taylor Vivens

WAY to GO EAGLES!



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Student Poetry Edition

Monster By Jalil Pierce

Monster monster they say
 Skin dark as the midnight sky
 Born with beautiful brown skin
 But somehow came to hate it
 Why couldn't I have pale skin like them
 A void swallows her up
 An emptiness
 She feels as though her skin defines her
 She prayed to God every night saying
 Why god do I gotta struggle pain
 Her skin glows in the day
 As she cries at night
 Am I really a monster?

Melanin By Jalil Pierce and Erick Clark-Thelmas

We've been defined as monster
 this reality cursed us
 Our skin is beautiful
 But we are treated as a demon
 They hate our brown skin
 They beat us
 We've been killed
 They take our lives
 We all can change for the better
 Reality needs to change
 We aren't defined by our skin
 We are more than melanin

Beautiful Brown Skin By Jalil Pierce

Strong amazing Black people
 The melanin runs deep in our blood
 They fear us cause of the skin we have
 The melanin in skin doesn't identify us
 We've been beaten black and blue cause of our skin
 Being stopped by the cops for your skin
 This cruel reality put us in a box
 We will break out of this box
 We are strong
 We are amazing
 We are black

Journey to the US By: Caleb Jallabah

I was born in Liberia, West Africa. Liberia is a beautiful country that borders the Atlantic Ocean in the South. My journey with my family all began when my parents decided to give us kids a better life and opportunity. Their decision was based on our country slowly recovering from 15 years of Civil Crisis that caused so much setbacks- educationally, economically, etc.

Before migrating to the US, we lived 20 miles away from Monrovia, the capital city. My sisters attended an all girl's school and my brother and I were placed in a school close to home. The United States government years ago established a Diversity Immigrant Visa Program (a lottery process) for developing countries to grant families the right to stay in the US as permanent residents once they passed the interview process.

In the event of applying for the lottery, the western African region was badly hit by the Ebola virus which shut down schools and caused the city to come to a stand still. This virus took so many lives including an entire family but thank God my family was saved. Due to the outbreak the U.S embassy closed and when it reopened the process continued.

My parents believed that coming to the United States will give us kids vast career opportunities, better health care services and better education. Also, they give up their careers, their way of life and all they had accomplished in Africa just for us. For the first six months to a year in the US we had a hard time adjusting to the new environment, system and a way of life. It took some time getting used to the new culture and environment, however, we are reminded all the time by our parents of our culture and to remember where we came.

Our goal is to positively contribute to this society that has allowed us to be apart. Also to contribute in whatever way we can to our birth country-Liberia.



Hatred/Monster By Jalil Pierce

Hate run deep inside of all our bones
 I look myself in the eyes and say don't go blind from this reality
 We're treated differently but we are all the same
 We are all no more than monster
 We die and then we protest it doesn't change
 No matter how much we try
 All we get back is despair
 Like Martin said he had a dream
 But his dream may never become a reality
 We riot and destroy things
 But we never think about the people who own it
 They would kill us in a instant with no reason
 And put our death off
 I guess we are all the same
 Monsters





Student Perspectives on Black History



Click on the IMAGES to link directly to student projects and websites!

Black History month project



By: Darthaniel Hamilton

American culture + Ethiopian culture



By Kerlos Yared

Ethiopian and American Culture:

My Story

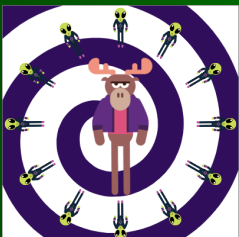
By Kerlos Yared
Mrs. Glenn ELA

For those of you that don't know. My parents immigrated from Ethiopia before I was born. So therefore, alongside American culture, I also grew up with Ethiopian culture (food, religion, traditions, etc.) . It's cool being able to speak 3 languages, (English, Amharic, and Geez, an ancient Ethiopian language that we use during mass,) eat from both American and Ethiopian food, (Ethiopian food is so good!) and being able to explore different backgrounds or traditions. So today, I am going to be talking about my story from when my parents immigrated here to where I am today.

