

Spring 2025



Brinkman named Superintendent

It is with great excitement that I step into the role of Superintendent of Kalida Local Schools. For the past eight years, I have had the privilege of serving as Kalida's Middle School/High School Principal, a role that has allowed me to build strong relationships with students, staff, and the greater Kalida community. Before coming to Kalida, I spent five years as the Elementary Principal at Ottawa Elementary and nine years at Lima Central Catholic as both a teacher and Dean of Academics. These experiences have shaped my leadership approach, and I look forward to continuing the district's tradition of excellence in this new role.

On a personal note, my wife, Allie, and I both share a passion for education. She is a teacher at Miller City-New Cleveland High School, and together we stay busy keeping up with our two sons—Vinnie, a senior, and Noah, a sophomore—who attend Ottawa-Glandorf High School. Our family has truly felt embraced by this community, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Kalida Schools in a greater capacity.

I want to thank the Kalida Board of Education for their trust in me as I transition into this new role. I also want to recognize Karl Lammers for his dedication and steady leadership, which has helped strengthen our schools in so many ways. I will have big shoes to fill. His impact on Kalida Local Schools has been lasting, and I appreciate the strong foundation he has built. As I step into this position, I am eager to work alongside our talented staff, dedicated students, and supportive families to continue pushing Kalida Schools forward. As Superintendent, my focus will remain on the students. We will continue to strive for student growth, student achievement, and student well-being. The future is bright, and I am excited to get started. I wish everyone a joyous Spring--and as always Wildcat PRIDE!



KES PTO Spring Flower Sale



Kalida Elementary students are selling vouchers for 10" hanging baskets for \$20 each. Orders for vouchers will be collected from March

31 to April 11 from any elementary student or by contacting the Elementary Office at 419-532-3845.

Vouchers will be given to students for delivery prior to May 1.

Vouchers can be used to pick up the hanging baskets from May 1 to May 31 at:

The Greenhouse on Main 300 N. Main St. Columbus Grove

2024-25 School Calendar

- 3/21/25—School will be in Session—Make-Up Day
- 4/2 & 4/3 Kindergarten Screening
- 4/11, 12, 13-High School Musical- "Mary Poppins"
- 4/18/25—Spring Break Begins—No School
- 4/21/25—Classes Resume—Make-Up Day
- 4/22/25—Spring Band Concert 8 p.m.—Grades 5-12
- 5/1/25—Spring Choir Concert 8 p.m.—Grades 7-12
- 5/3/25—Junior/Senior Prom
- 5/7/25—Academic Awards Ceremony
- 5/21/25—Last Day for Students –2 Hour Early Dismissal
- 5/22/25—Teacher Workday
- 5/25/25—Graduation—Class of 2025
- 5/26/25—Memorial Day

8/19/25—1st Day of Classes for 2025-26

Gene Stechschulte Award



Bob Gerdeman has been selected to receive the 2025 Gene Stechschulte Award for his involvement with and support of our youth over his long career with Kalida Schools. Retired Hall of Fame KHS Soccer

Coach Mark Czubik, who nominated Bob, said, "It became evident early on to me how much Bob cared about my players, not only athletically, but also as students representing Kalida High School and the town of Kalida." Mark also indicated that Bob always had something positive to say about his

players or team, and Bob displayed this genuine support for every sport and team while at Kalida.

Mr. Gerdeman taught various high school science courses at KHS for 35 years, along with 13 years of driver's education. He also served as assistant principal for 11 years. He was involved in curriculum committees, sports medicine committees, Red Cross blood drives, class advisor, National Honor Society, and served as science fair coordinator for 34 years.

On the athletic front, Coach Gerdeman coached basketball at the high school level for 30 years, including being on

Coach Kortokrax's staff for the 1981 state championship.

Coach Gerdeman also coached high school baseball for 12 years, cross country for 9 years, and served as athletic director for 13 years.

Gene Stechschulte was a strong supporter of the youth of Kalida. In memory of Gene, this award was created to recognize others who encourage youngsters in everything they do, whether it is music, sports, academics or just being a good person. Because of Gene and people like Bob Gerdeman, the young people of Kalida have many positive role models to support them.





