



# SHADYSIDE TIGER TIMES

A Quarterly Newsletter for Shadyside Local Schools

Winter 2023



## COMMUNITY UPDATE ON FACILITIES

### Dear Community,



This September, the new equity ranking was released by the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC). We ranked 318 out of 609 public K-12 school districts. This means if we were offered state money today our local share would be 53% local, 47% state. Because we were able to lock in our state share at 75% three years ago because of our Expedited Local Partnership Program (ELPP), our state share remains at 75%.

We were successful last year in receiving an extension on the ELPP this year. We maintain a contract with Raze International to demolish Leona when we are offered state funding. We will continue to work with Raze to maintain the contract so we can continue to maintain our 75% state share. There will be no demolition of Leona until we are eligible for state funding.

Using an example of a \$50,000,000 project, 75% state share would equal out to the state paying \$37,500,000 of the project, with the local share being \$12,500,000. That is what we have successfully locked in through our current ELPP agreement. This is compared to our current situation where

only \$23,500,000 would be paid by the state and \$26,500,000 paid locally. That is a \$12,000,000 savings locally!

House Bill 733 known as Appalachian Accelerated did not make it in the Biennium Budget last summer. We will continue to work with Sunday Creek Horizons to get the bill successfully through the upcoming Capital Budget this summer. Appalachian Accelerated would allow districts like Shadyside to be eligible for state funding quicker.

Once we become eligible for state funding we will have 13 months to secure our local share. That could come in the form of a bond levy. Or, if PTTGCA makes a final investment decision, the agreement we already have in place would secure our local funding.

Once the local share is secured, there will be a year to 18 months of community visioning/planning where stakeholders would have a say in what the new PreK-12 district would look like. As this process moves along, I will continue to update the community on any progress we make.

Sincerely,

John Haswell, Superintendent

# JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY AFTER SCHOOL ART PROGRAM EXPLORES POPULAR ARTISTS AND STYLES

Students in the Little Hands Big Art Club at Jefferson Elementary School are exploring several artists and styles this school year. This is a free, after school program for kindergarten through second-grade students.

Each month, a new artist is introduced as well as an art lesson relating to the artist's style. The students are learning about the elements and principles of art while exploring a variety of mediums such as oil pastels and watercolors. Last year, students studied artists like Vincent VanGogh, Georgia O'Keefe, Jim Dine, and Bob Ross. The projects range from independent to collaborative pieces.

Students started this school year with their October artist of the month—Tim Burton. One of his famous movies, "The Nightmare Before Christmas," is a favorite among many of the students at Jefferson. Burton attended the California Institute of the Arts where he studied character animation. His artwork has been

displayed in New York City in the Museum of Modern Art. The students drew spooky portraits with exaggerated features to capture the likeness of the drawings made by Tim Burton. Their pieces will be displayed in the foyer at Jefferson. Approximately 90 imaginative students participated in this after-school program in October.

In November, students learned about a Mexican painter named Frida Kahlo. Kahlo is known for her portraits, self-portraits, and works inspired by Mexican artifacts and nature. More than half of her work consisted of self-portraits. The Little Hands Big Art students viewed her work and completed their own projects that attempted to capture her artistic style.

*A special thanks to the parents and guardians for allowing their children to attend.*



# STUDENTS IMMERSE THEMSELVES IN GLOBAL MUSIC CULTURES AT SHADYSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

The new Music in World Cultures elective at Shadyside High School is taking students on a musical journey across the globe. Open to 9-12th graders who have taken band, the year-long course explores world cultures through the lens of music, food, art and other traditions.



"It's so important for students to understand cultures outside their own," said Band Director Bobby Moore. Through a blend of hands-on music activities and lectures, students dive into diverse cultures like Trinidad and Tobago, Ghana, and Brazil. A new steel drum ensemble set allows them to play instruments integral to Trinidadian music.

Students learn to play the lead pan, double second pans, triple cello pans, and bass pans, which are a set of six steel drums in a semicircle. Their steel drum arrangements will be featured in upcoming winter and spring concerts.

By immersing themselves in global music traditions, Shadyside students are gaining knowledge and techniques while expanding their cultural horizons.



