

Fort Hayes Opus

Volume 7 Issue 4 December 2024 Teachable

The mission of Fort Hayes is to create expectations of excellence within students through challenging and collaborative learning by blending the arts, academic and career programs.



Happy Holidays and Happy Winter Break!!

Turning Student Mistakes Into Teachable Moments

By Patricia De Saracho

We know that mistakes are an incredibly valuable learning tool. Just ask Thomas Edison: “I have not failed. I’ve just found 10,000 ways that won’t work,” said he. And it’s no secret that mistakes played a role in many world-changing inventions from penicillin to the microwave oven.

But in the classroom, it can be challenging to overcome the built-in stigma associated with mistakes or with being “wrong.” To do so requires deliberately cultivating a safe and caring atmosphere in which mistakes are welcomed as a normal, natural — and ultimately very important — part of the learning process.

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Main Number (614) 365-6681

High School Office

7:00 am – 3:30 pm

<https://www.ccsch.us/FortHayesHS>

Office 380-977-5640

forhayeshs@columbus.k12.oh.us

Attendance 380-977-6024

attendance.fhsarts@columbus.k12.oh.us

School Counselors:

Gillman: class of '27 & class of '25 (O-Z)
380-997-6186

Palmer: class of '26 & class of '25 (G-N)
380-997-5395

Plesea: class of '28 & class of '25 (A-F)
380-997-3410

Career Center Office

7:00 am – 3:30 pm

<https://www.ccsch.us/FortHayesCC>

Office 380-977-6050

fhcc@columbus.k12.oh.us

Attendance 380-977-6139

attendance.fhcc@columbus.k12.oh.us

School Counselors:

Bryant: Health and Construction Arts
380-977-4890

Matunas: Visual and Performing Arts and
Automotive Technology
380-977-6052

Main Offices

High School in Building 101

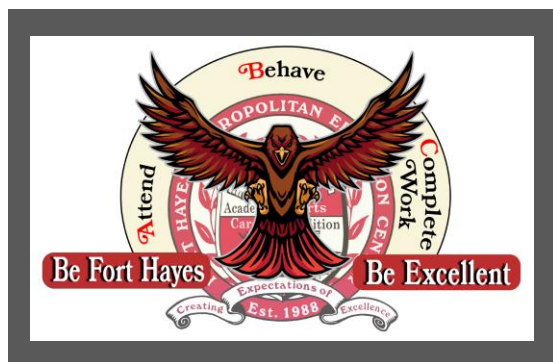
Career Center in CAATC & Health

Career Center Highlight: SkillsUSA Leadership Conference



Fort Hayes Career Center students were challenged to expand their knowledge on November 14 & 15 when they attended the SkillsUSA Fall Leadership Conference Student Sessions led by local business partners, SkillsUSA State officers, as well as the Ohio National Guard.

The highlight of the two days was the mind-blowing performance by Mentalist Brian Imbus. His performances demonstrated the amazing abilities of the human mind and encouraged our students to believe that their options in life are limitless.



Mistakes into Moments...

For teachers, this means reacting to mistakes with understanding, encouragement and positivity rather than frustration; and of course, ensuring that students know that laughing at or ridiculing an incorrect answer is never acceptable.

"You'll be surprised at how much student engagement and interaction will soar once they realize that nobody is going to laugh or be angry with them, including the teacher, if they get the answer incorrect," writes Serena Pariser a teacher, educational blogger and author of "Real Talk About Classroom Management: 50 Best Practices that Work and Show You Believe in Your Students."

Pariser recalls that early in her teaching career, "My students used to come to me each year with the notion that quieter is better than talking and making a mistake." To help them "get over their fear of making mistakes when sharing or presenting," she assured them that "I wanted to hear their voices, and that I needed to hear what they have learned so I could re-guide them as necessary."

Several of her strategies for avoiding "shutdown" in students include:

- Inviting classmates to "help out" when a student is searching for the correct answer (example: "You're on the right track, who can help him/her out?").
- Reminding them that the flip side of giving a wrong answer is that they are "just one step closer to the right answer."
- Reacting with positivity rather than frustration. (Wrong answers for teachers include: "We spent twenty minutes on this yesterday. Were you not paying attention?" Better to say something like, "You're all so smart. I know somebody can figure this out.")

