



SPRING 2025

News & VIEWS

A PUBLICATION
OF SPRINGER
SCHOOL AND
CENTER

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► Learning Lab Distinguishes High School

The language program at Springer High School is different than anywhere else, and it's behind the impressive growth that students are experiencing. And, teachers and parents are noticing! Mr. Spaeth noticed that one of his students, an emerging reader, was hesitant to read during class, but after six months he observes an unbelievable difference. Now, he says, "she is the first one to volunteer to read in front of the class and glows with confidence." Even students who have formed a strong foundation of reading skills in Springer Middle School are finding that they have been able to push their skills even further. One student explained, "This is like Wilson® but next level." For those who have not previously had phonics or structured literacy instruction, the class is like flipping a light switch. Those students finally begin making meaningful progress.

Reading and writing are the focus of Learning Lab, one of three hallmark courses developed at Springer High School. Informed by years of research and vast professional experience, Assistant Head of High School Julie Marcoux has designed a language program appropriate for high school and college-aged students. Learning Lab begins with explicit instruction and practice of the phonologic (sounds), orthographic (spelling), and morphemic (meaning) elements of language. *Continues on page 6.*

► Letter from our President

This edition of News and Views runs deep with stories of success! Our current students are thriving in new programs that are specifically designed to address their learning needs and build upon their strengths. The celebrations of their success at Springer are authentic and many. From goal achievement to service to performance, our students are thriving at Springer! And it is the members of our community who have supported us to make that possible.

Each fall our faculty and staff prepare for what they know will be both difficult and wonderful. Gaining a diagnostic understanding of our students' needs and building a team of support around their learning priorities takes time, dedication and expertise. This year, like every other, the faculty and staff have answered the call. Our mission to empower students to lead successful lives is one we truly live every day.

Of all the celebrations of student success in these pages, we also are proud to have opened the new wing to our campus addition and found a new home for our high school campus. Both projects have been pursued in parallel over the past few years, and having both solutions provides clarity and space for our students, our families and the members of our

community. Our first ever Empowered Learner Conference took place in our new addition and drew national interest, the impact of which will reach students across the country.

In closing, a most sincere thank you for your ongoing support of all that we are doing. Springer continues to build on a successful foundation, which dates back to 1887. The students and families we have reached over that time is unquantifiable, but you can certainly see the impact on the faces of our students and alumni. If you ever want to see those smiles in person just give us a call to schedule visit – we would love for you to see what success truly looks like.

All my best



Brett T. Marcoux
President



► The 2025 Springer Celebration was a Race to Success

Over 500 guests came together in spectacular style for a Kentucky Derby-themed fundraiser benefiting financial aid and outreach for young learners in Greater Cincinnati. Chaired by dedicated Springer trustee and parent Carrie Gould, the Race for Success Celebration gala combined festive flair, fascinators and a heartfelt mission: to support students on their track to success.

Held at the majestic and historic Music Hall, and decorated to theme, guests enjoyed cocktails, a Southern-inspired dinner and special Springer speakers. FOX19 sports anchor Joe Danneman returned as emcee to lead our program and live auction, which featured trips to Portugal and St. Thomas, tickets to see Billy Joel and Rod Stewart, and special Reds, Bengals, UC and FC Cincinnati experiences.

A highlight of the evening was a speech from Springer alumna Becca North, who commenced in 2006 to become a graduate of Otterbein University and the Equine Manager at the local Greenacres Foundation. Becca also visited Springer's campus to talk with students and introduce them to Carly, her beautiful Clydesdale. She told students "Because of your time at Springer, you'll be able to face whatever comes your way."

Thanks to the wonderful efforts of Carrie Gould, the Springer Advancement team and a parent-supported auction committee, as well as a number of parent, trustee, staff and High School student volunteers, Race for Success was indeed a success, raising \$500K towards financial aid, outreach and the possibility of helping more young students in our tri-state area.

We are thankful for the incredible support of our Springer community and your role in helping young learners journey from the starting gate to the finish line!

► **Cover:** Tenth-grade student Taylor Maceyra. **Right:** Above, alumna Becca North talks with students and, below, guests enjoy A Springer Celebration 2025.



