

News From Longcoy School

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Kent, OH 44240

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Janice Swan, Principal
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Absence Line 678-7500

Longcoy School Vision Statement

"All Longcoy students will learn...whatever it takes."

Dear Longcoy Parents and Students,

Greetings from the Principal's office! We have had an absolutely fabulous start to the 2011-2012 School Year and we are settling into a nice routine with the students. On Friday, September 2, we took a day off from academic instruction to teach all our students our behavioral expectations. Within this newsletter is a letter explaining our PRIDE Stations and our Longcoy PRIDE Guide. Please be sure to review this information with your child as these are the rules by which we will all live and work together this school year. Thank you for taking the time to have this discussion with your child!

In addition, I have great news to share with the Longcoy School Community! Based on our OAA Test Scores from last school year Longcoy recently received the highest rating that a school can receive from the Ohio Department of Education. We were rated **Excellent with Distinction!** This is a credit to our dedicated Longcoy teachers, our hard-working Longcoy students, and our supportive Longcoy families! We are proud of our accomplishment and you should be too! **THANK YOU** for your continued support of the educational program that we provide the students here at Longcoy School.

Last, please remember to help your child be successful in school by doing the following:

- check his/her book bag daily
- provide a consistently quiet and organized environment for your child to complete homework
- READ to your child or have your child read to you everyday
- practice those math facts for math fact fluency
- contact the classroom teacher whenever you have a question or concern (Please don't wait...call or write or email!)

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss your child's educational experience or if you just want to share an idea or suggestion. You can email me at ke_jswan@kentschools.net or call me at the school office.

Remember: Students + Parents + Teachers = SUCCESS!

Janice Swan, Principal

NEW Elementary Schedule

Making change is always challenging, particularly in times and places that tradition are so deeply rooted. In an attempt to better serve our students and provide more equitable opportunities for all, we embark on a new elementary specials schedule this year with all five of Kent's elementary buildings.

The schedule is built on a fundamental belief that each and every child is unique, with unique needs and unique gifts. Among other things, it allows each student the opportunity for a daily intervention and enrichment period during which every teacher and support staff member is focused on providing individualized and small group instruction to students.

How does this impact you and your child? Traditionally, our “specials” (art, music, physical education and library/ media) instruction were scheduled on a weekly basis. For example, students went to Physical Education on Mondays and Tuesdays and Art on Fridays. With our new “rotation” schedule, students will attend specials on a six-day rotation schedule. This will help eliminate “lost” days due to holidays, early release or teacher in-service. Additionally, it allows for more consistent schedules as students will have a special every day at the same time.

Welcome to Longcoy

We would like to welcome the following new staff members to Longcoy:

Miss Thomasson, 3rd Grade Geacher
Mrs. Grondin, Art Teacher
Mrs. Hoover, Primary Intervention Tutor
Mrs. Kelling, Title I Coordinator
Mrs. Wilbur, Title I Tutor
Miss Kear, Title I Tutor
Miss Rhodes, Title I Tutor
Mrs. Reece, ASL Tutor
Mrs. Baker, Nurse
Mrs. Rosasco, Medical Assistant
Miss. Turner, Cook
Mrs. Bailey, Monitor

Miss Friedman, will be with us until after winter break as our Primary Intervention Specialist.

Mrs. Colarusso, will be with us until mid-October as our Secondary Intervention Tutor.

We would also like to announce that Mrs. Mandalari has moved from 3rd grade to join our 5th grade team of teachers.

Early Release - PLEASE SAVE THIS INFORMATION

Our District will once again have early release days. Our first early release day will be held on Thursday, October 13th. Students in grades 1-5 will be dismissed at 1:00 p.m. There will be no afternoon kindergarten class. *Mrs. Acker and Mrs. Hayberg will have no extended day kindergarten classes on early release days. All morning kindergartners will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m.*

The dates for our other three early release days are: Friday, January 20th, Friday, February 17th, and Thursday, April 5th.

Please mark your calendars. We hope that sharing this information with you now will help in making arrangements for your children. Car riders need to be picked up promptly on early release days as teachers and staff will be participating in in-service activities.

No School

There will be no school on Friday, October 14th, for NEOEA day. Please mark your calendars.

Benny Cowgill Classic

Benny was an outstanding young man who displayed great courage during difficult times. He was a

Kent Roosevelt student-athlete who continually worked hard to achieve success.