VANJAGE <u>CAREER</u> <u>CENTER</u> <u>GET THE EDGE</u>

Mock Interview Day *Ava Vorst* prepped and ready for the Senior Mock Interview day held in early March. Here they put their interviewing skills to the test by highlighting their certifications,

licenses, current work experiences, career field knowledge, future plans and more as they prepare to begin their next phase in life.

SkillsUSA

Clayton Manz (Paulding) and *Brady Lehman* (*Kalida*) achieved 4th Place at the State Ag Power Diagnostics competiton. They were each awarded a \$5,000 scholarship to UNOH at the Northwest Ohio SkillsUSA State competition.





Putnam County Scholastic League Tournament

On March 14 the Varsity Academic Club team participated in the Putnam County Scholastic Bowl Tournament. The team finished with a 9-6-1 regular season record and a third place finish at the tournament.

Congratulations to the academic club team and their advisor, Dale Liebrecht. Members include (front row:) Conner Nartker, Drake Zeller, Kyla Grime, Camdyn Warnecke, Gabbi Brinkman, Grace Schroeder, Kate Foppe, Makenna Peck. (Back row:) Ryan Verhoff, Ryan Schnipke, Grant Fortman, Drew Meyer, Cole Goubeaux, and Grady Kuhlman. *Absent from the picture are Madelvn Houck and*

Emma von der Embse.

Third Quarter Honor Roll Middle School All "A" Honors

5th Grade— Natalie Barnhart, Gabriella Buss, Briggs Fortman, Scarlett Hanneman, Sheldon, Kleman, Josie Leis, Maria Liebrecht, Adam Meyer, Harrison Miller, Afton Morman, Jon Parisi, Grace Sarka, Everly Schnipke, Ella Schroeder, Nolan Sizemore, Brynn Stechschulte, Adalynn Swyers, Brylee Unverferth, Addison Vorst, Reed Warnecke
6th Grade— Jacob Bockrath, Owen Bockrath, Kaley Dickman, Collin Grime, Owen Heitmeyer, Lexi Huber, Macy Kahle, Trenton Kahle, Juliana Kallay, Logan Klaus, Cooper Nienberg, Natalie Recker, Will Recker, Colt Schumaker, Kensley Smith, Adam Unverferth, Jenna Unverferth

7th Grade—Loralei Goedde, Jagger Klaus, Anna Kline, Zachary Lucke, Ava Niemeyer, Nora Schumacher, Melanie Wannemacher, Lillian Wehri

8th Grade—Avery Bockrath, Ethan Dickman, Matthew Foppe, Collin Horstman, Ava Huber, Emma Jerwers, Katelin Knueve, Easton Michel, John Recker, Valarie Romes, Raelyn Schnipke, Lyla Siebeneck, Mallory Unverferth, Rylee Unverferth, Mason Warnecke

Middle School "AB" Honors

5th Grade—Brody Bruskotter, Ali Buss, Jaci Goubeaux, Parker Kaufman, Gage Klaus, Kourtney Kline, Alayna Langhals, Kamree Miller, Chase Rellinger, Adria Schnipke, Connor Schnipke, Adlee Unverferth, Kamdon Warnecke, Emma Weber, Carter Young

6th Grade—Lyla Becker, Grayson Birkemeier, Vivian Gossard, Kiersten Heitmeyer, Ariel Kemp, Avery Kerner, Lauren Knueve, Lilian Krouse, Ethan Langhals, Brynleigh Michel, Miley Schulte, Zachary Simon, Evelyn Slusser, Maddox Stennett, Ayden Unverferth, Cohen Unverferth, Kyla Unverferth, Bristol Vorst, Henry Wehri, Connor Young 7th Grade—Erica Basinger, Makenzie Bendele, Carley Birkemeier, Hayden Bockrath, Avery Bruskotter, Camryn Buss, Kellen Ellerbrock, Gavin Gehres, Julia Grime, Lucas Hammond, Shayla Krouse, Owen Langhals, Evan Leis, Anna McVey, Ava Meyer, Andrew Potts, Cooper Rampe, Riley Ricker, Owen Schnipke, Ivan Schroeder, Lawson Strauer, Kyla Unverferth, Gavin Verhoff