Future Campus for High School Announced

We're proud to announce the future home of Springer's High School Program: the Doherty Campus in East Walnut Hills. Located less than a mile from our well-known Hyde Park location, this new campus will become the permanent home of Springer High School. It marks a major milestone in our continued commitment to students with learning differences.

Over the past five years, our Board of Trustees has supported and significantly contributed to bold expansion efforts that make a Springer education a draw for families across the country.

"With the purchase of this campus, Springer now clearly establishes a commitment to serving students through high school. There are students and families of every age who need Springer. We are proud to have a home to expand service of our mission," says Board President Mike Wright.

Our high school journey began just three years ago, building on decades of success educating students through Lower and Middle School. Now in its second year, the program has already surpassed enrollment expectations. While similar schools might begin with five or six students per class in the early years of high school expansion, we expected to enroll around ten students this year. We are now closing out the year with 36 high schoolers—and the momentum for continued growth is undeniable.

The new Doherty Campus, located at 2726 Johnstone Place, has a long and respected history in education. Founded in 1906 as a school to prepare students for college, the site has long served as a stepping stone to higher education. We will honor that legacy by paving the path to college and career success for our high school students.

"The students at Springer's High School have been experiencing a world-class education. With this purchase, our students will have a campus to match," says President Brett Marcoux.



> The historic Doherty Campus is less than one mile from Springer's Madison Road campus.

The transition to the new campus will take place over the next two years. In the meantime, our high school students will continue learning alongside their Lower and Middle School peers at the Hyde Park campus. As we prepare for this exciting next chapter, we remain focused on ensuring a smooth transition while preserving the integrity and strength of our programs.

This journey hasn't been without its challenges. But with every step forward, we've stayed grounded in our mission: to support students with learning differences through intentionality, innovation, and an unwavering belief in their potential.

This isn't just a physical expansion—it's a bold statement about what's possible. The new campus will offer high schoolers the space to grow and includes four buildings on a beautiful 4.5 acres. It represents our promise: that every Springer student, at every age, will have the environment, resources and support to thrive.

► Parent Coach Joins Team

We're pleased to introduce Emily Schweppe, Springer's new parent coach. She helps parents work together more effectively, strengthen communication, and align on shared values. Through our partnership with Emily, families can now access this support as part of the Springer Diagnostic Center's services.

Emily holds a master's degree in Early Childhood Education and is certified by the Parent Coaching Institute™. The Springer mission deeply resonates with Emily, who says, "I believe that empowering parents is essential for creating a supportive home environment where everyone in the family can thrive together." Springer Diagnostic Center is excited to offer parents a welcoming space to address their parenting needs and strengthen their own skills. She says, "I'm excited to be part of the Springer community, helping parents become catalysts for positive change within their families."

Parent coaching is available to all families, not just those enrolled at Springer. Because all families are different, Emily works with one parent and/or co-parents. If you're interested in learning more, call (513) 871-6080 or visit us online at Springer-LD.org/contact-us.



► Springer Story Spans Generations

For Terri's family, Springer has been more than just a school—it has been a place of growth, support and transformation for generations.

Their journey began over 30 years ago when Terri enrolled her daughter, Pam, searching for a learning environment that truly understood and nurtured students with learning differences. Though hesitant at first, Pam soon thrived, gaining confidence and excelling in ways she never imagined.

Years later, Pam faced a familiar challenge with her own daughter, Molly. Remembering her own experience, Pam turned to Springer. At first, Molly was apprehensive, but within weeks, she began to flourish. "She was just like a rainbow again," Pam shared, reflecting on how Springer's approach to learning made all the difference. The transformation was profound—subjects that once seemed impossible, like reading, suddenly became achievable.



For Terri, Pam, and Molly, Springer has been a life-changing part of their family's story. Molly describes the impact that so many families know well when she says, "I thought I would never do reading, but now I'm reading!"



> Above: Alumna Pam Ashmore and her daughter, Molly, discuss why Springer is the perfect match for two generations of their family. Scan the QR code to watch their heartwarming story.