"This type of classroom leads to a classroom full of raised hands because students are eager to try," says Pariser, who now works as assistant director of field experience at the University of San Diego.

Additional strategies for encouraging students to learn from mistakes include emphasizing positive qualities such as:

- Changing their perspective ("Let's look at this another way.")
- Persistence ("Keep trying, you can do this.")
- Resilience ("This is tough, but I bet you can figure it out.")
- Self-compassion ("It's OK to be a little confused. We don't always know the answer right away.")

“Mistakes into Teachable Moments...” concluded

Psychologist, author and youth development consultant Marilyn Price-Mitchell reminds that, whether inside the classroom or out in the world, “Learning from mistakes and errors is an important part of child and adolescent development. Most adults understand this concept. Yet, we have failed to teach our children that there is a positive side to getting things wrong.”

In an article titled “Learning from Mistakes: Helping Kids See the Good Side of Getting Things Wrong,” her list of tips includes:

- Acknowledge that you don't expect them to be perfect
- Don't rescue kids from their mistakes; instead, focus on the solution
- Praise children for their ability to admit their mistakes
- Help kids look at the good side of getting things wrong

Mistakes are a vital part of the educational process in any classroom, because they can be instructive in illustrating where additional focus may be needed, but it also helps to understand “the science behind mistakes.” Telling students they need to take advantage of the feedback they get isn't just good advice — it's established science, according to an Edutopia.org article titled “Teaching Students to Embrace Mistakes.”

“So why don't students view their mistakes as a valuable asset? Well, students don't think about their mistakes rationally — they think about them emotionally.” The article suggests that it is common for students to experience mistakes as something that makes them feel less smart, but that teachers can help consciously change this perspective in their students.

“Changing your students' perspective on mistakes is the greatest gift you can give yourself as a teacher. Imagine having a classroom of students who are engaged and constantly improving — it's every teacher's dream.”



Our Teacher of the Month (Mr. Reed) is a Columbus native, was inspired to become an educator by his outstanding Social Studies teachers, Mr. Sneider and Ms. Uhas-Sauer, at Fort Hayes and Whetstone High Schools. After graduating from Ohio State, he taught English as a second language in three different East Asian countries, solidifying his passion for teaching and Social Studies. Mr. Reed later earned a Master's in Education to pursue his dream of teaching in Columbus City Schools. He believes history is essential because it broadens understanding, builds empathy, and grounds us in the past. His love for storytelling helps engage students, particularly through primary sources like political cartoons, encouraging critical thinking and multiple perspectives.

This year, he's proud of his Humanities students' efforts and his Economics class for their creative presentations. Mr. Reed's goal is to inspire students to love learning, stay informed, and be vigilant citizens. Outside of school, he enjoys family time with his wife, Monica, and their daughters, traveling, and exploring new places, as well as hobbies like reading, writing, drawing, and playing board games.

Student of the Month: Jaden Lanier

Going to Fort Hayes has helped me grow so much as a person. I deal with many mental health challenges, just like many others at this school. Being involved in the arts has allowed me to face my fears and better manage my mental health. One of the arts I participate in is Orchestra, where I play the violin. During my freshman year, I had severe stage fright and would cry after every performance. With the support of wonderful teachers and students, I can now step onto a stage without focusing on what could go wrong, and I no longer cry afterward. I've gained so much confidence in myself because of the space I've had to grow. I can try new things without feeling left out or like I'm not good enough. The students and teachers here are incredibly kind and supportive. This year, I even participated in a play—something I never would have done three years ago. With the encouragement of all the amazing students and teachers, I did it. Thank you, Fort Hayes, for providing me with the space to grow.



