

SAYING FAREWELL band director dr. cox moves on

writer **valentina urbaez**
 designer **hailey boyce**
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After having spent seven years cultivating the high school’s powerful band program, Band Director Dr. Ishbah Cox announced that he’ll be leaving his current position to take over the role as director of wind ensembles at Capital University.

School community members have continuously expressed their gratitude toward Dr. Cox and his tireless efforts to help students achieve their highest potential in concert and marching band.

“We wouldn’t have gotten to play the way we have and been ranked so high if it wasn’t for him,” junior marching baritone player Alysa Wilson said.

With his help, students have performed in many well respected settings and traveled across the state, country and will be going international next school year to perform. In recent years, they performed at the Hollywood Christmas Parade, Ohio State University and will be flying to Dr. Cox makes a speech to the crowd at the spring band concert.



Dr. Cox conducts the band at the spring band concert on March 1. This was one of Dr. Cox’s last band concerts at Orange.

Ireland in the next school year.

“The focus here was to always have a comprehensive program. It’s what the community sees and most students do it,” Cox said. “I’m very big on supporting all the performing arts, and I want students to continue to be supportive.”

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With the most recent challenge for the music department having been the shutdown of COVID-19, musicians and directors alike had to work under circumstances that did not allow for them to work at the best they knew they could.

“The bounce back was what I was most appreciative of seeing. The student dedication and their passion were great to see, and we learned to not take things for granted,” Cox said.

Dr. Cox, having started marching band in sixth grade, performing through high school and taking it on as a career, knows the impact a strong band can have on a community. Working to build a program that all students could uplift and creating an exciting atmosphere around the band is what helped them to success.

“The community, parents, students and faculty have been very gracious. Friday nights are hard to beat and the collective atmosphere is incredible,” Cox said. “Those will be things I will never forget as well as the students and their passion and how they care for each other, and bring alumni back as well.”

As disappointed students and staff will be to see Cox go, there’s a lot of support going his way and excitement being channeled into his new position.

“I don’t think any of us are ready to see him go; I was really looking forward to senior year with him. But we all know he’ll keep moving to do really cool things with band,” Wilson said.



NEW MATH CLASS ap pre-calc coming to orange

writer **sofie terlesky**
designer **mia harrington**

Honors classes can be a great opportunity for students to explore more rigorous classes while not stressing for an AP exam. However, these classes do not boost student's GPA, and this can frustrate a lot of students.

Next year, a new opportunity is entering the math hallway that could provide rigor and a GPA boost: AP Pre-Calc.

"The course sequence is quite different from the order we typically have followed here. Instead of spending the first semester on trig units, the first semester will cover polynomial, rational, exponential and

logarithmic functions," Math Teacher Marisa Hilvert said.

While there are a lot of similarities between regular Honors Pre-Calc and AP Pre-Calc, there are also some

AP-Precalc Overview:

Offers:

- GPA Boost
- College credit (college algebra equivalent)

Content:

- 4 units (3 out of the 4 will be on the AP exam)
- All units consists of functions
- Mathematical practices

significant differences as well.

"The biggest difference, as we can see as of now, is a greater emphasis on functions and their characteristics than we have spent in the past. Also, many of the topics that we've spent significant time on will not be tested on the AP exam," Math Teacher

Matthew Rutherford said.

For students who have already taken Honors or regular Pre-Calc, AP Pre-Calc might not be the best option for those students.

"Those students who have taken Honors Pre-Calc should move on to AP Calculus AB or Calculus; there will no longer be Honors Pre-Calc next year," Rutherford said.

There are multiple reasons one should take an AP class, but not every AP class is for every student.

"I'd recommend taking AP Pre-Calc for the exposure to an AP course. If a student enjoys math and is looking to gain experience with this level of coursework it should be a great start," Hilvert said.