► Theater Expands Creativity

At Springer, the arts are a key part of the curriculum and this year theater has taken on an even greater role. Expanding on a tradition of annual theater residencies, Springer has welcomed Mr. Cory Charbeneau as a full-time theater educator, bringing dramatic arts to students across all grade levels.

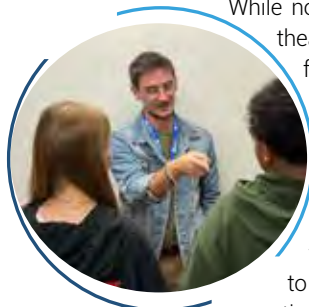
While theater might look like just another fun “special”, there’s more to it than that. Brett Marcoux explains, “the move to add theater is based in research and on the strengths of students like ours.” Strengths like creativity, problem-solving, narrative reasoning and outside-the-box thinking are just a few increasingly valued strengths possessed by individuals with learning differences like dyslexia and ADHD. Even a short Google search will reveal a long list of performers diagnosed with dyslexia: Tom Cruise, Octavia Spencer, Whoopi Goldberg, Anna Kendrick, Justin Timberlake, and the list goes on.

While not everyone will pursue a career in Hollywood, theater class provides a creative way build and reinforce skills that are valuable in academics and in other areas of life: Skills like teamwork, memorization, listening and improvisation support success in academics, career and interpersonal relationships.

At Springer, Mr. Charbeneau approaches theater with intentionality, tailoring his teaching to support students with ADHD, dyslexia, and executive function challenges. He also fosters engagement

is by giving students control over different aspects of the lessons.

Mr. Charbeneau explains more about his approach: “I try to offer the kids agency in their class work whenever possible. For example, in one project, we analyze a script from the perspective of a theater artist.” Students are in charge of picking a story as a group and choose roles that match their strengths. “This helps everyone feel included, work together, and learn from each other. This helps my students feel that their input is valued in the classroom and increases their engagement since they get to control which story we read.” One young student says he likes the class because “It’s fun and you get to talk to people a lot.” Theater class is providing a low-stress and fun way for students to develop important skills, often without even realizing.



> Above: Old fashioned projectors are repurposed during this year’s Theater Residency with Mump Wucket Puppets Below: Students design and create hand puppets with artist Terrence Burke.



> Terrence Burke of Wump Mucket Puppets assists Lower School Green students during a performance featuring hand puppets which the students crafted themselves.



> Middle School students practice creating tableaux, or “living pictures” to communicate a variety of creative scenarios. Above: Mr. Charbeneau with students.

► Right-Fit Goals Lead to Achievement

At Springer, you often hear about finding the “right fit.” Whether it’s selecting a book from the library, identifying the best interventions, or setting personal goals, the idea of “right fit” guides our students toward success. We recognize that every student’s needs are unique, and we empower them to embrace these differences in their learning journey. One way we put this into practice is through goal setting in both Lower School and Middle School.

SHARE, or Springer Honors and Recognizes Excellence, focuses on strategies that help students address a particular need—whether it’s a temporary challenge, an emerging skill, or a long-term goal that will benefit them into the future. Shanda Arthur, Head of Lower School & Middle School, reminds us, “We all need something, but that something might look or be different from what our peers might need. We help our students know that, embrace that and excel because of it.” Each student sets a goal that is meaningful and achievable for them at this stage in their development. Throughout the trimester, students work toward their goals with guidance and encouragement. To celebrate their progress, Lower School students are honored at SHARE assemblies attended by families and peers.

Middle Schoolers take goal setting a step further by using SMART goals—specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-bound. At the beginning of each trimester, students create their own goals with support and coaching from their homeroom teacher. As they achieve their goals, they set new ones, building a habit of self-reflection and perseverance. Michelline, an eighth grader, explains, “It starts being a part of your daily habits.” Students take responsibility for tracking their progress, with reminders and support along the way. “It makes us think about what we



> All students in Miss Kindsvatter’s homeroom earned 2nd Trimester SHARE awards!

need to achieve,” Michelline adds. She says her goals have helped her pay attention better in several classes. Students are recognized at the end of each school year for the SMART goals they have achieved.

