



# VIKING NAVIGATOR

**EVERGREEN LOCAL  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## 2020 DISTRICT REPORT CARD

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) recently released the 2020 Ohio School Report Cards. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, districts were not able to administer Ohio's State Assessments in the spring; therefore, school districts and their buildings did not receive overall or component grades as in the past. However, districts did receive information regarding graduation rates, prepared for success, and improving at-risk readers indicators. Data was also reported on the Third Grade Reading Guarantee promotion rate and fall reading diagnostic information for students in grades K-3, which shows students moving from not-on-track in 2019 to on track in 2020. To view the complete report card on the ODE website, go to <https://reportcard.education.ohio.gov/district/overview/047050>. Below is a comparison between the limited 2020 data the 2019 report card data. Evergreen students continue to show improvement in these areas.

Report Card Data Component	2019	2020	Improvement from Previous Year
Prepared for Success	47.2%	50.4%	+3.2%
Improving At-Risk Readers K-3	Began with 44 students not-on-track and moved to 26 on-track	Began with 39 students not-on-track and moved to 16 on-track	
Number of 3rd graders who met Third Grade Reading Guarantee requirements for promotion to 4 <sup>th</sup> grade	90.4%	98.7%	+8.3
Graduation Rate – 4 yr	96.1	98.1%	+2%
Graduation Rate – 5 yr	95.1%	95.1%	0

## WE'RE BACK!

Before school reopened, student Chromebooks and schedules were picked up via drive-through in order to comply with COVID-19 precautions. School doors opened and students reported to campus for in-person learning on August 19. Welcome back!



## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

*By Eric J. Smola, Superintendent*



We have been back to school for nearly two months, and we are happy to report that our return to face-to-face instruction is continuing to go remarkably well. While we continue to operate within COVID-19 restrictions, it is exciting having our students and staff back on campus. It feels good to have a sense of normalcy returned to our educational world.

As you will see, this issue of the Viking Navigator not only covers our fall happenings but also includes the District's 2019-2020 Annual Report. While COVID-19 stunted some of our anticipated activities, projects, and traditions, we were still able to achieve several successes last year.

While this school year may feel a little different, with 150 students enrolled in our Viking Virtual Academy, we are certainly happy to be back connecting with our students and one another. We have learned not to take anything for granted, and most importantly, school is a great place to be.

BOARD MEMBERS

- Nora Kiefer - President  
nkiefer@evgvikings.org
- Jason Miller - Vice-President  
jmiller@evgvikings.org
- Zach Murry  
zmurry@evgvikings.org
- Don Smith  
dsmith@evgvikings.org
- Matt Vaculik  
mvaculik@evgvikings.org

CONTACT INFO

By phone, use 419-644-3521 unless otherwise indicated.\*

- Eric Smola, Ext 1132  
Superintendent  
esmola@evgvikings.org
- Dolores Swineford, Ext 1116  
Asst. Superintendent & Curriculum Director  
dswineford@evgvikings.org
- Denise Leu, Ext 1134  
Treasurer  
dleu@evgvikings.org
- Carrie Brown, Ext 1164  
Transportation Coordinator  
cbrown@evgvikings.org
- Jenny Conrad, Ext 1119  
Communications Director  
jconrad@evgvikings.org
- Daniel Curtis, Ext 1104  
High School Principal  
dcurtis@evgvikings.org
- Brady Ruffer, Ext 1136  
Middle School Principal  
bruffer@evgvikings.org
- Jane Draheim  
Elementary Principal  
jdraheim@evgvikings.org  
\*419-644-9221, Ext 3204

WELCOME NEW STAFF MEMBERS!



▲ Pictured L to R: Derick Stoup, Natalie Miller, Sharon Lapitsky, Elizabeth Willitzer, Hannah Vaughan, Allison Hartnett, and Diane Pickering.