SENIOR PROFILE get to know your valedictorian

writer **rachel lehman** photo credit **aryan bommena**
designer **mia harrington**

The valedictorian for the class of 2023 is Neil Hariths. Hariths came to the Olentangy school district in the first grade and attended Oak Creek Elementary School and Orange for middle school. His plans after high school include attending The Ohio State University and majoring in neuroscience and political science. After undergrad, he plans to attend medical school.

A part from his stellar academics, Hariths has done a lot within the school. Senior Nathan Chow, a close friend of Neil describes him as a 'trailblazer'.

"Neil is a hardworking and ambitious student. He loves to learn and innovate within the school and created a club called Help for Hope,"

Chow said.

Hariths has advice for success but cautions students to remember to keep a balanced lifestyle between academics and fun.

"As a freshman, I was definitely too focused on myself and my academics. After interacting with and meeting so many new people through clubs and different events, I've definitely become more well-rounded," Hariths said.

"It's become a priority to interact with people, and it's not just about myself anymore."

Hariths' favorite class in high school was Mrs. Calland's ninth grade English class.

"I sat next to my friends, and we laughed to the point of tears every day. We learned a ton, I met so many new

people and it was a great way to start off high school," Hariths said.



Headshot of Neil Hariths, the valedictorian for the class of 2023.

MULTICULTURAL FAIR celebrating students' different cultures

writer rachel lehman

designer emily zimpfer

photo credit grace bozic

The multicultural fair is an annual event by the school's diversity club, Face to Face. The multicultural fair showcases different cultures through traditional dances, music, food, clothing and more.



Junior Eric T. and sophomore Angela Z. distribute candy from their culture at the China booth.

The multicultural fair this year was held on Thursday, March 23, which was the Thursday before spring break. However, the multicultural fair is generally always the Friday before spring break.

"The multicultural fair consists of a bunch of student-made booths to represent a country and culture in the world," Face to Face president and senior Achintya Perumal said.

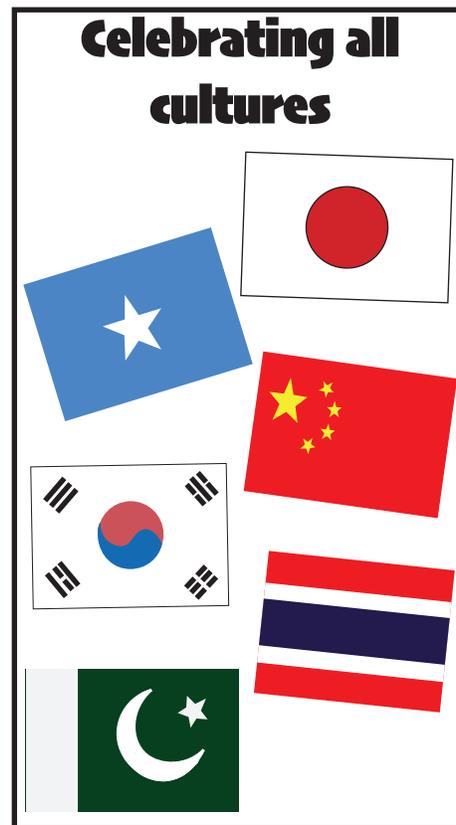


Freshman Briana M. teaches sophomore Kelsie M. about some traditions and products from Mexico.

"Students are allowed to represent their respective culture in any way they want, whether that be through food, music, pictures, artifacts or clothing."

Although most students represent their country of origin, it's not a requirement. Students are able to represent any country of their choosing.

"Anyone is able to have a booth for any country or culture. Many booths that represent one culture consist of a group of friends from multiple different cultures," Perumal said.



For setting up the fair in general, it takes lots of planning.

"A lot of the preparation had to do with advertising for both the students visiting the fair and those participating," Perumal said. "We needed to make sure that word got out so that those who wanted a booth knew they had an opportunity and that those who would see the booths were excited to go."

In the past, the fair was held in only

Students performed dances and wore native clothing from Somalia.



half of the auxiliary gym; however this year, they had enough participants to use the whole gym.