By incorporating goal setting into both Lower School and Middle School, we help students build self-awareness, resilience, and a growth mindset—skills that support them in finding the ‘right fit’ for their learning, setting them up for lifelong success.

► Students Meet Grandmaster

Grandmaster Irina Krush is one of the strongest women in U.S. chess history, winning the national title at age 14 and becoming an eight-time U.S. women’s champion. On March 28, Krush visited Springer for an all-school assembly, during which she answered questions and played a game of chess blindfolded. At her skill level, she is able to visualize the entire game in her mind, and doesn’t need to look at the board to determine her next move.

One of the things Krush told students about chess is that it helps you in life. “Chess forces you to acknowledge your mistakes.” And “It forces you to acknowledge the other person you’re playing with, and helps you to see other people’s perspectives.” Students were eager to know if she ever fails. “Yes, I fail often,” she says, “and I’m still in the process of learning and getting better from my mistakes.”



> **Above:** Chess Grandmaster Irina Krush plays a game of chess against Middle School students Brayden and Pablo.



> Therapy dogs make great listeners! Lower School students read aloud to their special visitors for a unique way to practice reading.

STUDENT ART EARNS SPOT ON JOURNAL COVER



Middle School student Audrey Harris’s self-portrait earned a place on the cover of the Journal of Learning Disabilities, and internationally distributed scholarly publication. Her mixed-media piece is titled, “Ode to Bisa Butler” and is created after studying the quilted art of contemporary textile artist Bisa Butler during art class. Harris’ artwork will be printed on the cover of the upcoming September/October 2025 issue.

> Cover-winning artwork by Audrey Harris

► World Teen Mental Wellness Day A Collaborative Effort

On March 3, 2025, Springer High School students participated in World Teen Wellness Day. With the help of a generous grant from Bi3, Hopeful Empowered Youth (HEY!), Interact for Health and the Joe Burrow Foundation, students spent the day learning to balance responsibilities, manage relationships and navigate life during these important teenage years and beyond.

The day began with an interactive feelings check-in and an overview of the agenda, setting the tone for self-awareness and engagement. Students then transitioned into a service project, creating enrichment treats for dogs at a local county shelter while discussing ways to improve the lives of animals in need.

Following this, students rotated through four wellness stations, exploring topics that impact their daily lives. These discussions sparked thoughtful conversations between students and staff. Later, Springer Lower School students joined for their daily reading time, Eagle READ (Read Enjoy And Discover).

To bring laughter and creativity into the day, Theater Teacher Corey Charbeneau led students in two improv games, encouraging them to step out of their comfort zones and embrace humor. The energy continued with a presentation by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Hamilton County, where speakers shared personal experiences with ADHD and anxiety, fostering connection and understanding.

The University of Cincinnati's Nutrition Department then provided an engaging session on reading nutrition labels and building healthy snacks, giving students practical skills to support their well-being. After lunch, students and faculty wrapped up the day with a relaxing yoga session, practicing stillness and movement while sharing plenty of laughter attempting new poses.



World Teen Wellness Day at Springer High School was a meaningful experience, reminding students that wellness comes in many forms—emotional, physical, and social. Through service, education, and connection, our students truly felt seen and supported.

► **Top:** Students gather for yoga in the spacious new auditorium. **Above:** Students assemble canine treats to donate to a local animal shelter.

► Learning Lab *(Continued from cover)*

In Learning Lab students create cards that they will use throughout the year to aid in the development and practice of their language skills. The repetition and easy reference the cards provide, along with multisensory learning, help students build ingrained memories that they can retrieve easily later. Later includes when they are in other classes, encountering unfamiliar words in books as well as composing their own words. Even students who have had effective reading instruction in their past find that the deeper study increases their comprehension, pushing their reading and writing skills even further.

Aside from systematic instruction on the elements of language, students are reading books to refine their reading fluency and comprehension and developing an authentic interest in reading. "I've read two books this year" a ninth grader shares, and then emphasizes, "willingly!"