You can find the Family Ambassador Newsletter [here](#)

School Calendar

Saturday, December 14

Saturday School
8:00 – 12:00 pm

Thursday, December 19

Campus Tour (HS office) 2:45 pm

Friday, December 20

Principal's Show (PA)

30-minute early dismissal to begin Winter Break

December 23 – January 3

Winter Break
no school for students or staff

CCS Offices closed on:
December 24, December 25 and January 1

Monday, January 6

Career Center Class Meetings

School Choice Lottery Applications for MS & HS
via the parent portal
(accepted through February 28)

Request to Return to 'Home'school
via the parent portal
(accepted through March 21)

Air Force Junior ROTC Applications for MS & HS
via the parent portal
(accepted through February 21)

Wednesday, January 8

Portfolio Show for AP Family Reception
(Shot Tower Gallery)

Selective Admissions Applications
via the parent portal
(through January 31)

Sunday, January 10

Shot Tower Gallery: Portfolio Show
for AP Students
(showing through February 3)



Be merry and see you next year!

BE EXCELLENT.
BE THE EXCEPTION.
BE FORT HAYES.

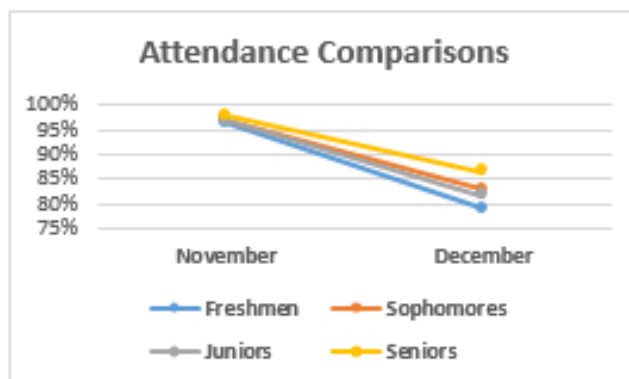
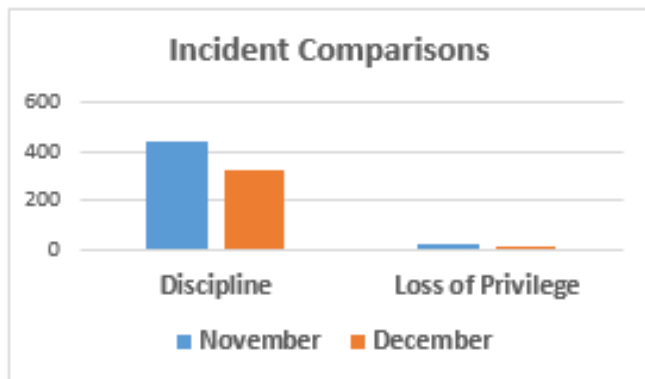
Focused
Organized
Resourceful
Teachable

Hardworking
Artistic
Yearlong
Engaged
Scholarly



Parent Page

PBIS Trending Data



News you Need to Know:

Columbus City Schools is ready for the return of winter and those days when inclement weather can have a major impact on your child's school day...and on your busy day. Make sure to plan ahead.

Stay Connected: News about school cancellations, extracurricular activities, field trips, and/or student-athletic events are shared in several ways:

- **Confirm:** the contact information on file at your child's school is accurate. If you need to update this information, contact the main office in your child's school or log on to the **Parent Portal** (this includes emergency contacts, phone numbers and email addresses)
- **Follow:** **Columbus City Schools** on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram or check our website. We'll share news about snow days and other cancellations with an instant message to your phone or tablet.
- **Answer Your Phone:** All families and staff will be alerted through an automated call from the District's phone system
- **Monitor:** the local news stations will broadcast updates on television and radio

For answers to **Frequently Asked Questions**, visit www.ccsch.us/weather



SPEAK UP
SAVE LIVES

By calling or texting the statewide tip line at **844-723-3764** you can anonymously report anything that is suspicious or endangering you, your friends, or your school.



Anonymous Report Safety Concerns 24/7

The Safer Ohio School Tip Line is a free safety resource available to all Ohio schools. The tip line is an anonymous reporting system that accepts tips via call, text, webform, and mobile app 24 hours a day. Anyone can download the Safer Ohio School Tip Line app or use the webform.

This tip line allows students and adults to anonymously share information with school officials and law enforcement about threats to student safety. Learn more at <https://ohioschoolsafetycenter.ohio.gov/>