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Summer sale is one day only!
SEE PAGE 6

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Schools are full STEAM ahead

Amy Higgins

Communications director

The Stocker Foundation is continuing its investment in Elyria Schools, earmarking \$1.35 million over three years to bolster the district's K-8 STEAM curricula and to further support preschool education.

In 2014, The Stocker Foundation awarded \$1.25 million over five years, which led to the establishment of two preschool classrooms at Franklin Elementary that year. The grant also drove full-school implementations at Franklin, including extended school hours, new technology in the classrooms, enhanced teacher collaboration, art-inspired learning and programs to increase parent engagement.

Patricia O'Brien, executive director of The Stocker Foundation, said this new multiyear investment keeps the preschool program in place at Franklin Elementary — the future Hamilton Elementary School — and scales up the district's kindergarten through eighth-grade programming districtwide in Literacy + STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math).

Elyria Schools Superintendent Ann Schloss said this is yet another example of solid partnering between the school community and a foundation to better the community as a whole, as well as serving to prepare children with real skills for life-long learning.

"We're fortunate in the Elyria Schools to have excellent partnerships with our philanthropic, civic and business community," Schloss said. "The projects we're spearheading through these partnerships are giving our students an edge as they graduate and move on to college and careers. We've also been able to provide even more training for staff. Elyria Schools is truly on its way to becoming a premier STEAM district locally and throughout the state of Ohio.

"The Stocker Foundation Board recently adopted a broader 21st century definition of literacy to help students keep pace in today's



AMY HIGGINS / ELYRIA SCHOOLS

From left, Elyria Schools IT Director Brian Kokai, Academic Services Director Natalie Matthews and Superintendent Ann Schloss accept a \$1.35 million donation for literacy and STEAM education from The Stocker Foundation.

rapidly changing world. Our ongoing commitment to Elyria City Schools has and will continue to inspire real change," O'Brien stated. The Stocker Foundation places a priority on literacy and STEAM-focused learning in education. For more information about The Stocker Foundation and its grant-making, consult www.stockerfoundation.org.

The preschool program that began at Franklin in 2014 with funding from The Stocker Foundation was termed "New Beginnings." The program earned a Five Star Step Up to Quality rating by the state, the highest possible preschool rating, and maintains that rating today.

More than 70 percent of the students participating in the first New Beginnings preschool cohort — and who are still enrolled at Franklin — having maintained gains and met the requirements of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee. After inception of New Beginnings the Franklin staff reported an

increase in parent engagement and more siblings enrolling in preschool.

With new funding from The Stocker Foundation designated for K-8 districtwide STEAM learning, Elyria Schools will partner with Project Lead the Way.

Project Lead the Way is a nonprofit organization that is recognized for implementing a rich curriculum and hands-on learning approach that promotes critical thinking and problem solving while inspiring creativity and collaboration.

The courses will embed seamlessly into the K-8 core curriculum and support programs that are already in place in the Elyria Schools, including robotics, coding, programming, engineering and design. It will also mesh with the materials and training in the Imagineering Hubs and makerspaces found in Elyria's elementary and middle schools. All students will benefit from taking part in these real-world experiences.

Let's get ready to rumble!

Amy Higgins

Communications director

Elyria Pioneers Football takes the field this fall with a new coach.

Devlin Culliver was named as the varsity head football coach by the Elyria Board of Education on Jan. 23, 2019.

Culliver will be a familiar face in the classroom, too, as a visual arts teacher at Elyria High School.



Culliver

Culliver brings 20 years of high school football coaching experience and 25 years of teaching experience to Elyria.

"Coach Culliver brings a lot of knowledge with him to the program and success in every coaching position he's held but it goes beyond success on the field," said Heather Beck, athletic director. "He has built relationships with former players and coaches that last a lifetime and he's helped student athletes attain their goals of going to college to get an education, and to play football."

It's all about the kids for Culliver.