During Benny's fight against bone cancer many people became aware of this tremendous determination. Benny was the kicker on Roosevelt's football team and would not allow his illness to inhibit his desire to participate. His right arm was amputated and he underwent intense chemotherapy and radiation treatments and yet, he did not miss a football game. He never made excuses, and he never asked for special consideration. This outstanding young man maintained a B+ academic average during this entire ordeal. His fellow players, classmates, coaches, and teachers were so impressed with Benny's remarkable courage that his football jersey #11 was retired. This is the first time a jersey has been retired in the history of Kent's football program. It helps serve as a reminder of the courage and determination displayed by Benny Cowgill.

When Benny passed in January of 1996, it was decided that his example must serve to motivate others. In addition to retiring #11, the Board of Education asked that Kent Roosevelt have one football game each year to honor Benny Cowgill. RHS asked the elementary schools to choose students from each of their fifth grade classes who displayed some of the same positive characteristics possessed by Benny Cowgill. Students selected to receive the award will be notified by mail by RHS' athletic department. Each student chosen to represent Longcoy Elementary School at the Benny Cowgill Classic will be given a #11 jersey by Roosevelt High School to be worn at the "Benny Cowgill Classic" football game on Friday, October 14th vs. Springfield.

Longcoy School Association

Our parent organization, Longcoy School Association (LSA) is a vital part of Longcoy Elementary School. Every year LSA provides our students with different benefits and opportunities. Over the years LSA has provided computers, SmartBoards, and other technical items, books for students, and so many other things that there is too much to list! LSA also makes it possible for our students to have classroom parties and attend two book fairs during the school year.

Our Longcoy School Association officers would like to invite all Longcoy parents, staff, and family representatives to attend the next LSA meeting on Tuesday, October 4th, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Longcoy library and will last approximately one hour. Please feel free to contact LSA at their email address longcoyschoolassociation@hotmail.com.

Arrival And Dismissal Of Students

We ask for your help and cooperation with our students' arrival time at school. Students who are eating breakfast at school may enter the building at 8:15 a.m. All other students may enter the building at 8:30 a.m. Students should not arrive at school prior to 8:15 a.m. because there is no supervision before that time. This is a safety concern. Thank you for your help with this.

Students who wish to ride a bicycle to school must be in grades 4 and 5. Bicycle racks are available and locks for the bicycles are highly recommended. Students are to use bicycle helmets for safety purposes. Please stress bicycle safety with your child. Students are not permitted to ride scooters of any kind to school.

The office must be notified IN WRITING of ANY CHANGE IN A STUDENT'S REGULAR TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS HOME. *Oral requests for transportation changes WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.* This is for the safety of our students and exceptions cannot be made. If there is an emergency during the day a parent/guardian must present a written request of the transportation change in person or by faxing the request to (330) 677-6198.

Parents who decide to pick up their student at dismissal, must park in the parking lot and report directly to the office to request their child be a car rider. The student will be told at dismissal time of the change

and it will be up to the classroom teacher whether the student is dismissed with car riders or with his/her regular bus. Teachers plan student dismissals by the bus the student rides (agenda planners are signed, homework folders packed, etc). By notifying the office at the end of the day that your student is going to be a car rider, instead of sending a note with him/her in the morning, teachers may not be able to plan your student's dismissal as a car rider ahead of time.

At no time should a parent report directly to the classroom and attempt to have the student released without following the above guidelines. Although these guidelines are rather rigid, they are implemented to insure the safety of your student and to insure that he/she is released only to authorized individuals.

Adults picking up students after school are asked to arrive between 3:10-3:15 p.m. and wait in the foyer area. Please help us reinforce our "silent hall" rule by leading by example while waiting for your child. Once you have picked up your child, we ask that you exit the area, or move toward the outer perimeter of the area so that our bus riders can quickly and safely exit the building as they are dismissed.

Kent Parks & Recreation
Before & After School Care At Longcoy Elementary

Are you a working parent who needs care for your child before or after school? Kent Parks and Recreation offers childcare for students right here at Longcoy in room 136. No transportation needed! Daily activities, snacks, homework help, games, crafts and outside play are all a part of the fun! We offer reasonable pricing and accept county vouchers. Call Megan at 330-673-8897 to set up a tour of the program or just stop by our office at 497 Middlebury Rd. to register. Be at ease knowing your child is a part of an award winning Step Up to Quality site!