**Derick Stoup**

- HS & MS Athletic Director

**Natalie Miller**

- HS & MS Spanish Teacher

**Sharon Lapitsky**

- EES Counselor

**Elizabeth Willitzer**

- EES Intervention Specialist

**Hannah Vaughan**

- MS Intervention Specialist

**Allison Hartnett**

- EES Kinderstart

**Diane Pickering**

- EES Reading Teacher



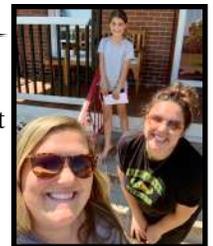
EES ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The EES building is being outfitted with additional insulation, as well as a new roof and gutters. The project is funded through the district's Roof Replacement Capital Project Fund. The work is being completed by United Roofing & Sheet Metal, Inc.



DRIVE-BY OPEN HOUSE

This year, the EES and EMS Open Houses were canceled due to COVID. In order to reach out to their students before the first day of class, fourth grade teachers, Mrs. Doble and Miss Wright, drove to their students' houses, introduced themselves, and welcomed their students back to school.



SPECIAL VISITORS JOIN FIRST GRADERS



First graders recently had the opportunity to take their lessons outdoors while learning about animals, how to care for them, and their many needs. Thank you Mr. Jeff Youtzy for bringing in the animals to help with the hands-on learning.

## NEW GRADING SCALE FOR EHS

When the new 2020-2021 school year started, EHS implemented a new 10-point grading scale. In addition, the Advanced Placement (AP) and Honors courses include a weighted scale. According to the Ohio Revised Code, because Evergreen grants weighted grades for its AP and Honors courses, CCP courses in the same content area are also assigned weighted grades. According to Dr. Dolores Swineford, assistant superintendent and curriculum director, almost all districts in the region are currently operating on a 10-point grading scale, and this levels the playing field for our students when competing for scholarships and applying for college admissions. See the graph below for more information.

Scale	Letter Grade	Quality Points	Honors Quality Points	AP/CC+ Quality Points
100	A+	4.00	4.5	5.0
99-93	A	4.00	4.5	5.0
92-90	A-	3.67	4.2	4.7
89-88	B+	3.33	3.8	4.3
87-83	B	3.00	3.5	4.0
82-80	B-	2.67	3.2	3.7
79-78	C+	2.33	2.8	3.3
77-73	C	2.00	2.5	3.0
72-70	C-	1.67	2.2	2.7
69-68	D+	1.33	1.8	2.3
67-63	D	1.00	1.5	2.0
62-60	D-	0.67	1.2	1.7
59 and below	F	0.00	0.00	0.00

## 8TH GRADERS LEARN LIFE SKILLS

Throughout the year, most eighth graders will participate in a nine-week family consumer science class. Taught by Mrs. Roesti, the course teaches exploratory lessons in foods, child development, laundry, sewing, and career investigation. Students are pictured while preparing their Bird in the Nest recipes.



## FAMILIAR FACES IN NEW PLACES

The following staff members have taken on new roles in the district: Tami Bonaminio, bus driver; Jason Leu, grounds and assistant maintenance; Cindy Pinkelman, EHS guidance secretary; Jose Rodriguez, EHS night custodian; Janice Smith, EHS/EMS day custodian; and Connie Snider, EES library aide.

## HAPPY RETIREMENT!



Thank you Liz Vaculik, EMS head cook, for your dedication to Evergreen Local Schools. Congratulations for completing 37 years of service to the Evergreen food service program. Best wishes for a happy retirement!

## TAKING CLASSES OUTDOORS

According to experts, air circulation, space, and sunshine make COVID more difficult to spread from person-to-person. In light of these factors, teachers are encouraged to take their classrooms outdoors where space and fresh air abound.



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

- Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost recently named students to his office's Teen Ambassador Board for the 2020-2021 school year. Colin Smith (*left*) and Spenser Denton (*right*) will represent EHS as Teen Ambassador Board Members. The mission of the board is to provide Ohio's future leaders with an inside look at Ohio law and government. Members will also advise the Attorney General's Office on issues relating to teens, and they will work with their peers to develop solutions.



- Sienna Cundick, was named as the EMS Artist of the Week for her Surrealism Combo piece.