"I am excited to be the new head football coach at Elyria High School," Culliver said. "Anytime I get the opportunity to positively affect the lives of young men I feel blessed.

"My goal for the program is to immediately compete for the GCC league title," he said. "I will begin building from the blocks that Coach Arno and his staff have set in

See RUMBLE, 7

New principal at Ely Elementary

Amy Higgins

Communications director

Education is about people. And a people business can only thrive if it's based on rich relationships with mutual trust and respect and genuine care for others.

That's the philosophy of Elyria's newest school principal and the new face at the helm of Ely Elementary School.

Brandon Easton was hired at a recent Elyria Board of Education meeting to replace long-time Ely principal, Dr. Jack Dibee, who resigned his position to accept a new role as curriculum director for Avon Lake Schools.

Easton comes to Elyria from Lorain Schools where he's been the principal of Helen Steiner Rice Elementary School for two years.

Easton is a seasoned educator who spent the bulk of his career in Florida as a school administrator and teacher.

"Whether I was a teacher or an administrator, first and foremost my work has been in building relationships and school culture," Easton said. "I'm a firm believer that if you have teachers, students or a community



Easton

that does not want to be a part of that school, it doesn't matter what type of professional development you do, or what type of feedback you're giving to an individual, if they don't respect or trust, and they don't feel like you truly, genuinely care about them, it's all going to go out the window for nothing."

Easton has seen how improving school culture translates into measurable data.

As a building leader in Lorain, he set high standards for academic success and earned buy-in from his staff by strengthening relationships and creating a culture of support.

"One of the things I did at Helen Steiner Rice was to have individual meetings with every single teacher and staff member — one-on-one meetings that were 15 to 30 minutes long — just to talk and to hear how the year went prior, hear about their goals and some things that I could do to help support them," Easton said. "Really (it's about) just building trust and letting

"The chance to open up a new school is phenomenal. I think as an administrator it's something you always dream of and rarely have an opportunity to do. It's one of those things that's hard to pass up, almost like having a first house and you're the first person to be in there — that's truly exciting."

Brandon Easton,

new principal of Ely Elementary School

them know that it's not a 'gotcha' system; I'm here to support, and we're all in this together."

Easton also set quarterly meetings with teachers called "data chats" to discuss strengths and areas of concern in their individual classrooms, and led in-house professional development sessions.

Collectively, the staff identified key focus areas and put a plan in place to meet defined goals. In one school year, the team saw substantial gains and boosted the building's "Gap Closing Component" grade on Ohio's Report Card — a measure that tracks how well schools are meeting the needs of all populations — from a failing grade to a "B."

Easton's previous experience in school leadership roles involved a heavy technology

focus and Elyria's STEAM programming and advanced technology know-how drew him to the district.

That, and the opportunity to open a brand new school.

"I'm a huge technology advocate for students and for teachers and educators, and the technology that's coming into the district is exciting," he said. "In one of the schools I was at there was a huge STEM program with Project Lead the Way and I know that's the route Elyria's going with, so that's exciting to get back to, as well.

"Also the chance to open up a new school is phenomenal," Easton said. "I think as an administrator it's something you always dream of and rarely have an opportunity to do. It's one of those things that's hard to pass

up, almost like having a first house and you're the first person to be in there — that's truly exciting."

Easton resides in Medina with his wife, Tiffany, and their three children: Kaden, 9, Avery, 6, and MaKynzie, 2. Family life keeps him busy but in his free time he enjoys golfing, coaching his son's baseball team and being outdoors.

Easton said he is looking forward to meeting the students, staff and community of Ely.

"I'm eager to get to know Ely's families and for them to get to know me, and to continue the great success of Ely," he said. "Building relationships and getting to know the families and community is what's important."

Elyria Schools has new academic services director

Amy Higgins

Communications director

The Academic Services Department is the hub of all content and courses for the students and staff of Elyria Schools.

On May 15, 2019, the Elyria Board of Education unanimously approved hiring a new leader of that vital department: Natalie Matthews.

