



FROM GOOD TO GREAT

Congratulations to all of the students, staff, and families of Ludlow Independent Schools! This fall, our district was proud to announce that, based on the Spring 2015 Kentucky test scores, **Ludlow was named a Proficient and High-Progress District!** Our overall growth from last year was in the top ten percent of all districts in the commonwealth. We are delighted to share this news with our Panthers of the Past!

Our theme this year has centered around the idea of great things happening in our district — not just good, but GREAT! We know that the great things that take place in our schools don't just happen by accident. Rather, lots of time, planning, and resources are used in order to make Ludlow the very best place for our

students. We appreciate the roles that our faculty and staff members, our families, our alumni, and our community stakeholders play in maintaining our tradition of excellence.

Superintendent Mike Borchers has worked diligently with the Board of Education to improve facilities and strengthen the academic programs, in order to build on past successes and solidify Ludlow's future. Read Mr. Borchers' letter on this inside of this newsletter for a full list of enhancements and renovations.

Would you like to visit your Alma Mater? Learn more about all of the GREAT things taking place? Go on a tour of the latest renovations? See how things have changed since you've graduated? **You're invited!** See the Open House details below.



Alumni Open House

Saturday, April 23, 2:00 PM

Tour the school buildings, campus, and new health facility

Hear about recent and upcoming projects

Reunite with classmates

Enjoy refreshments and a special presentation from students

RSVP by April 1 to Jenny McMillen at 859-261-8210

or jennifer.mcmillen@ludlow.kyschools.us

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Ludlow Alumni & Friends,

I hope that you and your family have had a wonderful start to 2016! May happiness and good health surround you and your loved ones.

My 21 years at Ludlow have been special ones to me. I know, as an alumnus, you too take much pride in being a panther and want the best for Ludlow. I can promise you that our district focus is to ensure that our students have the richest and most challenging school experience that prepares them to be successful beyond their years at Ludlow. This newsletter highlights many of these experiences and activities.

I am extremely proud to inform you that our district was recognized in the fall by the Kentucky Department of Education as a Proficient, High-Progress District based upon our state assessment results. Everyone associated with the Ludlow family should be extremely proud of our students and staff for achieving this recognition. Our school truly bursts with Panther Pride on a daily basis.

We have been focused on improving our facilities as well as the academic programs. We have renovated James Rigney Memorial Stadium to a standard that is second to none in Northern Kentucky. The high school steam heat was replaced with a new HVAC system last year along with a new electrical service and several other renovations within the high school. Our elementary school is scheduled to receive the same upgrade this summer. We have also built a new preschool playground along with a renovated entrance to the elementary. All of this guarantees that our students have a welcoming learning environment.

Our students' needs are the most important focus of every adult in our district. We have worked to secure and implement several programs that go above the normal school day for our students. Over the past five years we have secured over 2.1 million dollars in grants to support programs that allow our students to learn beyond the normal school day. These grants provide before-school, after-school, and summer SHINE and SOAR Programs to students in Grades K-9 at no cost to our parents. Not only are we seeing academic benefits of these programs, but we're providing our students with structured and enriching activities and clubs outside of the school day. Our Board of Education has also been passionate about supporting our students beyond the normal structure of a typical school day. We offer preschool for every four year-old in our community which allows our students to get a jump start on the educational experience. At the other end of the spectrum, our high school students have the Gateway Regional Academy which allows juniors and seniors to attend Gateway Community & Technical College for half of their day to earn college credits. Thanks to the board and many generous sponsors, this program is free of charge to our families. As a Ludlow Panther, you can start school a year earlier than most students and graduate with twenty-four college credits. We are proud of the opportunities that our students receive!

