



Mr. Kris J. Gaijer, M.Ed
Principal

ROBERTS MIDDLE SCHOOL
Monthly Bulletin

March 2023



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE - Mr. Kris Gaijer

This month, I would like to highlight the efforts our 7th graders are putting into their school experience! Being the middle year of middle school, for most students this is the most difficult period of time they will face as they transition from elementary to high school. If you add on top of this the stress of being 'the middle child' in a school, you can see how easy it can be for students to feel lost, anxious, or unsure of who they are or who they want to become. According to a recent survey done of Roberts MS students, 3 of 5 students reported having positive feelings about school. However, only 41% of them felt able to regulate their personal emotions.

As you can see, 7th grade is a tumultuous time to be a kid. With that being said, even within the individual craziness of school and life there can and will be success. It takes guts, hard work, and determination to

find it but once they do they will never be the same 'kid' they once were. That is what middle school is all about.

During Quarter 2, our 7th grade class did really well earning the following GPAs:

- 13 students with a perfect 4.0
- 34 students earning Honor Roll with a 3.50 or higher
- 29 students earning Merit Roll with a 3.00 to 3.49

In short, over 50% of our 7th grade students earned a 3.0 GPA or higher. Great job to each and every one of you!

There is a percentage of students who are struggling to maintain a 1.5 GPA or higher, but we have plans in place to work with them and their families to catch up during the rest of Quarter 3 and Quarter 4.

In April, we will take a look at our 8th graders and see how they will be ready for high school!

~ Mr. Kris J Gaijer, M.Ed
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News You Can Use

Counselor's Corner

Students can often feel stress and anxiety. This is a natural process and our counselors are here to help. Please make sure to check out their website for resources or to sign up to meet with them. **There are various school counseling groups to join.**



6th, 7th and 8th Grade Lunch Groups

ROX Ruling Our eXperiences 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Groups (FULL) (Mrs. Zaluski & Mrs. Hicks)

BAM! (Boys Advocacy & Mentoring) Group (FULL) (Mr. Spreitzer)

6th, 7th and 8th Grade Student Ambassadors

- **The Robert's Shop is open for business!** On Thursdays during Tiger Time, students can come to Room 231 to jam out to music and shop for clothing items that have been donated to the school by staff, parents, and students. Did I mention these items are for free... yes, FREE! The shop is run by the School Counselors & Student Ambassadors.

- **The Robert's Shop is currently in need of shoes, pants, and toiletry items (toothbrushes, deodorants, etc.)** If you have any of these items, please contact Mrs. Zaluski or Mr. Spreitzer or drop them off to the main office.
- Our monthly theme for **March is Goal Setting & Self-Reflection.** Students will reflect on this year and create academic, career, and personal goals for themselves for next year.
- **8th Graders are scheduling their courses for 9th Grade.** Students will need to have their paper copies of their course requests turned into their Tiger Time teachers by Friday, March 3rd. Students will then place their requests into **SchoolLinks** during their Tiger Time. [8th Grade High School Powerpoint](#)
[9th Grade Scheduling Form](#)
Please check the 8th Counselor Corner Google Classroom for information regarding ACT testing and College Credit Plus Information. All CCP forms must be completed and turned into Mrs. Zaluski prior to spring break.
- Calming music, visuals, and other sounds can continue to be accessed in the grade level Counselor Corner google classrooms. Take a break to do some deep breathing and find peace and calmness. Please feel free to join your child's grade level google classroom, if you have not done so already. You will be able to access announcements and important information pertinent to your child's grade level.
- Follow us on **Twitter** for the Roberts Middle School Counselors [@cfrmsCounseling](#).

SchoolLinks

If you have not joined your child's SchoolLinks, here is the link and YouTube video to do this.

[SchoolLinks](#)

[Guardian Join SchoolLinks](#)

Red Oak

We are excited to announce a partnership with Red Oak Behavioral Health to bring iCARE mentoring to Bolich & Roberts Middle Schools.