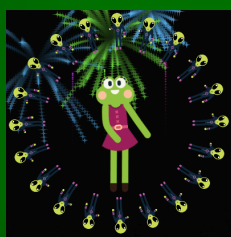
The story began when my parents immigrated from Ethiopia to America. In 2000. (Fun fact: Ethiopia is the only country in Africa that hasn't been colonized). They were welcomed into the neighborhood here in Columbus, OH. Then, seven years later, I was born. Growing up in America was pretty interesting. You see, when my parents came here from Ethiopia, they brought their culture with them, so growing up, I was raised with both American culture, and Ethiopian culture. For example, at school I would probably eat some pizza for lunch. When I get home, I would eat some classic Ethiopian food. One iconic Ethiopian meal would be injera, which is basically a flatbread made from a tiny nutritious seed called "teff", which grows natively in Ethiopia. And on top of the injera would be some sauce that we call, "wett". I would eat this Ethiopian meal every single day. And speaking of Ethiopian food, my family is the best at making it. I even have family in Las Angeles who opened up a restaurant that is very popular in LA. I was also introduced to Ethiopian Religion, me and my family are Ethiopian Orthodox Christians, and go to church every Sunday (well, before the pandemic hit). So you see. My Ethiopian culture plays a big role in my life. Even my name is Ethiopian, both Kerlos, my first name, and Yared, my last name, are both the names of saints in the Ethiopian Orthodox church. My American culture was also something big for me growing up. I was born and grew up in America so I grew up with a lot of American culture, I learned English, studied American history, eat American foods every now and then, etc. I am especially grateful for learning the English language because since English is pretty widely spoken in the world, it will be easy to communicate with others in another country. Being an American citizen with a passport is also pretty cool, it allows me to travel around the world, experience different foods, different cultures, etc.

So in conclusion, I am not just American. I am also Ethiopian, so I experience both American and Ethiopian cultures all around me. It's pretty cool to come from two different backgrounds and experience two different cultures. However, my Ethiopian ethnicity will always hold a valuable part in my life, and I will always cherish my ethnicity. That's the story of my culture.

Students in our Technology classes have been working on coding and creating Dance Parties using CODE. Click on images below to explore our student dance parties!



Amadou



Symphony



Malachi



Terrance



Student Perspectives on Black History

Below you'll find the written short stories and life experience of our young students here at Sherwood Middle School. We will publish more each newsletter!

Thank you to each of you for sharing your hearts, souls, and experiences with us all. Your leadership and courage is much appreciated! :)



Dear America

Racism in the US and The BLM Movement

By Ji'miah Lee-Brown

First Place Winner

"We Are What We Remember"

Franklin County Contest



"I can't breathe." Those were the last words of George Floyd, an African American man killed by a police officer. Growing up you probably thought police officers were supposed to protect you at all cost and keep anyone from hurting you. Instead, they are the ones hurting and killing you because of the color of your skin. Do Black Lives Matter? Does your life matter? Those are questions that you ask yourselves every day. People created the "All Lives Matter" response just to prove African Americans right They don't care about your life, and Black Lives don't matter to them. They're mocking your scream for equal rights and to be treated the same way as anyone else. All lives can't matter if Black lives don't matter.

December 31, 2019, 12:00am was the start of the year that would break history and fall as the worst year by far. You probably walked into 2020 with smiles on your faces, thinking this was going to be the best year you've had so far. Well 2020 had other plans. With January being the first full month of the start of a new year, it was also the first lemon thrown at us. Not only did we walk into 2020 with a terrible president, but we were also almost in World War 3. There were cases of COVID-19 that nobody knew about. When March and May came we were almost sure the world was coming to an end. During March, we were now aware of the virus (COVID-19) and walked right into April on lockdown with cases beginning to rise. While people were dying from Covid-19, African Americans continued to be brutalized by police. People protested all over the world. May was the peak of the ongoing protest by African -Americans and outraged people. The BLM community had been around for many years, but 2020 started way more than that. African Americans had felt there was still racial injustice and racism going on. The death of Breonna Taylor and George Floyd confirmed that. George and Breonna were both killed by officers. Being killed by officers had been an issue for African Americans even before Rodney King in 1991. I'm sure everyone knows about the deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, but what about the ones we forgot about? Sandra Bland hanged. Trayvon Martin shot. Tyre King shot. Tamir Rice shot. Rayshard Brooks shot. Daniel Prude suffocated. Atatiana Jefferson shot. Aura Rosser shot. Stephon Clark shot. Botham Jean shot. Say their names. Bring justice for them. More than half of the people that were named didn't do anything illegal. They were killed because of the color of their skin. Some were killed in their own home. Others didn't do anything wrong; they only needed help. Officers weren't willing to offer that. Botham Jean was killed in his own apartment because officer Amber Guyger entered his home, mistaking it for her own and shot him. She didn't make sure if she was in the right home; she assumed it was hers and killed him in his home. The stories are endless for people who have died unjustly by the hands of police officers. When does this stop? It won't stop until we continue to protest and demand lawmakers to create police reform. If I could say anything to America and the history books, it would be BLACK LIVES MATTER.



