

COVENTRY connection

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S.T.E.A.M.
Night
**Science, technology,
engineering, arts &
mathematics**



The district hosted its second annual family S.T.E.A.M. night on April 4. More than 200 families came out to enjoy the **Total Solar Eclipse-themed activities**. Families engaged in various educational activities, including moving from station to station to collect stickers for their passports, creating eclipse-themed crafts, and witnessing drones in flight. The cookie eclipse activity was not just a treat but a fun and educational experience for all.

Robots are always a hit! Students had the opportunity to use Sphero robots to simulate the moon's orbit to show how the eclipse happens. They also used VEX IQ Robots to simulate how a Mars rover would work by picking up "moon rocks" and bringing them back to base.

Attendees went home with a pair of eclipse glasses and other fun prizes to commemorate the historic event.

Thank you to our teachers, staff, middle school and high school volunteers, and guests for making this night an incredible success.



a publication of Coventry Local Schools

Dear Coventry Schools Community,



As we near the close of the 2023-2024 academic year, I am grateful for our community's collective efforts and notable achievements. Our students have exemplified **perseverance, responsibility, creativity, empathy, communication, collaboration, critical thinking, accountability, and problem-solving**.

Recognition goes to our visual and performing arts departments, whose talents have been showcased through performances and innovative projects, demonstrating the transformative power of the arts. Our extracurricular programs, including athletics, have excelled, with students demonstrating skill, sportsmanship, and determination.

Additionally, **our 3rd-grade students achieved an impressive 82% in fall reading** — a testament to the dedication of students, staff, and families and a reflection of our commitment to academic excellence.



Let's celebrate our achievements and recommit to excellence, inspiring and uplifting every community member.

Here's to a safe summer!

Sincerely,
George E. Fisk,
Superintendent



FINAL FORMS:

Coventry Schools utilizes an online platform for back-to-school and yearly forms.

Parents are encouraged to log in and complete the 2024-2025 School Year forms before July 26, 2024. The forms will be pre-populated with information from the previous school year. **Update or confirm information quickly!**



ATHLETIC excellence

FOOTBALL: Coventry Senior **Keith Sines** scored an honorary touchdown for the Comets alongside teammates **Lamar Taylor, Bryce White-Heldman, Gage Atkins,** and **Sebastian Jensen** on October 13, 2023. Keith also served as the team's captain and was an honorary official for the



game against Cloverleaf. Kudos to the Comets and the Colts for exhibiting great character and making it about more than just football.

GOLF: Senior **Ryan Dinan** proudly represented the Comets for the 2nd year at the OHSAA Division II Golf Championship held in Sunbury, Ohio, at the North Star Golf Club. Dinan showcased remarkable skill, securing the tournament's 11th out of 72 golfers. Ryan plans to further his golf career at Cleveland State in the upcoming season.



BASKETBALL: The Varsity Basketball team posted an outstanding record at home, **finishing 8-1 for the season.** The 6th man student section's contagious energy was key to their success, igniting the atmosphere at every game with their incredible spirit. Coventry beat each team in The league had the best performance since 2018.

Entering the state tournament, we hosted the first round against league opponent Cloverleaf with a comeback win. After losing twice to rival Norton during the season, we beat them to claim the Sectional Championship, advancing to the Districts, which hasn't been done since 2016.

The All-Academic team comprised 21 players with a GPA of 3.0 or above. Four players were recognized with MAC honors: **Reggie Edwards** (First Team), **Jaden Keenan** (Second Team,) and **Luke Futrell** and **Alex Meinen** (Honorable Mentions). **Reggie Edwards** is ranked #2 in Ohio in total block shots, #1 in Division II and #103 in the Nation!

Where do I find info about the teams & schedules?

