



# Cridersville Elementary School

501 Reichelderfer Road Cridersville, Ohio 45806  
419.645.3000 cridersville.wapak.org

*— a small school  
doing big things!*

Award  
Winning  
Ohio  
School

Cridersville Elementary School truly is a small school that accomplishes very big things. It is one of Ohio's award winning elementary schools.

Four of the last five years it has been designated an **Ohio School of Promise**. The Ohio Department of Education School Report Card ranks it **Excellent with Distinction** — the highest ranking possible.



Our success comes from an excellent staff, top quality facilities and technology, strong parent involvement, and students excited about learning. Together, with our students, parents, and community, we live our mission statement:

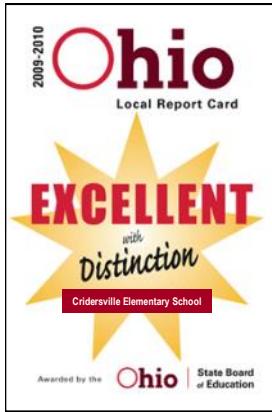
*Our Cridersville School Community is learning together  
to be responsible, respectful, and do our best!*



Our Cridersville Elementary School Community



## Recognition of our success



The Cridersville Elementary school community does its work well. Its academic success has been recognized by the State of Ohio numerous times. The school has been awarded *School of Promise* ranking by the Ohio Department of Education four times in the last five years. This designation goes to an elite group of 161 schools in Ohio that have high levels of achievement in reading or mathematics. Only 33 schools in the state have received the honor four times.

Part of that success can be attributed to our *Guided Reading Program*. The program, taught by staff throughout the school, provides time for students to read daily at their level in small groups. We believe reading is the cornerstone of all learning. If we can teach our students to read well and enjoy reading, they can succeed in every endeavor. First piloted at Cridersville Elementary, our reading program now serves as a model for schools throughout the state. Schools and universities visit us to learn more about it.

Cridersville Elementary also does very well on the Ohio Department of Education's *Ohio School Report Card*. Last year our school was ranked *Excellent with Distinction* — the highest ranking awarded. It is awarded to schools that meet 5 out of 5 state indicators for reading and math achievement, and maintain high attendance levels and above-expected growth for at least two consecutive years. This recognition says something about the quality and hard work of our students and staff.

# Technology that helps us succeed

State-of-the-art technology plays an important part in our continued success. It provides our skilled staff with tools that help our students learn more and learn it faster. It also makes the learning experience fun.

Every classroom in our school is equipped with an interactive whiteboard (IWB). The boards allow teachers



to present information in a digital form. The technology allows them to show websites, documents, and software programs. They can create interactive demonstrations using their classroom curriculum. Students can go to the boards and make the lessons come to life using the stylus. Classrooms are also equipped with the document cameras. They provide teachers with high-resolution web cams that project images of papers, books, 3-D objects, and transparencies onto the white boards.

Classrooms are equipped with a Classroom Performance System (CPS) that provides student response capabilities. Questions come from the room's computer and are displayed on the whiteboard for students to view. Each student responds via a remote control device (clicker). An infrared transmitter picks up the student response and sends it to the computer, which stores the response and provides the teacher with detailed reports. Teachers can determine if the lesson needs to be reviewed or if any student needs individual attention.

Our technology has become a seamless part of instruction and enables teachers to help students excel.