8th Grade—Rebekah Bendele, Hayden Birkemeier, Aiden Bockrath, Brock Bockrath, Griffin Dettrow, Toby Goubeaux, Kalvin Hovest, Charlie Hutchins, Alyssa Kahle, Hunter Klausing, Annaleice Maag, Madelyn Miller, Chad Recker, Jackson Schulte, Grant Sehlhorst, Eli Selhorst, Gwen Stechschulte, Flynn Unverferth, Landon Unverferth, Quinn Unverferth, Braden Wagner, Bentley Wasson, Nolan Wurth

High School All "A" Honors

Freshmen—Corinne Brinkman, Grady Houck, Brylie Krouse, Taylor Nienberg, Charles (Leo) Parisi, Emma Shininger *Sophomores*—Hannah Bendele, Adam Bockrath, Morgan Bockrath, Addilyn Huber, Mallory Kerner, Sophia Meyer, Amber Moore, Anna Schumacher, Nicole Siebeneck, Carlie Siefker, Kennedy Simon, Maya Wehri

Juniors-Katelyn Foppe, Kyla Grime, Logan Kerner, Elijah Patrick, Isabel Recker, Grace Schroeder, Alexander Shininger, Camdyn Warnecke

Seniors—Gabrielle Brinkman, Laura Doepker, Grant Fortman, Katherine Krouse, Allie Kuhlman, Drew Meyer, Olivia Meyer, Jackson Schroeder, Braylon Smith, Madison Unverferth

High School "AB" Honors

Freshmen—Tobin Anspach, Brant Bockrath, Kallie Bockrath, Addelyn Brinkman, Emerson Burgei, Isabelle Buss, Madelyn Cattell, Owen Grime, Kendyl Klima, Avery Miller, Sophia Potts, Christopher Rall, Logan Rampe, Lillian Schnipke, Lucas Schroeder, Luke Siefker, Aubrey Simon, Paul Stechschulte, Brady Unverferth, Leah Unverferth, Penny Vandercook, Grace Verhoff, Lincoln Warnecke

Sophomores—Addison Brokamp, Cody Decker, Cooper Horstman, Riley Horstman, Oliver Kahle, Max Langhals, Enna Meyers, Kylie Peck, Cody Recker, Makenzie Remlinger, Josh Schulte, Aubree Sickles, Isabelle Swyers, Macy Unverferth, Zachary Unverferth, Ruby Vandercook

Juniors—Lauren Bockrath, Cole Goubeaux, Gage Hammond, Karlie Heitmeyer, Jaxon Hoffman,

Aiden Hundley, Kendal Krouse, Grady Kuhlman, Kara Lammers, Lauren Laudick, Caden Looser, Claire Nartker, Mylie Rampe, Madison Ricker, Malia Romes, Ryan Schnipke, Isabella Schroeder, Owen Siebeneck, Landon Verhoff, Parker Vorst

Seniors—Madelyn Houck, Alison Landwehr, Ethan Langhals, Makenna Peck, Grace Rall, Lauren Schulte, Jacob Siebeneck, Jack Stechschulte, Reese Strauer, Avrie Unverferth, Ryan Verhoff, Drake Zeller

**Vantage and Apollo Honor Roll will be available March 28th. The newsletter will be updated after they are received. **

JUNIOR HIGH SCIENCE FAIR Newly Named— "PUTNAM COUNTY STEM SYMPOSIUM"

Congratulations to the 7th graders who participated in the Putnam County STEM Symposium on February 1. Superior projects were awarded to: the team projects of Gavin Gehres, Andrew Potts, and Spencer Horstman; Lillian Wehri, Melanie Wannemacher, and Loralei Goedde; Nora Schumacher and Carley Birkemeier; and Erica Basinger and Abby Stechschulte, and one individual project by Riley Ricker. Riley Ricker also earned the Outstanding Chemistry Award. Erica Basinger and Abby Stechschulte received the Outstanding Behavioral Science & Mental Health Award. The STEM Excellence Team Award was received by Lillian Wehri, Melanie Wannemacher and Loralei Goedde. Thank you and congratulations to all the students who worked diligently on their projects and presented them at the 2025 Putnam County STEM Symposium.