Go to www.coventryathletics.org or follow the Comets on

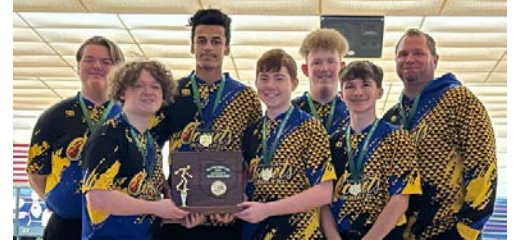


Facebook @Coventry Athletics
X (Twitter) @Coventry H.S. Athletics

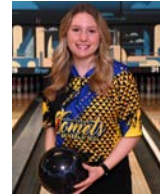


BOWLING:

Boys Team finished the season with a 14-2 record overall and 12-2 in the MAC. They were MAC Conference



Champions and the winners of the Copley Tomahawk Baker Tournament, Sectional Tournament, and District Tournament. The boys ended their season as **State Runners Up-Division II for the first time in school history.** Congratulations to **Wade Allen, Aidan Jensen, Andrew Naugle, Joey Dunn, Teagan Jensen, Jayden Oakes,** and **Coach Aaron Rose** on a fantastic season.



Senior **Madison Badida** finished 2nd individually at the girls' bowling OHSAA Sectionals and qualified for districts and 1st Team Metro Athletic Conference.

Track: Freshman **Ashlyn Smith** broke a school record in the shot put with 33'10" and placed third at the Metro Athletic Conference Championship.



WRESTLING: This season was marked by a new philosophy and coaching regime. The wrestlers were up to the challenge. In a late-season tournament, they earned three dual meet

victories and a top-10 finish, three Comets earned league honors this year: Sophomores **Evan Owen** (First team), **Kaden Orndorff** (Honorable Mention), and Freshman **Dalton Keith** (Honorable Mention). Kaden and Evan placed in the top four at sectionals and scored district victories.

SOFTBALL: The varsity softball team traveled for the 2nd year to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, over Spring Break. The Ripken Experience offers turf fields and great conditions to play 5 games against teams from Wisconsin, Illinois, and Pennsylvania. The young Comets played in some top-tier schools and gained valuable experience to take back to Ohio. The team finished 2nd in the Metro Athletic Conference.



AROUND *the* GROUNDS



CMS: Tuck point over gym entrance



ELEMENTARY ENTRYWAY

Coventry Elementary School got a makeover! The new entryway graphics make visitors feel welcome and promote safety by identifying the building's main entrance. School Pride installed the window film, partially funded by an Ohio safety grant.






TRACK RESURFACING

The 2024-2025 school year brings an exciting and necessary upgrades to our track. **We look forward to hosting high school and middle school events, especially senior night!** This summer 2024 project includes removing the old track surface and replacing the 6-lane track with a polyurethane surface made from rubber particles bound with latex or polyurethane poured over an asphalt base will require the least maintenance and repairs over time. The bleachers will also be replaced, and a concrete pad will be added for handicap accessibility.

What's the difference between GENERAL, P.I., ESSER?

Many have asked how the district spent its **COVID-19 ESSER Fund**. Great question! First, we must understand the difference between the *General Fund*, the *Permanent Improvement (P.I.) fund* and the *ESSER* fund.

-  **General Fund:** The General Fund is the primary financial source for operations, including salaries, utilities, and supplies, and is funded mainly by local taxes and state funding.
-  **P.I. (Permanent Improvement) Fund:** This is a designated fund for long-term capital improvements include renovations, major equipment purchases, and other infrastructure projects that enhance the school's facilities and assets.
-  **ESSER Fund:** Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) is federal emergency relief funding intended to help schools manage COVID-19-related expenses, such as PPE, remote learning, and addressing learning loss, with specific usage guidelines.

We received **\$3.52 million in ESSER Funds**, but there were certain restrictions on its use. The Board of Education and Administration worked with the directors of operations, facilities, and curriculum to determine what needed to be purchased, replaced, fixed, updated, etc. It was a long list with a hefty price tag. Starting last summer, the district worked with local contractors, vendors and our custodial staff to complete the projects.

This list represents major projects (paid out of the appropriate fund) to ensure fiscal responsibility, prepare our facilities for long-term use, and provide a safe environment for our students and staff.

Elementary: Bathrooms (lowering toilets, urinals & sinks), rooftop compressors, roof (with warranty), pavement in maintenance cycle, walk-in freezer and cooler, replaced front and exterior doors, frames and safety glass, replaced carpet in the main hall with tile, installed new security cameras and alarm system, and rekeyed all doors for building safety.

