



# SHADYSIDE TIGER TIMES

A Quarterly Newsletter for Shadyside Local Schools

Spring 2026

## LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



### Dear Community,

On behalf of the Shadyside Local Board of Education, our coaches, and our student-athletes, we extend our sincere gratitude to the Shadyside Athletic Booster Club for their unwavering support of our athletic programs.

The Booster Club is made up of dedicated volunteers who generously give their time, energy, and resources to enhance opportunities for our boys' and girls' teams. Their commitment ensures that our student-athletes have access to the equipment, uniforms, and experiences needed to compete, grow, and succeed.

Over the past two years, the Athletic Booster Club has made a remarkable investment in our programs. Their contributions include new uniforms across multiple sports, specialized training equipment, team meals for postseason competition, transportation support,

facility enhancements such as new scoreboards, and much more.

These investments directly impact the daily experience of our student-athletes and elevate the quality of our programs. Simply put, without the support of the Shadyside Athletic Booster Club, our athletic programs would not be what they are today.

The Booster Club meets every other Sunday at 7 p.m. at the Shadyside American Legion and welcomes all community members who are interested in getting involved and making a difference.

Thank you to the Shadyside Athletic Booster Club for all that you do to support our student-athletes and our school community.

John Haswell, Superintendent



### The Shadyside Athletic Booster Club has made a significant investment in our student-athletes in less than two years, including:

#### Uniforms & Apparel

- Basketball (boys & girls, varsity & junior high)
- Cross Country (boys & girls)
- Track (boys & girls)
- Football (white varsity & black throwback uniforms)
- Wrestling singlets and team warmups
- Softball (varsity & junior high)
- Baseball (junior high)
- Volleyball
- Golf polos and hats (boys & girls)
- Cheerleading warmup shirts

#### Equipment & Training Tools

- 2 Dr. Dish CT+ Basketball Shooting Machines
- Football tackling dummies
- Cheer tumbling mats
- Baseball pitching machine
- Football end zone camera
- Football helmet tunnel
- First Down Playbook app

#### Student-Athlete Support

- Team meals for regional, state, and travel competitions
- Charter transportation (e.g., Portsmouth Notre Dame)
- Powerlifting meet fees and apparel
- Junior High softball entry fee
- Volleyball facility rental (ECO Center)

#### Facilities & Game Day Enhancements

- 2 new gymnasium scoreboards
- Free student tickets (Grades 7–12) to all 2025–26 athletic events



# BEHIND THE SCENES AT LEONA MIDDLE SCHOOL: THE TEAM THAT KEEPS LEARNING MOVING FORWARD

By Kevin Roseberry, Principal, Leona Middle School

At Leona Middle School, learning doesn't just happen in the classroom. Behind the scenes, a dedicated group of support staff works every day to make sure the school runs smoothly and remains a welcoming place for students and staff.

The cleanliness and upkeep of the building are essential to a positive learning environment. A clean, well-maintained school helps students feel comfortable, safe, and ready to learn. From making sure hallways and classrooms are tidy to ensuring that everything in the building is working properly, these efforts help create a space where learning can thrive. Our custodians, Parker Gibson and Dennis Penick, make sure we have a building to be proud of.

Our school cook, Denise Neavin, brings warmth and enthusiasm to the cafeteria each day. She goes above and beyond to make lunchtime special for students. Whether it's wearing festive shirts and hats for holidays and special events or simply greeting everyone with a smile, she makes sure students feel welcomed while enjoying their meals.

The school secretary, Amber Gorrell, is truly the hub of Leona Middle School. She helps the school run smoothly by scheduling substitutes, preparing materials for Principal Kevin Roseberry, coordinating gym use throughout the year, and managing countless phone calls each day. In addition, she maintains important student records and oversees school financial records, ensuring that everything stays organized and efficient.

Our school nurse, Brittany Kaldor, plays a vital role in keeping both students and staff healthy. She cares for students and staff who aren't feeling well, responds to health concerns, gives out many Band-Aids and ice packs, and carefully maintains health records to ensure students receive the care and attention they need during the school day.

The school has two educational aides at Leona. Laura LeMonte is constantly on the move, supporting students and teachers throughout the building. She works with classes at all grade levels and provides individual help to students who need extra support. Her role often goes beyond the classroom—she may assist in the office, help in the kitchen, or even ride the bus with students when needed. Alecia Leonard works diligently as a one-on-one aide with a student. She works on academics and other related activities on a daily basis. She also rides the bus to support the student each day. Her dedication to her position and her students helps make Leona a special place to learn.