- Mason Loeffler, 2020 graduate, received a Senatorial Commendation for being named to the 2020 All-Northwest Ohio District D-III 1st team and All-Ohio 3rd team honors in boys high school basketball. Ohio Senator Theresa Gavarone presented the award.



## EHS CHICKEN KEEPERS

The EHS plant and animal science class is raising egg layers and meat chickens while incorporating every aspect into their coursework. According to Mrs. Hanifan, ag teacher, the students study everything from rate of gain, growth, behavior, feed conversion, nutrition, disease, record keeping, and breed differences. Once the meat chickens reach maturity, the farm-to-table concept will also be integrated as the poultry will be dressed and donated to the district's family and consumer science classes for cooking lessons. Layer chickens will go home to various student farms.



## FFA NEWS & UPDATES

- Congratulations to the 2020-2021 FFA officer team! New officers are Katie Wheeler, president; Morgan Kohler, vice president; Jazmin Todd, student advisor; Heather Orns, secretary; Morgan Foster, reporter; Michael Wheeler, treasurer; and Desi Roshong and Mitchel Gillen, sentinels.
- Thank you to all the FFA and community members who volunteered their time at the Fulton County Fair's pork stand.
- The FFA Fruit & Nut Sale begins October 8. Contact [SHanifan@evgvikings.org](mailto:SHanifan@evgvikings.org) for info.



## EVERGREEN ROYALTY

Seven members of the 2020 Fulton County 4-H Royalty are Evergreen High School students. Emily Herr, gr. 12, has been named the 4-H Queen. Emily is a member of the Junior Fair Board and the Gainers and Leaders 4-H club. Ashton Sayers, gr. 11, was crowned 4-H King. Ashton is a member of the Gainers and Leaders 4-H club and the Junior Fair Board. Lily Herr, gr. 9, is the 4-H Goat Ambassador. Lily is a member of the Junior Fair Board and the Gainer's and Leaders 4-H club. Allison Herr, gr. 12, is the Fulton County Horse Ambassador, 4-H Horse Queen, and a member of the Gainers and Leaders 4-H Club. Emma Vaculik, gr. 11, is the Fulton County Lamb Ambassador. Emma is a member of the Junior Fair Board, Teen Leaders, and the Lyons Lucky Leaders 4-H Club. Desi Roshong, gr. 11, is the Fulton County Poultry Ambassador, a member of the Hoppin' and Trottin' 4-H Club, Junior Fair Board, and the Ohio 4-H National Shooting Team. Chloe Creque is the Fulton County Pork Queen, a member of Lyons Lucky Leaders, and Teen Leaders.



▲ From left: Chloe Creque, Lily Herr, Emily Herr, Ashton Sayers, Emma Vaculik, Desi Roshong, & Allison Herr  
Photo credit: Jennifer Herr

# ANNUAL REPORT

## Evergreen Local Schools

### 2019-2020



#### FINANCIAL UPDATE

*The District ended FY20 in better financial shape than anticipated, with a cash balance of \$10,213,970 in spite of the loss of over \$240,000 in state funding as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. While FY21 promises to be a challenging year for our students, staff, and community, the district remains well-positioned financially to meet at least the immediate challenges we are faced with.*

Evergreen remains on firm financial footing in spite of the loss of state funding in FY20 and the projected reduction in both income tax revenue and state foundation funding in the current fiscal year. During the past fiscal year, the district received Public Utility Personal Property (PUPP) revenue from both the Rover and NEXUS pipelines which helped somewhat mitigate the loss of revenue in other areas. Both pipelines, however, have appealed their valuations for the second time, and it is still unclear the amount of revenue the district can expect to receive moving forward. The district completed an LED lighting upgrade in the EES building and will soon finish an LED upgrade in the high school and outdoors. The cost of these projects is expected to be repaid within two to three years from electricity cost savings. The EMS building will likely be upgraded in the near future as well. The district is currently in the process of completing the following capital improvement projects:

- Re-roofing the EES building which is completely funded by the Roof Replacement Capital Project Fund established and funded in the late FY19.
- Replacing obsolete fire alarm panels district-wide with a new system, paid for from the Permanent Improvements Fund and the OSFC Maintenance Fund.