CES

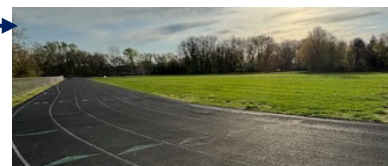
CMS



Middle: Chiller, bathroom (urinals & sinks), roof (with warranty), brick tuck point entry to the gym, pavement in maintenance cycle, dishwasher, security cameras, alarm system, security fencing and gates at the bus garage, painted the lunchroom and rekeyed all doors for building safety.
Mr. Johnsen holds the former ring of 90 keys and the NEW universal key!

CHS

High School: Recrowned the field at the Coventry Memorial Stadium, painted bleachers, fieldhouse, concession stand and press box, installed handrails, replanted grass on the practice field, and in the summer of 2024 track project: resurfacing, lighting and bleachers.



Did you know the last time the track resurfaced was in 2001?

Due to its deterioration, we have not been able to host track events on school grounds since 2019.

Specials give students opportunities to find their passions.

Students at CES participate in a four-day specials rotation throughout the school year: **Art**, **Physical Education**, **Music**, and **iLearn**. These classes are memorable for students due to their hands-on nature. In Art, their work is displayed at the end-of-year Art Show, with the “**Art in the Dark**” room being the big hit. Thanks to **Mrs. Wulff** for her amazing ideas to help our students foster creativity. In Physical Education, **Mrs. Antram** teaches students how to play games, and students show off their skills on Field Day each May. **Mrs. Galemmo** has a way with music! Students participate in an annual grade-level performance, typically drawing a standing-room-only crowd. Our kids sing, dance, and perform with smiles and confidence. **Mrs. Lorence** provides hands-on learning in the iLearn special. It is a S.T.E.A.M.-based class where students learn all about bugs and space and grow crops in a hydroponic system.



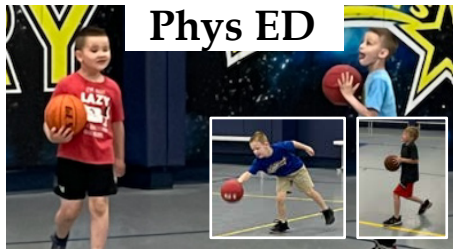
Art



Music



iLearn



Phys ED

The Science of Reading

All Coventry staff members will participate in the Science of Reading training. This Ohio Department of Education mandate aims to provide educators with evidence-based scientific information about how students become skilled **readers**.

This training aligns with our new elementary reading curriculum, Core Knowledge Language Arts® (CKLA). We are committed to ensuring that all Comets have access to instructional practices that work. Elementary School Principal **Mr. Savage** says, “Our new curriculum and Science of Reading training has improved early literacy at CES!”



For additional information about the Science of Reading, please visit the Curriculum page at www.coventryschools.org.

3rd Grade Fall OST Scores:

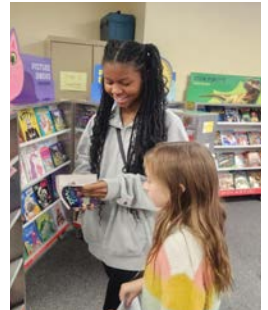
Coventry earned an 82% passage rate, the **HIGHEST in Summit County**. Small class sizes in Kindergarten and 1st grade, an increased focus on the Science of Reading and phonics in 2nd grade and the new CKLA curriculum contributed to this success. Congrats to our teachers and students for doing so well with the new program.



Holiday Helping Families:

We arranged help for 23 families and 54 kids, including gifts and food for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Book Fair: CHS and CES held a Hat Day fundraiser so every child was able to purchase a book.



Good News Club with Community Christian Church (CCPL):

More than 50 kids met after school every Tuesday. CCPL provided dinner for teachers at conferences and gave each teacher a goodie bag.



Treble Makers 4th Grade Show Choir:

The students performed at the Tudor House Christmas event and then sang at the annual Coventry Tree Lighting at the Clock Tower.

Kindergarten registration is OPEN!

Resident enrollment for **kindergarten** is now available on Final Forms. Please register your incoming Comets and pass the information to families in your neighborhood.

