

IN OUR SCHOOLS

ABOUT THIS PAGE

This weekly page is focused on the 16 Montgomery County public school districts involved in Learn to Earn Dayton, a

collective impact initiative committed to ensuring that children in the Dayton region are ready for kindergarten, third-grade reading proficient, and college and career ready.

Today: Trotwood, Centerville, Brookville, Dayton

TROTWOOD-MADISON

Embracing strengths while looking ahead

As we swiftly approach the end of a school year unlike any other, I can't help but reflect on the ways in which our district has grown. Quite often, I think about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the collective challenges our world has faced, and the way in which we navigated this uncharted territory.

When I arrived in the district last July, the primary focus was trying to normalize the working conditions, and ensuring a



Reva Cosby is superintendent of Trotwood-Madison City Schools.

safe physical environment for my students and staff. Change is difficult in any regard; however, under these circumstances, we were unable to refuse. We made missteps, and adjustments along the way, and

each sense of accomplishment strengthened our resolve.

The collaborative efforts of our families, staff, board of education and community moved us from surviving the pandemic to empowering us to make changes to thrive.

Now that we have been able to move beyond the immediate crisis, we can use this energy to emerge as a district that embraces our strengths, and focus on a future of continuous growth. A simple formula of

quality curriculum and instruction, regardless of the format: in-person, remote, or hybrid, coupled with our rich history of athletics and the arts, give our students and families the Trotwood-Madison Advantage.

We are excited to enhance opportunities for our students through partnerships with local businesses and universities to assure they are ready for the global workforce. Whether a student desires a post-graduate life in the military,

embraces a skilled trade, or embarks upon a traditional college experience, our mission of 100% student success supports their dreams.

Today, living with COVID, I reflect on the ways in which we have grown, the challenges that we now embrace as our new normal, and the collective commitment to excellence. Yes, change is difficult; however, it is a necessary component of embracing a new normal.

IN BRIEF | BROOKVILLE

Kindergarten orientation

Brookville Elementary hosted kindergarten orientation on February 25. Unlike previous years where parents and students gathered together for a large group presentation, parents were given a designated time when they could meet with teachers and administrators.

The school also prepared a video for students and parents explaining the screening process and important aspects of the full day kindergarten program. Parents were also encouraged to take a bag full of resources, including whiteboards, magnetic letters and books for their child. Any parent who has not registered for kindergarten is encouraged to contact the school as soon as possible. Brookville Elementary looks forward to welcoming the class of 2034 this fall.

Intermediate School virtual wax museum

For the last four years, Brookville 4th graders have welcomed the community to a wax museum as part of a large Gallery Night featuring a variety of project based learning experiences. The event, which usually brings in over 500 people, required some modifications during COVID.

Students took the wax museum and made it a digital showcase of famous Ohioans who have contributed to society through a variety of achievements. As part of the project, students research aspects of their subject including educational background, interesting facts and contributions to our society. They then dressed the part and provided information about the research subject by creating a video. The wax museum was then made available to parents, participants and community members through padlet, an online virtual "bulletin" board.

Winter Percussion program continues

Brookville High School Winter Percussion is a competitive indoor percussion ensemble competing regionally this year within the Mid East Performance Association (MEPA) as well as nationally within Winter Guard International (WGI).

This year's show is titled "Watch it Grow" and follows the process of the growth of a tree over time. This theme is communicated through the tree roots on the floor, tree props, and musical ideas represented by various "wood sounds." Students either play marching drums or cymbals, or play mallet percussion and electronic instruments up front. Twenty students grade 8-12 participate in the ensemble that practices three times per week. The group has (or will) participate in four in person competitions and two virtual.

DAYTON



Students welcomed back to class

A Fairview Elementary teacher welcomes students back to school and reviews COVID-19 protocols with them before beginning class on March 1. Approximately 75% of Dayton Public Schools students returned for in-person instruction in March. This is the first time students have been back in the classroom five days a week in nearly a full year.



A Wogaman Middle School student picks up a grab-and-go breakfast before going to his first class on March 1.



Three Louise Troy Elementary students practice social distancing while in the cafeteria line before taking their seats to eat lunch. DPS cafeteria tables have plexiglass dividers between each seat.

CENTERVILLE



Kristen Johnson, Spanish Teacher

Profile Kristen Johnson

Q. Tell us about your education:
A. I graduated from Beavercreek High School and went on to study Spanish and Art Education at Ohio University and Wright State University where I earned a Bachelor of Science in Spanish and Art Education and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish Literature. At Wright State, I also went on to earn a Master of Arts in Applied Behavioral Sciences (Developing Nations with a focus on Latin

America). At La Universidad de Santiago de Compostela, I earned a Master of Arts in Spanish Literature. I most recently completed my endorsement in Gifted Studies at the University of Cincinnati.

Q. Where do you live?
A. Centerville

Q. Where did you grow up?
A. Beavercreek

Q. How long have you worked in Centerville City Schools?
A. This is my 14th year teaching Spanish in Centerville, primarily Spanish 2 and Spanish 4 Pre-AP.

Q. What's your favorite thing about your job?
A. My favorite thing about my job is the great Spanish program that my colleagues and I have cultivated over the years. I think it is one to be very proud of.

Q. What one word best describes you?

A. I feel that after this year, I can add resilient as a word that describes me. There were many challenges last year and this year, but I was able to find a way to change and to be successful in this teaching environment.

Q. Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

A. In 10 years, I see myself continuing to connect students to the Spanish language and culture. I hope to have visited many more Spanish-speaking countries by then as well. Next on my list, Peru to see Machu Picchu.

Q. What are your favorite hobbies?

A. I love to take care of my extensive houseplant collection as well as work out and practice yoga. I went to Costa Rica a few years ago to get my certificate (RYT 200) to teach yoga and it

was a wonderful experience.

Q. What's your favorite movie or TV show?

A. I really love watching all types of Spanish movies and TV shows to keep up on my Spanish and to remind me of the places I have visited.

Q. What's your hidden talent?

A. My friend tells me my hidden talent is creating great charcuterie boards as well as tapas for my friends to enjoy.

Q. Who would you most like to meet?

A. I would most like to meet Lionel Richie. Most people, who know me, know of my love for Lionel Richie. I have been a fan since I was a kid and saw him in concert many years ago at Courthouse Square in downtown Dayton with my parents and family friends.

DIGGING DEEP
TO GET THE
REAL STORY