

C CHIPP REPORT

WINTER 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Is it spring yet? We can daydream! I know we're all missing the warm weather and sunshine. While winter has us bundled up, things are moving full speed ahead at our schools. A lot is happening at Chippewa, and we're excited to share the latest updates with you!

The school construction project is progressing as planned. Pre-construction work began last fall, including site preparation and a new baseball parking lot. Since then, architects, engineers and construction teams have been finalizing designs, securing permits and getting the site ready. Read on in the newsletter to learn more about recent construction projects.

Major construction starts in March 2025 with demolition, grading and utility installation. By summer, the foundation, steel framing and exterior walls will take shape along with a new roof for the CIS Building. Then, interior work such as electrical, plumbing and finishing touches will continue throughout the winter.

Renovations to the existing school will also begin in March 2025, starting with converting locker rooms into updated restrooms, followed by classroom, hallway and music room improvements in the summer. Work will be phased to minimize disruptions while ensuring students benefit from updated facilities. The project will be completed by May 2026, providing modern, improved learning spaces. Thank you for being part of this journey as we build for the future!

In other exciting growth news, starting in the 2025-2026 school year, expanded course selections will be available for the Jr/Sr. High. A course selection book with details on academic and elective options is available on the school website, and counselors will meet with students in class and individually to help them navigate their choices. Opportunities include:

- **Wayne County Schools Career Center (WCSCC) programs** for juniors, as well as senior-only programs such as Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC), phlebotomy, Robotics and Advanced Manufacturing Technology Education Collaborative (RAMTEC), and nurse aide training.
- **College Credit Plus (CCP) courses** are offered at Chippewa by staff members who hold master's degrees in their field of study and through Ohio colleges and universities.

- **Industry credential programs** at the high school, including:
 - **Business credentials** (retail management and customer service)
 - **Sports officiating credentials through the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)** will allow students to earn money officiating youth sports after completion of the program.
- **Career tech elective (CTE):** All seventh- and eighth-grade students will participate in a CTE rotation, allowing them to explore career clusters such as business, agriculture, manufacturing, hospitality, STEM careers, healthcare and more.

From construction to expanded class options, our school district has been busy. And it doesn't end there. Our Chipps students have also been leaving no stone unturned. Our athletes continue to impress us with their achievements while our academic kids shine in class and competitions. Read ahead to get all these details and some reminders about important dates this quarter. As always, thank you for your continued support of Chippewa Local Schools. We could not do any of this without you. Go Chipps!

Todd Osborn
Superintendent

Moyer Kicks into All-American Elite

A big round of applause for Elena Moyer, who was honored as a Soccer All-American on Jan. 11, in Chicago! Elena joins an elite group of just 68 female high school soccer players nationwide to receive this prestigious recognition. This is the fifth soccer player from the Lady Chipps Soccer Program to receive All-American. What an incredible achievement.

Congratulations, Elena!





From the Treasurer's Chair

Public School Funding and Advocacy

As a district treasurer, I am often asked what the Board of Education and its Superintendent and Treasurer can say and do when a ballot issue is involved. This is a very critical question as the Ohio Revised Code has set some very clear rules to follow to ensure public trust. In essence, as a public school district, we are funded by the taxpayers and it is our duty while on the ballot to remain neutral and only provide facts.

First, I'll explain the three types of funding that a district can request from the community and then I'll clarify the difference between what the school district can do and what is allowed for a political action committee.

Three Types of School Funding

Ohio's school districts can ask for three types of funding from their community or a combination thereof. Here's how each type of funding can be used.

OPERATING

- Employee salaries
- Technology
- Supplies
- Extracurricular activities
- Maintenance
- Utilities
- Insurance

BOND

- Building construction or renovation
- Vehicle and equipment purchases

PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT

- Must have an estimated life of five years or more

What the School District Can Do

School districts must stick to the facts. If we are on the ballot, it is our job to share clear and accurate information with the community. For example, we can explain:

- The type of ballot issue, operating, bond or permanent improvement and how that funding would be used for the district.
- The cost to taxpayers. This includes explaining how much the issue will cost per \$100,000 of property value for a property tax or the percentage for an income tax.
- What will happen if the issue passes or fails. For instance, we might share how funds would be used or what budget cuts might occur without the funding.

We can use tools like newsletters, flyers, social media posts and community meetings to share this information. But again, everything we share must be neutral and fact-based. As a public entity, we cannot use public dollars to influence voters—that would be crossing the line.

What Political Action Committees or Campaign Committees Can Do

Political action committees, often made up of community volunteers, can advocate for or against a ballot issue. They are a group separate from the public school district and they raise their own funds to support their efforts. These committees have more freedom to share opinions and ask for votes. But their efforts must remain separate from the school district. Here are examples of what political action committees can do:

- Run a campaign that encourages people to vote "yes" or "no."
- Place yard signs around town advocating for an outcome.
- Hold events to rally support for their side.
- Use social media and advertisements to make their case.