# LEONA MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN LIFEWISE ACADEMY

Leona Middle School students have the opportunity this year to participate in Lifewise Academy, a Christian-based character-building program that focuses on values such as obedience, respect, integrity, truthfulness, and thankfulness. "The Lifewise program is committed to providing a high-quality program with an emphasis on character education that seeks to meet these needs out of a sincere desire to serve students, schools and communities, not simply as the means to an evangelistic end," said Lifewise Academy Director Veronica Haile.

Participating students are released to go offsite to the Shadyside Church of Christ and the Shadyside Church of the Nazarene where they participate in a 40-minute lesson once a week during their flex time so that it does not interfere with their regular instruction time. Fourth and sixth-grade students attend on Mondays and third and fifth-grade students participate on Thursdays.

The curriculum centers around a Bible story that points out a certain character attribute. It uses a three-fold approach: Head, Heart, and Hands. Each LifeWise lesson presents one Bible passage and links to the gospel and the students' character with an intentional focus on each area:

- **Head:** We focus first on simply knowing what the Bible says, what happened in the story and what we learn about God, ourselves or the world through each passage.
- **Heart:** We examine how the Bible story ties into and points to the big picture of the gospel. We consider our failures, sinfulness and need of a savior, as well as Jesus' victory in accomplishing for us what we could not achieve for ourselves.
- **Hands:** We explore ways students can live out the changed character that the Bible produces. More than sending the students



out to merely "try harder to be good," we show how, as the gospel transforms our hearts, Jesus changes our desires, actions and character to be more like His.

Since the beginning of this school year, there have been a total of 91 students that participate in Shadyside's Lifewise Academy with the largest group being 28 fifth graders.

In the fall, students learned about gratitude, respect, obedience, responsibility, patience, humility, and hope. Before they break for the holidays, the topics will be sacrifice, trustworthiness, and they will talk again about hope.

After break and into the spring, the Lifewise course will focus on compassion, humility, reliability, contentment, submission, truthfulness, wholeheartedness, initiative, confidence, and mercy.

"We believe our program meets the felt needs of schools for improved behavior, mental health, academic performance and other benefits," said Haile.

It's not too late for students to join if interested. Students are able to be registered at [lifewise.org/shadysideoh](http://lifewise.org/shadysideoh).

**Scan the QR Code  
to visit the Lifewise Academy  
Facebook page**



**"The Lifewise program is committed to providing a high-quality program with an emphasis on character education that seeks to meet these needs out of a sincere desire to serve students, schools and communities, not simply as the means to an evangelistic end."**

**- Veronica Haile, Shadyside Lifewise Academy Director**

# THE LITTLE TIGERS EMBARK ON HANDS-ON LEARNING ADVENTURES

The Little Tiger Preschool program is off to a great start this school year. The students have learned about dental health and participated in a presentation that taught them about healthy vs. unhealthy foods for their teeth and how to brush properly and care for their teeth. The presenter also brought her dental hygienist uniform and put it on along with her special glasses to help the students see that a hygienist is a regular person and help ease any fears.

The Little Tiger Preschool also had their annual fall family fun day where all preschool families were invited to participate in fall learning activities with their students. The fall family fun day activities consisted of reading "Going on a Leaf Hunt" and then going on an actual leaf hunt outside, exploring the inside of a pumpkin and learning what all the parts of a pumpkin are called, a name pumpkin craft, and an owl craft.

Additionally, the students have been learning about nocturnal animals and pumpkins.



# LITTLE TIGER PRESCHOOL HOLDS ANNUAL HOLLY JOLLY GATHERING



The Little Tiger Preschool held its annual Holly Jolly Gathering on December 6. The Holly Jolly Gathering is an event where the preschool and kindergarten staff work together to provide educational activities for the families to participate in with their students.

The activities included making snow, decorating wreaths using fine motor skills, listening to a story, decorating cookies, and some games. This activity is the first activity of the year to assist students that will be transitioning to kindergarten next year as they have an opportunity to complete activities in the kindergarten classrooms with the kindergarten teachers.



