

The PawPrint

2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 ODE Excellent Rating
2003 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence

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A Final Note from our Superintendent Mark Neal

Building News - There are milestones that have been firmed up recently regarding the upcoming construction projects that I believe will be of interest to school district residents. The high school project is scheduled to go out to bid on June 26. Bids will be awarded on August 14 with construction to begin soon afterward. The elementary demolition is scheduled to go out to bid immediately after the school district takes possession of the property. Both parties have signed the purchase agreement and the closing on this transaction is tentatively scheduled for June 13. Asbestos removal and demolition could realistically be complete by mid August. Plans now call for the elementary library as well as the Elementary office, grades K, 1, 2, 4 and 5 to be housed in the modulars. Grade 3 will remain in the Elementary wing that is not being torn down. Grade 6 will now be in the high school building.

Results of the Community Meeting - Thanks to all of the residents who attended and spoke at the community meeting last month. The response was overwhelmingly (84%) in favor of sticking to the original two building plan. The modular project is well under way and it is going to be a busy summer as the other projects get started as well.

As I conclude my final newsletter article I would like to thank all of the residents of Kalida for the wonderful experience that I have had as your superintendent. I have learned a great deal in the last three and one-half years and it has been a pleasure to be associated with the Kalida School system. The school district is in excellent shape in terms of personnel, academics, finances, and extra-curricular activities. I cannot imagine that I will ever have the privilege to work with such a great group of school board members, administrators, support staff, or teachers. The Kalida Local Schools are at the pinnacle of what Public Education should look like.

Mark K. Neal

New Superintendent

Congratulations to Mr. Don Horstman on his appointment as the new Kalida School Superintendent. Mr. Horstman has been our high school principal since 2003. Don is a resident of Ottawa where he and his wife Jen have three children Erica, Emilee and Derrick.

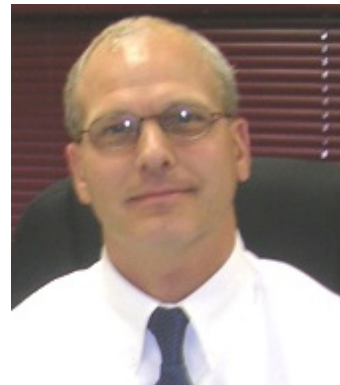


New HS Principal

Stepping into the high school principal position

is Mr. Chris Pfahler effective August 1.

Mr. Pfahler is a graduate of Leipsic High School and Bowling Green State University. He is very familiar with the Kalida school district, having previously taught at



Ottawa-Glandorf schools and most recently has served as the high school principal at Columbus Grove schools.

Mr. Pfahler is currently a resident of Ottawa where he lives with his wife Amy, son Wayne and daughters Joanna and Erin. Please join us in welcoming him to the Kalida schools as he works to continue our "Tradition of Excellence".



Putnam Soil & Water County Winner

Eighth grader Jordan Laudick is the 2008 County winner of the Putnam Soil and Water Essay Contest. Mrs. Schroeder's 8th grade reading class practiced responding to literature by participating in the Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation District essay contest. They first read an editorial on the benefits of water conservation and responded by writing a 200 word essay titled "Water Wise." Congratulations to Jordan Laudick who received first place in the county. Students from St. Anthony, Miller City, Fort Jennings, Pandora-Gilboa and Continental also participated. Jordan's essay will be on display at the SWCD tent during the Putnam County Fair in June.

Recording History for All

Kalida High School World Studies class completed a project on World War II this year. The juniors in the class interviewed local war veterans on their personal involvement and contributions to the war's effort. Thanks to these fine gentlemen and veterans Tom Erhart, Norman von der Embse, Arnold Verhoff, Andrew Macke and Bob Wurth for donating their time and sharing their memories with all of us. They were filmed during the interviews and DVD copies were then created from the sessions and are available for viewing for family members and the general public. Please contact Nora Basinger at the Putnam County Historical Society or Robert Gasser at the high school for more information.



Tell Me A Story

Students in Mrs. Pam Schroeder's seventh grade reading class journeyed to the elementary and read fairy tales and fables to the students in first grade. "This was an exercise in storytelling for the seventh graders," said Mrs. Schroeder. It was a fun time to share the love of reading with the young students.



Celebrating the Graduates of 2008

This year's graduating class - the class of 2008 - was comprised of 47 graduates. Their future endeavors span a wide array of career interests. They will major in areas ranging from accounting to athletic training, from architecture to aerospace engineering, from paralegal studies to pharmacy, and from international studies to medical assisting. Some will graduate already with specific certifications from the Vantage Career Center and will be entering the workforce. They will cross the state and eastern part of the United States to seek their goals and aspirations. Here is a quick summary.

