

A Message from Your Superintendent

Dear Resident:

Without a doubt, West Clermont Local Schools is experiencing one of the most exciting times in our district's history. As a result, we are quickly becoming a "District of Choice" in the Greater Cincinnati area.

Through the hard work of many, West Clermont has stabilized our finances so that we are able to rebuild the district after years of devastating reductions. While we are still not back to where we were five to six years ago, we are cautiously returning services as resources allow. We are committed to maintaining a positive financial outlook moving forward.

Looking to the future, we are working diligently to find ways to make West Clermont more open to the community. Our goal is to assure that our twelve, soon to be ten, school buildings are places where the community can gather to enjoy concerts or athletic events, attend community meetings or together, help our young people develop into productive citizens.

Through it all, we know one thing for certain: We will not lean on any past achievements. We are committed to provide a high quality education for every student in our district. Further, we know we must do so with a mindful eye toward the resources our community has provided.

Inside this brochure we take a look at four key areas of focus for West Clermont. These areas are essential to the success of our district and will quickly become points of pride for our entire community. It is truly a great time to be part of the West Clermont school community. Just watch what we can do!

Sincerely,

Dr. Keith Kline



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AMELIA, OHIO

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Transforming Teaching and Learning (Ensuring Success for All)



High Quality Facilities



Successes:

Strong Finances

Successes:

We realize the primary work schools do is to prepare our youth to be productive, contributing citizens who will serve and lead in a more global world. As such, it is our duty and responsibility to assure that every student has the skills needed to meet with success after graduation and to be competitive with their peers across the state and nation.

With that in mind, West Clermont is working hard to make sure all students have the experiences they need to chart their own course in life. With a keen eye toward a strong core education, we are bringing back opportunities for our elementary students to experience Art, Music, Physical Education and Technology on a regular basis. Our fourth and fifth graders are expanding their experiences by attending the new STEM Center which stretches students to be collaborative, creative and part of a team that solves real-world problems.

We are also investing in our youngest learners by expanding Kindergarten to a full day, every day model. This will allow our highly trained staff to grow these students so they are better prepared to enter first grade on grade level.

At the middle school level, students have increased opportunities in both the academic and elective areas. This is a time when students need to strengthen their academic foundation while exploring various options for their future. As a result, students have choices to investigate career paths through the electives they select. This helps them chart their own course through high school and beyond.

The new West Clermont High School will not only focus on providing every student a strong academic base, but also experience courses that allow them to "try on" a profession while still in high school. Whether it is our marketing class who will run the new Wolves Den Spirit Shop, finance students who will operate the Classic Credit Union branch located in the building, or students who want to explore careers related to physical therapy by interning in the building's Health Plex, West Clermont students will graduate with the skills and experiences they need to hit the ground running after graduation.

Future Goals:

- Continue to fine tune learning standards so that all students have the academic foundation they need to achieve.
- Continue to invest in our principals and teachers to make sure they have the personal and material resources they need to assure that all students reach their full potential.
- Continue to increase the amount of college credits offered, while also leading to more students taking advantage of the opportunity.
- Continue to add a variety of hands-on experiences that will help students make informed, postgraduation college and career choices.
- Provide every student the skills necessary to be competitive in the job or college market.

without missing the learning because of new

5-Year Goal:

available.

Successes:

After creatively putting together almost \$150 million in financing to construct a new high school, create a new middle school campus, and replace, renovate or close additional elementary buildings, we're excited to be able to offer state of the art facilities to our students for decades to come. As we combine Amelia and Glen Este High Schools under the new West Clermont High School, we will make an effort to respect and preserve traditions from both, while creating an identity for the new school, as well. Being able to offer the technological advances that are so vital to learning in the 21st century makes it an exciting time to be a part of West Clermont Schools.

The new West Clermont High School continues to be on-time and under-budget with a grand opening set for August of 2017. Likewise, renovations on the Amelia Campus to transform that facility into the new West Clermont Middle School are progressing nicely. Both of these facilities are being constructed without having to ask you, our taxpayers, for additional funding. These facilities will bring new and exciting opportunities for our young people for the next half-century.

Just this summer, the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission awarded West Clermont an additional \$45 million to replace Summerside and Willowville Elementary Schools, completely renovate Clough Elementary and, eventually, take Brantner Elementary offline. We will also focus on Merwin and Holly Hill through upgrading systems to make sure those buildings are well-suited for our kids.

Future Goals:

- · Spend the upcoming year preparing for the move to the new high school and centralized middle school.
- Over the course of the 2016-17 school year, we will begin to design process for the new Summerside and Willowville Elementary Schools.
- Keep an eye out for any further state funds that may be available for future

5-Year Goal:

Continue to improve our buildings so that students and compete with their peers from other districts, while offering these additional cost, or minimal cost, to residents.

Providing a high level of education while also being fiscally responsible has become the hallmark of our district. Whether putting together over \$150 million to upgrade facilities without asking for extra money from the taxpayer, or finding ways to bring back vital programs and add more opportunities, creativity and smart spending has been vital. We will continue to earn awards for excellence in fiscal reporting while also earning "clean" audits of our books. Keeping costs low and in the classroom are also keys to our financial success.

Future Goals:

- Continue to stretch existing dollars while operating at an efficient level with the resources available to us.
- Find even more ways we can get rid of methods that aren't cost effective and improve on things that are already working.

5-Year Goal:

Make a smooth facilities while making the most of the money already available to us.



Community and Parent Partnerships

Successes:

Transparency has been at the heart of everything we have done over the past several years. We want the taxpayers and parents to know what we are doing to make our schools better, which will also help boost community morale and make people want to call our district home. Our work with Union Township was vital in being able to work out the funding of the new facilities without asking the taxpayers for more money. We have been able to form a partnership with Mercy Health and Wellington Sports Medicine that will offer state-of-the-art services on the grounds of our new high school.

Future Goals:

- Continue to operate in a mode of transparency, sharing information and having an open-door policy with the community.
- Use new facilities to continue to further the relationship between the district and the community.

5-Year Goal:

Continue to look for more ways to keep the community informed, including more open forums with Superintendent Keith Kline, much like the ones that were held when discussing the plan for the new facilities.