[iCARE mentoring](#) is a school-based mentoring program that supports students through positive, purposeful mentoring relationships with community volunteers. Students referred for iCARE meet with their mentor once a week, for the entire school year with the intent of continuing for a second year. iCARE mentors undergo mentor training and certification and also pass a background check. Click [here](#) to learn more about the program or speak with your school counselor if you have a student you think would benefit from the program.

Cell Phones & The Human Brain

There is a great deal of interesting research surrounding the harm that devices, specifically cell phones do to the human brain. “Multiple studies link addictive relationships with mobile devices to mental health problems in teens, including depression, anxiety, and disrupted sleep. Neuroscience tells us that tweens’ and teens’ developing brains make them especially vulnerable to both addiction and mental health crises.”

(GreatSchool.org) Please use the attached link to read the full article. In school we are seeing more and more cyberbullying and inappropriate socialization than ever before. Students are thriving on the dopamine release that social media & their phones give them.

An interesting article from Harvard discusses how cell phones are changing our brains and society as a whole. “While there is nothing inherently addictive about smartphones themselves, the true drivers of our attachments to these devices are the hyper-social environments they provide. Thanks to the likes of Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, and others, smartphones allow us to carry immense social environments in our pockets through every waking moment of our lives. Though humans have evolved to be social—a key feature to our success as a species—the social structures in which we thrive tend to contain about 150 individuals. This number is orders of magnitude smaller than the 2 billion potential connections we carry around in our pockets today. There is no doubt that smartphones provide immense benefit to society, but their cost is becoming more and more apparent.” (Harvard University)

School Counselor Website

Mr. Spreitzer (6th Grade School Counselor) ext 502435 cf_spreitzerk@cftigers.org

Mrs. Zaluski (7th/8th Grade School Counselor) ext. 502332 cf_zaluski@cftigers.org

Media Center News

A huge thank you to the Roberts Family for supporting our book fair last month. It was a huge success and we have already booked The Learned Owl for a book fair during the same week next year. All items ordered (due to stock selling out) were delivered to Tiger Time teachers on Friday. If your student has not received theirs yet, please contact Mrs. Gedeon at cf_gedeonk@cftigers.org

Our second Reading is Fundamental distribution is set for early March and is being held in conjunction with the kickoff of our Reading/Writing Festival. Reading is Fundamental distribution will be held during ELA classes between March 1st and March 8th.

The Reading/Writing Festival is open to all students. Those who choose to participate will read two books: *Refugee* and *Grenade* both by Alan Gratz. On Thursday May 11th all participating students come together for various activities which will culminate in the group joining a virtual classroom visit hosted by Alan Gratz. Participants will be able to interact with Mr. Gratz through questions and comments.

In addition, students without any overdue items will be able to check out an additional book for spring break beginning March 13th. Between this extra book and their Reading is Fundamental choice no student should be bored over break.

Overdue notices are automatically emailed to students and parents on the first of each month. We ask that when you receive these you follow up with your student to ensure any items listed are returned the following

day. There are many students with items which have been checked out since early in the school year. All items not used for a school project are expected to be returned by Friday May 5th. Any item(s) not returned will be billed to student accounts after May 25th, 2023.

From the Clinic

In Cuyahoga Falls Schools we work diligently to keep staff and students safe. The LPN is on duty during school hours and we continue to follow county-issued protocols regarding individuals who are ill.

In the meanwhile, you can help keep our school healthy by

- Keeping students home when they are sick
- Wash your hands frequently
- Covering your nose/mouth when coughing and sneezing
- Cleaning frequently touched surfaces and objects
- Avoiding close contact with anyone that has cold or flu-like symptoms

If at any time you suspect that your student has acquired the COVID-19 virus, please keep your student at home. You are welcome to contact the nurse in the school clinic to arrange to pick up a free COVID home test, while supplies last.

If you have not yet done so, please fill out the Emergency Medical Authorization in Final Forms for your student.

