Notes from the Superintendent

On Thursday, January 4, the Kalida School District was awarded a plaque from the State Board of Education designating the district as “Excellent.” Kalida is the only school in Putnam County and one of only a handful in the entire state that has received an excellent rating on the statewide district report card for six consecutive years. This award serves as statewide recognition to the teachers, parents, and students of the Kalida Local Schools for outstanding academic achievement.

While we are quite proud of this accomplishment, the district is currently in the process of ratcheting up our curriculum to offer a wider selection of Advanced Placement Courses and other electives. The Ohio Achievement Tests are tests of minimum standards at specific grade levels. After grade 10, there are no other standardized measures of Academic Performance except for the ACT and SAT. It is the goal of the district to provide coursework beyond what is required by the State in order to better prepare our students for success beyond high school.

The new Core Course Curriculum was passed during the last two days that the Ohio General Assembly was in session for 2006. Parts of the bill have already been vetoed by former Governor Taft. The majority of Kalida students will not be affected by this legislation because they are already completing the necessary coursework without it being mandated at the state level. I hope to have more information regarding this new legislation before next month’s newsletter.

Mark K. Neal, Superintendent

Funding Educational Enhancements

Thank you to the enhancement committee and reserved seat season ticket holders!

When the enhancement committee was established one of the things the members wanted to accomplish was a way to continue funding educational enhancements on an annual basis. One of the ways the committee decided to do this was to add two additional dollars to the price of a reserved seat season ticket per game. The additional money raised from the sale of these seats would be set aside to fund teacher requested classroom enhancements, and for the second year in a row the committee was able to do just that.

At the last enhancement committee meeting they agreed to fund the purchase of a classroom mailbox/organizational system for Mrs. Laudick in the elementary, a preserved animal survey set for the high school science department, and a Skill Reporter Resusci Annie and CPR prompt manikin for Mr. McBride’s high school health classes. Overall the committee agreed to fund over $2500 in purchases to benefit our students. Through discussions and contacts on the enhancement committee we were also able to secure over $5000 worth of science equipment from *Pfizer* in Ann Arbor, Michigan. *Pfizer* donated 12 scientific hot plates with stirrers and an analytical balance.
Congratulations to retired high school teacher Bob Gerdeman for being awarded the 2006 Western Lake Erie Leadership Award from the American Red Cross. Mr. Gerdeman was recognized for his commitment, resourcefulness and hard work to consistently meet goals for the local chapter of the American Red Cross. Mr. Gerdeman was chair to the KHS bloodmobile collections during his tenure at Kalida schools.

In addition, the proper procedure for filling out the Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) will be explained. The FAFSA or Free Application For Student Assistance is the governmental form which must be filled out by the student and his/her parent(s) in order to determine the student’s eligibility for financial aid. Many colleges and universities also require that it be filled out if a student wishes to be considered for funds that the respective schools distribute. Parents of juniors are encouraged to attend this meeting if they wish to get a headstart in the college process.

“Choosing a College” Seminar Scheduled for Interested Parents
It is not too late to sign up for the “How to Help Your Son or Daughter Choose a College” seminar sponsored by BGSU. This seminar is designed for sophomore and junior parents and has been scheduled for Monday, January 15 from 6 – 7 PM in the old high school library for parents of sophomores and juniors who might want assistance in college planning. See Mr. Clement to sign up now!

High School Jeopardy?
KHS Academic team began its season on January 3. The Varsity team players include: Austin Barnhart, Justin Kahle, Shawn Smith, Kevin Erhart, Brandon Kortokrax, Brent Heitmeyer, Chris Kahle, Trent Smith, Neal Lammers, Alan Verhoff, Brittany Schroeder, Austin Basinger, and Matt Schnipke. The varsity team is coached by Mr. Robert Gasser. JV members are: Abby Schroeder, Liz Foppe, Rob Gerd- ing, Kayla Kromer, Jill Hoffman, Dean Schnipke, Nicole Warnecke, Ryan Kimmel, Jenna Kahle, Brittany Bockrath, Kasie Bellmann, Leah Gerding, Doug McIntyre, Makenna Basinger, Erica Schmenk, Kyle Hoffman, Jeff Gerd ing, Katie Kromer and Stephanie Verhoff. JV coach is Mrs. Janice Gasser.

Dates for future matches are listed below. Home teams are in boldface.
Jan. 10 Kalida vs. Wayne Trace
Jan. 17 Kalida vs. Ft. Jennings
Jan. 24 Continental vs. Kalida
Jan. 31 Kalida vs Columbus Grove
Feb. 7 Pandora-Gilboa vs Kalida
Feb. 14 Kalida vs. Ottoville
Feb. 21 Ottawa-Glandorf vs. Kalida
Feb. 28 Kalida vs. Miller City

~ Special Recognition ~

- Congratulations to Kalida boys soccer coach Mark Czubik who has received the Ron Pinsenschaum Award from the Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association. This is the highest award presented to participating coaches recognizing their excellence in sportsmanship and character. Coach Czubik has been Kalida’s boys soccer coach for 18 seasons.

- Congratulations to retired high school teacher Bob Gerdman for being awarded the 2006 Western Lake Erie Leadership Award from the American Red Cross. Mr. Gerdman was recognized for his commitment, resourcefulness and hard work to consistently meet goals for the local chapter of the American Red Cross. Mr. Gerdman was chair to the KHS bloodmobile collections during his tenure at Kalida schools.
HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOKS TO GO ON SALE!
Beginning January 8, the 2006-2007 Edition of the Kalidascope “It’s Not Just Black & White” will go on sale. This year’s edition is very special as it will be the first edition to be printed in ALL-COLOR! Orders will be taken the week of January 8-12 during both junior high and high school lunch periods. Orders may also be returned to the high school office or to Mrs. Stacy Knueve, yearbook adviser.

