

# Nashville News

August/September  
2025

## Nashville Elementary School

13495 SR 39  
Big Prairie, Ohio 44611  
Phone: 330-378-2111

Brian Zimmerly, Principal  
Jackie Swartz, Secretary  
[www.westholmes.org](http://www.westholmes.org)

Board Members: Patricia Sage, Joel Yoder, Brad Welsh, Tina Zickefoose, Hans Ramseyer  
Superintendent: Mr. Eric Jurkovic

### Calendar of Events

#### August/September

August 20	First Day of School
September 1	NO SCHOOL – Labor Day
September 2	Primary Parents 4:00
September 15	Board Mtg. WHHS – 6:00
September 19	Midterms sent home
September 23	Fall Pictures

#### LOOKING AHEAD

October 14 & 16	Parent/ Teacher Conf.
October 17	Non-Student Day/Staff PD

### Mark Your Calendar

~Nov. 26-28- Thanksgiving Break  
~Dec 1 – No School/ Conference Comp Day  
~Dec. 22-Jan 2 Christmas Break  
~Jan 19- No School/MLK Day  
~Feb.9 & 11 – P/T Conferences  
~Feb. 13 - Non-Student Day/Staff In-Service  
~Feb. 16-No School/Presidents Day  
~March 30-April 3- Spring Break  
~April 6 No School/ Conference Comp Day  
~May 8 – Non-Student Day/Staff In-Service  
~May 25 – No School/Memorial Day  
~May 28– Last Day of School

**GO KNIGHTS**

### **A Note from the Principal**

Welcome Back! I hope everyone has had a great summer and created many memories with your family!

As we move into the 2025-2026 school year, many new memories will be created throughout the school year. Teachers have been working hard preparing lessons, custodial staff has the buildings looking great, kitchen staff is ready to provide great meals, and secretarial staff has everything ready for a smooth start. As the school year begins, I encourage you to maintain contact with your child's teacher and ask questions as they arise. As most of you know, this will be the last year in our current elementary building. All our elementaries will be coming together at the new West Holmes Elementary for the 2026-2027 school year. While this will be the last year for learning in our current buildings, those memories that I mentioned earlier can't be taken away. Our staff has done an excellent job providing a quality education to all of our students over the years. Moving into the new building next year will enable the entire elementary staff to come together and continue to provide that quality education in a new building with updated features including air conditioning and better security. With this change, it is natural to have questions, and to hear many different things about the process. I strongly encourage you to feel free to call me with any questions you might have regarding the new building.

Looking forward to a great year!

**Brian J. Zimmerly**  
Nashville / Lakeville Principal



### **Messaging system/ Class Dojo**

We are continuing to use Class Dojo as a communication/messaging tool to keep in touch with parents. We encourage you to sign up to be a part of your child's class when you get the invite. This will allow you to know what is going on in the classroom as well as the school. The program can be accessed from your phone or computer. It has a social media look and feel, but is kept on a "closed system" only including school staff and parents.

### **PAX Good Behavior Game (GBC)**

We are going to continue using the PAX GBG as our positive behavior program.

PAX stands for Peace, Productivity, Health, and Happiness. Students will learn and practice how to be PAX leaders, bettering their world and themselves.

Students will take responsibility for their actions and choose appropriate positive responses to different situations.

These same principles can guide them at home and in future years of their lives.

### **Chromebook Insurance**

Students are each provided a Chromebook to use throughout the school year. At the elementary level, rarely do these Chromebooks come home. However, accidents do happen, they can get dropped, etc., potentially causing damage. Therefore, Chromebook insurance can be purchased by you as parents to keep the cost much lower if your child's Chromebook needs to be replaced or repaired. Your child's Chromebook does follow him or her, meaning that at the end of each year, it is turned in, and then redistributed at the beginning of the next school year. Below is the link to purchase Chromebook insurance. This is a new company from that which we have used in past years.