Senior Art Awards of Merit



Katherine Krouse 📱



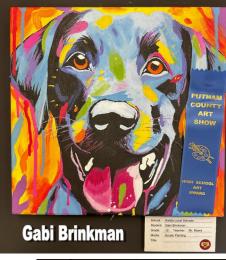
Congratulations to all students that had artwork selected for the Putnam County Art Show this year. Students receiving an "Award of Merit" were Chloe Chalklin, Brylie Krouse, Beatriz Sarteschi Hortas, Alex Shininger, Madelynn Myers, Madison Ricker, and Laura Doepker. Students receiving TWO "Awards of Merit" were Addi Huber, Morgan Bockrath, Izzy Recker, and Katherine Krouse. Congratulations to Gabi Brinkman for receiving "THREE Awards of Merit".

Thank you to all that participated and a special thank you to the students and families that were able to carve time out of their schedule to support the arts!

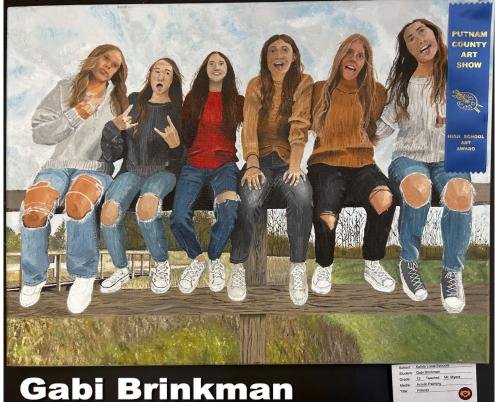




Laura Doepker







Junior Art - Award of Merit

ART ANNARD

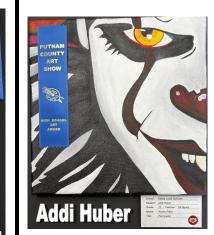
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Izzy Recker 📱

Madelynn Myers

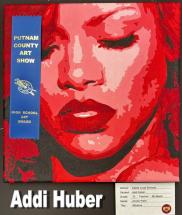
Madison Ricker

Sophomore Art - Awards of Merit

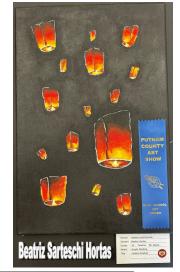


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Alex Shininger







Spring Musical April 12, 13, & 14

Director, Mrs. Gracyn Schwieterman, and Assistant Director, Mrs. Wendy Stechschulte, have been

working with a cast of 43 actors and actresses to present to you this year's musical, Mary Poppins.

Friday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, April 12 at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, April 13 at 2:30 p.m.

\$ 7.00 for general admission\$ 9.00 for reserved seating

Tickets can be purchased at the Kalida School Administrative Office (419-532-3534) *April 1-4 and April 7-11 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.* Tickets will also be sold prior to each show while supplies last.

Music Booster Drawings

March Winners

\$50 Winners Bonnie Knueve Ethan Langhals Kathy Ehrnsberger

Leo Wortkoetter Sara & Gary Kuhlman Erin Hoffman

April Winners

\$200 Winner—Alice Adams\$150 Winner—Jamie Roller\$100 WinnersDawn HaschBecky Unverferth (Kyle)(Kelley)Heather Bockrath\$75 WinnersJeret LandwehrBen Unverferth\$50 WinnersLinda HonigfortMeghann MyersMaddalyn Nienberg



Kalida Band 4 Miler

Registration is open for the Kalida Band 4 Miler on May 10 held at the Kalida 4 Seasons Park. Register online at Kalida Band 4 Miler website. Fee is \$20 plus a \$2.70

signup fee. Participants will receive a free t-shirt. Refreshments will be served along with water stops on the course. Walkers are welcome. Placing awards given for overall and age groups.

https://https://runsignup.com/race/OH/Kalida/ KalidaBand4Miler

Race day registration begins at 7:30 a.m. at 429 West Northland Dr., Kalida, OH US 45853. The race starts at 9:00 a.m.