Learning lab is complex and incredibly beneficial to students at all levels of ability. It helps that all students are learning together, unlike many typical schools where students are separated from peers to receive specialized instruction. As the students progress, they tackle more rigorous reading and writing challenges with higher expectations. It's all part of Springer's core belief in the abilities and potential students hold. With the right kind of instruction, success becomes real.



**OVER-THE-RHINE
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL**
organized by ladd

Students Make Film Selection

Cincinnati's Over-the-Rhine (OTR) International Film Festival chose Springer High School's Film Class students to serve as the Jury for this year's Student Short Film competition. Students watched the submissions during class then analyzed and debated the merits of each film based on specific film-making elements before voting on the best film.

"No Running in the Halls," written and directed by University of Cincinnati student Logan Keller, was selected as the winner. The film was screened as part of the festival in March. Film teacher Kevin Fleischman is part of the OTR International Film Festival programming team.

► Performance Is First For Many

Springer High School held its first-ever theatrical production in March, performing "Goldilocks on Trial," a humorous fairytale with a twist. That is, Goldilocks is put on trial for breaking into the three bears' house.

Three eighth grade students (Piper Feltner, Audrey Harris and Aubrielle Marcoux) joined the cast, which included fourteen actors supported by an understudy and two stagehands. Teachers Hannah Abel and Megan Shenshang were the production's directors. They reflected on the experience, sharing: "One of the most rewarding aspects of directing this play has been seeing each student grow. From where we started with improvisation skills and theater games, to table reads, auditions and rehearsing, each student has pushed themselves beyond their comfort level and tried new things."

Students admittedly felt themselves stretching for the experience. Tenth grade student Ella Monahan was acting for her first time in this production, portraying a woman who lives in a shoe. She explains, "The challenging part was memorizing the lines." Beyond that, she learned that being in character included nonverbal acting, too. During those times, she says, "You had to be in character and [still] do the exact emotions."

Others, like ninth grader Ellie Orosz, who played Wilma Hazel (a witch),



► Springer High School performs "Goldilocks on Trial" in the new auditorium.



► Cast, crew and directors of "Goldilocks on Trial" bring new meaning to the phrase BE SEEN, as they take on major roles in Springer's first theatrical performance, performed on March 15.

“

The reason I like theater so much is because I get to play the role of somebody else and I don't have to focus on myself.

JOSH DEBROSSE, GRUMPY

”



had done small or non-speaking roles in the past and took on larger speaking roles in Goldilocks with great success. Her pointy black hat stood out on stage and added to the humor of her soft, kind portrayal of the character. Edsel Knowlton, ninth grade, had many lines to memorize for the role of Prosecutor and gave a very expressive and enjoyable performance. Prior to this, he had performed as a singer and as an actor in a couple other plays. As a high school student he admits, "It was really hard to keep track of both school and the play at the same time." Even so, "It was really fun." This is the sentiment shared unanimously by the actors. What was the most fun about it? Carter Parson, who played the hilarious Harry "Duke" Wolf says, "definitely hanging out with my friends." Will he try another acting gig again? "Mhm, yeah."

It was a proud evening for faculty, including teacher Mr. Charbeneau, who says, "Many of the students involved have already been or are currently taking my theatre class, so it warmed my heart for me to see them utilize the skills we've developed in class on stage."



► "Goldilocks on Trial" is a courtroom drama featuring witnesses from throughout the fairy tale world. Above: Carter Parson as Harry "Duke" Wolf testifies and the Prosecutor, played by Edsel Knowlton, interjects.

► Student Service Impacts the Community

Service is a big part of the High School experience, with students taking part in a number of opportunities to help the larger community. Shown here (at right) students raked leaves at six different homes as part of

People Working Cooperatively's annual event, Prepare Affair, which helps residents experiencing challenges to prepare their homes for fall and winter. A group also volunteered with Habitat for Humanity build-

ing toys for children. Through these projects and others, students earn service hours they can apply toward graduation requirements and feel great about making a difference in the neighborhood.





Advancing Success

► North Wing Open!

We recently marked an exciting milestone at Springer School and Center with the grand opening of the North Wing. In January, families, friends and supporters attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the occasion which concluded nearly two years of construction.