At Leona Middle School, every member of the team plays an important role. From the cafeteria to the office, from health care to student- and building-level support, these dedicated individuals help create a clean, safe, organized, and caring environment. It truly takes all of us working together to make Leona a great place to learn.

## SHADYSIDE STUDENT HONORED WITH EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT AWARD

Jackson Haigler has been selected to represent Shadyside Local School District at the upcoming Exceptional Student Award banquet, an honor that reflects both his academic success and outstanding character. Known for his warm personality, Jackson greets everyone he meets with enthusiasm and a genuine smile, leaving a lasting impression wherever he goes.

Academically, Jackson consistently earns As and Bs, demonstrating a strong commitment to his education. Even when faced with a significant setback, breaking his leg and being unable to walk for several months, he remained dedicated to his schoolwork. Despite the challenge, Jackson stayed on track and returned to school with all of his assignments completed, showing resilience and determination well beyond his years.

Jackson is also actively involved in his school community



as a member of both the marching band and concert band. In addition, he participates in a social skills group, where he has excelled in working collaboratively with peers to strengthen communication and appropriate social interactions.

Beyond his achievements, what truly sets Jackson apart is his character. He is always willing to lend a helping hand and is well-liked and respected by everyone he meets. Jackson consistently ends conversations with his signature phrase, "Have a blessed day," a small but meaningful reflection of his kindness and positivity.

Jackson embodies what it means to be a kind, respectful, hardworking and successful student, making him a truly deserving recipient of this recognition. Shadyside is proud to congratulate Jackson on this well-deserved recognition.

# JEFFERSON AVENUE ELEMENTARY ENHANCES SCHOOL SAFETY WITH KEY UPGRADES

By Dr. Greg Mehlman, Principal, Jefferson Avenue Elementary School

Jefferson Avenue Elementary School has completed several important safety improvements designed to strengthen security and enhance communication throughout the building. These updates reflect the district's continued commitment to providing a safe and secure environment for students, staff, and visitors.

Among the enhancements, new access doorbell systems have been installed at the school's main entry points. Equipped with both video and audio capabilities, these systems allow office staff to communicate directly with visitors and visually confirm their identity before granting access. This added layer of security ensures staff can verify who is entering the building and the purpose of their visit.

The school has also upgraded its public address system, replacing the original system that had been in place since 1965. While the existing speakers throughout the building remain in use, the previous system had begun to fail in several areas, including the main office station. The new system now delivers clear, consistent communication across all areas of the building, improving the ability to share important information quickly and effectively.

In addition, four new exterior doors have been installed at both the front and rear entrances. These doors replace the original entrances and provide an increased level of security, helping

ensure the building remains properly secured at all times.

A new vestibule has also been constructed at the main entrance, creating a controlled entry point for visitors. Individuals entering the building are now required to remain within the vestibule while waiting to pick up or drop off students, deliver items, or conduct school business. This measure allows staff to better manage and monitor access to the school.

These improvements represent meaningful progress in the district's ongoing efforts to enhance safety at Jefferson Avenue Elementary. District leadership will continue working closely with administration, the Board of Education, and school staff to further strengthen safety measures and maintain a secure learning environment for all.



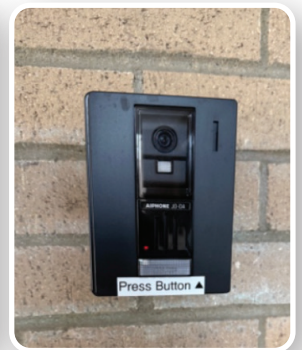
*Interior of New Vestibule*



*New Exterior Doors*



*New PA System*



*New Video/Audio Doorbells*



**"Equipped with both video and audio capabilities, these systems allow office staff to communicate directly with visitors and visually confirm their identity before granting access. This added layer of security ensures staff can verify who is entering the building and the purpose of their visit."**

*Dr. Greg Mehlman, Principal, Jefferson Avenue Elementary School*

# SHADYSIDE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MATH CURRICULUM REVIEW SUMMARY (2025–2026)



**Department of  
Education &  
Workforce**

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce has released Ohio's Plan for K–12 Mathematics, establishing a statewide

framework to strengthen mathematics instruction and improve student outcomes. This plan emphasizes the use of high-quality, standards-aligned instructional materials, deep conceptual understanding, procedural fluency, and the development of mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills. It sets clear expectations that directly inform curriculum decisions and instructional practices at the district level.