Proceeds support the Kalida Music Department Trip fund.

Music Department



High School OMEA Solo & Ensemble

Due to the weather and poor road conditions, the high school OMEA Solo and Ensemble contest was canceled. We want to acknowledge the hard work, extra practice time and dedication these students put forth to be prepared to participate. We hope these students continue to strive to put forth time to enhance your musical talent. A shout out to those who shared their vocal pieces with us at the Music in our Schools Month High School Concert on March 3.

Trumpet Soloist Henry Maag Trumpet Soloist Cody Decker Tenor Saxophone Soloist Alex Calvelage Trombone Soloist Rilev Horstman Women's Vocal Ensemble: Madelyn Houck, Kyla Grime, Madelynn Myers, Amber Moore, Aubree Sickles, Maya Wehri, Kendal Klima, Olivia Landwehr Vocal Trio Madelyn Houck, Grady Houck, Amber Moore Vocal Soloist Madelyn Houck Vocal Soloist Kyla Grime Vocal Soloist Madelynn Myers Vocal Soloist Amber Moore Vocal Soloist Aubree Sickles Vocal Soloist Kendyl Klima Vocal Soloist Olivia Landwehr



The Sound of Gratitude

A huge thank you to outgoing Music Booster members **Brenda Burgei and Susan Johanns** for their years of service to the Music Boosters. Their hard work and dedication have made a significant impact on our music program. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new members Susan Kortokrax, Melissa Langhals, Alissia Schumacher,

Wendy Stechschulte, Brooke Sickles, Janice Foppe, and Heather Shininger! Their dedication during a successful season of volleyball and basketball concessions has been invaluable, and we are excited to have them on board.

If you're passionate about supporting music education, fundraising, or helping organize events, we'd love for you to join our team. We're always looking for volunteers to assist with events, uniforms, or fundraising efforts.

Interested in getting involved? Contact **Melissa Langhals at 419-230-9163** or join us at our next meeting to learn more about how you can make a difference on April 29 at 7:30 PM in the High School Band Room.



Morgan Schroeder and her husband, Tyler, welcomed Theodore (Theo) into this world on Friday, February 7, at 12:27 a.m. Morgan is the 5th and 6th grade intervention specialist.





Caitlyn Morris and her husband, Tyler, welcomed Avila Marie into this world on Monday, February 24, at 10:10 p.m. Catilyn is our 5th and 6th grade Language Arts teacher.

2025 Indoor High School State Championship Meet

Dylan Siefker Shot Put 49'7" Lauren Laudic 60M - 8.33 200M - 26.37 400M - 60.09



Winter Sports News

7th Grade Girls Basketball PCL Tournament Champions
7th Grade Boys Basketball PCL Tournament Champions
Freshman Boys Basketball Tournament Runners-up
Varsity Girls Basketball - Sectional Champions, District Champions, Regional Runners-up
Meredith Bockrath – PCL Scholar Athlete, 2nd Team PCL, 2nd Team District 8, Honorable Mention NW District
Allie Kuhlman—PCL Scholar Athlete, Honorable Mention PCL
Olivia Meyer – PCL Scholar Athlete
Adyson Miller—Honorable Mention PCL
Madision Unverferth—PCL Scholar Athlete
Addilyn Huber—2nd Team PCL, 2nd Team District 8, Honorable Mention NW District

Varsity Boys Basketball—PCL Champions, Sectional Champions

Ryan Stechschulte—Coach of the Year Jackson Schroeder—Honorable Mention PCL Jacob Siebeneck—PCL Scholar Athlete, Honorable Mention PCL Braylon Smith—PCL Scholar Athlete, 1st Team PCL, Honorable Mention NW District

Swimming

Haley Miller - District Qualifier—100 meter backstroke * Swam her personal best in the 50 freestyle on February 7.

KHS Blood Drive

Thanks to all who donated blood on March 13. We collected 69 units of blood, which brought our total for the school year to 200 units. We will receive \$2500 in scholarship money for our gradu-

ating seniors. Our next blood drive is Wednesday, July 23, 2025 from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the high school gym. To donate blood you will need an appointment.