The deadline to purchase this insurance is September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Below is the link to purchase Chromebook insurance.

<https://gpo.worthavegroup.com/westholmes>

### **Drop Off/Pick up of Students**

\*If you bring your child to school or if they walk, please make sure that they arrive at Nashville no earlier than 8:45.

\*If you plan on picking up your child from school at the end of the day they will be released from the cafeteria door located on the west side of the building, lower level. Designated staff members will not release them without visual confirmation as to who is picking them up. This is for the safety of our students, your children. Please enter through the playground gate after last recess is over.

\*Our students are dismissed at 3:30 from their classrooms. We ask that you avoid picking them up early from the office unless you have a set appointment, students will not be dismissed directly from the classroom. By 3:40 all students have been released from the cafeteria making for a quick dismissal.

\*If your child walks to or from school and needs to cross the street, please make sure someone is there to assist them. Please have them use the state designated crosswalks.

### **ACTIVITY FEE**

This year the student fee will be \$10.00 per students. All students are required to pay this activity fee. There will be no waivers. Please make checks payable to: Nashville Elementary.

Payment can also be made online through the PaySchools link @ <https://westholmes.org>

### **Attendance Concerns**

Our school hours are 9:00-3:30. If you have appointments to make, please attempt to make them after school or on Saturday. We understand that in many cases this is impossible. Teachers strive to make the most of the time they have with your children. We appreciate your help in ensuring that your child is here at school on time and ready to learn. Any student arriving between 9:00-9:15 is marked tardy. After 9:15 is ½ day absence.

If it is necessary to arrive late or leave school early, please report to the office to sign your child in or out.

### Medications

Parents are encouraged to administer any necessary medication at home. Parents may come to school and administer medication to their child. However, if this cannot be done, any student who is required by a doctor's order to take medication during school hours need to comply with the follow guidelines.

- Prescription medication taken at school must be accompanied by a doctor's order, labeled with student name, date, and name of drug and necessary information for dosage.

- Medication must be in original container labeled by the pharmacy or doctor.

- A written release form must be completed. Release forms are available in the office.

### Missing Children's Act

Ohio Law requires us to contact parents when a student is absent. Please help us in our task by notifying the school ahead of time or call the school by 10:00 a.m. if your child is absent. If we receive no notice by this time, we will phone home to ensure your child's safety. All students need a signed excuse upon returning to school. We are required to maintain this documentation on file and it will be considered an unexcused absence if we do not know why your child was absent. If your child ends up accumulating a large number of absences, we will make you aware of this through a letter to help ensure that he or she is here as much as possible.

### Student Accident Insurance

The West Holmes School District offers Student Accident Insurance through a local insurance company. If you are interested in purchasing a policy for your child, applications can be found on our school web page. You may also contact the school office.

### Dismissal

If your child is to go home in a manner different than usual, please send in a note with your child stating that. **If you have to call with the change, please do so before 2:00 pm.**

### Alerts and Notifications

When the district has an alert or notification, such as a school delay/cancellation or a late bus, just to list a few, a text message will be sent out to parents. To receive this alert you will need to register with the One Call Now program. Go to the district website at:

[www.westholmes.org](http://www.westholmes.org)

Click on the PARENTS tab at the top of the page  
Notifications & Alerts

If you are already registered there is not need to do it again.

### Gym Shoes

Please have your son or daughter wear tennis shoes on gym day, Tuesday. They do not need a special pair of shoes to be left at school for gym class.

### Breakfast and Lunch

You should have received notification on Final Forms regarding the Free and Reduced Lunch Application. We encourage you to fill this out if you think you might qualify based on the household income guidelines on the form. A hard copy of this application can also be picked up in the school office. Students who qualify will receive free breakfast and lunch. Filling out this form helps both families and the school.

As always, this information is kept confidential.



#### Regular Meal Prices

Breakfast	\$1.50
Lunch	\$ 3.00
Extra Milk	\$ .40