

TIPS AND TIDBITS



Chaney Cowboys

Coming Up

**3/22, PRIDE meeting,
5 p.m. at Harding**

**3/26-4/2,
Spring Break**

4/1, Easter Sunday



Sticking with Tradition

The Youngstown City School District will continue to follow a traditional calendar for the 2018-19 school year.

CEO Krish Mohip had considered moving to a balanced calendar but decided against it. "I just think it would be too much of a change to implement for next school year," he said.

The CEO had sought input from his citizens coalition on the topic and heard pros and cons regarding both options. That coalition, however, didn't reach a consensus.

A balanced calendar is one that maintains the same number of school days but spreads days off over the calendar year. Proponents of a balanced calendar point to a decrease in the summer slide, the term used to describe the loss of achievement gains during the summer months while school isn't in session.

Students' first day next school year will be Aug. 22. The last day is May 17 for seniors and May 22 for the rest of the student body.

By starting and ending the school year earlier, the district can load more instructional days before state tests, the last of which typically wrap up the second week of May.

The full 2018-19 district calendar is on the district's website, www.ycsd.org. Click on the "calendar" tab and you'll find it at the top of that page. The calendar for Youngstown Early College, which aligns with Youngstown State University's, will be released later.

Terry Russo Honored for YCSD Service

Officer Terry Russo, who works as a school resource officer at YCSD, was honored at a recent school board meeting as the district's Distinguished School Officer of the Year.

Russo was nominated by Tracy Schuler-Vivo, pictured at right with Russo, YCSD's visual and performing arts coordinator.

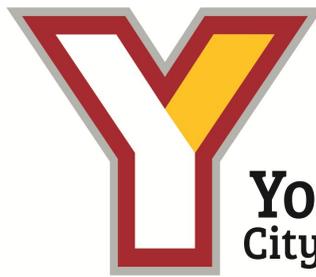
Schuler-Vivo said she immediately thought of Russo when she read the criteria for the award.

The characteristics include "being a guiding figure, sending a message of peace and of positivity," Schuler-Vivo wrote in her nomination letter. Russo also serves as a counselor and an educator for students, she said. "Terry embodies that description in his work every time I see him.

"Whenever I see Terry in the building he immediately stands out due to his pleasant demeanor, positive attitude and overall general sense of caring and concern to all those he encounters," Schuler-Vivo wrote.

Bill Morvay, YCSD's security chief, seeks officer award nominations annually from school personnel.





**Youngstown
City School District**

'Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future'



Athletics Arena

Student-athletes excel in class, on field

YCSO middle school student-athletes don't just impress on the field, track and court. They excel in their classrooms too. The average grade point average for middle school students involved in district athletics was 2.85 for the second quarter of this school year.

"I want to congratulate all of our student-athletes as well as their teachers, coaches and parents for all of the hard work that went into this achievement," said CEO Krish Mohip.

Volney student-athletes led their counterparts at the other elementary schools with a 3.31 GPA. Williamson was next with a 3.19 GPA followed closely by Paul C. Bunn Elementary with 3.13 and Rayen Early College with 3.06.

Harding logged 2.96 and Kirkmere's student-athletes earned 2.94; Wilson had 2.55, MLK, 2.26; McGuffey, 2.46; and Taft, 2.29.

There's still time to sign up for spring sports

Spring marks new beginnings and the YCSO Athletics Department is debuting some new offerings this season.

YCSO adds men's and women's rugby to its athletic program this spring. Other spring sports include outdoor track, baseball, softball and seventh and eighth-grade track.

More than 200 students have already signed up for middle school track, but there's still time to sign up to join the fun and competition in any of the spring sports.

Sign-up sheets for all of the spring sports are available in school offices. Permission slips are required for any students who wants to participate.

All spring sports practice at Chaney High School, 731 S. Hazelwood Ave., on the city's West Side.

Mill Creek MetroParks is allowing YCSO sports teams to use their facilities for practice too and everyone at the school district appreciates that.

A broader and deeper athletics program is one of the aims of the district's strategic plan developed by CEO Krish Mohip and his leadership team. As athletics builds confidence, teaches teamwork and provides a sense of be-