The North Wing was designed with both students and families in mind. It includes four new classrooms for students in grades one through three, a rooftop learning lab and four quiet learning suites for tutoring. It is also home to the Springer Diagnostic Center, where families across the region access diagnostic evaluations and tutoring.

With the building footprint nearly doubled, a decision was made to name each wing of the building: The original building is now referred to as the West Wing and the addition is the North Wing. The nomenclature holds special meaning for Springer students, as "wing" references the Springer mascot--an Eagle!

At the heart of the North Wing is The Gould Family Auditorium, a 325-seat venue that has already hosted our Empowered Learner Conference, Annual Dinner, alumni reunion, theatrical performances, and Commencement. This dynamic space will continue to serve as a hub for learning, creativity, and celebration.

Our expanded building now has two entrances, both facing the piazza. The West Wing entrance, renovated in 2017, is used by students and school visitors. The North Wing entrance is used by clients of the Springer Diagnostic Center and Springer Learning Center, as well as those attending events in the auditorium. Both are secure entrances with reception areas, security cameras and protocols that require guests to present identification.

This expansion was made possible by the generous support of those who contributed to our Advancing Success Capital Campaign. We are grateful to everyone who helped make this project possible--our donors, supporters, and the entire Springer community. The North Wing represents more than just additional space; it reflects our shared commitment to empowering students and shaping brighter futures.



► Generous Donation Improves Accessibility

The playground, which received additional play equipment in 2021, now includes an enhanced turf area surrounded by landscaping, an attractive retaining wall and an accessibility ramp, which has been made possible by a generous donor. The parking lot has undergone a redesign that improves traffic flow for vehicles during school arrival and dismissal and ensures that other visitors can enter and exit easily during high-traffic times. Two crosswalks (one raised), and handicap parking spaces are located at either ends of the lot.



► **Top:** The opening of the North Wing allows for numerous uses of the new space. **Above Left:** Ribbon Cutting Ceremony is held in January. **Above Right:** Naming for the new addition draws inspiration from the school mascot. **Lower Right:** A newly installed ramp and green top make the outdoor recreation area safe, beautiful and accessible.

► Important Painting Showcased

We are excited to announce the magnificent three-panel painting "Eden Park Pond I" by the late artist Tom Bacher has found a new home in The Gould Family Auditorium. The significant piece of art has a captivating presence. At 82 inches tall and an impressive 26 feet long, it is the largest painting ever created by Mr. Bacher. Known for his signature use of phosphorescent pigments mixed with acrylic paint, this one-of-a-kind artwork glows in the dark, creating an awe-inspiring effect. Black lights above the painting showcase its glowing details. In its new home, the painting is displayed publicly for the first time.

After Mr. Bacher's passing, many of his works were gifted to places and people that held special meaning to him. Springer was one such place, as he had a deep connection to the school. Mr. Bacher served as Springer's artist in residence twice, during which he shared his unique technique with students, teaching them how to use phosphorescence to create artwork that is as striking in the dark as it is in the light. During his final residency, Mr. Bacher reflected, "I learned more from the kids than they did from me, I'm sure."



> Maintenance Supervisor Vinnie Corchran with Dean and Greg, friends of Tom Bacher, made up a team of six who installed "Eden Park Pond I" in The Gould Family Auditorium.

We are grateful to the Trindle family and Greg Matulionis for facilitating this generous donation, and to Vinnie Cochran for giving this meaningful painting its new permanent home.

► First Annual Empowered Learner Conference

More than 200 educators, administrators, and specialists attended The Empowered Learner Conference held on February 14 in the newly constructed Gould Family Auditorium. The all-day event featured two keynote speakers and more than twenty breakout sessions, providing a wide range of professional learning.

Headlining the event were Jared Cooney Horvath, Ph.D., a neuroscientist and best-selling author, and Donnie Campbell, the teacher and coach who inspired the hit series *Ted Lasso*. He is often called "the real-life Ted Lasso!" Both speakers delivered dynamic, informative, and interactive presentations that aligned with the conference's theme, *Shaping Success Through Mindset*. In addition to his keynote, Dr. Horvath led two breakout sessions, providing deeper insights into cognitive science in education.

Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive. One participant captured the sentiment of many, saying, "Both keynote speakers were amazing and gave new information that I am still thinking about."

At Springer, our commitment to student success reaches beyond our campus. Springer Learning Center is dedicated to equipping teachers from schools and districts in our region and beyond with the tools to be more effective educators. Previously, our Distinguished Speaker Series brought



> The Empowered Learner Conference hosts 200+ professionals in the Gould Family Auditorium in February.

an expert to campus annually. Now, with our recent expansion, we are thrilled to transform that tradition into a comprehensive, multi-faceted professional development conference for teachers, administrators, and others who work with young people. One teacher summarized the heart of our mission, sharing, "I will be using the knowledge of brain science to understand my learners and how to encourage them better." With such enthusiastic feedback, we look forward to continuing to bring innovative professional development to educators in the region and beyond.

Next year's Empowered Learner Conference for professionals is *The Power of Executive Function*, to be held February 13, 2026. It will feature two keynotes who are leaders in developing executive function supports for students: Sarah Ward, M.S., CCC/SLP is Co-Director of Cognitive Connections, LLP, and co-creator of the *Get Ready*Do*Done* method. Cheryl Chase, Ph.D., is an international speaker and licensed clinical psychologist specializing in diagnostic and neuropsychological assessments. Both are dedicated to helping students with learning challenges achieve their full potential. Learn more at Springer-LD.org/empowered-learner.



> Guest Presenter Michael Hollins leads a breakout session in one of the new North Wing classrooms.

► Partnerships Extend Reach

The Springer Diagnostic Center partners with schools and organizations in the region to help families identify learning disabilities and access supports to achieve success. The Diagnostic Center team includes three psychologists and is supported by occupational and speech language therapists. In addition to performing evaluations, their outreach in the community includes visiting area schools, pediatricians, clinics and other organizations to increase awareness about the supports available for students with learning challenges. Thanks to grants from the Millstone Fund, The James J. and Joan A. Gardner Foundation, The Thomas J. Emery Memorial, and the Charles H. Dater Foundation, we can provide financial aid for families who need assistance with diagnostic services.



> Molly Bernosky, Ed.S., M.Ed.; Bradley Paramore, Ed.S., NCSP; and Deborah Gilbert, and Ph.D. of Springer Diagnostic Center.

► Board Members Volunteer

This year many Springer Trustees have spent time on campus volunteering during morning arrival, Eagles READ, and Student Appreciation Day. From greeting students with a smile to reading stories and joining in the celebration, their presence added something special to each moment. We're grateful for their ongoing support and commitment to our school community.

► Alumnus Keeps Springer Looking Good

Jon Blum ('89) hasn't been a student for quite a while but through the years he's been back to campus quite a bit! That's because his work as owner of FAST-SIGNS in Mason, Ohio, keeps him in touch with everything going on at his alma mater. Springer has called on Jon for all of the new signage that has been installed on campus in the last year and a half. When Jon travels to Springer, he gets to thinking about



some of the fun times he and his friends had while they were students. Something funny that he always loves to see? His elementary PE. teacher, Mr. Phelps, who "still looks the same!"



> Board member Carrie Gould serves ice cream sundaes on Student Appreciation Day.

& Memorials & TRIBUTES

(AS OF 3/30/2025)

In Memory of the marriage of Dr. and Mrs. Barry Gibberman's son
Barbara and Greg Sherman

In Honor of Walker Brightwell III
Mrs. Suzanne Swenty-Brightwell

In Honor of Ben Mendelsohn
Alan and Marsha Levy Charitable Foundation Inc.