**Reminder for current and rising 7th graders, please submit their TDaP booster and Meningitis vaccinations if you have not already done so. If you do not wish to vaccinate for TDaP and Meningitis, please ask for an exemption form and one will be provided to sign for the school year. These need to be re-signed for each school year.

Band News: Musical Horizons & Solo and Ensemble

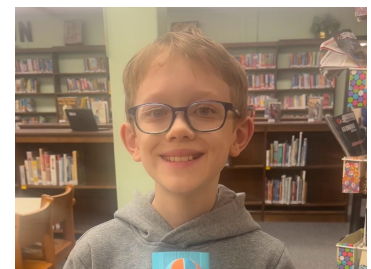
Musical Horizons 2023 (aka All-City Jazz!) will be on Friday March 11th at 7:00 PM. Held in the CFHS Auditorium, this concert features the Roberts and Bolich Jazz Bands, the CFHS Jazz Ensemble, and the Gold Tones Jazz Orchestra. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the door or from <http://cfbands.com>

OMEA Solo and Ensemble will be held on Saturday April 15 at Stanton Middle School in Kent. Participating band students have received their music and should be working to prepare. More detailed information will be sent home with participating students.

Our **Roberts Spring Band Concert** will be Tuesday April 25th at 7:00 PM in the CFHS auditorium.

Technology Club News

The Technology Club meets every Tuesday morning before school from



7:30-8:00 in the media center. Some of the members of the technology club are working on programming and building robots to compete in either the maze challenge or botball at the 2023 NEOTech Robotics Competition in March. Interested students should see an announcement in their Tiger Time Google Classroom or contact Mr. Oris for more information if they wish to participate in technology club.

Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) News

Roberts Middle School is proud to host this group to learn about our LGBTQ community. The purpose of this club is to:

- help students be able to express their true selves without fear;
- learn more readily in a safe environment;
- feel supported by the educational institution;
- develop healthy psychological well-being;
- have higher educational aspirations and academic achievement.

Research has shown that schools that have a GSA have lower rates of bullying and higher rates of student achievement overall. Roberts GSA is open to all students as we all seek to learn together.

GSA meetings are held every other Thursday in Mr. Hartong's room after school until 3:45.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mr. Hartong or Mr. Lang.

National Junior Honor Society:

National Junior Honor Students were presented with the opportunity to receive leadership skill training and the ability to speak with the CFHS National Honor Society about leadership opportunities in a high school setting and any fears they may have had for their upcoming transitions.

Students are diligently working on creating service projects they can complete, as well as include other members of Roberts Middle School in.

Miss K. & Mrs. Bonds

Builder's Club News

Builder's Club will be meeting on Thursdays after school from 3:00 to 3:45 in the Miss Flohr's room (227). All students are welcome!!!

We recently sent out a survey to the students to see if there would be interest in a spring dance or a talent show. Once our survey results are in, we will start planning a dance or a talent show.

Miss Flohr and Mrs. Hostutler, Advisors

The Voice News

The Voice is an important student group that focuses on changing Roberts Middle School for the better. Working with teacher advisor Mr. Hartong, this leadership group is given an annual budget to propose and

advocate for positive changes that will enhance the student experience at Roberts! The Voice is made up of a selected group of 8th graders who are chosen at the end of their 7th grade year. The Voice will meet every other Thursday during TigerTime.

The Voice successfully collected over 60 pairs of gloves, hats, and socks to benefit students here at Roberts Middle School. All donations went directly to our clothing closet here at school.

We are now turning our attention to the 8th-grade dance that will take place on the last day of school immediately following 8th-grade recognition. Details will be announced in the months to come.

Art Club News

Join Roberts Middle School on Instagram and check out what we are creating @Roberts_Middle_School_Art

Any current student at Roberts is welcome to join art club! Currently, due to the amount of participants, there is a grade level rotation during TT. Students must be in good standing with all of their teachers, have no D's or F's to be able to participate.

