



# Continental Local Schools

5211 St Rt 634  
Continental, OH 45831  
419-596-3671

January, 2015

**Superintendent:**  
Joel Mengerink

**HS Dean of Students / Athletic Director:**  
Tim Eding

**Elementary Principal:**  
Brian Gerdeman

**Board of Education Members:**  
Dean Bidlack  
Ron Bradford  
Robin Etter  
Chad Olds  
Mike Zachrich

## Continental Students Inducted into NTHS

Three students from Continental were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) last month. NTHS recognizes students for their academic performance in a career technical field.

Those students recognized are Dmitry Billingsley (Network Systems), Caitlin Geckle (Cosmetology), and Alysha Moran (Health Technologies). Congratulations to these students!

## High School Art Students Get Experience Working with Glass

High school students in Mrs. Hopps' art classes had the opportunity to work with glass this winter to create Christmas ornaments thanks to a grant from the Cooper Family Foundation. The grant covered most of the cost of supplies for this new project. Students were able to use their skills to create Christmas trees and snowmen to be used as ornaments.

Thanks again to the Cooper Family Foundation for making this and other projects possible.



(L-R) Moran, Geckle, and Billingsley.



Moran lighting a candle during the ceremony.

## Happenings Around Continental Local Schools

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|--|--|--|
| 1/11 District III Honors Band/Choir Festival                   | 1/13 Financial Aid Night: CHS @ 6:30 pm    | 1/19 No School – MLK Day                                   |
| 1/12 Financial Aid Night: Paulding @ 6 pm;<br>Kalida @ 6:30 pm | 1/15-1/16 HS Semester Exams                | 1/20 Vantage Meeting w/Sophomores – 3 <sup>rd</sup> period |
| 1/13 Owens Community College Visit                             | 1/16 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Ends          | 2/3 Academic Awards at Girls Basketball Game               |
|  | 1/17 HS Solo & Ensemble Contest @ Lima Sr. |  |

## Early Discovery Preschools 2015-2016 Pre-Registration

Early Discovery Preschools, operated through the Putnam County Educational Service Center, will begin pre-registration for next school year on February 2, 2015. Early Discovery Preschools are located in the elementary buildings of the following schools: Columbus Grove, Continental, Fort Jennings, Leipsic, and Miller City-New Cleveland.

In accordance with State of Ohio Department of Education, children with disabilities and children who are 3 and 4 years of age from families with limited income (see scale below), will be given priority. Free and reduced fees are available based on family income.

Beginning February 2<sup>nd</sup>, you may call 419.523.5951, press zero and ask for Ann or Marcie to receive your pre-registration form. Due to the size of the program, space is limited.

### Household Size Gross Month

1	\$1,946 or below
2	\$2,622 or below
3	\$3,298 or below
4	\$3,976 or below
5	\$4,652 or below
6	\$5,328 or below
7	\$6,006 or below

(Based on Poverty Guidelines for 2014)



## New Safety Tip Line Available to Schools

COLUMBUS, Ohio – A new safety resource is available to Ohio Schools that could prevent and alert local law enforcement to a school safety crisis. This resource – an anonymous tip line – is available free of charge to every school district and school in Ohio.

At the request of Gov. Kasich, the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Public Safety launched the SaferOH tip line that will accept both calls and texts 24 hours a day for schools that register for the service. Continental is already registered.

This tip line will allow students and adults to anonymously share information with school officials and law enforcement about threats to students.

“The safety of our boys and girls remains the top priority,” said Superintendent of Public Instruction Richard A. Ross. “The SaferOH tip line provides another resource for schools and school districts in their continuing efforts to provide a safe and secure educational environment.”

Research shows that in 81 percent of violent incidents in U.S. schools, someone other than the attacker knew something was occurring or was about to occur but failed to report it. Typically, that’s because the person who knew something feared being a ‘snitch’ or becoming the target of the attacker or bully as well.

**Every tip can remain anonymous.** School safety analysts may ask for additional information, but the caller can remain secret or leave his or her contact information for later follow-up.

“Nothing is more important than keeping our children safe,” said John Born, director of the Dept. of Public

Safety. “This tip line is another tool, to fill the gap in areas where no line exists, that will allow children, parents and teachers to contribute to the safety of their schools.”

Calls or texts to 844-SaferOH (844-723-3764) are answered by analysts in the Ohio Homeland Security’s Threat Assessment and Prevention (TAP) Unit. When action is needed, the TAP Unit immediately forwards information to local school officials, local law enforcement agencies and others, if necessary.

TAP Unit analysts always follow up quickly with the affected school and law enforcement agencies to make sure that the incident is investigated, action is taken, and the outcome is tracked.

The assurance that their calls or texts cannot be traced and that serious, proper action will be taken to end the threat is helping to persuade young people to take a stand against school violence.

“The Ohio Departments of Education and Public Safety are to be commended for implementing their new statewide tip line,” said Dr. Ronald D. Stephens, executive director, National School Safety Center. “Tip lines are a positive and proactive way to support safe schools for all children. They acknowledge the key roles that students and community members play in promoting safe schools.

“Public awareness of tip lines can also provide a deterrent effect that may preclude acts of crime and violence from occurring by providing an early warning notice to responsible adults, linking victims or potential victims with a network of protective services to support the safety of all children and those professionals who serve them,” Stephens added.

# Sights from December



Noah Emmons performs a solo during the HS Christmas concert.



Students unloading food at the local food pantry.



Students help to load food to be delivered from the food drive.



The elementary Christmas program.



HS music class performs some Christmas carols.



Garrett Recker and Sydney Eickholt perform a duet at the HS Christmas concert.



The high school choir performs during the Christmas program.



The elementary Christmas program.