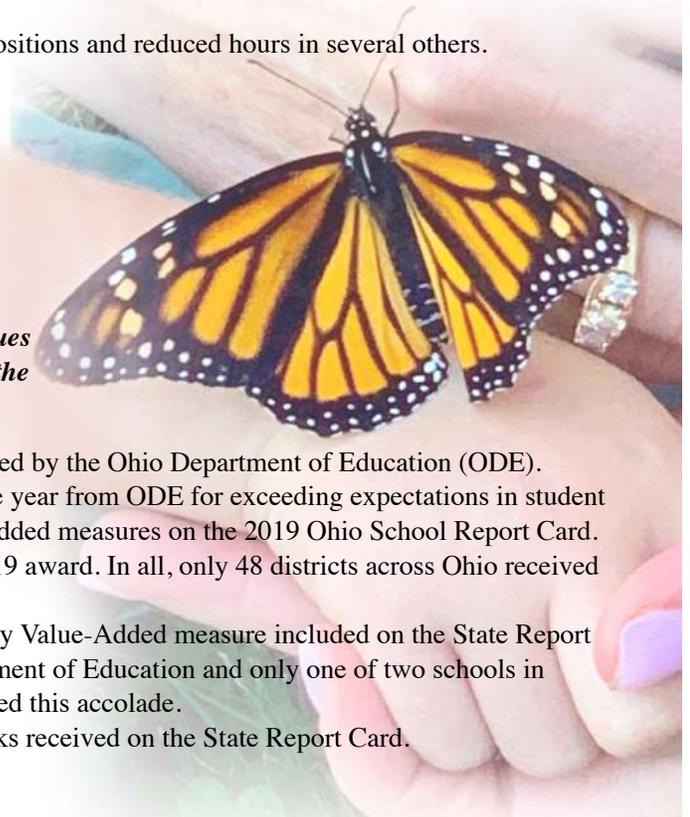
In anticipation of reduced revenue streams due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the district has taken steps to curtail spending for the current fiscal year including:

- Implementing a Reduction-In-Force- of several classified staff positions and reduced hours in several others.
- Reducing budgets for all non-essential supplies and equipment.
- Holding off purchasing new school busses.

#### DISTRICT RECOGNITION

*According to the State Report Card, Evergreen Local Schools continues to improve its academic performance. Evergreen was recognized for the following accomplishments for the 2019-2020 school year:*

- The District received a grade of “B,” on the State Report Card issued by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE).
- The District received a Momentum Award for the third consecutive year from ODE for exceeding expectations in student growth for the year. The District earned straight A’s on all Value-Added measures on the 2019 Ohio School Report Card. Evergreen was the only district in Fulton County to receive the 2019 award. In all, only 48 districts across Ohio received this prestigious award.
- EES received an ODE Momentum Award for receiving A’s on every Value-Added measure included on the State Report Card. EES was one of 173 schools recognized by the Ohio Department of Education and only one of two schools in Fulton County to receive the award. This is the first time EES earned this accolade.
- ODE recognized EES with an “Overall A” Award for the high marks received on the State Report Card.



## ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

*This past year, the following academic opportunities were made available to enhance student learning:*

- New English Language Arts curriculum was instituted for students in grades 6-12.
- The EHS culinary fundamentals and global foods classes attended the National Restaurant Association ServSafe Level 1, Person In Charge, Food Safety Certification. A total of 31 EHS students obtained certification recognized by restaurants.
- EMS instituted a new 6th grade math Student of the Month program. Students were recognized for their academic performance, strong effort, upstanding character, and respectful behavior in the classroom.
- All 3rd graders attended the Fulton County Ag Fest hosted by the Fulton County Soil and Water Conservation District. The event featured nearly 20 different ag-related stations and provided educational and hands-on opportunities.
- All students in grades 4-12 received a Chromebook as part of the District's 1:1 computer program. Third grade students also received Chromebooks during the COVID-19 shutdown in order to successfully participate in remote learning.