We have started creating for the All City Art Walk coming up Wednesday April 19 from 5-8 pm. This fun, free, family event is open to all and there are SO many exciting events planned! Please check out our [Art Walk website](#) for more info. We have been busy creating ice skaters, kayakers, canoes and even people floating the river for a special mini-train ride showcase! Check out next month's newsletter for a more detailed description of all the activities we have planned. You can also check out our instagram @cfalls_artwalk



Intramurals (Tiger Time Games/Activities)

Intramurals are in the middle of the second round of the games!

Intramurals are organized games and activities that will be held during Tiger Time in the gymnasium. Students must be in good standing with all of their teachers, have no D's or F's and no missing work, to be allowed to participate in these activities.

Students are allowed to create their own teams. All grades, boys and girls mixed or separate are allowed. Students will send a list of names to Mrs. Hosford through email, a Google Doc, or give a list in person to her. Teams will be announced daily to come to the gym. This week we will start hockey games next week with teams of 5 active players and then 1 sub.. The following weeks, we will play soccer with the same amount of players. **Let's Go!**

STAND Club News

Our next meeting is **Thursday February 10th after school in room 103**. We will be discussing our next project regarding Random Acts of Kindness Week! New members are always welcomed! If you have questions,

please see Mrs. Swango or Miss Braun. **Google Classroom code is zs5ni77.**

Yearbook News

2022-2023 yearbooks are now on sale through March 13th! Yearbooks are \$22 and can be purchased at ripchostudio.com with the code roberts 23. If you have any questions, email Ms. Sivado at cf_Sivadon@cftigers.org.

Homework Hotline

Need to know what your child's homework is? All parents and students have access to the [Roberts Homework Hotline](#). Please visit www.cfalls.org and go to the Roberts website. You can find the link on the left hand side.

Cafeteria Information

****Due to manufacturer shortages, menus are subject to change. Please be patient as we navigate this process and keep menus up to date to the best of our knowledge.**

Please find more information regarding the school meal programs at: [Black Tiger Food and Nutrition Website](#).

Students' lunch IDs are the same as the student number. Parents are encouraged to use the online account to deposit lunch money, track purchases and notify you via email when your account balance is low.

[PaySchool](#) Please use this link to find important information for school meals.

If you are paying by cash or check, students place an envelope in the lockbox in the cafeteria or outside the main office. Cash is not accepted in lines. The price for a full lunch is \$3.00, Breakfast is \$1.75, and milk is sold for .50 cents.

Our cafeteria routines of seating, cleaning tables and sweeping the floor will be returning this school year. Students will be allowed to choose a seat daily, unless a student demonstrates inappropriate lunch behavior earning them an assigned seat. Students will need to leave their space cleaned, garbage managed and chairs pushed in.

Daily Absences

If your student will be absent from school, arriving late, or leaving during the day, please call 330-926-3809. Leaving a message is perfectly fine. Please leave the student's name, the reason for the absence, and your relationship to the student.

PTO

We have been busy planning activities and events for the upcoming school year, but we need you and your talents! Please join us by [clicking here](#). Feel free to contact our new President Mrs. Joanne Green at jmgreen@neo.rr.com with any membership questions. You can also visit our [Facebook page](#) to get the most up to date information. With your support, we can make this year the best year ever!

Communication

We are always working to increase communication effectiveness so you get all of the information you need. As a reminder, all school information will first be posted on the www.cfalls.org website and also covered in the weekly ALL CALL from Mr. Gaijer. If you are a Facebook user, the [Roberts PTO Facebook page](#) is a great place for information as well. This group will allow for communication of coming events and sharing of information.

Upcoming Events

Here are some potential coming events for the school year 2022-2023. (Subject to change)

March

6	Kalahari Trip
17	End of Quarter 3
17-19	8th grade Trip to Washington DC
27	Spring Break Begins

April

3	School Resumes from Spring Break
7	No School for staff or students
10	No School for staff or students
21	Early Release for K-12

May

2	Election Day- No school for students
12	Early Release for K-12
25	Last day of school for students

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)



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