Matthews comes to Elyria from



Matthews

Avon Lake Schools where she served in a similar capacity as director of curriculum.

Matthews had involvement with the academic services team in Elyria and said that experience left a mark.

"I have had the opportunity to collaborate with Elyria's adminis-

trative team over the last few years and am thrilled to now be a part of that team," she said. "There is something magical about Elyria's energy, dedication and welcoming culture and I am honored to begin the next chapter of my career in the Elyria City Schools."

Before moving to a central administration position, Matthews was an elementary principal in Avon Lake and also in

Wellington Exempted Village Schools. Prior to her time in Ohio, Matthews was a principal and teacher in Pennsylvania.

Meeting the staff and students is priority No. 1 for Matthews.

"My goal right away is to get into the buildings to meet the staff that make learning possible for our students," Matthews said. "I am interested in their goals and how I might be able to support them best."

"I cannot wait to build relationships, engage in the welcoming culture and to learn more about the innovative experiences happening in Elyria. I hope to support and grow with the staff, while sharing my background and experiences to reach our common goal of optimal student learning."

Matthews resides in Avon with her husband Michael and their two daughters, Lillianna, 10, and Berkley, 10.

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Big lessons learned in a tiny town

Amy Higgins

Communications director

“Stop, stop, stop your feet before you cross the street.”

Look left and right and left again and then you move your feet.

If you heard your child singing this song during any walks this summer, then the folks at Safety Town did their job.

It’s one of the hallmark rallying cries that soon-to-be-kindergarteners learn at Elyria’s weeklong Safety Town each summer.

“Safety town has been around for 61 years in Elyria,” Elyria police Officer Mic Fairbanks said. “For a number of those years, the Elyria Police Department was completely in charge of it — it was mostly a DARE officer’s position to set everything up for the three to five weeks of safety town.”

To better use their manpower, however, Elyria police teamed with the city’s parks and recreation department to bolster staffing for Safety Town.

The program now combines police officers and parks and recreation staff, along with a legion of student volunteers, as well as ample support and leadership from Elyria Kiwanis.

All in all, it makes for a massive undertaking in which dozens upon dozens of volunteers and others team up to teach youngsters the finer points of all things safety.

Like what?

“For the week of Safety Town, they learn different aspects of safety,” said Tanya Pallardy, coordinator of Safety Town. “They learn about pedestrian safety, how to cross the street, seat belt safety.

“They learn how to buckle up, they learn about stranger danger — who they shouldn’t talk to. On visitor day, they get to talk to (people from) the ambulance, Life Care, the fire department. They learn how to ride in a school bus safely and they visit the book mobile.”

The instructors are all volunteers, ranging from sixth grade to high school seniors.

The program lasts one week, although Elyria offers the program for three different groups throughout the summer. That means the program runs for three full weeks, all at Northwood Middle School on Gulf Road.

“They volunteer to be here the three weeks that safety town runs,” Pallardy said. “This program wouldn’t be possible without our volunteers. They’re amazing. The majority of the students are from Elyria City Schools, some from St. Jude’s and Elyria Catholic, and some from the Mid-view School District.”

Northwood sixth grader Zoe Scheithauer volunteered for her first time this year.

“I’m volunteering because I went here and I had a good time and I learned stuff and I like to help the kids experience stuff,” Zoe said. “And it’s just fun.”



ELYRIA SCHOOLS PHOTOS

ABOVE: Elyria Police Officer Mic Fairbanks monitors the mini roadways of Safety Town at Northwood Middle School.
BELOW: A Safety Town student rides a tractor and learns the rules of the road at Safety Town.

Other student volunteers expressed similar sentiments.

“I like being with the kids and I want to be a teacher, so this gives me a lot of experience,” said Kennedy Shawver, an Elyria High student. “My favorite part is when the kids get to watch the videos like ‘Seymour’s Playhouse,’ because they get to listen to the songs.”

