



### New Furniture Arrives at Shaw High and Kirk Middle School

When students at Shaw High School and W.H. Kirk Middle School returned from winter break early this January, they were welcomed back to the buildings with all new classroom furniture. The furniture installation at Shaw and Kirk completes the work that began at the beginning of the school year for Caledonia, Mayfair, and Superior.

The furniture emphasizes the importance of flexibility in the classroom. Student chairs are stackable and armless, allowing classroom space to be transformed from one period of the day to the next without issue. Student work tables have pneumatic height adjusters which can create a stadium seating view. And to best support the influx of technology and devices into the classroom, each room is outfitted with a mobile power tower capable of charging laptops, Chromebooks, and other devices.

“Our students are our customers,” said Dr. Henry Pettiegrew, superintendent & CEO. “We can’t expect our students and our teachers to perform at their best if we don’t build a physical environment that is conducive to learning and growth.”



Above: All new classroom furniture at Kirk and Shaw have wheels to allow for greater flexibility in classroom work. Right: New mobile charging stations will allow students and staff to work without looking for a nearby outlet.

### Shaw Staff Hosts Holiday Breakfast for Students

December 22, the last day before winter break, also marked the end of the second grading period. It is the halfway point of the school year, so the teachers and staff of Shaw High School celebrated their students with a holiday breakfast to close out this first half of the school year.

The breakfast was organized by the staff and was open to all students. The meal included pancakes, sausage, bacon, cinnamon rolls, eggs, fresh fruit, and hot chocolate. All items for the breakfast were donated and prepared by the teachers and staff at Shaw.



Dr. Hummer, Spanish teacher, makes pancakes as part of the Shaw Holiday Breakfast

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### Upcoming Events

January 16--Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No School

February 17--Professional Development Day for Staff

February 20--President's Day, No School

February 22--Parent-Teacher Conferences

March 8--Parent-Teacher Conferences

March 20--Professional Development Day for Staff

April 7-April 16--Spring Break



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## Superior School for the Performing Arts Hosts Winter Showcase

The Superior School for the Performing Arts hosted its second student showcase of the school year on December 22. “A Show for All Seasons” highlighted student performances in dance, instrumental performance, singing, and spoken word.

The show offered selections themed to the four seasons, like third grade students performing a dance compilation to the songs “Singing in the Rain” and “Under My Umbrella” to represent the spring season. “All of our students perform in the showcase in some capacity,” said building principal Monique Ceasor. “Exploring the arts is part of the student’s daily experience.”



Above: Students performing at SSFA Winter Showcase

After the student performance, audience members and staff alike were treated to a visit and special holiday performance from Mrs. Claus herself, as played by Board of Education member Stephanie Stedmire-Walls.

The Winter Showcase was also featured on WEWS, News 5 Cleveland. You can watch the story by scanning the QR code below.



## Book Vending Machines Installed in All Schools

If you walk through the halls of any building in the East Cleveland City School District, you might catch a glimpse of a vending machine. But instead of offering snacks and soda, these vending machines are dispensing a different kind of item. These machines are filled with books.

Each building, from Prospect Academy to Shaw High School, has a book vending machine filled with age appropriate titles. “It’s a great way to bring together PBIS and literacy,” said curriculum director Paula Elder. PBIS, or Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, is a framework the District uses to support student behavioral, academic, social, emotional, and mental health.

Caledonia Elementary School, which serves grades kindergarten to two, has a strong PBIS system in place. “Students earn Cardinal Cash each week that they can redeem at the PBIS store,” said principal Felicia Curtain.

“Now, we can use the book vending machine to acknowledge students on the spot with a token, or students can use their Cardinal Cash for tokens as well.”

Right: The book vending machine at Caledonia has titles like *The Day You Begin* and *Just Like Me*.



## From the Superintendent

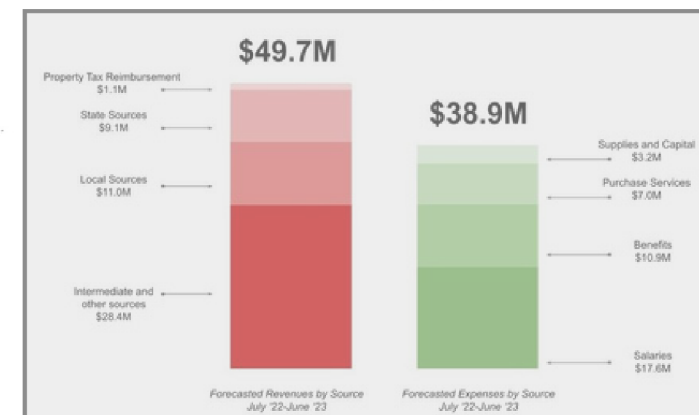
As the winter holidays have now passed and we enter the second half of the school year, it is my hope that everyone took the opportunity to rest and reflect over the holiday break. Shaw Stadium is undergoing Phase III of its construction, highlighted by a new home locker room space, permanent restrooms for stadium guests, and a beautiful new parking lot. The furniture installation at Shaw and Kirk brings to completion the revamp of all student and teacher furniture across the District.

Finally, I invite everyone to see the A/V work being completed in the Shaw Auditoria at our next Schools Connecting Community event on February 8th at 6:00 p.m. We will review the District’s academic progress for the first half of the school year and everyone will have the opportunity to participate in a forum with our building leaders.



## From the Treasurer

As District treasurer and chief financial officer, one of my responsibilities is to report our current financial status to the community and our stakeholders. It is my intention to be as clear and concise as possible.



## From the Board President

The new year brings with it a feeling of hope, a clean start to make new inroads, experience success, and leave some of our worries behind us. It is my hope that the second half of this school year will be a time for our students to show how much they’ve grown and demonstrate all of the wonderful things they’ve learned. It’s also a chance for our families and community members to get involved and be a part of the great things happening in our District each day.

I hope you have the chance to join us for our Schools Connecting Community Event on Wednesday, February 8th at 6:00 p.m. in the Shaw High School Auditoria and participate in our community discussion as the Board reviews the District Scorecards for the first half of the school year.

One measure we use to gauge the financial position of the school district is comparing revenue (money coming in, pictured in green) against expenses (money being spent, pictured in red).

If the these spending trends continue, the District can expect to carry an operating surplus of cash into next school year of \$10.7 million dollars.

This information can be reviewed in the November 2022 Five Year Forecast submission to the Ohio Department of Education. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like a copy of this report.