SOARING EAGLES NEWSLETTER

LEARN, BECOME, LEAD

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March 2021

Perla S. FIGHT JUST FOR A BEAT ON A BURY THAT'S JUST NOT RIGHT.

Anthony Claudio you know exactly what I'm saying. I don't know a single person who doesn't know the possibility of you guys even change.

Perla S. RIGHTS FOR BLACK

Fight for rights

Adrian, it is not about the color of your skin. It's about the color of your heart and the color of your mind. People are not the same.

Harriet Tubman is definitely an inspiration to me. She is such a brave woman. LAMT!!! —Alejandra

AND COLOR OF SKIN IS BLIND

Everyone has to know that people are not the same. It's not about the color of their skin.

NOT matter color DO

people should not be treated differently just because of the color of their skin. That's not right. —Alejandra

We should all be treated equally and not treated by the color of our skin. —Monique

BLM

Black history month is important because it allows black people and teaches people about their own history. Right history month can help us see how and we are still fighting. —Ayana

BLM are all the same don't disrespect people that are black we are all the same the skin does not matter stop the hate. BY YAHIR.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

We Have a Dream!

Black History month is about people like MLK helped change our world for the better.

Black history month is a day to celebrate the past and the present influences of the black community. —Eric

Black history month is very important because it's really important to remember the day when slaves were free.

Black history month is an important reminder and become the most colorful celebration in the United States, where it is celebrated as a black history month through nonviolence and civil disobedience.

Black history month is a month of respect for black history and the people who have made it possible for us to be here today.

MLK helped me in the classroom if people did not change with the world we would not be here today. —Eric

Amalio is... because he should respect black history and the people who have made it possible for us to be here today.

The last person black ship arrived in United States, 1859.

Black history month is to measure a month of appreciation to black people who have been thought for our freedom even though there is still racism people in the world. It was black then and they made the difference.

Carter G. Woodson started black history month. —Symphony

We Have a Dream!

Change Is Going To Come

By : Cynthia Granados Fuentes

Third Place Winner

“We Are What We Remember”

Franklin County Contest



Sunday, February 23, 2020, twenty-five year old Ahmaud Arbery was taking a short jog in Satilla Shores. Gregory McMichael and his son Travis McMichael watched Ahmaud, claiming he looked suspicious. With a .357 Magnum handgun and a shotgun, Gregory and Travis got into a pick up truck and chased Ahmaud Arbery. Three gunshots were fired. Mr. Arbery had been hit two times in the chest which resulted in his death.

Friday, March 13, 2020, twenty-six year old Breonna Taylor laid next to her boyfriend as both of them slept peacefully. The door was forced open and a total of 32 gunshots were fired. Six of them had struck Breonna Taylor, causing her death.

Monday, May 25, 2020, George Floyd went to the store to buy a pack of cigarettes. He supposedly used a counterfeit \$20 bill. Police arrived and arrested George Floyd. Officer Derek Chauvin along with four other police officers were holding Mr. Floyd down. Chauvin pinned him to the ground with a knee to his neck for 8 minutes 46 seconds. George Floyd died that same day.

George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor's deaths sparked protest throughout the world. These deaths brought the attention of the need for racial justice and police reform. The Black Lives Matter movement started with seventeen year old Trayvon Martin. He was shot on February 26, 2012, by George Zimmerman, and in 2013 Zimmerman was found not guilty. We see this happen very often, for example Ahmaud Arbery's killers walked free for more than two months, or when Breonna Taylor's killer was charged but not with her murder, instead he was charged with “wanton endangerment.” Or when black people die, and they either try to cover up the death or just drop all the charges. Lives get taken away from us, and it seems as though people just don't care about these deaths. We have to do things about it. It's a reason why people say “No Justice No Peace”.

The goal is to be equal, to not be judged based off the color of your skin, to make this a safe place for everyone, to not be scared whenever a police officer goes by or if you get pulled over. To bring justice to the hundreds of people that have died because of their skin color, so people like Regis Korchinski-Paquet, Elijah McClain, and Brandon Bernard get the justice they deserve.

These are the reasons why shop owners boarded up their shops. Why streets were covered in artwork, and why hundreds of people all over the world chanted “I Can't Breathe” and “No Justice No Peace.” People protest for them; they protest for black lives, so that no one they know or love is the next hashtag. We're the ones who can make a change. The future is in our hands, in the hands of Gen Z. We have to do anything possible to make a change, and I know that we will make a change. Change is going to come. There's nothing that can stop us. We will keep fighting for Black Lives to Matter.