



Cruiser Chronicles

The Official Newsletter
of the Groveport Madison
Board of Education

Sept. 2010

Important Dates

Sept. 24 Interims for first grading period	Oct. 14 No School; teacher release day
Oct. 3 Meet the Candidate Night, GMHS, 5:30 p.m.	Oct. 15 No School; Central Ohio Teacher Association day
Oct. 5 Ohio Achievement Assessment, third grade reading	Oct. 22 End of First Grading Period
Oct. 13 Board of Education meeting, 7 p.m.	Nov. 2 General Election Day; No School; waiver day
	Nov. 5-6 Cruiser Theater Fall Play

District stands to net almost \$1 million

Groveport Madison Schools stands to receive \$979,268 over four years in federal school aid through the Obama Administration's Race to the Top stimulus initiative. The U.S. Department of Education announced last month Ohio at \$400 million was one of nine states along with the District of Columbia to receive money.



Using the guidelines from the Ohio Department of Education, district officials are discussing how the money will be used. Superintendent McKenzie says, "We will focus on reducing the gaps in grad-

uation between subgroups and in performance on proficiency in mathematics and reading.

The superintendent, school board and teacher's association were required to sign the Race to Top application in order to participate in the national competition for the money. Eleven of 16 Franklin County districts will receive the stimulus dollars.

Groveport Madison stands to receive the second largest amount of money in the county behind Columbus Public Schools. The funds are issued based on

Title I eligibility. Each district or charter has to provide a plan to ODE on how it will accomplish the state's education goals in order to receive the funds.

students with web-based courses that will adjust the workload based on a student's prior knowledge. Students also have the ability to access the course work while they are at home to complete courses more quickly.

"We want to help them avoid dropping out of high school and help them complete their education," Young said.

Transportation is provided and two Cruiser Academy sessions are available to accommodate different parental and student needs. For more information about enrollment, call Guidance Counselor Amon Dobbins at 614-237-8756 or send a note to amon.dobbins@gocruisers.org.



will serve as an asset to the district as we work to identify and meet the needs of our diverse population," Superintendent Scott McKenzie said. "We need someone in this position who can roll up their sleeves and work with our team to help drive student achievement upward."



Hoover earned a master's degree from Indiana University and a bachelor's from Tri-State University in Indiana. He served as the Director of Curriculum and Instruction for North Union Local Schools and as a teacher in Indiana.

Bruce Hoover

Doors open to hope and about 200 students

When the district's new Cruiser Academy opened this fall for the first time, students entered knocking on the door of opportunity.

Bill Young, administrator of the program, said about 200 students ages 16- 21 are enrolled in the credit recovery program at its new home at 2751 Winchester Pike.

"Our program is designed to help students earn credits in an aggressive manner," he said. "Cruiser Academy is a place of hope for students who have not been successful and have fallen behind in a traditional high-school setting."

A team of dedicated teachers is on staff to assist

New Deputy Superintendent gets started with new year

Deputy Superintendent Bruce Hoover is busy at work in his new post with the start of the 2010-2011 school year.

Hoover joins the Groveport Madison administrative team from the Education Service Center of Central Ohio where he spent the past two years as a facilitator for the Ohio School Improvement Process, a statewide initiative aimed at developing and implementing plans to increase student achievement.

"Bruce brings a depth of knowledge with him that

Share thoughts with Superintendent online



Scott McKenzie

Superintendent Scott McKenzie is eager for feedback from the community when he debuts a blog next month on the district's website www.gocruisers.org. McKenzie will share thoughts and ideas about educational trends, children and families, and, of course, news and activities in the district. It will be updated regularly throughout the week.

District finds friend for those in need

In less than two short months this summer, one woman helped find a way to provide almost 2,000 meals to children in need.

Thanks to the on-going efforts of Groveport Village Council member Donna Drury, Groveport Madison Schools is a local provider of the Summer Food Service Program, a federally funded initiative offered through the Ohio Department of Education.

Approximately 1,872 meals were served between June 14-Aug. 6 at Groveport Middle School North and Groveport Madison Junior High to anyone between the ages of 1 and 18.

Drury will be recognized for her efforts next month as a recipient of the Central Ohio Friend of Public Education award from the Ohio Schools Boards Association of School Administrators. She was nominated on behalf of Groveport Madison Schools.

While the summer lunch program is hosted by

Groveport Madison, it got its start through Drury's initiative. She appealed in the summer of 2008 to Grace Apostolic Church to serve lunches to children ages 1-18. The first summer more than 30 students were served daily. The program was expanded the following summer to include Middle School South.

Drury, who's rallied a team of volunteers, said she felt compelled to help when she learned nearly half of students in the district are in need.

"I wondered how many may or may not have an adult at home to fix them dinner, or wondered if they had food at all," Drury said. "We had 27 volunteers who help. Without them we would not have a program."

Drury also started a program in 2009 to serve lunches to senior citizens in need. She hopes to see it expand too, but so far has helped served, through donations, daily meals to about two dozen people for three months each spring.

"I guess my love of food is something I like to share."



Schools welcome new staff members for 2010-11 year

Each fall we open our doors to new students and teachers alike. This year we had the pleasure to welcome more than two dozen new staff members to our classrooms. They are: First row, left to right: Michelle Emery, speech pathologist, Sedalia; Meredith Kitchen, nurse, Sedalia, MS North, Dunloe; Kyley

Townsend, special education, Madison; Rebekah Gray, art, Asbury; Emily Ries, grade 6, MS South; Kelly Oldaker, grade 5, Glendening; Lisa Ferguson, grade 6, MS North. Second Row: Amy Bisesi, math, GMHS; Jessica Underwood, grade 6, MS South; Amy Hazenfield, special education, Sedalia; Victoria Miller, grade 4, Asbury; Christine Fultz, grade 6, MS North; Rebecca Kral, districtwide speech pathologist; Nicole Hunter, kindergarten, Glendening; Audrey Mitchell, grade 7, MS North; Kristen Brown, special education, GMHS; Jessica Kidder, grade 6, MS North; Jessica Kloss, special education, MS South, Madison. Third row: Amanda Woodburn, English, GMHS; Brittany Cessna, kindergarten, Sedalia; Jonathan Rehmert, band, MS South; Scott Brinker, special education, GMHS; Aaron Fenzel, art, MS North; Andy Yurasek, grade 4, Groveport; Zack Harner, English, GMHS; Jarod Dombrowski, social studies, Cruiser Academy; and Ryan Grashel, math, GMJHS.