Our vision moving forward involves the help of our former panthers. We have a very unique opportunity to enhance more programs for our students but we need your help. Within the grants that I described earlier is \$70,000 of physical fitness equipment to go along with the current \$50,000 in equipment the district has either purchased or had donated. We have an opportunity to create a state of the art health facility for our students and families. This project breaks ground in March and will be a front addition to the HS Gym on Oak Street. This renovation will adequately house our equipment in a true health facility. The board has generously allocated a substantial sum towards this project but we still need assistance. It is also our hope to soon begin some much-needed restoration work to our auditorium. Much work needs to be done to restore this beautiful space to maintain its tradition and allow for students to continue their fine arts programs.

These projects need the support of our Panther Family. We are kicking off our **Capital Campaign** with a goal of \$225,000 in order to support these next projects and renovations. Whether it's \$10 or \$10,000, I am asking for your help to continue the successful enhancement of our programs and facilities. I know your love for the Panthers is as strong as mine. Once a Panther, always a Panther.

If you'd like to talk more about any of the projects we're working on, feel free to contact me at mike.borchers@ludlow.kyschools.us or 859-261-8210.

Warm regards,

Mike Borchers

Thank You to Our Contributors

The Ludlow Education Foundation wishes to thank those alumni and community members who have contributed a monetary gift to support LEF efforts since our last publication. We are grateful for your gifts of talent, time, and treasure so that we might fulfill our mission.

Patricia Beresford
Pete & Marilyn Carpenter
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Howard Gaiser
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Frank & Georgetta Palmer
Howard & Joan Pettibone
Mary Lou Pleasants
Douglas & Marilou Singleton
Jason Steffen
Kristy Taylor
Kenneth & Gladys Trammel
James & Linda Young



Kristy Collins, Class of 1996, directed the LHS Cast & Crew in *Acting Can Be Murder* in February. Three performances were held in The Faragher Fine Arts Center.



The National Honor Society held its annual Snowball Dance to raise money for scholarships. Pictured above is the 2016 Snowball Court.



At the Class of 2016 Retreat in January, senior Jayden Washington participates in an activity on marketing yourself in the workplace.



ABOVE & RIGHT: STEM WARS Night took place in February. It was a night for students in Grades K-9 and their families to discover STEM activities — science, technology, engineering, math — with a Star Wars twist. Families tinkered with circuits, played with math blocks and dice, built boats and catapults, wrote code for video animation, and much more!



Join Us for Ludlow Alumni
Night at the Reds!
May 21 at 4:10PM

Cincinnati Reds vs Seattle Mariners
Ken Griffey Jr. Dual Bobblehead Night
Call Rick Smith 859-261-8210

Are you interested in giving a monetary gift to support the mission of the Ludlow Education Foundation?
It couldn't be easier to support your Alma Mater! Use this form to mail a check or use Pay Pal online. Go to our webpage at www.ludlow.kyschools.us and click on the **Ludlow Education Foundation** link!

Name: _____ Maiden Name: _____

Graduating Class: _____ Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Yes! I would love to support the mission of the Ludlow Education Foundation!

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Panther Pride Club \$1-\$99 | <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to volunteer as a career mentor/speaker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PAWsome Panther Club \$100-\$499 | <input type="checkbox"/> I would like for my donation to sponsor a Gateway Dual Credit Program student |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red & Black Club \$500-\$999 | <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to RSVP for the Alumni Open House on April 23 at 2:00pm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ludlow All-Stars \$1,000-\$4,999 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Platinum Panthers \$5,000 or more | |

Mail to: Rick Smith/LEF 525 Elm Street Ludlow, KY 41016

PANTHERS OF THE PAST

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Spring 2016

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Mike Borchers, Superintendent

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*The Ludlow Independent School District
is committed to fostering a culture
of rigor, excellence, and personal accountability
by developing meaningful relationships with
students, families, and community members
to support and empower students to graduate
with college and career readiness skills.*



Elementary students celebrated being
"100 Days Smarter" on the 100th Day of School.
This Kindergarten student counts by 10s to 100.



Gateway Regional Academy students show off their
ID cards with pride! Forty-one juniors and seniors
currently participate in this dual credit program.