



Cruiser Chronicles

The Official Newsletter of Groveport Madison Schools

September 2011

Important Dates	Oct. 13
	Board of Education
Sept. 23	Oct. 20
Interim reports sent home	No School; teacher release day
Sept. 23	Oct 21
Homecoming; Cruisers v. Grove City, 7:30 p.m. kick-off; dance Sept. 24	No School; Central Ohio Teacher Association Day
Oct 11	Nov. 3-5
Voter registration deadline	Cruiser Theater Fall Play
Oct. 12	Nov. 8
Two-hour late start	General Election Day; No school, professional development

Share thoughts with Superintendent Scott McKenzie online. Sign up for his blog at www.gocruisers.org

Issue 16: Frequently Asked Questions

What is Issue 16?
Issue 16 is a local operating levy that will **renew** our current levy and **generate** new dollars with a small increase of 4.73 mills to make up for more than \$3 million in lost funding from the State of Ohio.

- Allows for modest adjustments in expenses such as gasoline, paper supplies, custodial supplies and energy costs
- Costs a homeowner about \$12 additional per month per \$100,000 valuation

How much will it cost?
Issue 16 will cost the owner of \$100,000 in home valuation just \$12 more a month.

Can we afford this?
Groveport Madison collects the lowest millage rate of any district except Hamilton Local. The average throughout Franklin County is a little over 44 mills and Groveport Madison sits currently at 31.02. Even with the passage of this new levy Groveport Madison will collect just 35.75 mills, well below the average. It is also a top-performing district with an excellent rating.

- What will Issue 16 do for us?**
- Generates an additional \$4.1 million per year
 - Keeps exemplary programs in tact, such as all-day kindergarten, literacy programs in all our buildings and advanced courses at the high school.
 - Maintains current staffing levels and eliminates the need to cut instructional staff as we saw in the Canal Winchester and Pickerington schools this past year.
 - Enables our district's continued academic progress, helping us maintain the "Excellent" rating the our students earned on the state report card ... for the first time ever!

Voter registration
Please take time to educate yourself with the facts about Issue 16 at www.voteforissue16.com. The information will help you understand the impact your vote has on our district and investment in the community. Voter registration information is also available on the site.

Open doors and open books

We need your input! We'll open our doors -- and many books -- from 6-8 p.m. Oct. 26 at Groveport Junior High so you can share your thoughts about the materials we might select for our Reading/Language Arts program.

The Curriculum Department is in the process of reviewing new selections for its course of study. The community is invited to review and discuss the samples provided by a number of publishers. We look forward to the feedback we receive as more members of the community become involved!

Welcome aboard!

Each fall we open our doors to new students and teachers alike. This year, we're welcoming almost three dozen new staff members to our classrooms. Introducing ... First Row, left to right: Susan Burnett, Cruiser Academy; Vicki Allen, Asbury; Jen Greenawalt, MS North; Cheryl Hayward, Sedalia; Chasidy Smith, Sedalia; Kristin Shuster, GMHS; Morgan Mulgrew, GMHS;



and Devin Caporuscio, GMHS. Second Row: left to right, Paul Spires, Glendening; Katie Albers, Junior High; Kelly Swearingen, MS North; Cathleen Christensen, GMHS; Amanda Miller, Glendening; Melanie Thompson, GMHS; Terry Holliman, GMHS; Kory Winter, GMHS; Jessica Roberts, Groveport; Angela Depa, GMHS; and Linda Myers, MS North and MS South. Third Row, left to right: Stephanie Irby, Cruiser Academy; Tiffany Gorby, MS North; Scott Wilson, GMHS; Matt Siegel, GMHS; Wes Speakman, GMHS; Scott Foor, GMHS; Wes Russell, MS South; Amanda Tucker, Sedalia; and Katie Van Schoyck, Asbury. Not pictured is Josh Chilcote, GMHS; Bethany Forgione, Groveport; Rebecca Pharo, Asbury; Mychal Pittman, Madison; Jennifer Cyrus, Sedalia; Erica Wright, GMHS; and James Alexander, GMHS.

Reading program comes full circle

After a very successful inaugural year using an initiative to help students become proficient readers, Middle School South is set to enter a second year using the READ 180 program.



Students in Ms. Skeen's class personalized bags to hold their Read 180 materials, activity books and reader.

gains in the participants. In fact, Middle School South students showed more than a year's worth of reading growth in one year.

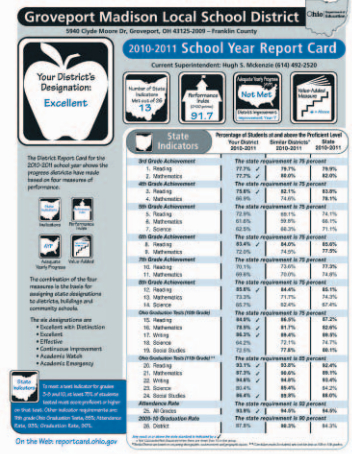
Staff members are eager to build upon the momentum experienced the first year of the program to see continued growth in their students' quest to become successful readers.

State gives district top-notch rating

For the first time ever, Groveport Madison has earned an "Excellent" rating on the state's Local Report Card.

Several factors lead to the superior rank:

- A Performance Index Score of 91.7, the highest ever
- An "Above" in the state's Value Added measure (which analyzes progress over the course of a year as opposed to a test that is a "snapshot" in time), and ...
- Meeting 13 of 26 indicators, which is the best percentage achieved by the district



We will never forget ...

Students at Madison Elementary delivered special performances in remembrance of 9/11. Directed by music teacher Gail White, the youngsters began the program with a Pledge of Allegiance rap and sang a collection of patriotic songs, including "This is America," "A Long, Long Journey to Heal," and "God Bless the USA."



Click on the "Athletics" link on www.gocruisers.org for schedules and highlights for football, volleyball, cross country, and boys and girls soccer.