

The Indian Hill Times

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024

EXTRA! EXTRA! INDIAN HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL RED CARPET EVENT & STATE OF SCHOOLS PRESENTATION!



The doors to Indian Hill Middle School opened to our entire community for an unprecedented Red Carpet event on Thursday, January 18!

“As a valued member of our Indian Hill School District family,

you have created the unparalleled opportunities we offer in academics, arts, and athletics – this is our way to say THANK YOU,” said Indian Hill Superintendent Kirk Koennecke in a message to the Brave family.

Additionally, the District finished the event with a live State of Schools presentation in the newly renovated Sue Harder Memorial Performing Arts Center. The event featured students, staff, and administrators sharing

their uniquely Indian Hill experiences. (See back cover for the complete agenda.)

Koennecke added, “What we want to say to our entire Indian Hill School District community with this

grand opening event and with all of the historic building openings this year is this: Welcome Home. There has never been a more exciting time to be a Brave!”

Indian Hill Middle School: An Unparalleled Facility

The new 118,500 square feet of Indian Hill Middle School will offer our students in grades six through eight world-class facilities, including:

- STEM Innovation Center with Fab Lab, Multi-media Studio, and Project Lab
- Central commons with large display and mobile furniture to support and encourage collaboration, social interaction, and community engagement
- Flexible furniture to support evolving teaching and learning pedagogy
- Large windows with shading devices to provide controlled daylight throughout
- Secure, welcoming, and inviting main entrance
- Multi-purpose dining commons with a variety of seating options, integrated technology, and direct connection to outdoor patio and play space
- Clustered classrooms and student support spaces around a central learning commons for each grade level community
- Direct access to secure outdoor project porches for each grade level
- Learning environments that support health and well-being of students, faculty, and staff
- High performing exterior building envelope with low-e glazing and super insulated walls and roof
- Incorporates energy-saving technologies and high efficiency systems
- Large open art studios with abundance of natural light, storage, kiln room, direct access to outdoor patio, and gallery space to showcase student work
- Multi-purpose music studio with integrated technology, acoustics, and recessed stage/dance floor to support choral, drama, and dance

Indian Hill Opens Sue Harder Memorial Performing Arts Center



The Indian Hill School District celebrated the official opening of the newly renovated Sue Harder Memorial Performing Arts Center with a ribbon cutting on Saturday, December 9. The space that now serves at the entry to the Indian Hill High School auditorium was packed with members of the community, invited to share in the celebration.

Indian Hill School District CFO/Treasurer Mick Davis said about the event, “The wisdom of Mrs. Harder was with us through her words, ‘Everyone needs to be needed.’ Everyone does need to be needed. And, here in our district – our Home – we need for each of our students to know they are needed, through song, through dance, through stage

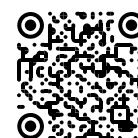
management, through instrumental music, through costume design, through set creation and visual arts, and through communication of our story that is so uniquely Indian Hill.”

In April, the Indian Hill Foundation accepted the first-of-its-kind generous gift to benefit the students of the Indian



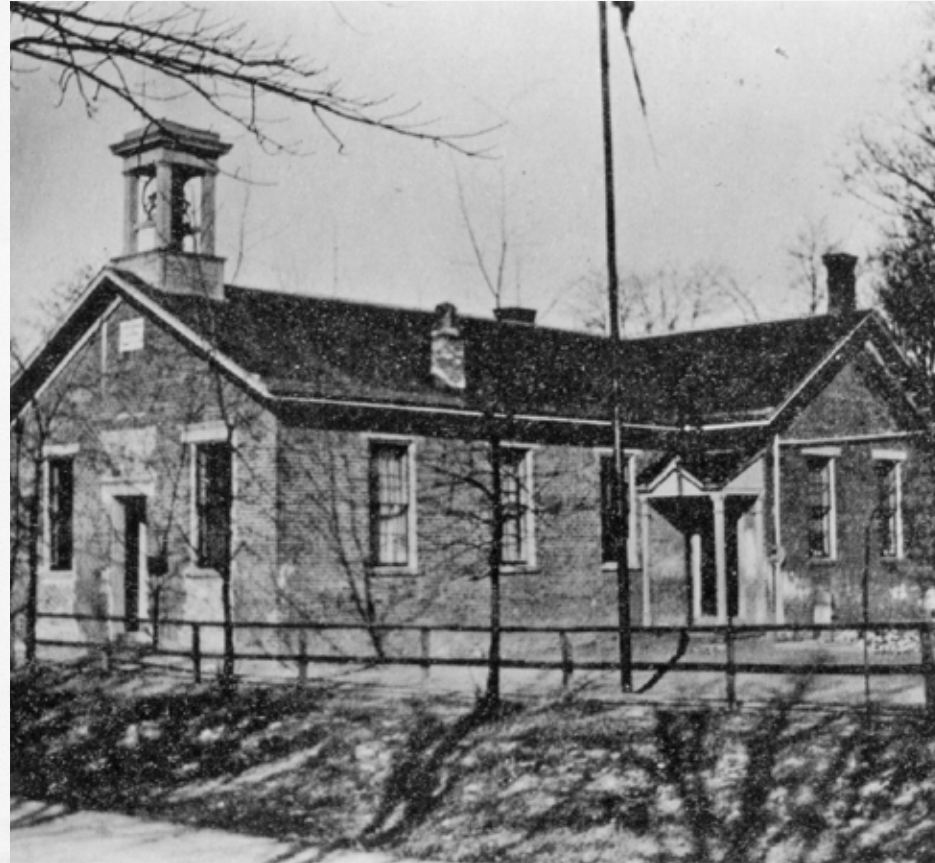
Hill School District, granting naming rights to the Sue Harder Memorial Performing Arts Center. Sue Harder was a longtime, dedicated volunteer to the district. She gave her time to the Booster Board and supported the theater and musical arts programs while her