In response, Shadyside Local School District conducted a comprehensive math curriculum review during the 2025-26 school year to ensure alignment with Ohio's Learning Standards and the priorities outlined in the state plan. A key component of this process was the use of EdReports, a nationally recognized, independent organization that evaluates instructional materials for alignment to college- and career-ready standards. EdReports reviews focus on critical criteria such as standards alignment, coherence across grade levels, rigor, usability, and support for diverse learners.

Shadyside's curriculum committee utilized EdReports as an objective, research-based tool to guide decision-making. Materials were reviewed against EdReports ratings to determine whether

they met expectations for full alignment, particularly in areas such as focus on grade-level standards, coherence of mathematical progressions, and opportunities for students to engage in meaningful problem-solving and discourse. This process ensured that selected resources are not only aligned to Ohio's standards but also reflect best practices in mathematics instruction. The curriculum committee intends on presenting the Board of Education with a K–6, fully aligned math curriculum for the 2026-27 school year. In addition to material review, Shadyside educators engaged in ongoing discussions around strengthening instructional practices. Emphasis was placed on increasing student discourse, promoting conceptual understanding, and ensuring that students are actively engaged in reasoning and explaining their mathematical thinking.

The district also recognized the importance of professional learning, providing opportunities for teachers to deepen their content knowledge and refine instructional strategies aligned to the new expectations.

Through the use of EdReports and alignment to Ohio's Plan for K–12 Mathematics, Shadyside Local School District has taken a thoughtful, data-informed approach to selecting high-quality instructional materials and strengthening mathematics instruction. This work supports the district's ongoing commitment to improving student outcomes and preparing all learners for success in college, careers, and beyond.

## UNLOCKING THE MAGIC OF STORIES: BELMONT COUNTY READING FESTIVAL

Get ready to turn the page on a new adventure! The Belmont County Reading Festival is coming to the Ohio Valley Mall on Saturday, May 2, transforming the shopping center into a vibrant hub for literacy, learning, and community connection.

Organized by the East Central Ohio Educational Service Center (ECOESC) and local partners, this annual event is designed to ignite a lifelong passion for reading in children from birth through eighth grade. Whether your child is just discovering picture books or is already a middle school novel enthusiast, there is something for everyone to explore.

### A Showcase of Local Schools

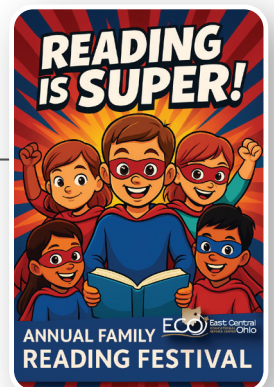
The heart of the festival lies in the participation of our local school districts. Teachers and students from across Belmont County will be on-site with interactive exhibits and hands-on reading activities.

### Community Supports & Resources

The festival isn't just about books; it's about the "whole child." Numerous county agencies and organizations will be present to share information about the vital supports available to families in our area. From early childhood development resources to health and safety services, parents can connect with local experts while their children enjoy the festivities.

### Every Student Takes Home a Treasure

The highlight for many young attendees is the gift of literacy itself. In a commitment to putting books into the hands of every child, every student who attends will receive a free book to keep. It's the perfect way to start a personal library or find a new favorite story to read before bed. Door prizes will be drawn at the top of every hour from noon - 3 p.m. Students completing the event map will be entered into a drawing for the Grand Prize.



### Event Details at a Glance

**When:** Saturday, May 2, 2026

**Where:** Ohio Valley Mall, St. Clairsville, OH

**Time:** 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Admission:** Free for all families!

Mark your calendars for a day of fun, imagination, and community spirit. Let's show our kids that in Belmont County, reading isn't just a skill—it's a celebration!

# SHADYSIDE HIGH SCHOOL MATH AND SCIENCE COMPETITION TEAM TRAVELS TO BETHANY COLLEGE

The Math and Science Day Competition, which began in 2007 as a humble Math and Computer Science Club student project, was hosted March 9 on the campus of Bethany College. The event has grown to bring in area high school students from the tri-state area for a day filled with team building, comprehensive and discipline-specific exams, and laboratory experiments in biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics and physics.

This year, the tournament boasted more than 90 students from six different high schools. The participating schools were Brooke (W.Va.), Jefferson County Christian Academy (Ohio), John Marshall (W.Va.), Shadyside (Ohio), Union Local (Ohio) and Wheeling Park (W.Va.).

Shadyside has become a powerhouse in this competition, placing respectably among the top performers every year. This year was no different. The Tigers brought home three titles including a group runner-up, a group third-place finish and an overall school placement of third.