## STUDENT SUCCESS

*Evergreen students continue to excel in the classroom while representing the District throughout the community and surrounding areas. A few of their many 2019-2020 accomplishments include:*

- Evergreen High School's Class of 2020 graduated 97 students, including 13 students who attended the Four County Career Center. In addition, 21 students met the rigorous criteria set forth by ODE and received an Honors Diploma.
- Varsity Boys Basketball Team was named NWOAL Champions, D-III Sectional and District Champs, and Regional Finalists-Ohio's Elite 8. The team finished with an overall record of 25-1 and an NWOAL record of 7-0.
- EHS's FFA organization graduated four students who continued to achieve their American Degrees, the highest award an FFA member can achieve, through their collegiate chapters. In addition, one State FFA Degree was awarded.
- EHS Quiz Team qualified for the fourth year in a row to compete in the National Small Schools Quiz Team Tournament, in Chicago; however, COVID-19 canceled the event. The EHS Quiz Team competed virtually in BGSU's Brain Game and finished as first-place champions.
- The 7th grade girls basketball team finished their season 18-1 overall, 6-0 in the NWOAL, and won the NWOAL title.
- The EHS Trap Team was named the Fulton County Champions taking first place against the FFA chapters of Wauseon, Delta, Pettisville, Archbold, and Fayette.
- EHS Girls Soccer Team was named Sectional Champions.

## SAFETY, SECURITY & SUPPORT

*In addition to providing a quality education, the District's top priority is the safety, security, and support of its students and staff. The following measures were completed in 2019-2020:*

- District faculty and staff received campus emergency training, "Stop the Bleed", conducted by local health professionals.
- Three positions were created to help serve student needs: District Attendance Officer, Online Education/Credit Recovery Teacher, and a full-time Special Education Director overseeing students in grades Pre-K through 12.
- EES preschoolers and first graders received fire safety training from local fire departments and first responder teams.
- Nine EMS students attended the first Youth Summit, hosted by Fulton County's Healthy Choices Caring Communities (HC3).
- During the 10-week COVID-19 school closure, more than 30 staff members volunteered their time packing and delivering lunches across the district to nearly 200 students in need. These students were provided with 5 lunches each week.
- All EHS females in grades 9-12 received self-defense training provided by Keeping Our Girls Safe (KOGS).
- Evergreen Schools, in partnership with the Fulton County Health Department and Fulton County Job and Family Services, implemented the Ruling Our eXperiences (ROX) Program to all students in grades 5-12. Evergreen was the first school in Fulton County to offer the program in the elementary, middle, and high school.

## FACILITIES UPDATE

*The Evergreen's facilities are a point of pride for students, faculty, staff, and community members. This past year, the following facility upgrades occurred:*

- Bullet-proof film was placed on all building entrance doors, paid for through a Bureau of Workers' Compensation grant.
- Installed a NightLoc security system on all district office and classroom doors to protect in case of an intruder situation.
- Eighteen school busses were equipped with stop-arm cameras to protect students during boarding and unloading.
- Additional digital cameras were installed across the district for added protection and security.
- Completed LED lighting upgrades throughout the EES buildings.
- Created additional office space for district employees as well as refurbished the media center with new flooring.
- The Pifer Field press box and signage received a paint update provided by members of the EHS Art Club.
- All-weather track was resurfaced and lined.
- Baseball and softball fields received water drainage improvements and infield reconditioning.
- Updated several classrooms, labs, and media center with new furniture more conducive to student learning.

## SHARED COMMUNICATION

*Communicating student experiences, promoting positive community relationships, and providing updated news in a timely manner are critical in today's fast-paced world. The following steps are taken to effectively share information:*

- The three district publications; The Viking Navigator (community newsletter), The Horn (internal employee newsletter), and the Annual Report to the Community, continue to inform the community and employees of Evergreen happenings.
- The Evergreen website ([www.evgvikings.org](http://www.evgvikings.org)) and social media pages on Facebook and Twitter allows the district to share new information, athletic messages, and public announcements.
- Student success boards were placed in the EHS cafeteria highlighting student academic success.
- Signage was created and displayed throughout the buildings celebrating the district's mission statement and core beliefs.