Thirteen seniors will know I-75 quite well as four will be attending Bowling Green State University while nine will be blasting off a little farther north of that location to be Rockets (school's mascot) at the University of Toledo. Three others will be attending Owens Technical College either in Toledo or at the Findlay branch campus. Four graduates will be visiting our state's capital - two each at Columbus State College and The Ohio State University - while two more will be attending school in Washington D.C. - one at American University and the other at Georgetown University. Five students be heading south within our state as three will be attending the University of Cincinnati and one each at Miami University in Oxford and Wright State in Dayton. Two graduates will be heading to the state up north - one to Lawrence Technological University in Southfield and the other to The University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Ten members of the class of 2008 be traveling shorter distances by attending schools in Lima - seven at James A. Rhodes State College and three at The University of Ohio State at the Lima campus. One will be spreading his wings and soaring west to attend the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Finally, seven will be taking their skills acquired at the Vantage Career Center and entering the workforce.

In summary, it was a great year with a very talented senior class. This year's graduates have earned scholarship money in excess of \$800,000. We are very proud of all our graduates and wish them nothing but the best in their future endeavors as they represent their family, community, and our school.



OGT Results

Results have arrived for the five sections of the Ohio Graduation Test which were given to all sophomores in March. Again, it appears that Kalida students will rank in the top in comparison to other schools in the state.

Parents of sophomores should have received results in the mail with each student's report card. The following results indicate the percent passing each respective part along with the number for the class:

Reading – 98%	(49/50)
Math – 100%	(50/50)
Writing – 96%	(48/50)
Science – 98%	(49/50)
Social Studies – 96%	(48/50)

The next testing session for students not passing respective parts will be in October.

Schedule Pickup

Students who will be entering grades 8-12 next year can pick-up their 2008-09 schedules on August 18, 19, and 20 in the high school office from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. This will, hopefully, allow them to make scheduling changes if needed before the school year begins.

Parents of students entering the seventh grade will be notified in early August of an orientation meeting that will take place before the school year begins.

Congratulations! - Kalida High School has been awarded the *Putnam County All Sports Trophy* for the 2007-08 school year. To win this honor, the school accumulated the most tallied points for their winning records in all sports for the school year. Kalida beat out



Ottoville by 1/2 a point. Congratulations to all our athletes and the coaches, families and the fans who support them.

The last time KHS earned this award was in 1998.

Superintendent:
Mark Neal 419-532-3534

HS. Principal Don Horstman
Elem. Principal Karl Lammers



KALIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOX 269
KALIDA, OH 45853

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School Board Members:

Brian Laudick, VP, Rhonda Osterhage
Gary Stechschulte,
Dennis Turnwald, President
Don Wehri

School Board Meetings

Second Wednesday
8:00 PM - High School - Media Center

PawPrint Editor: Nancy Grote

Boxholder
Kalida, OH 45853

School Board Notes

Much is happening within the Kalida schools, not only with buildings, but just as importantly with our administration.

Mark Neal will be moving to the Tri-Valley School system in Dresden, OH where he will be superintendent for a much larger 3200 student district. Mr. Neal has been a tremendous asset to our district since joining us in 2005, providing outstanding leadership in these times where schools are facing many challenges. We certainly are very disappointed to lose Mr. Neal, but his being chosen for this challenging new position is a tribute to his abilities and we wish him and his family the best in their future endeavors. Mr. Neal will be with us through the month of June, and if it works into your schedule, we encourage you to stop by the administration offices behind the old high school and offer him a few kind words. You can also e-mail him at ka_supt@kalida.k12.oh.us.

Promoted to the Kalida superintendent position is Don Horstman, our current high school principal. He has done an exceptional job in managing the high school since 2003, and has steadily enhanced the class offerings with the additions of the new Project Lead the Way courses in pre-engineering and biomedical sciences. He has also taken the initiative to incorporate advanced placement courses as well as dual enrollment offerings that provide both high school and college credits into the curriculum. We are confident that Mr. Horstman will keep the district moving in a positive direction in the future.

School Board Members
Denny Turnwald, Brian Laudick,
Don Wehri, Rhonda Osterhage, Gary Stechschulte

Calendar Notes

School Starts
August 25

Quarter Break
No School
Oct.27

PT Conferences
Nov. 25-26

Thanksgiving Break
Nov. Nov.27-28