# SHADYSIDE SCHOOLS RECEIVES STRONG RATINGS ON 2022-23 STATE REPORT CARD

This fall, the Ohio Department of Education released its annual report cards rating school districts and individual schools across the state. Districts and schools receive an overall rating of 1 to 5 stars in half-star increments. Shadyside Schools received an overall rating of 3.5 stars which means they continue to meet and exceed state standards.

For Jefferson Elementary, which serves grades PK-2, the school received three stars in Early Literacy. Leona Avenue Middle School earned the highest rating of five stars, significantly exceeding standards in Achievement, Progress, Gap Closing and Early Literacy.

Shadyside High School received an overall 3.5 star rating. They earned five stars in Gap Closing, three stars in Achievement and Graduation Rate, and two stars in Progress.

The state also released new comparison data and reports for districts to analyze growth among specific student groups and

subject areas. Value-added scores help identify strengths and opportunities for growth. For example, the most recent test scores for sixth-grade English language arts (ELA) students in Shadyside Local Schools show positive results. The average sixth grader in the 2022-23 school year demonstrated “moderate evidence” of meeting or exceeding expected growth in ELA skills over the previous school year. Compared to sixth graders the prior year, these students scored higher than average. The data suggests the sixth-grade ELA curriculum and teaching methods are working well in Shadyside. Students are gaining strong ELA skills as they advance each year.

“While we celebrate these strong ratings, we also are committed to continuous improvement across the district,” said Superintendent John Haswell. “The state’s data provides valuable insights that will inform our work to prepare all students for future success.”



## OVERALL RATING

Districts and schools receive an overall rating of 1 to 5 stars in half-star increments. The overall rating is comprised of five rated components. **Shadyside Local Schools received 3.5 stars which meets state standards.**



### ACHIEVEMENT

(★★★★★)

This component represents whether student performance on state tests met established thresholds and how well students performed on tests overall. Four stars means the district exceeds state standards in Academic Achievement.



### PROGRESS

(★★★★★)

The Progress Component measures the academic performance of students compared to expected growth on Ohio’s State Tests. Two stars means significant evidence that the district fell short of student growth expectations.



### GRADUATION

(★★★★★)

The Graduation Component is a measure of the four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate and the five-year adjusted cohort graduation rate. Three stars means the district meets state standards in Graduation Rates.



### GAP CLOSING

(★★★★★)

The Gap Closing component shows how well schools are meeting the performance expectations for our students in English language arts, math and graduation. It also measures how schools are doing in supporting English learners to increase language proficiency, reducing chronic absenteeism for all students, and identifying gifted students and providing gifted services. Four stars means the district exceeds state standards in closing educational gaps.



### EARLY LITERACY

(★★★★★)

The Early Literacy Component is a measure of reading improvement and proficiency for students in kindergarten through third grade. Three stars means the district meets state standards in Early Literacy (K-3).



# SHADYSIDE

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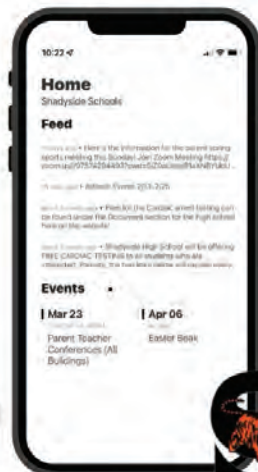
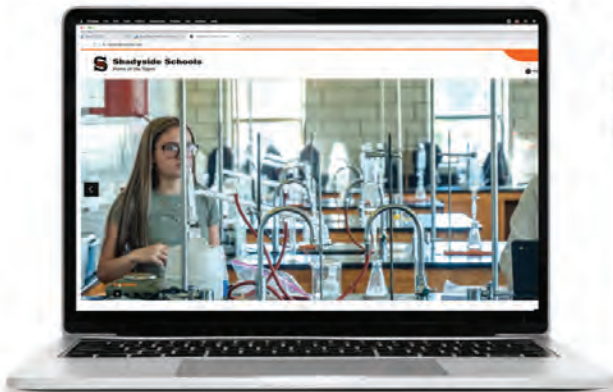
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The SHADYSIDE TIGER TIMES can be found on our District website in a digital format. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please send your request to [ashley.visnic@omeres.net](mailto:ashley.visnic@omeres.net).



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Shadyside School District



Find us online:

shadysideschools.com