"I participated in the fair last year, and it was exciting how many more people and cultures were represented this year," junior Alex Kim said. "I also felt like the participants brought more things to represent their culture so it was more fun."

There were some groups that went above and beyond their booths, but it's still possible to have a fun and interactive booth without splurging a lot of money.

"I feel like some people may assume it's a lot more work than it actually is, especially if you have a bigger group. For our booth, our focus was food because it's a big part of our country's culture so we set aside a time for some of us to buy pre-packaged food and then had some other members work on the tri-fold," Kim said.



Sophomore Ing G. and junior Yongqu L. represent Thailand set up a poster, snacks and a presentation for the multicultural fair.

The Frontier

SIGNING DAY

students put the pen to the paper

writer **marshall medley**
designer **mia harrington** photo credits **lauren nahay**

It is now April, and spring athletes are signing to their colleges to play their sport. Signing day took place on April 12 in the Main Gym. Many of these students worked so hard and that work pays off with the opportunity to play their sport in college.

Choosing a school and athletic program to attend can be a hard process for all athletes, as schools will try to influence them to go to their school. However, it's difficult to judge a school completely until someone attends it.

Senior Abby Wells is committed to Ohio University for track.

"Ohio has had a great vision for growth within their team. The program doesn't want to settle in a stagnant place as competitors," Wells said.

Ohio University track competes at the DI level and has a history of being successful in the MAC during the 90s. It is a competitive team, and Ohio University is a place that athletes praise, according to ohiobobcats.com.

Something that many student athletes want to figure out is how different their sport will be in college. That feeling that the athlete had in high school might not be there in college.

Senior Jake Storrer is committed to Ashland University to play soccer.

"It will be way better," Storrer said. "When I went and practiced, the play style and speed of play was a lot better, and I'm looking forward to that."

In Storrer's case, his college fits his play style. College sports could be the same or even better than high school if that happens. These programs can change players' lives and opinions on sports.

"The competition will likely increase so it's going to be important to step up and be ready to compete with those individuals," Wells said. "I'm hoping to be surrounded by such talented and passionate runners that will push me to run faster and faster."

This year, there were 24 athletes who committed to play their sport

in college. Seven of those athletes committed to a D I school, while the rest of them committed to a D II or D III school.

The different sports these athletes committed for are track and field, cross country, baseball, field hockey, lacrosse, wrestling, basketball and soccer.

All of these athletes have worked extremely hard to get to play their sport at the next level. Signing day is a moment of achievement for these athletes, where they can sit back and be proud of their work accomplishments and hard work.

"I was more excited for signing day than nervous," Storrer said. "Because I knew that I have people on the team that will lift me up and always have my back."

College sports is just as much a team sport as high school, because everybody has worked so hard to get there. Hard work pays off, and playing at the next level is something athletes should be very proud of.



Science Teacher and Coach Walters gives a speech about senior Cam S.



Senior Kayla S. signs to the University of Akron for track along with her twin sister Haylie, who is signed to Slippery Rock University for field hockey.

The Frontier

COLLEGE ESSENTIALS

important college dorm necessities

designer nathan chow

Senior Aryan Bommenna
"A TV"

Senior Luke Woolard
"My pillow"

Senior Steven Alexander
"I'd bring a fan"

Senior Nithin Seelan
"I would bring a blanket"

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH & PIONEER PRIDE

MARCH STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Claire Hauzie
Shannon Barr
Matthew Naylor
Quinn Bordine
Jason Wang
Lexie Leemaster
Rebekah Richter
Makena Takaacs

PRIDE BARS

Jessica Mallet
Sanjana Putrefu
Javier Ferguson
Caleb Layne
Shreya Arunkumar
Eren Kent
Laura Felderean
Florence Cheamang
Janie Bowers
Sophia Shi
Elise Robinson
Sofia Malik
Saran Diane
Marcus Anene
Hosanna Kebede
Adeline Ricker