Mr. Vince Thornburg, physics and chemistry teacher and math and science competition group moderator at Shadyside High School, could not have been more proud of his students. "Given the competition at the event and the size of the schools we were up against, our students rose to the occasion and had a great showing," said Thornburg. Anyone familiar with the Ohio Valley will recognize the size and caliber of Brooke, John Marshall, Union Local, and Wheeling Park. "Our finish says a lot about our students and curriculum here at the high school," said Thornburg.

Representing Shadyside were Chloe Meholovitch (Jr.), Mason



Jarrett (Jr.), Julie Patterson (Jr.), Kayleigh MacMillan (Jr.), Gabby Kosky (Sr.), Damian Russell (Sr.), Kaylie Warnock (Sr.), Sophie Boltz (Sr.) and Maite Barcellos (Sr.).

The team of Chloe, Damian and Mason completed the physics, chemistry and math lab experiments in second place. Their chemistry experiment challenged them to identify the chemicals that color Skittles, using a chromatography approach to separate the colors into their specific dyes. The physics lab tasked the group with finding a relationship between mass and the period of oscillation of a simple pendulum. Ultimately, the group also finished third among all groups in the overall standings. "We knew we were going to finish high as soon as we found out our team," Jarrett said. "Damian and Chloe are amazing and we knew we had a great chance to finish high."

Seniors Gabby Kosky and Kaylie Warnock shared their thoughts on their overall experience during the event at Bethany College. "The Art Gallery room was really cool," Warnock said. "We were in different rooms working on different projects, and the rooms were so cool," they agreed. "We really liked the food, too!"

Thornburg plans to attend this event as long as Bethany College continues to host it. "It's a wonderfully planned competition and a great chance for the students to get onto a college campus and see what it is like." It was a proud day for Shadyside High School, a reflection of its students, its teachers and the curriculum that prepares them to compete and succeed.



**"Given the competition at the event and the size of the schools we were up against, our students rose to the occasion and had a great showing. Our finish says a lot about our students and curriculum here at the high school."**

*Mr. Vince Thornburg, Physics and Chemistry Teacher and Math and Science Competition Group Moderator, Shadyside High School*



# SHADYSIDE

LOCAL SCHOOLS

3892 Central Ave. Shadyside, Ohio 43947

**John Haswell**  
**Superintendent**

Email: [john.haswell@shadysidelocal.org](mailto:john.haswell@shadysidelocal.org)

**Melissa Visnic**  
**Treasurer**

3890 Lincoln Ave  
Shadyside, Ohio 43947  
Email: [melissa.visnic@shadysidelocal.org](mailto:melissa.visnic@shadysidelocal.org)

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Joel Traylor**  
**President**

Email: [hhim@msn.com](mailto:hhim@msn.com)

**Robert Samsa**

Email: [rsamsa310@gmail.com](mailto:rsamsa310@gmail.com)

**Dominic DeFelice**

Email: [dominic@defelicebrospizza.com](mailto:dominic@defelicebrospizza.com)

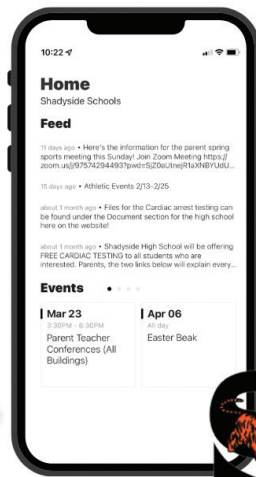
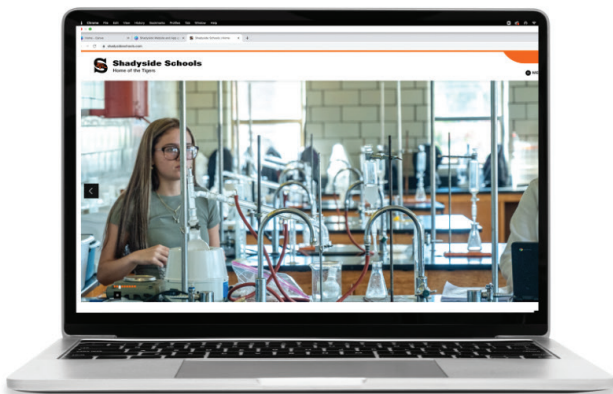
**Mike Derosa**

Email: [mike.derosa@shadysidelocal.org](mailto:mike.derosa@shadysidelocal.org)

**Donna Joseph**

Email: [tigerscc44@gmail.com](mailto:tigerscc44@gmail.com)

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