This year, fellow Elyria High student Kaitlyn Altobelli marked her fourth year volunteering at Safety Town.

“I just really love being with the kids and seeing them learn,” Altobelli said. “I like seeing them happy and just all enthusiastic about what they are learning. And watching them ride around on tractors is fun.”

The pedal-powered tractors are a highlight of the week for most of the kids.

The children get to pedal the tractors around on roads in a small village behind Northwood Middle School.

It’s a Lilliputian version of Elyria, really — complete with stop signs, fully functioning stop lights and other signage and mini buildings emblazoned as Elyria’s courthouse, parks and rec department, post office, police station and such.



Fairbanks, who works on road patrols, said he thoroughly enjoys working with the kids at Safety Town.

When he’s not out on the roads making sure the adults follow the safety rules, he gets to start early with the youngsters.

“We’re trying to get the little ones used to being around and approaching a police officer,” he said. “(We ensure) they know their addresses, phone numbers.

“That’s what I do for the three weeks here,” he said.

Celebrating the Class of 2019



AMY HIGGINS / ELYRIA SCHOOLS PHOTOS

The Elyria High School Class of 2019 was the first graduating class to walk the field of the new Mercy Health Field at Ely Stadium on June 6, 2019. Congratulations, graduates!



Fun at the Special Olympics



HELD AMY HIGGINS / ELYRIA SCHOOLS PHOTOS

The Lorain County Special Olympics was held May 17, 2019, at the new Mercy Health Field at Ely Stadium. The event will celebrate its 40th year in 2020. This year it drew more than 600 athletes from 17 neighboring school districts to compete, along with a legion of volunteers. The new stadium is ADA compliant and offers full accessibility for wheelchairs.



Think Pink: One-day-only cookie sale draws near

Amy Higgins
Communications director

If you ever needed justification to indulge in something sweet for just one day, then Elyria Schools has found the day for you: Pink Cookie Day.

The much-heralded sour-cream cake cookie is available for pick up one day only, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 7 at Elyria High School's dining hall, for orders that are placed ahead of time.

The cookies are \$10 a dozen. Orders must be placed ahead by calling (440) 284-8262 by Aug. 2 or by emailing lori@aramark.com.

The cookies are baked and prepared at Elyria High School's central kitchen by Elyria Schools employee Diane "Dee Dee" Shullick.

The original cookie recipe was introduced by former kitchen manager Jean Gawlik, who retired a number of years ago — but not before handing off the mantle to Shullick.

No matter what changes at Elyria Schools, the Pink Cookie has been a mainstay for decades. It was named Cleveland's Best Cafeteria Cookie a few years back.

Elyria Schools recently opted

to choose a new foodservice provider, entering into a five-year contract with Aramark Corporation.

The deal guarantees Elyria Schools an annual surplus of more than \$570,000 per year for the life of the contract. This is based on the district's current assumptions for expenses.

Elyria Schools maintained a good relationship with its previous foodservice contractor, Sodexo Foodservice, for more than two decades, but to gain the best value for the district the school system sought bids from multiple vendors.

Aramark submitted a proposal that exceeded expectations. The company's representatives presented a proposal that realized substantial cost savings and high-quality services to students.

The school district places the utmost importance on food quality, with foodservice vendors required to meet stringent state and federal foodservice requirements.

Aramark has a long record of delivering excellent service in the educational sector.

"Aramark came through with a fantastic proposal that offers sig-

SUERTH JOINS FOOD SERVICES DEPT.

The Food Services Department is now led by Aramark's Kyle Suerth, former Food Services director at North Ridgeville Schools. Kyle has an extensive background managing K-12 Food Services with Aramark around the country including Texas, Pennsylvania and Ohio, and has received multiple state and company awards for his work. "I'm excited to be on board with Elyria City Schools," Kyle said. "I've already seen a great program (in Elyria) in regard to food quality and employee performance, and I am excited to lead the team to reach new heights through innovation, quality services and customer-service engagement."



