

Keystone's Keynote

Keystone Local School District's April 2012 Newsletter

A Message from the Superintendent

It's hard to believe that it's already April. This year has gone by in a flash, and I'm sure the next two months will fly by as well.

There are many events coming up, and I want to make sure you are aware of all of them. On April 24, KHS will host their annual Senior Citizen breakfast from 9-10:30am. Please call the high school to RSVP for the breakfast. In addition to this annual event, the senior scholarship night will be held at KHS on May 3, and there will be a *Concert & Jazz Band* performance on May 10. Also, our spring sports season is in full gear, and I encourage you to navigate to our [athletics calendar](#) to view the full range of sporting events.

I would also like to congratulate the kindergarteners on the outstanding concert they recently performed and recognize their music teacher Ms. Wyzynski for all her hard work.

I look forward to keeping you informed, and thank you for your support of our district throughout this year.

Nord Center Awards Grant

Keystone expresses thanks to the Nord Family Foundation for providing the District with a grant for over **\$25,000** to implement the **Gateway to Technology** program at Keystone Middle School. The program is part of **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)** initiative. It is a project-based curriculum that challenges and engages student's curiosity and imagination. Students in the program focus on problem solving skills, teamwork, and careers available in STEM.

With the help of the Nord Center's grant, KMS will offer two new courses next year – **Design & Modeling** and **Automation & Robotics**. Jacquelynn Daymut, current KMS technology teacher, has been trained in the program and is very excited to bring the initiative to students. Daymut states, *"I am eager to begin this program at KMS. I know students will be invested in learning these new concepts, and I know that they will thoroughly enjoy the hands-on nature of the program."*

KLSD would again like to thank the Nord Family Foundation for their generosity in funding and sponsoring this program.

April – May: Upcoming Events and Programs

Mon, April 16:	Choir Connection Meeting 6:30 at KHS Room 131
Tues, April 17:	Board of Education Meeting 6pm at KHS Room 124
Wed, April 18:	8 th Grade Dance Meeting 7pm in KMS Media Center
Thurs, April 19:	One Hour Early Release
Fri, April 20:	KHS School Play 7pm in KHS Cafetorium
Sat, April 21:	KHS School Play 2pm & 7pm in KHS Cafetorium
Tues, April 24:	Senior Citizen Breakfast 9-10:30am in KHS Cafetorium
Wed, April 25:	Alumni Band Meeting 7pm at KHS Room 131
Mon, April 30:	Board of Education Work Session 6pm at KHS Room 124
Thurs, May 3:	KHS Scholarship Award Night 7:30pm in KHS Cafetorium
Sat, May 5:	Annual Alumni Meeting 4-10pm in KHS Cafetorium
Mon, May 7:	Board of Education Work Session 6pm at KHS Room 124 KMS/KHS PTA Meeting 6:30 at KHS Room 111
Thurs, May 10:	KHS Concert & Jazz Band Performance 7pm in KHS Café

Navigate to our [events calendar](#) to view more...

Upcoming Community Event

Plan to attend the annual **Senior Citizen Breakfast** on Tuesday, April 24 from 9 - 10:30am. The breakfast is offered as a free service to the community. The event will be held in the KHS Cafetorium. Any individuals planning on attending need to RSVP by Thursday, April 19 to the KHS office at 440-355-5132.

Literacy Rocks!

On May 6 through May 13, the Lorain County Literacy Collaborative is sponsoring the first annual "***Literacy Rocks Lorain County***," a program to raise literacy awareness in Lorain county.

To participate, just paint rocks of any size with pictures, letters, or words and display them in and/or around your building or home. These rocks will represent the importance of literacy for all ages.

If you wish to submit photos of your rocks, email them to literacyrockslorain@gmail.com. For more information, please call the LCCC Children's Learning Center at 440-366-4038.

~Article provided by the office of Betty Lord

KEYSTONE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mentoring Program Benefits Students

The elementary school's **Positive Adults with Students (PAWS)** program is off to a great start. Currently, 21 KES students are involved with six volunteers from the community. The students and adult volunteers meet twice a month during the school day to engage in mentoring opportunities, such as working on homework, having lunch, reading books, playing games, and creating arts and crafts all within the school walls.

KES Guidance Counselor and PAWS program creator Chelsea Palubiak states, *"The students really enjoy their time with the volunteers, and many have asked me when their next meeting will be! We are still looking for more volunteers in the community and have many many students on our waiting list."* If you are interested in volunteering in this valuable program, please navigate to the [KES website](#) and complete the requirements to become a PAWS volunteer and make a difference in the life of a Keystone student!

Kindergarten's Favorite Tunes!

Over 100 kindergarteners recently performed a concert titled "**Our Favorite Songs.**" The program included such hits as ***Baby Bumblebee, Five Little Ducks, Wheels on the Bus,*** and the energetic ***Thankful for the USA,*** in addition to many others.

KES Music Teacher Shelley Wyzynski states, *"The children have had a really enjoyable time practicing their pieces and were so excited for their performance. I feel this program is a great experience for all of our kindergarteners to become comfortable with performing and to learn proper concert etiquette. In addition, it is a great way to share the enjoyment they have had in the classroom with their family and friends. I hope to continue to make the kindergarten music program a tradition here at KES."*

Flat Stanley Travels the World

Second graders are involved in the annual Flat Stanley project. Flat Stanley is a character in a 1964 children's book by Jeff Brown. In the story, Stanley Lambchop is flattened when a bulletin board falls on him. He not only survives but is able to use his flattened condition to help others. The best thing about Flat Stanley is that he can visit the world by being mailed in an envelope.