If you have questions about the type of funding that a district can ask for or what the district can share when on the ballot, don't hesitate to reach out.

Until next time,
Ira Hammon
Treasurer

Cheerleaders Spread Joy and Triumph on the Mat

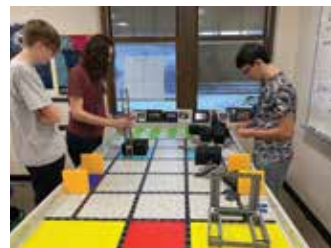
The Chippewa cheerleaders have had a busy and exciting season, making their mark both in the community and on the competition floor.

On Dec. 7, they spread holiday cheer at Winterfest, volunteering as Santa's helpers, passing out cookies, and taking photos with attendees. Their generosity was matched by their achievement on the mat, earning fifth place in the Division IV state competition with a flawless routine.



Chippewa Robotics Powers Up for Nationals

Students in Mr. Gasser's Robotics 2 class at Chippewa Jr./Sr. High School are preparing for the National Robotics Challenge this April, tackling four of the event's 13 unique challenges. Supported by community donations and district grants, these young engineers are building skills and showcasing creativity and teamwork. Good luck to the team as they get ready to compete and showcase their hard work!



School Campus Upgrades Underway

Facilities improvements are in full swing, with updates designed to enhance access and usability across campus. Tennis court bleachers are moving, a new driveway will ease access to the baseball field and Parfitt's outdoor education area and CIS will have additional parking. Crews also cleared years of growth from the CIS hill and saved topsoil for future school use, cutting costs and maximizing resources!



Chippewa Students Spell Success at Wayne County Bee

Chippewa Intermediate and Junior High students made their mark at the Wayne County Spelling Bee, proving their vocabulary expertise and making our community proud. All four Chippewa participants finished in the top 12, an impressive feat among the county's top spellers.

Riley Adams tied for 11th, Riley Kernan tied at 9th and Christopher Anderson secured 5th place. The spotlight, however, shines brightest on Zachary Yeager, who emerged as the county champion!

Join us in cheering on these outstanding spellers as they advance to represent Chippewa at the Akron Spelling Bee. Way to spell success, Chipps!



Zachary Yeager



Christopher Anderson



Riley Kernan



Riley Adams

Transportation Update for 2025-2026 School Year

Starting in the 2025-26 school year, all Hazel Harvey students will follow a consistent, one-way transportation plan home to enhance safety and simplify tracking. Families will need to select one primary transportation option:

- Bus rider** – Students ride the bus home each day.
- Car rider** – Students are picked up in the car loop.
- Walker** – Students walk home.

CHIPP Early Release Fridays will remain an exception under this policy. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us create a safe, efficient dismissal process for all students!

Athletic Physicals May 19

Chippewa athletes, it's time to prep for the 2025-26 season! Athletic physicals will be held Monday, May 19, at 6 p.m. in the gym. Don't miss this easy way to check off your required physical—bring your completed forms and get ready to compete!

6th-Grade Scientists Get Groovy with Lava Lamp Experiment



Mrs. Nemet's sixth-grade science classes are diving into the science behind a lava lamp, exploring the concepts of density and phase changes. Students observed the mesmerizing movement inside the lamp and used their observations to create an initial model of the scientific phenomenon at work. The experiment wasn't just educational; it was a blast from the past as they brought the 1970s icon to life through science.

Radebaugh Shines as All-Ohio Punter

Congratulations to Isaiah Radebaugh for being named third-team All-Ohio Punter! Being recognized by All-Ohio Teams is an incredible achievement, highlighting Isaiah's hard work and dedication on the field this season.



Honors Biology Explores Enzymes in Action

Mr. McNutt's high school honors biology class ventured into the fascinating world of enzymes during an interactive lab about chemical reactions. The students enjoyed exploring the science behind how enzymes work!





Chippewa Local School District

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Finding Fun in Fractions

Mrs. Brewer's fourth-grade class jumped into the world of fractions with hands-on learning. Using fraction tiles, students explored how pieces fit together to form a whole, turning math into a fun and engaging puzzle!



Kindergarten Countdown Begins!

Ready to get a head start? Register your kindergartner and sign up for early screening on Thursday, April 10. Scan the QR code or visit qrco.de/chippewakindergarten for details. We can't wait to welcome your little learner!



Preschool Registration Meeting for 2025-2026 School Year

Join us for an informational meeting on Monday, March 3, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. in the Hazel Harvey Elementary library. Families will receive registration packets and learn about new grant funding opportunities that may be available to them.

What to Bring:

- ☒ Two proofs of residency (lease/mortgage statement, utility bills)
- ☒ Proof of income (pay stub or W-2)
- ☒ Child's birth certificate
- ☒ Parent ID (driver's license)
- ☒ Court documents (if applicable)
- ☒ Immunization records

Your child does not need to attend this meeting. Please scan the QR code or sign up at qrco.de/chippewaprek so we know who will be in attendance.