CMS *Bright futures*

Coventry Middle School



Robotics Competition: The Coventry Middle School Robotics Club competed in a robotics tournament in March at the Summit County ESC. **Isaac Basinger** placed 4th, and **Adam Wendel** placed 7th in the Robot Maze. **Sam Harrison** and **Ethan Walker** competed in the Sumo Robot Battle and won two of their four matches.



Vivian Barton and **Matthew Wood** were honored at the **Ohio Middle Level Association's Breakfast of Champions**. This event honors the best students from Northeast Ohio in leadership, service, scholarship and character. Vivian was honored for her exemplary character, and Matthew for his demonstration of leadership.

Ohio Middle Level Association Award



Student-produced LIVE Morning Announcements



Congratulations to our **D.A.R.E. Essay** winners! **Riley Hatfield, Maksim Krajnovic, Jaxon Poole, Brookelynn Thomas, Ava Morris, Lucas Hostetler, Keilani Nguyen, and Sukkrita Tamang.**



8th grade Guiding Stars

Cross Country: 7th grader **Owen Eder** earned 4th place at the MAC League Meet. All team members achieved personal records (PR) times this season.



7th & 8th grade Volleyball



7th & 8th Grade Choir



ROX (Ruling Our Experiences):

Twelve 6th-grade girls started the ROX under the guidance of dedicated educators, **Ms. Rittenour, Mrs. Durbin, and Mrs. Gotto**. Since 2011, ROX research, programs, and resources have helped ensure girls control their relationships, experiences, decisions, and futures. We discuss positive communication (assertive responses), problem-solving, identifying support systems and developing healthy relationships.



7th & 8th Grade Basketball: The 7th-grade boys' basketball team knocked out the #1 seed Streetsboro Rockets and were runners-up in the Metro Athletic Conference Championship game held at Coventry in front of a sold-out middle school gym.

CHECK OUT THE LATEST EPISODE

COMET CONNECTIONS

A Comet Produced Podcast Showcasing Relationships

COVENTRY'S PODCAST

Comet Connections is a district-produced podcast that shares the positive relationships and networking that make Coventry Local Schools a wonderful place! Curriculum director **Donny Schenz** has had some inspiring conversations with staff members throughout the district this year.



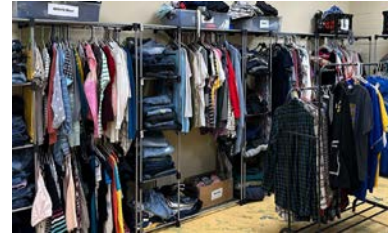
Is there someone you would like him to talk to? Search Comet Connections on Spotify or Apple Podcasts.



Esports: The CHS Esports team had 30 students and consisted of 5 teams. Two teams made the playoffs for the first time in the program's history. The **Reserve** team finished in 3rd place, and the **Premier** team earned a solid 2nd place finish, losing two close matches against Warrensville Heights. Senior **Tae'Vion Melton** was nominated for the Esports Ohio State Super Smash Brothers All-Star match. Only the best in the state were nominated by Esports Ohio.



Academic Challenge: In February, our Comets were one of 19 teams that competed in a tournament at Kent State University. Congrats to **Tyler Gould** and **Brooke Welsh**, who posted a 215-85 win against Cloverleaf. **Mrs. Zganjar** wishes to recognize **Tyler Gould**, **Brooke Welsh**, **Gabriel Funk**, and **Colton Crawford** for their hard work!



Comet Closet:

CHS opened the Comet Closet with the generous support of the Tari Sams Tracy Foundation and Wednesday's Child. They offer new and gently used clothing and toiletries to all students.



Art: Congratulations to Seniors **Lauren Davis** and **Ali Borcoman** for having their art selected to compete in the State Jurying process of the 2024 Ohio Governor's Youth Art Exhibition.



The **CHS Building Alliance Team** frequently visits CES to help foster valuable lessons. In March, they worked with 3rd and 4th graders to learn about friendship. The students rotated through stations created by the **high school team**. We hope to continue this partnership with **Mrs. Brustoski** and **Mrs. Rethmel**.