Suerth

nificant financial benefits for the district without sacrificing quality, consistency or any services that our students and families are accustomed to," Elyria Board President Greg Elek said. "We're excited for this new venture and see a great many advantages to the new partnership for all concerned.

"I would also like to commend our treasurer, Joy Clickenger, and business services director, Jake Carmany, for their diligence in seeking the best foodservice package for our students, staff and community," Elek said.

Under the new agreement the district's foodservice employees will remain employees of the Elyria Schools working under the direction of Aramark management.

As part of the contract, Aramark will continue to provide the extra programs that the district is accustomed to including, but certainly not limited to, student chef competitions, catering services, in-kind levy contributions and the federal summer feeding program.

Pink cookies are available during the school year by calling 284-8253.

School dress code reminders

Amy Higgins
Communications director

With a new school year around the corner, it's important to revisit the district's expectations for school attire and reiterate the dress-code guidelines detailed in the Elyria Schools Student Code of Conduct.

Over the years, the district has reexamined the dress code and has settled on a straightforward set of guidelines for grooming that emphasize safety, with a focus on learning.

The guidelines are printed in the Student Code of Conduct which can be found online at www.elyriaschools.org under the Pupil Services tab.

In short, the guidelines institute:

- Clothing that is appropriate to the school activity in which the student is engaged.
- Footwear that does not create a safety hazard or damage flooring or furnishings.
- Pants that are sized to fit and in good repair.
- Shirts, tops and other attire that are sized to fit, in good repair and not revealing or too oversized as to create a safety hazard.
- And, no apparel or head gear that covers the head/scalp in school (this does not apply to headgear worn for religious, medical or similar reasons.)

If dress or grooming is questionable or has been deemed disruptive to the learning environment, the school administrator will determine its appropriate-ness.

If students or parents have any questions, they are encouraged to speak with their school principals.

SAFETY TOWN GRADS SAY 'CHEESE!'



Safety Town runs for three weeks in the summer for children who are 5 years old and entering kindergarten in the fall. Pictured is the first week's graduating class.

AMY HIGGINS / ELYRIA SCHOOLS

Schools full of opportunities

Elyria Schools is an amazing place, attended and staffed by amazing people.

From the sheer ingenuity, exuberance and brilliance of our students to the perseverance, devotion and compassion of our staff.

I'm fortunate as the superintendent to have a bird's eye view of it all, from preschool to high school.

As I reflect on last school year and think ahead of what's to come, I feel energized and incredibly proud.

The district is well on its way to the completion of five new schools in the community — facilities that will be progressive and fully equipped for modern educational needs. (Read more about the progress of new schools on Page 8.)

The curriculum in our schools is thoughtful and rigorous, taught by highly trained education professionals who care deeply about the students they serve.

Our students are expressive and imaginative and highly astute with technology. They define the "maker" movement by fully immersing themselves in the district's expansive and outside-the-box offerings, such



ANN SCHLOSS

as programming, robotics, hands-on labs and so much more.

In an announcement this summer, The Stocker Foundation committed \$1.35 million over three years to furthering literacy and STEAM education in Elyria Schools. Elyria Schools is well on its way to becoming the premier STEAM district regionally and abroad. (Read about this impressive step forward in teaching and technology on Page 1.)

Our students in the Elyria Schools have unparalleled opportunities in classrooms and in programs such as sports, theater and the arts, all of which serve to build character and strengthen minds and bodies in critical years of development.

The district has a strong tradition of introducing students to social and civic clubs that link them to their community, which is of course possible only through long-lasting partnerships with area leaders.

Elyria Schools has much to

Our students in the Elyria Schools have unparalleled opportunities in classrooms and in programs such as sports, theater and the arts, all of which serve to build character and strengthen minds and bodies in critical years of development.

celebrate and much to give.

I'm honored to serve as superintendent of Elyria Schools, where I have the pleasure and privilege of working alongside hundreds of exemplary teachers and staff, and thousands of young students and their families.

