EDISON CHARGERS
FALL 2026



Superintendent's Message

A Proud Start and a Shared Commitment

Cory Smith
Superintendent, Edison Local Schools

As my first school year as superintendent moves forward, I continue to appreciate the opportunity to serve Edison Local Schools in this new role. My 20 years in administration at Edison High School and Edison Middle School gave me countless reasons to be proud of our district. Working more closely with all three schools and the various departments that support them has strengthened my pride and appreciation for the people who make Edison such a special place.

Throughout our classrooms, students are asking questions, developing skills, and discovering new interests. From our youngest learners building their confidence, to our high school students preparing for life after graduation, there is meaningful work taking place every day. Supporting that work are dedicated teachers, staff members, and families who want the very best for our students.

I'm also thrilled to share some great news: Edison Local Schools earned an overall rating of 4 stars on the latest Ohio School Report Card. Ohio rates districts on a 5-star scale, and 4 stars means our district exceeds state standards. This achievement didn't happen by accident. It reflects students who show up and work hard every day. It reflects teachers and staff who go above and beyond to help every child grow. And it reflects families and community members who partner with us and support our schools. This recognition belongs to every Charger, and it gives us a strong foundation to keep building on. While we are proud of this achievement, we also recognize our responsibility to keep improving. Our focus remains on helping every student grow, supporting our staff, and making thoughtful decisions that position our district for continued success.

This newsletter offers a look at the learning, activities, and accomplishments taking place across Edison. I also encourage you to read the update from our Treasurer, Stephanie Hanna, regarding new property tax legislation and its implications for our schools. Understanding the issues that affect our district helps all of us participate in informed conversations about our future.

There is so much to be thankful for this school year. I am grateful for the trust you place in our schools and for the many ways you support our students. Whether you attend a school event, encourage a child's learning, volunteer your time, or support our staff, your involvement makes a difference. As we head into the winter months, I'm confident about what we can accomplish together. We have the support of our families and community, the dedication of our staff, and the determination of our students. Together, we are better!

Thank you for being a valued part of the Edison community and for all you do to support Edison Local Schools. I look forward to the work and opportunities ahead as we continue building on this strong start together.

Go Chargers!
Cory Smith
Superintendent

Chargers Shine on State Report Card

Edison Local Schools earned an overall rating of 4 out of 5 stars on the latest Ohio School Report Card, which means our district exceeds state standards. Even more impressive, 99% of our students graduated. That means nearly every Charger is crossing the stage ready for college, careers, the military, or the skilled trades. These results reflect our students' hard work, our teachers' and staff's dedication, and the steady support of our families and community. Once a Charger, always a Charger!

★★★★☆ **Overall Rating**

99% Graduation Rate



Update From the Treasurer

New Property Tax Legislation Impact on Edison Local Schools

Stephanie Hanna
Treasurer

In December 2025, Ohio lawmakers passed new property tax legislation aimed at providing tax relief to taxpayers. While this change may come as a welcome financial break to property owners, it is important to understand how it affects school funding for Edison Local Schools.

Over the past twenty years, the state share of K-12 education funding in Ohio has dropped significantly, placing a heavier financial burden on local property taxes.

During the last countywide reappraisal cycle, the increase in property values resulted in more funding for schools. These adjustments helped our school district keep pace with rising costs, including staffing and classroom resources. However, the new law significantly limits how much school funding can grow in response to property value increases.

What does this mean for our district? For Edison, the new legislation reinforces the importance of proactive financial planning and continued community partnership. Without the same growth in funding during reappraisal years, we may need to rely more on voter-approved levies to maintain the high-quality programs and services our community expects. Our countywide reappraisals by both Erie and Huron counties occur in 2027.

As always, Edison Local Schools cannot raise taxes without voter approval. We remain committed to responsible financial management and maximizing every taxpayer dollar. We will continue making financial decisions with students at the center – ensuring every choice we make supports student growth, well-being and future success.

Together, we can continue to ensure Edison students have the opportunities and support they need to succeed, now and into the future. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out and call our team at 419-499-3000.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Hanna
Treasurer

ACROSS THE DISTRICT



Third Annual Family Fun Night

Family Fun Night brought Edison families together for an evening filled with fun, laughter and plenty of opportunities to make great memories! A HUGE thank-you to our AMAZING PTO for pulling it all together and creating such a special night for our families! We're also grateful to all of the volunteers who gave their time, entertained our students and helped make the evening so much fun.

Chasing 15: Edison Opens Firelands Challenge in First Place

Edison's Firelands Challenge team is off to a strong start, finishing the first round in first place as the Chargers chase the district's 15th straight title in the regional academic competition. Even with many students competing on a high school academic team for the first time, the Chargers put up 72 points in their opening match, the highest score among all 18 teams.



Photo: Jolena Gioiello at The Sandusky Register

ELEMENTARY HAPPENINGS

Celebrating Apple Day

From learning about American folk hero Johnny Appleseed to exploring all things apples, our kindergartners celebrated Apple Day in a hands-on way, bringing history and science to life.