two children were attending Indian Hill Schools from 1998 up until 2015. She was also involved with the Boy Scouts, After Prom, and varsity sports teams.



Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to view the ribbon cutting video.

167 YEARS OF INDIAN



1857:
A building known as the Jefferson School that would later become part of the Indian Hill School District was constructed on Drake Road.



1869:
The Franklin School on Shawnee Run Rd was built to replace a one-room log schoolhouse across the street that had been constructed by Joseph Boone, a distant relative of Daniel Boone.

1936:
Five local schools united to form the Indian Hill Rural School District — Camp Dennison, Franklin, Jefferson, Remington, and Washington. Concord joined a short time later.

1950:
Indian Hill built its first school building, known as The Indian Hill School, housing grades K-high school.

1954:
The first high school commencement was held, graduating 27 seniors.

1959:
Construction began on Drake Road for an elementary school building, the current location of Indian Hill Primary School.

1963:
The new junior-senior high school is built.

1984:
The Indian Hill School District earns a National Blue Ribbon Designation.

1972:
District enrollment peaks at 3,442 students.

2000:
Enrollment rises again, to 2,250 students.

2004:
Students move into the new Indian Hill Elementary School and Indian Hill High School buildings.

2023:
Indian Hill Primary School renovation creates a dynamic secured entry into the gateway of the District, a renovated auditorium, an interactive lobby, a renovated cafeteria, and a student-designed playground.



HILL SCHOOL DISTRICT



1870:
The Schoolhouse in Camp Dennison was opened as a two-room, two-story school.



1873:
The Washington Heights School on Given Road (The Little Red Schoolhouse) was built.

2014:
Indian Hill School District recognized best in the nation for music education according to the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM); the NAMM Foundation awarded Indian Hill a Best Communities for Music Education.



2015:
District expands the Indian Hill High School Auditorium, adding 5,000 square feet to the space.

2018:
District works with the Indian Hill Foundation to secure private funds to create Home of the Braves, the first public-private partnership with the Indian Hill Foundation and private donors to complete a capital campaign. Home of the Braves was completed during the 2019-2020 school year.

2023:
Indian Hill Primary School & Indian Hill Elementary School recognized as elite STEM learning schools in Ohio by Ohio Department of Education and Ohio STEM Learning Network through official STEM Designation.



2023:
Indian Hill Elementary School addition opens to bring a world-class iLab to students, along with a new gymnasium/performing arts space, world-language and music classrooms, and a student-designed playground.





STATE OF SCHOOLS LIVE EVENT



Feature Presentation Rundown

Thank you to our Indian Hill High School student musicians & Indian Hill Primary School student greeters for creating a special entry to tonight's show!

Presentation of National Anthem
Giselle Aagaard, Indian Hill Elementary School
CEO/Superintendent Kirk Koennecke, Welcome

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Unparalleled Academics

Featuring:

Jeff Damadeo, Indian Hill High School Principal
Marley Cady, Indian Hill High School Student
Whitney Buell, Indian Hill Elementary School Principal
Dr. Erin Owens, Indian Hill Primary School Principal

Music Presentation:

Indian Hill Primary School students under the direction of teacher Barb Watson

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Unparalleled Athletics

Featuring:

Lauren Gentene, Indian Hill Middle School Principal
Teachers Sandy Gemmel and Amy Smart with Unified Student Athletes
Jason Zhao, Indian Hill High School Student
Brian Phelps, Indian Hill Athletic Director
Julius King, Indian Hill Athletic Coordinator
Indian Hill Sports Media
Denny Dupps, IHTN Executive Producer
Undeclared CHL Soccer Team
Undeclared CHL Football Team
Tennis State Champions

Celebrating 200 wins: Basketball Coach Ricardo Hill and Football Coach John Rodenberg

Celebrating nearly 40 years of coaching: Cross Country Coach Sue Savage

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Music Presentation

Indian Hill Elementary School students under the direction of teacher Alice Bohn

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Unparalleled Arts

Featuring:

Amy Clark, Indian Hill Arts & Activities Director

Special Music Presentation:

Disney's Frozen Cast

A Salute to Production in Design

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Unparalleled Future: The State of Our Schools

Featuring:

CFO/Treasurer Mick Davis: Financial Celebrations
Chief Human Resources & Operations Officer Jim Nichols: Fieldhouse
Chief Academic Officer Dr. Melissa Stewart: Conservatory of the Arts
CEO/Superintendent Kirk Koennecke: Leadership

A special thank you to our Indian Hill Board of Education

Musical Finale:

INDIAN HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR
Under the direction of Heather Koester