## STRATEGIC PLANNING

*The District has developed an all-inclusive strategic plan that serves as its directional framework for the next 5 years.*

- The goals of the strategic plan are to increase student opportunities, improve student preparedness for the future, and to improve the overall student experience while at Evergreen.
- District goals and objectives have also been constructed to help focus on continuous improvement measures.
- Vision and mission statements have been recreated as well as the development of a set of core beliefs that clearly state the district's passion, commitment, and purpose.



# COMMUNITY THANK YOU!

The 2020 Chris Miller Golf Tournament Committee sincerely thanks all the sponsors, donors, and players for contributing to the success of this year's event. It was a great day to raise funds, awareness, and excitement for Evergreen's athletic programs. The Athletic Boosters' goal is to keep the Evergreen sports facilities and equipment among the area's best.

## GOLD SPONSORS

- Anderzack-Pitzen Construction
- Antique Beams & Boards
- Central Avenue Truck Parts
- Keller Builders
- Machacek Concrete
- Metamora State Bank
- Mossing Pools
- Rudolph Libbe Group
- Standard Technologies
- The Shelly Company

## SILVER SPONSORS

- Batanian Tree Service
- BIGS Bar & Grill
- Brooks Miller & Family
- CH Robinson-Ryan White
- Cutting Edge Packaging
- Decker Financial Group
- Falor Farm Center
- Get 'Er Dug
- Gleckler Brothers
- Loma Linda's
- 84 Lumber Company-Greg Raney
- M&M Heating & Cooling
- M&P Eisel Farms
- Sterling Mechanical Services
- Tri-County Fuels, Inc.
- Truckor Farms-Jeff & Brandon
- Worthington Steel

## BRONZE SPONSORS

- A&R Real Estate Services
- CJT-Chris Johnson Trucking
- Country Charm Cafe
- Delta Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine
- Engler, Garrow & Roth, Ltd.
- Evergreen High School
- Fulton County Health Center
- Gary & Nancy Kreuz
- Hudik Construction Services
- Jerry's Marathon
- Jones & Henry Engineers-Greg Simon
- Michele & Eric Smola
- Ozzies General Market
- Scottdel Cushion, LLC
- Shrader Tire & Oil
- Swanton Welding & Machining Co.
- Szabo Farms, LLC
- The 5V BBQ
- The Andersons
- T-Mart, Inc.
- Weigel Funeral Home

## DONATIONS

- Beroske Farms & Greenhouse
- BIGS Bar & Grill
- Doyle Welding, Inc.
- FIC Dealerships, Berkey
- Garrett Damman
- Hinkle Enterprises
- John Machacek, Jr.
- S&K Vinyl Graphics
- St. Mary's Meats
- T-Mart, Inc.
- Tomahawk Printing
- Valleywood Golf Club
- Lee Ann Miller & Family

## The Community Bulletin Board

- Evergreen Board of Education Meetings: October 19, November 16, and December 21 at 6:00 pm in the EHS gym. Agendas and summaries are at [www.evgvikings.org](http://www.evgvikings.org).
- Two EHS Prom dining fundraisers are set. Chipotle Mexican Grill on October 27 from 5-9 pm. Panera on November 12 from 6 am-9:30 pm. Watch the district website for more details. Your support is greatly appreciated.
- The CWV Post 306 in Assumption, OH, is conducting a raffle on Veterans Day, November 11, 2020. Tickets are \$20 each with cash prizes ranging from \$100 to \$1,000. To purchase tickets, contact Rosie Truckor at 419-402-4033 or Denise Loeffler at 419-467-2759.
- A High School Financial Aid Night will take place on November 5 from 6:30-8:00 pm at the Franciscan Center at Lourdes University. HS seniors and their families are encouraged to attend. Open to all students, regardless of where they are planning to attend college.



**Mark Your Calendars!**  
Next year's  
Chris Miller Golf  
Tournament is  
**August 21, 2021**



**Evergreen Local School District**  
14544 County Road 6  
Metamora, OH 43540