- Log into your American Red Cross app
- Scan the QR code
- Go to redcrossblood.org
- Call 1-800-REDCROSS
- We encourage you to use the Red Cross Blood Donor App or call Mrs. Grime at the high school at 419-532-3529 to schedule.



Kalida Elementary Book Fair—April 7-11

The Elementary Book Fair will be at the Kalida Elementary School Library.

April 7 thru April 11 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 9 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.



If you can't wait, you can start your shopping now online TODAY! The online store will have more titles, games and education activities available. Profits from every purchase come back to KES library for new books. Gift cards are also available for purchase for the special children in your life.

Thank you for your generous support over the years that has enabled the library to be filled with very nice books. Visit us the week of April 7-11 or shop online at the link below.

https://literati.com/store/?school=kalida-elementary-school-kalida-us_oh.com

Superintendent Karl Lammers

High School Principal Dean Brinkman Elementary Principal Kayla Stechschulte Treasurer Michelle Buss 419-532-3534 419-532-3529 419-532-3845 419-532-3556 School Board Members Brent Helmke, President Greg von der Embse, Vice President Craig Schmenk, Emily Peck, Brad Niemeyer School Board Meetings Second Wednesday 7:00 PM Kalida School Board Room Kalida Board of Education Box 269 Kalida, OH 45853



SkillsUSA Back to Back State Champ!!!



Lane Rellinger took first place at the SkillsUSA State Championship in Technical Drafting (CAD) in Columbus on March 20! Lane will compete again against the best in the nation at the National Championships in Atlanta in June! So proud of his hard work and dedication!

Lane is a senior enrolled in the Robotics program at the Apollo Career Center.





Greenhouse Floriculture Project

The Freshman Ag Food & Natural Resources class and Sophomore Plant and Animal Science class will once again be focusing on Greenhouse Management along with plant nutrition and health. The focus will be growing and maintaining a variety of

vegetables, fruits and flowers from plugs (small growing cells) up to mature, beautiful plants. The students pot the plants in hanging baskets, finance and price each item. *The flats and baskets will be sold at the FFA Farmers Market beginning in May.*

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Ag Volleyball @ Miller City		TBD
Banquet		March 30, 2025
Greenhouse Sale		TBD in May
State	FFA Convention	May 1-2, 2025
Elem	entary Ag Day	May 9, 2025

Attention Parents of Current 6th and 11th Grade Students

Vaccinations need to be up-to-date in order for your child to attend the public school next year. Proof of these vaccinations must be submitted to the high school office OR uploaded to your child's 2025-2026 FinalForms Immunization Requirements Tab **after July 1**. Students not in compliance will not be able to attend school until the immunizations are completed.

Incoming 7th graders (25-26 school year) are required to have one dose of both the Tdap and Meningitis (MCV4) vaccine for entry into the 7th grade. Incoming 12th graders (25-26 school year) are required to have two doses of the Meningitis vaccine for entry into their senior year.

Please consider scheduling an appointment early at the Putnam County Health Department (419-523-5608) or with your family physician. A letter from the Putnam County Health Department will be sent home soon outlining these mandates. If you choose not to vaccinate your child, you MUST complete an Immunization Exemption Form. These forms are located at the high school office.

Students not in compliance by August 19, 2025 will not be able to attend school until the immunizations are completed OR an Exemption Form in on file in the high school office. If you have any question, contact Ashley Buss at 419-532-3529.

FFA Public Speaking Results

Freshman Olivia Landwehr and Sophomore Ruby Vandercook participated in the Public Speaking CDE (career development event)! Congratulations to Ruby in earning a gold rating, placing 1st in her division!



FFA Student and FFA Alumni & Supporter Auction

Thank you to all who attended the auction on March 14. This was a great learning opportunity for the FFA students. Not only did they make the projects that



were auctioned off; they also planned, advertised, organized, setup, worked at the bidder table and collected the bid money. After the final cleanup then enjoyed some dinner and discussion.

Thank you to auctioneer, Jeff Bockrath, for helping us with this event. The students are developing ideas on how to collaborate with the

Alumni and grow this event for the students and the Kalida FFA Alumni & Supporter organization in the future.