I'm looking forward to another memorable school year.

Ann Schloss is superintendent of Elyria Schools.

Elyria Schools: An education destination

Amy Higgins

Communications director

Elyria Schools is your *best* choice for education.

Preschool through high school, Elyria Schools offers a curriculum that is unmatched in scope and versatility.

Elyria's preschool program serves children 3 to 5 years old in an inclusive, vibrant setting at the Elyria Early Childhood Village housed at 42101 Griswold Road.

Preschool is also housed at Franklin Elementary School, 446 West 11th St., for the Franklin attendance area.

Both programs have earned the state's highest rating for preschool: Five Star. Preschool transportation is free, and multiple morning and afternoon sessions are available at the Elyria Early Childhood Village. There is no cost to attend Franklin's preschool program and tuition at the Elyria Early Childhood Village is based on income.

With specialized teachers and age-appropriate technology and tools, and accommodations for all skills and abilities, preschool in the Elyria Schools stands out among the rest.

Little Pioneers who are 5 years old by Sept. 30, 2019, will be eager to experience Elyria's full-day kindergarten program located in the district's neighborhood schools.

Elyria has been doing full-day kindergarten right for decades.

Just walking through the door parents and students will be greeted by a friendly, caring staff and exceptional teachers who are specially trained in early education.

The classrooms are colorful, engaging and inspiring to young minds, and outfitted with the latest technology that's aptly suited for early learners.

The district takes care to meet students where they are in learning at every level in their educational journey. A multitude of opportunities exists for individualized instruction.

Elyria is a Division I school district, home to the Pioneers, and some of sports' greatest athletes. Today's student athlete in Elyria competes at Mercy Health Field at Ely Stadium, a brand-new multi-sport complex which opened in August 2018.

Chartered as the first high school west of the Alleghenies, Elyria High School has a rich history and proud traditions more than a century old.

In 2007, Elyria High School was rebuilt as a modern, progressive campus serving 2,000 students grades nine through 12.

This sprawling facility gives a college "feel," with an extensive, rich program of study.

Advanced and college-level courses abound at Elyria High School.

Students set a solid pace for college without ever leaving Elyria High School's campus.

The district also partners with Lorain County Community College through the Early College program, giving first-generation college students the chance to earn a two-year degree while still in high school.

If the trades are the preferred choice, Elyria Schools and the Lorain County Joint Vocational School work hand in hand to create pathways to career success.

Students in the Elyria Schools have their choice of activities to build character and cement friendships. Most programs cost nothing to participate. The District also waives school fees at the elementary and middle school level.

Elyria is a destination place in education.

With top-ranked programs in sports, fine arts and robotics, and model practices in teaching and learning — and now with brand-new schools, preschool through eighth grade, set to open in 2020 and 2021 — Elyria Schools is an excellent value, and your best choice for education.

Be a Pioneer! Call (440) 284-8220 to enroll.

RUMBLE

From 1

place and do my best to make the city of Elyria proud."

Culliver said the core value of his brand is all about building character and instilling mental and physical toughness in student athletes.

"Coaching for me is more about the development of young men who happen to be good at the game of football," he said. "It is also my goal to make sure that our student athletes have every opportunity available to attend college."

Culliver also looks forward to joining the well-established team of art teachers at Elyria High School.

"Art and football are the two things I have always been good at," he said. "I love to teach students how to express themselves with a pencil and paint brush. I'm looking forward to being a part of the Elyria family."