Super Chargers are Everywhere

Our elementary students are making great choices and showing what it means to be safe, responsible and respectful throughout the school day. These students get to wear a cape for a full week and know that being a Super Charger means being a great part of our school community!





Sculpting Music One Note at a Time

In music class, our first and second grade Chargers reviewed how to draw musical symbols, including the quarter note, quarter rest and paired eighth notes. Students put their music skills to work with a fun scavenger hunt and Play-Doh mats, making practice creative and hands-on!

MIDDLE SCHOOL MILESTONES

EMS Fun Day

Our fourth and fifth grade Chargers had a fantastic Fun Day filled with games, races, time with friends and plenty of laughter! With beautiful weather and blue skies overhead, it was the perfect day to get outside and enjoy some time together. We're grateful for the people who help create these special experiences for our Chargers.





A Big, Surprise Splash at EMS!

Our Surprise Attendance Day celebration ended with a little extra fun for Principal Mr. Chaffee and Vice Principal Ms. Parker! Students and staff had the chance to take aim with water balloons, and let's just say our administrators were VERY good sports while celebrating our Chargers and making attendance something worth showing up for!

High School Headlines

Drama Alumni and Students Perform 1776

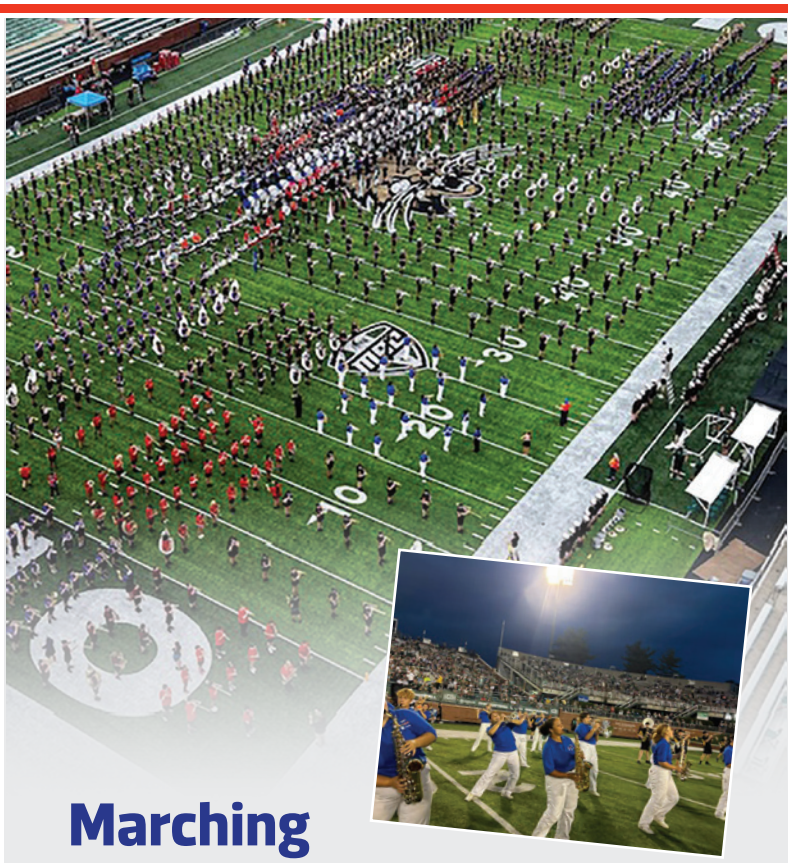


This summer, several Edison Drama Club alumni and students participated in a production of 1776 sponsored by the Huron Historical Society in honor of the Huron Playhouse. Appearing in the cast were freshman Kase Proctor, alumni Tyler Pounds, Logan Facemire, Michael Smith and Edison Drama Director Rex Stanforth. Sophomore Ava Pennell served as an assistant stage manager and Edison Technical Director Amy Facemire assisted with lighting and set construction. Congratulations on an incredible show!

Freshman Futures

Planning for the future is never too early! Freshmen recently completed brain games on YouScience, a college and career readiness platform that helps students discover aptitudes and connect to careers. We use these insights to provide students with individualized learning opportunities such as career-focused field trips, job shadowing, internships and guidance in scheduling classes.





Marching Band Travels to Athens

What an honor! Last month, the Edison High School Charger Marching Band traveled about three hours to Athens for Ohio University Band Day, joining 24 other high school bands for a day packed with music and performance. Our Chargers took the field alongside the famous Ohio University Marching 110, performing the "Star-Spangled Banner" during pregame and the crowd-favorite "Call Me Maybe" at halftime. The day was long and rainy, but our musicians never missed a beat. They played with heart and represented Edison with pride from the first note to the last.

Important Dates

October 30
No School
(Professional Development Day)

November 19-21: 7:30 p.m.
Edison Drama Club production of
This Murder Was Staged

November 24-27
No School (Fall Break)

December 11
Delayed Start
(Professional Development Day)

December 21 - Jan. 1
No School (Winter Break)

January 15
No School (Staff Day)

January 18 - No School
(Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)