Longcoy's Title I End of Year Performance Data
2010 - 2011 School Year

The chart below summarizes the performance of those children who received federally funded, supplemental intervention services during the last school year. Percentages indicate those students who met all of the identified objective criteria. The objective criteria include the following items: competency on SBA common assessments (75% or greater), passing classroom grades ("C" or higher), and promotion to the next grade level.

Total Number Served	#K % Comp.	#1st % Comp.	#2nd % Comp.	#3rd % Comp.	#4th % Comp.	#5th % Comp.
READING						
73	22 82%	13 78%	9 56%	10 40%	10 20%	9 22%
MATH						
78	22 41%	0 -	9 33%	9 77%	26 65%	12 50%

As our school year is getting underway, we look forward to once again helping many of our Longcoy students. Should your child need additional support, you will be notified of any services available.

Asbestos Information

In accordance with EPA regulations, the Kent City School District maintains information on asbestos – containing materials in the main office of each building. If you wish to review the information, please contact the principal.

Character Education In Kent City Schools

The Kent Community has identified character education as an essential component of their Strategic Plan for Kent City Schools. The Board of Education adopted this plan, and embraced the concept of

character education as a critical part of the public education of our youth. A diverse community-based committee developed and defined character traits believed to be commonly held by the community and significant to include in our school curriculum. Strategies for integrating these traits have been designed by a school-based committee.

The character traits will be prominent in the schools and community throughout the school year. A monthly character trait will be described in newsletters during the early part of each month. We hope families will reinforce these concepts at home as well.

The character trait for September is “**WORK ETHIC/RESPONSIBILITY.**” We hope this trait helps everyone begin the school year successfully. The definition and goals are:

The student will:

- Attend to task
- Demonstrate persistence
- Show best effort
- Be able to carry out a duty and be trustworthy
- Exercise sound thinking and good judgment
- Know they are responsible for their actions

Related words include: persistent, accountable, effort, dependable.

Practical applications to encourage are:

- Completes homework
- Completes work around the home without prompting
- Takes initiative in being helpful
- Takes care of property
- Is accountable to family and friends
- Takes responsibility for own actions

Thank you for your interest and cooperation as we continue with this effort. Best wishes to you and your family as you participate in this valuable and rewarding endeavor.

Student Conduct Code

The Board of Education has adopted a Student Conduct Code. Copies of the code have been posted in appropriate locations in each school building and are available to parents on request. Students in grades K through 12 receive a copy of the code as part of the student handbook. Please take some time to review the Conduct Code with your children. Thank you!

Student Grievance Procedure

Forms are available in the principal’s office of each building outlining student grievance procedures. Any student wishing to file a grievance may obtain the procedures and forms from the office.

Standards Based Assessments

Standards Based Assessments (SBAs) are given throughout the school year to all students in reading, writing and math. These assessments, which are required by the State Department of Education, are one way that your child’s progress is monitored in these subject areas.

Progress will be reported to you in reading, writing and math through interim reports, report cards and conferences. At the end of the school year, a language arts folder will be sent home indicating your child’s competency in reading and writing. The folder will contain some work samples and the required writing competency tests given throughout this school year.

If you have questions about our SBA program, please call the office at (330) 676-8350.

Family Educational Rights And Privacy Act

Under the Family Rights and Privacy Act, parents and adult students should be aware of the following:

1. Upon written request to the building principal, parents and adult students have the right to inspect and review the student’s school records.

2. Parents and adult students have the right to challenge the contents of a student's school record.
3. Disclosure of information contained in a student's school record is limited to directory information, which includes pupil's name, address, telephone number, place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weights and heights of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, date of graduation, and awards received. A parent or adult student who does not want such directory information to be released may notify the Superintendent of Schools in writing within seven days of the first school newsletter, and the request will be honored.
4. Parents and adult students have the right to report violations of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act to the Department of Education.

Guidelines Regarding Student Medication

If a child must take medication at school, a **STUDENT MEDICATION AUTHORIZATION** form must be completed by the parent and signed by the physician. In addition, all medication must be kept in the clinic in the original pharmaceutical container. (Any changes in medication during the school year must be accompanied with a new authorization form, which should include the following information.)

- NAME OF MEDICATION
- DOSAGE
- TIME
- SIGNATURE OF YOUR PHYSICIAN

For the safety of all children, students are not permitted to keep aspirin or other medication in desks, lunchboxes, etc.

Attached for your convenience is a **STUDENT MEDICATION AUTHORIZATION** form. Parents may want to detach this form and keep it in a place of access, should your child be in need of medication at school during the school year.