2019 ELYRIA PIONEERS FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

08/30	7:00 PM Away	Midview High School, Adelsberg Stadium
09/06	7:00 PM Home	Bedford High School, Mercy Field at Ely Stadium
09/13	7:00 PM Away	Lorain High School, George Daniel Stadium
09/20	7:00 PM Home	Mentor High School, Mercy Field at Ely Stadium
09/27	7:00 PM Away	Euclid High School, Euclid High School FIELD 1
10/04	7:00 PM Home	Medina Senior High, Mercy Field at Ely Stadium
10/11	7:00 PM Home	Shaker Heights, Mercy Field at Ely Stadium
10/18	7:00 PM Away	Strongsville H.S., Strongsville H.S. Pat Catan Stadium
10/25	7:00 PM Away	Brunswick H.S., Brunswick Auto Mart Stadium
11/01	7:00 PM Home	Solon High School, Mercy Field at Ely Stadium

GO PIONEERS!

Elyria High Band Appreciation Day



AMY HIGGINS / ELYRIA SCHOOLS PHOTOS

The Elyria High School Pioneer Marching Band delighted the crowd in Ely Square on May 24, 2019, during the band's annual Appreciation Day concert in the park.



Building blocks of tomorrow

Greg Elek

Elyria School Board president

With three sites under construction and two more on the way, Elyria City School District is fast-tracked to open its new school buildings on schedule in August 2020 and August 2021.

Construction work at the Northwood Campus on Abbe Road and at Ely Elementary School on Gulf Road is moving in tandem.

Both sites are now largely under-roof and work has already begun on the interiors.

At the Hamilton Elementary School site on Middle Avenue, work is moving at a steady clip as well. All three schools will open in August 2020 in phase one of the district's master plan of facilities.

Eastern Heights Campus, between Prospect Street and Garford Avenue, and Westwood Middle School, off Griswold Road in Elyria Township, will open in August 2021.

Here's a rundown of the construction details at each site:

ELY (K-4, 61,000 sq. ft. facility; Open August 2020)

■ All slabs have been poured and exterior block walls are completed.

■ Masons are installing brick and will continue the work for several months.

■ The steel roof has been set on 70 percent of the building, and roofing is complete in 50 percent of the building.

■ Crews are installing electrical overhead and hanging duct.

■ Interior walls are going up in certain wings of the building.

NORTHWOOD (K-8, 129,000 sq. ft. facility; Open August 2020)

■ Crews are about 70 percent complete with all slab pours.

■ Masons will begin installing brick on the right side of the building.

■ The second-floor concrete is going in on the left side.

■ The steel work and roofing are more than 40 percent complete.

■ Interior work on duct, electrical and walls has begun.

HAMILTON (PK-4, 58,000 sq. ft. facility; Open August 2020)

■ Site work is complete.

■ All exterior foundations have been poured.

■ Crews have installed founda-



Elek

tional concrete on top of the footers.

■ Crews have started building the walls up in the gym.

■ Crews have begun pouring concrete slabs.

EASTERN

HEIGHTS (K-8, 146,000 sq. ft. facility; Open August 2021)

■ Out for bid.

■ Groundbreaking tentatively scheduled for Sept. 12, 2019, at noon, at existing Eastern Heights Middle School property.

WESTWOOD (K-8, 94,000 sq. ft. facility; Open August 2021)

■ Architectural drawings are in refinement stage and budget estimations are in process.

Ely Stadium — yet another major facility in the new master plan — is open for its second year and ready to go for fall sports.

The Varsity Football team, under new coach Devlin Culliver, has a scrimmage against Avon at the stadium on Saturday, Aug. 17, 9 a.m., and it's open to the public.

See the Varsity football schedule on Page 7 and the full fall sports schedule at www.elyriaschools.org.

Building tours

The existing schools of Crestwood, Oakwood, Franklin, Prospect, Windsor and Northwood will be vacated as students move to their new schools over the next two years.

The buildings and properties may become available for sale. The Elyria Board is currently fact-finding.

Tours of the properties are planned in August and the schedule is posted on the district's website.

Walk down memory lane

Elyria's existing school buildings, some more than a century old, are more than bricks and mortar to those who walked the halls as students over the many decades of their existence.

The district will hold open houses and community tours this year and next to give residents opportunities to revisit their memories.

Please watch the district's website and social media sites for further information.