After reading the story in class, KES students write a letter and mail off a "Stanley" to a friend or relative in another state and request that the recipient take Stanley on some adventures, attach clothes/decorate Stanley, and mail him back. Second grade teacher Mrs. Caithaml states, *"The students are so excited when they receive their "Stanley" in the mail. Usually, recipients include a letter describing Stanley's time with them, photos of places they visited, and/or brochures telling about their town or state. Sometimes they even include souvenirs for the children in the class, such as rocks, shells, pencils, etc. When each child's "Stanley" comes back, they get to share it with the class. We locate where it went on our map in the classroom and show where it is compared to Ohio. This year, we had projects go to Qatar, Okinawa, Alaska, Georgia, Tennessee, Texas, and many other interesting places! It's such a fun project, and the students really enjoy doing it. The project teaches letter writing, geography/map skills, and provides an opportunity for students to visit the post office."*

Great job second grade students and teachers, and special thanks to the recipients who returned letters to KES students.

Show Your Keystone Pride

Show your Keystone pride by purchasing items from the KES PTA's Spirit Sale! The sale features a variety of items, including magnets, erasers, backpacks, bracelets, decals and other items which boast the Keystone name/logo. Click on the document below to view all of the items for sale, their prices, and ordering information – [KES PTA SPIRIT SALE](#).

KEYSTONE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Student Council Makes Charitable Donations

The middle school's student council has been busy throughout this school year raising money for a variety of charitable organizations. Recently, members of the student council sold "good luck" shamrock bracelets, and all of the money raised was donated to Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital.

They also sponsored "Pennies for Pasta" during the month of March. For this donation drive, each KMS homeroom class collected change for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and the homeroom that collected the most change received Olive Garden for lunch. At the conclusion of the program, the student council **raised \$1,503** to donate to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Great job student council members and special thanks to your advisor Ms. DiFranco for all of her hard work and dedication to your organization!

Operation Montserrat a Success!

Eighth graders had a great time participating in Operation Montserrat. This distance learning activity is an annual event in Mrs. Krolczyk's science class. The program is based on an actual series of events that took place on the small island of Montserrat in 1997 when the island was threatened by both a hurricane and a volcanic eruption. For this project, students study the series of events and are placed into various teams with specific tasks to complete.

This year, students also had guest speakers, including meteorologist Jon Loufman. His presentation addressed the Ohio science content standards and is designed to support and prepare students for the OAA Science Test. Great job students and thanks to Mrs. Krolczyk for organizing this annual event.

KEYSTONE HIGH SCHOOL

Adventures in New York City

Fifty-six members of the KHS Symphonic Choir had a great time visiting New York City in late March. The choir not only visited national landmarks and historic venues but also performed at the historic Saint Patrick's Cathedral. At this venue, they sang *Canate Domino* by Hayes, *Omnia Sol* by Stroope, *From There* by Bair, and *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by Lutkin. Choir Director Mrs. Trakas comments, *"On the trip, students were given the opportunity to experience many educational opportunities in the city. We visited the 9/11 Memorial, Times Square, Radio City Music Hall, The Empire State Building, Grand Central Terminal (where we sang in a flash mob), Rockefeller Center, The Empire State Building, Ellis Island, and the Statue of Liberty. Our choir trips are planned around interesting and historic venues and always with the opportunity for that "once-in-a-lifetime performance."*

Academic Challenge Team Shines at Competition

KHS is very proud of the academic challenge team as they ranked 12th out of 78 teams in the *WEWS Scholastic Games* competition. WEWS matches are open to all schools throughout Northern Ohio, and the competition is fierce. Congratulations to all KHS team members and advisor Mrs. Sprague on this outstanding accomplishment.

Romeo & Harriet

The drama club is excited to present their upcoming play titled “Romeo and Harriet.” This play is *“a modern parody of Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet, only here the Capulets and Montagues are owners of rival department stores in New York City.”*

Drama club members and advisor Mrs. Tuttle have been working hard on this production, so show your support by attending the play on **Friday, April 20 at 7pm, Saturday, April 21 at 2pm or 7pm.** All performances will be held in the KHS Cafetorium. Tickets are only \$5 and can be purchased at the door. We hope to see you there!

Busy Year for NHS

The KHS National Honor Society (NHS) has been busy participating and planning events that benefit both students and community.

NHS students raised money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association by selling shamrocks. They also provide free babysitting at KES PTA meetings and recently volunteered at the local Penfield Easter Party. Currently, NHS members are working on a service project. Advisor Mrs. Andrews states, *“We received a grant from the Nordson Fund to beautify the area outside the KHS art room. I am very proud of how hard the students have been working on the project.”* Great job NHS students and keep up the good work!

Congratulations KHS/JVS Students!

Twenty-seven students were inducted into **the Lorain County JVS National Technical Honor Society** during an induction ceremony on March 28. The National Technical Honor Society *“encourages higher scholastic achievement, cultivates a desire for personal excellence, and helps top students find success in today's workplace.”*

Congratulations to the following Keystone students who were inducted into this prestigious honor society.

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>JVS Program</u>
Kate Asadamongkolpant	Office & Administrative Assistant
Larissa Melnyk	Computerized Design & Drafting
Allison Towne	Allied Health Sciences