In Memory of Vince Michels
Anonymous

In Memory of James G. Parry
Parry-Schneebeck Fund

In Memory of Nancy P. Schneebeck
Parry-Schneebeck Fund

In Memory of W.W. Schneebeck
Parry-Schneebeck Fund

In Honor of Greg Sherman
Kathryn Uetrecht

In Honor of Will Ward
Jenni and Ryan Ward

In Honor of Mark Wilkison
Brett and Elizabeth Joseph Giving Fund

In Memory of George Edward Wentler
Jane and Gary Booth
James Buchanan
Stephanie and Steven Carruthers
Sandra and George Colombo
Dana Doll and Dave Donner
Cynthia Green and Joe Merland
Bethia Margoshes and Ken Miller

Echo and Gary Reeves
James Weist
Mary Edith Wentler
Williams Family Trust

In Memory of Richard J. Wieging
Marcia and Arnold Birkemeier

In Memory of Rhonda Young
Sally and Edward Kamphake



► Alumni Reunite in North Wing

The fourth annual Alumni Reunion for alumni ages 21 and up was held on March 21st on campus at Springer. Alumni from every decade since 1970 reconnected over drinks and light bites and toured the newly opened North Wing as well as the original West Wing of the building, visiting favorite spots to see what has

changed and what remains of their old stomping grounds. Teachers including Mr. Phelps, Ms. Ilg, Ms. Shumrick and Mrs. Flowerdew attended and were thrilled to visit with many former students.

Alumni ages 20 and younger will be invited to "Dodgeball and Deserts" to be held later this year.

> Above top to bottom: Alumni tour the school with Social Media and Alumni Relations Coordinator Marika Lefke; Ms. Ilg, Gordon Huston and Mrs. Shumrick; Evan Phillips and Caitlin Zirkelbach; Aaron Younger, Gabrielle Luckenback, Elisabeth Ripley and Joshua Bell.



ALUMNI, JOIN THE FUN!

To make sure you don't miss out on any upcoming alumni events, scan the QR code to update your address or submit an update!



NATALIE O'ROURKE '24 is a student council officer for her high school and is active in Theater Club. She has played lead roles including Grandma in "The Addams Family" and Deb in "Elf." Academically, Natalie maintains a 4.0 GPA and is preparing to take College Credit Plus courses. She is

currently learning to drive and will travel to Japan with her school in 2027.



GRACE STRONG '24 is a high school freshman. Her favorite class is English, and she is also taking piano lessons. Grace is on the swim team, competing in the 50 freestyle, and enjoys tap dancing outside of school. She stays organized by completing her work

early to manage her busy schedule.



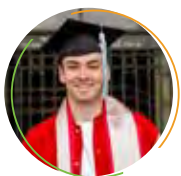
EVAN STRONG '21 is a thriving freshman who is excelling in graphic art, exploring Photoshop and drawing, and is active in Art and Chess Club. A highlight of his year is painting a portrait of someone from South Africa to send to them—a project he's truly enjoying. Marshall continues to use his

Springer strategies, especially self-advocacy, to succeed in his new environment.



JACK SILVER '17 is a member of the National Honor Society and will attend Boston University Questrom School of Business for the fall of 2025. He and his family - especially his mother, Paige (Springer 1987), have always appreciated the early intervention and support that Springer provided, and the school's emphasis on self-advocacy. She says, "Thank

you to Springer School who helped put Jack on the road to success."



WILL BERTSCH '15 Will Bertsch '15 earned his Bachelor of Science in Human Development and Family Science in 2024. Now he is pursuing a Master of Sports Coaching at The Ohio State University where he is also a 6th year member of OSU's varsity Cheerleading Team.



KATHRYN GAKER '14 graduated from high school in 2018 and earned her degree from Wright State University in 2023. She is currently employed at Van Wey, Metzler & Williams as a Medical Records Specialist. In her free time, Kathryn enjoys playing tennis and pickleball. She also recently adopted a dog, Ellie May, from a shelter.



SOPHIA PREZIOSI '97 began her career as a kindergarten teacher. She transitioned to sales, ran her own company and embraced motherhood. Today, she's making a difference as the Program Assistant at Read Ready Covington, a literacy initiative she has been part of for more than a year. In this role she works to increase local kindergarten readiness and grade-level reading proficiency. She is empowering young

learners and families!



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BE SEEN

What does it mean to BE SEEN at Springer High School?

Be seen is the phrase we use to describe the experience students have when they are seen and known well by faculty and staff who understand them and who believe in their abilities. Every student is valued and supported as an individual and recognized for their unique strengths and their potential to achieve their goals in life.