Writing Contest: **Mrs. Jacobs** and her English students submitted entries in the **36th Annual Akron-Summit Holocaust Arts & Writing Contest**. **Jaxon Anderson** received 2nd place in the Fiction Division, and **Bella Dean** and **Braylen Wenzel** received Honorable Mention in the Nonfiction Division. The winners were recognized at a Holocaust Commemoration and Awards Ceremony in May.



Veteran's Day Assembly:

CHS hosted 15 veterans and their families at the student-led Veteran's Day assembly, featuring music, videos, and artwork. The names of family members who had served and connections to Coventry were recognized. **Mr. Hutchinson** presented his original painting as a gift to the high school.



National Honor Society: The NHS is the oldest and most prestigious honorary society open to high school students. The three principles of NHS are Character, Leadership and Service. To apply, a student must be a junior or senior with a 3.5 GPA or higher. Please congratulate the following 2024 inductees: **Madison Badida**, **Brooklyn Taylor**, **Cooper Carmichael**, **Caden Korora**, **Jordyn Kline**, **Sabrina Wei**, **Brooke Welsh**, **Audrey Wallace**, **Karson McGraw**, **Andrew Naugle**, **Gavin Hamrick**, **Martha Dolensky**, **Jaden Keenan**, **Lauren Givens**, and **Aunna Coteat**.

National Technical Honor Society Members (Portage Lakes Career Center): **Nicholas McDuffie** and **Paige Mickunas**

Want to know what's happening in the district?

Visit our homepage and scroll to the bottom for the District Master Calendar.

MUSIC & more

Congrats to the
PLCC Licensed
Cosmetologist!



The **Coventry High School Symphonic Band** received an overall Superior (1) rating at Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) District 6 Large Group. They also earned straight Superior ratings from the four adjudicators, including the sight-reading adjudicator!



At the OMEA Solo and Ensemble, eight soloists and the two ensembles received Superior (1) or Excellent (2).

Senior saxophonist **Kyle Lamp** performed with the 2024 OMEA All-State Band in Columbus in February. He also joined the *United States Marine Band*. Senior **Joey Dunn** is a *Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra* member who played principal trumpet in Shostakovich's 5th Symphony and is also a member of the Youth Orchestra for the 2023-2024 season.



The **Treble Choir** performed beautifully at a Large Group Adjudicated Event. All three judges raved



about their tone and musicality. They received a Superior (1) rating.



The **Bands-in-the-Round** (above) concert showcased 159 students from grades 5-12. The 2nd annual event featured performances by each band and ended with a mass band rendition of "Louie, Louie." **Choir Concert** (below): 148 choir students (grades 5-12) performed in a district concert. Both events promote a healthy music program.



Drama Club: CHS students performed *You Can't Take It With You*, a play about the important things in life: family and friends!



Special thanks to **Mr. Ballog** and the set crew. Each actor gave a great performance. *Congrats to our Comet Thespians!*

Career-Based Intervention:

CBI is a senior class built to

We prepare our students for the real world by focusing on the three E's: ENROLL, ENLIST and EMPLOY. During school, we offer a college fair, the ASVAB and the Job Fair & Career Expo. Students work on job, college, and scholarship applications throughout the year and end the year with their perfect resumes. Guest speakers present their thoughts, ideas, and experiences throughout the year, helping prepare them for the real world.

Comet Unity Club:

The Comet "Unity" club, which included football & basketball players earned up to 507 hours of community service. We are proud of their commitment to helping others. Councilman **Donnie Kamer** presented them with a proclamation. The Comet Unity Club is serving again this summer.



Key Club sent over 50 members to 12 houses to help the elderly rake leaves during the annual fall cleanup. Coventry residents complimented the students on their work.