Directory Information

All records, which concern students in the Kent Public Schools, are kept confidential in accordance with the Family Rights and Privacy Act. Exceptions to the above consist of so-called directory information, which includes pupil's name, address, telephone number, place of birth, major field of study, weights and heights of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, date of graduation, and awards received.

A parent or adult student who does not want such directory information to be released may notify the Superintendent of Schools in writing with the next seven days from the beginning of class and this request will be honored.

Student School Records

Parents in Kent may inspect and review official student records and related information upon request to the principal of the building to which students are assigned. An appointment for the review of the records will be made at a mutually convenient time as soon as possible.

Important Dates

09/12	5:30 p.m. – Market Day Pick Up in Gym
09/14	Fall Picture Day
09/20	7:00 p.m. – Board of Education Meeting at Board Office
09/26	Interim Reports sent home with students
10/03	5:30 p.m. – Market Day Pick Up in Gym
10/04	8:50–11:30 a.m. – 3rd Grade Reading Ohio Achievement Assessment

	7:00 p.m. – Longcoy School Association Meeting in Library
10/11	Fire Safety (Gr. K, 1, 3, 4 at Longcoy; Gr. 2 at Kent Fire Station)
10/12	Fire Safety (Gr. K, 1, 3, 4 at Longcoy)
10/13	1:00 p.m. – Early Release Day Students in Gr. 1-5 Dismissed at 1:00 p.m.; No Afternoon Kindergarten
10/14	NEOEA Day – No School
	6:30 p.m. – Benny Cowgill Classic Award Presentation at RHS
10/17-10/21	Fall Book Fair in Library
10/18	7:00 p.m. – Board of Education Meeting at Davey Elementary School
10/20	Picture Retake Day
	6:30–8:00 p.m. – Family Science Night
10/28	2:15 p.m. – Harvest Parties
	End of 1 st Nine Weeks
10/31	5:30 p.m. – Market Day Pick Up in Gym
11/03	7:00 p.m. – Longcoy School Association Meeting in Library
11/04	Report Cards sent home with students
11/08	No School for Students – Staff Development Day
11/09	4:40 – 8:00 p.m. – Kindergarten Parent-Teacher Conferences by Appointment
11/10	Vision Screening – Grades 1, 3, & 5
11/15	7:00 p.m. – Board of Education Meeting at Walls Elementary School
11/17	4:40–8:00 p.m. – Kindergarten Parent-Teacher Conferences by Appointment
11/21	School in Session for All Students
	5:00–8:00 p.m. – Parent – Teacher Conferences
11/22	9:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. – Parent–Teacher Conferences – No School For Students
11/23-11/25	Thanksgiving Break – No School for Students or Staff
11/28	5:30 p.m. – Market Day Pick Up in Gym

KENT CITY SCHOOLS
STUDENT MEDICATION AUTHORIZATION

I hereby give permission to the principal and/or designee to administer the following medication or procedure to

my child, _____, Grade _____ during school hours.
(Name)

Name of medication/procedure _____

Description _____
[color, form (tablets, capsules, liquid, etc.)]

Dosage (amount to be administered) _____

Time(s) to be administered _____

To be administered from _____ to _____
(date) (date)

Possible adverse reactions to medications which should be reported to the physician _____

Special instructions, including storage or sterile requirements _____

It is required that a bottle with a **prescription label** for the medication be provided to the school.

Physician's Signature _____ Business Phone Number _____

Emergency Phone Number _____

Physician's Address _____

I also hereby agree to deliver the medication to the school, to notify the school if I change physicians, and to notify the school if the medication, the dosage, or the procedure is changed or is to be eliminated. In the event any of the above information changes, I understand it is my responsibility to inform the principal and/or designee and **to complete a new Student Medication Authorization** form. The authorization is to remain in effect until revoked through my written statement to the school.

I give my consent to the physician, school nurse or their designees to send and/or receive information related to my child's health, as they deem appropriate for the duration of this order as noted above.

I understand and agree that the principal or his/her agent(s) has no responsibility for the content of said medication, nor for the refilling of said prescription, nor for the safeguarding of said prescription, other than precautions normally taken with respect to school property. I further understand that school personnel are not legally obligated to administer medication to any child, and I agree to hold the school district and its employees free from any and all responsibility for the results of administering such medication.

Parent's Signature _____

Student's Address _____

Relationship to Student _____ Date _____
Month / Day / Year

Principal's Signature _____

Teacher's Name _____

Person(s) authorized to administer medication or procedure signature(s):