The price of this year’s book will be $45. One and two lines of personalization are also available. Again this year, your first line of personalization will be FREE. This offer will only be available through the month of January! After January, the price will increase to $50.

To order, complete the included order form and return it along with your check made payable to Kalidascope to the high school office during regular school hours. You may also mail your order with check to the high school at PO Box 269, Kalida, OH 45853. Additional order forms may be found online at the Kalida High School webpage (http://kalida.k12.oh.us/highschool.htm).

2007 Kalidascope Order Form

Name:__________________________ Grade:_____
Home Address: _____________________________________________
City: ____________________ ZIP: ________ Phone: __________

YEARBOOK PRICING (All prices include free 1st line personalization)
[ ] Early Bird Price (price through January 31, 2007) $45
[ ] Regular Price (price after January 31, 2007) $50

PERSONALIZATION OPTIONS (Be sure to check one of the following options)
[ ] First-Line Personalization (PLEASE PRINT)...FREE

Name of each member ____________________________
And include $5 per person listed
Thank you!

Join NOW and Support OUR Wildcats!
The Kalida Athletic Boosters Annual Membership Drive

What is it? This is an organization created to support the Kalida High School Athletic Programs.
Why Join? Show your support for local athletics! Also your name is entered into a monthly drawing. Winners are pulled at each meeting. If you are present at the meeting you will win $50. If not present, you will win $10. NEW this year will be our Early Bird Drawing. This will apply to any 2007 member that is signed up by January 15. If your dues are paid, your name could be pulled at half time of the home game against Leipsic on January 27. One lucky member will receive $100.
Who can be a member? Anyone! How much is it? $5.00 per person, per calendar year.
Just complete the form below and mail it to Athletic Boosters, P.O. Box 556, Kalida, OH 45853. You may also sign up and drop off memberships at home boys’ or girls’ basketball games.

Please respond by January 15, 2007
And include $5 per person listed
Thank you!
Vantage AB Honor Roll
First Quarter

**SENIORS**
- Andy Miller
- Joy Miller
- Michael Recker
- Alison Schnipke
- Andrea Van Oss
- Ross Warnecke

**JUNIORS**
- Emily Erhart
- Sean Fischlnich
- Aaron Geckle
- Ross Hamilton
- Brandon Vorst

Happy Reading!
A big “thank you” to everyone who supported the Kalida Elementary Library’s Scholastic Book Fair this past November/December. The library will be able to purchase over 80 hardbound books with the proceeds from the book fair!!

We want to thank the following people for helping at the book fair: Cheryl Fortman, Joyce Wurth, Mary Lou Merschman, Carol Bockrath, Rita Illif, Denise Ellerbrock, Joann Horstman, Kelly Wurth, Cheryl Kromer, Doris Noffsinger, Connie Cleemput, Darlene Imm, and Tammy Schroeder.

*Mary Lou Hoffman and Denise Scherer, Book Fair Co-Chairpersons*

Vantage National Technical Honor Society

Eighteen Vantage seniors from ten different home schools were selected as members of the Vantage Chapter of the National Technical Honor Society.

They were introduced and inducted at the annual NTHS banquet on December 12, 2006.

Kalida students selected for membership in the National Technical Honor Society for the 2006 school year are Michael Recker-(Industrial Mechanics) and Andrea Van Oss- (Cosmetology). The main purpose of the National Technical Honor Society is to reward scholastic achievement in occupational and career technical education. The NTHS assists members in their pursuit of career and educational goals. Students are selected for membership in NTHS as a reward for excellence in workforce education; to develop self-esteem, pride and encourage students to reach for higher levels of achievement; and to promote business and industry’s critical work-place values - honesty, responsibility, initiative, teamwork, productivity, leadership, and citizenship.

Students who achieved a 3.5 grade point average or better, while maintaining a 95% attendance rate at Vantage, were eligible to apply for membership. In addition to submitting a resume and writing a paragraph stating why they would like to be a part of the NTHS, the students also were required to obtain three teacher recommendations.

Congratulations to these National Technical Honor Society members!

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We want to thank the following people for helping at the book fair: Cheryl Fortman, Joyce Wurth, Mary Lou Merschman, Carol Bockrath, Rita Illif, Denise Ellerbrock, Joann Horstman, Kelly Wurth, Cheryl Kromer, Doris Noffsinger, Connie Cleemput, Darlene Imm, and Tammy Schroeder.

*Mary Lou Hoffman and Denise Scherer, Book Fair Co-Chairpersons*

Science Fair Open House
**Tues. Feb. 6  6:00 - 7:00 PM**
We invite parents, students and the community to stop in and check out the high school students’ science projects on display in the high school auditoria on Tuesday, Feb.6.
Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the Month in October, February, April and August at 7:00 PM in the High School Band Room.

Feel free to attend any of the meetings and share your ideas!

Proceeds benefit students in the following Music Department Groups:

- 5th & 6th Grade Band
- Junior High Band
- Junior High Choir
- High School Band
- High School Choir

Recent Purchases include:
- Choir Robes for the High School Choir
- Miscellaneous Costs for Marching Band Clinicians & Musical Arrangements
- Band Equipment Trailer

2006-2007 Fundraisers
- Election Night Dinner
- 50/50 Club for Music Instruments
- Concessions at Home Varsity & Reserve Volleyball and Basketball Games

Contact any of the current officers for further information about the Music Boosters:
- President: Lori Erhart
- Vice President: Blyth Turnwald
- Basketball Concessions: Mary Smith
- Basketball Concessions Apprentice: NEEDED
- Volleyball Concessions: Mary Hoffman
- Election Night Dinner: Bonnie Knueve & Karen Kerner