Student Assistance Program

is a student-centered coalition of supports focused on promoting positive emotional, and behavioral functioning. Teachers, counselors, staff members, and parents can make referrals regarding various concerns. The program is facilitated by staff member **Mrs. Brustoski**, a former focus behavior coordinator at CES/CMS. **For information or to make a referral, visit our website or email Mrs. Bru at sbrustoski@coventryschools.org.**



We are thankful for their contributions to Coventry Schools and wish them an enjoyable **RETIREMENT!** **Audrey Baker, Frederica Dial, Lori Hall, Joann Hamrick, Lisa Holland, Lori Mitchell, Bev Novak, Celeste Powell, and Jennifer Spencer.**

[#cometsforever](https://www.instagram.com/cometsforever)

FINANCES

- from The Office of the Treasurer



In 2021, the **Coventry Local School District** was released from the state's **Fiscal Emergency** designation. After decades of financial hardship, we finally reached fiscal stability. Since then, the district has **maintained positive year-end balances** while addressing significant facility needs, improving safety and security measures, and, most importantly, providing students with a well-rounded education.

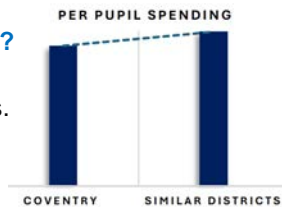
Credit Rating: Within one year, Coventry earned two credit rating improvements with Moody's Investor Services. The first improvement was in November 2022, when our "Baa3" rating was improved to a "Baa2." In April 2023, Moody recognized us again and upgraded our ratings to a **"Baa1" with a positive outlook.**

Clean Audit: On May 15, 2024, the Coventry Local School District received one of Ohio's highest honors, the **Auditor of State Award for accounting excellence.** The Auditor of the State presents this award only to those entities that meet the state's rigorous reporting requirements and criteria for a "clean" financial audit. (www.ohioauditor.gov/financial/awards.html)

How much does Coventry spend per student compared to similar districts?

On average, CLSD spends slightly less per student compared to similar districts.

- Coventry = \$11,833/student
- Similar Districts = \$11,916/student



Source: 2023 State Report Card



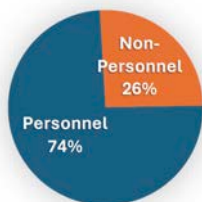
CHS Rising Stars Academic team

Coventry Local School District
3257 Corman Rd
Akron, OH 44319



What are the sources of revenue for CLSD, a public school district?

- Local Property Taxes (58%)
- Ohio School Funding (37%)
- Grants & Misc. Sources (5%)



How does the district use its funds?

Personnel costs: 74%
Non-personnel costs: 26%
 Purchased Services (18%), Supplies (2%), Equipment (2%), Debt Payments (1%), Misc. Items (2%)

Positive 5-Year Forecast:

The district's positive 5-Year Forecast anticipates a favorable ending cash balance over the next five years, **bolstered by ongoing community support for current levies.**

The Board of Education and Administration is dedicated to strengthening and safeguarding this balance for taxpayers.

SAVE THE DATES

- 6/3 – 6/7 CES Camp Invention
- 6/11 – 6/14 CES Safety City
- 6/10 – 6/14 CES Elementary Art Camp
- 7/3 – 7/12 CHS Comet Unity
- 8/5 – 8/7 CES Get Ready for School & 8/12–8/14 (Incoming kindergarten)
- 8/5 – 8/16 CES Acclimation Camp (grades 1-2)
- 8/16: CHS Football Preview Night: Tari Sams Tracy Soap Game
Accepting *toiletory donations as admission*
- 8/20: CMS Comet Camp (entering 5th grade/new students)
- 8/21: First day of school kindergarten - 9th grade
- 8/22: First day of school for 10th - 12th grades
- 8/23: CHS *The Return of the Battle of Route 93 – Alumni & Hall of Fame Night at the Stadium*

The Coventry Local School District adopted the **Strategic Plan for the 2023-2026 school years.**

This three-year road map details the district's goals for safety and wellness, academics, community relations, fiscal integrity and accountability, and facilities and operations. The plan is available on our website.

Fiscal information can be found on the Treasurer's page under District Departments at www.coventryschools.org.



Thank you to the **Coventry Schools Foundation**, who annually raise money for teacher grants (over \$10,000) and senior scholarships (\$5,000). Their next fundraising event is the **Annual Corn Roast on Thursday, August 26, from 6-9 p.m. at Prime Vine Winery. ALL ARE INVITED.**

Get Connected!

Follow us on Facebook at @Coventry Comets.

Visit our website at www.coventryschools.org for info, announcements & calendar of events.