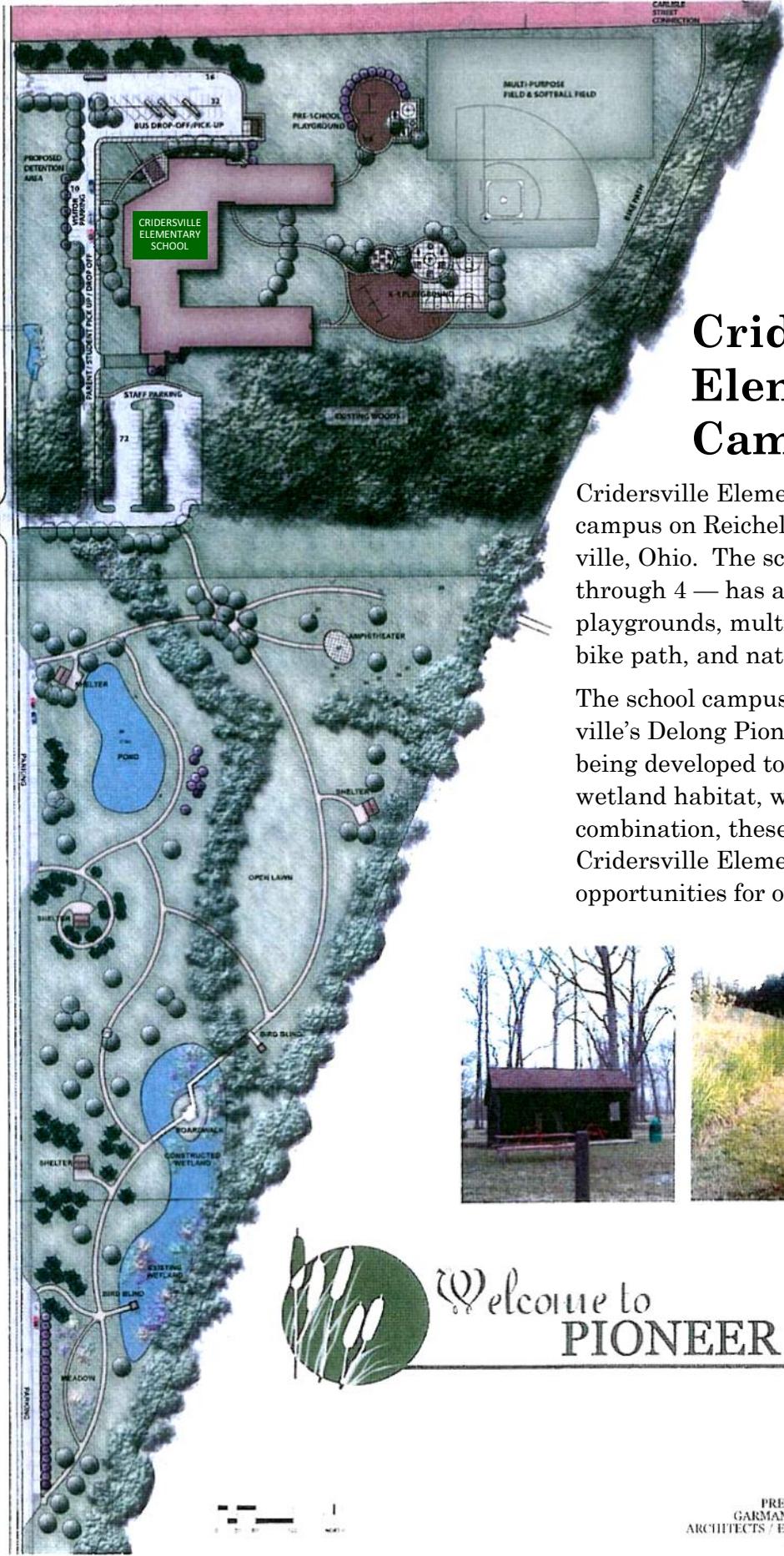


Top photo: Teacher and students using interactive whiteboards available in every classroom

Above right: Teacher using document camera in the classroom

Far right: Students in the computer lab located in the school's Media Center





## Cridersville Elementary School Campus

Cridersville Elementary School is located on a 22-acre campus on Reichelderfer Road in the Village of Cridersville, Ohio. The school's enrollment — grades Pre-K through 4 — has access to separate pre-school-K and 1-4 playgrounds, multi-purpose sports field, softball diamond, bike path, and nature center woods.

The school campus is adjacent to the Village of Cridersville's Delong Pioneer Park. This 18-acre nature park is being developed to include an amphitheater, pond, wetland habitat, walking trails, and shelter houses. In combination, these facilities provide the students at Cridersville Elementary with truly remarkable opportunities for outdoor activities and learning.



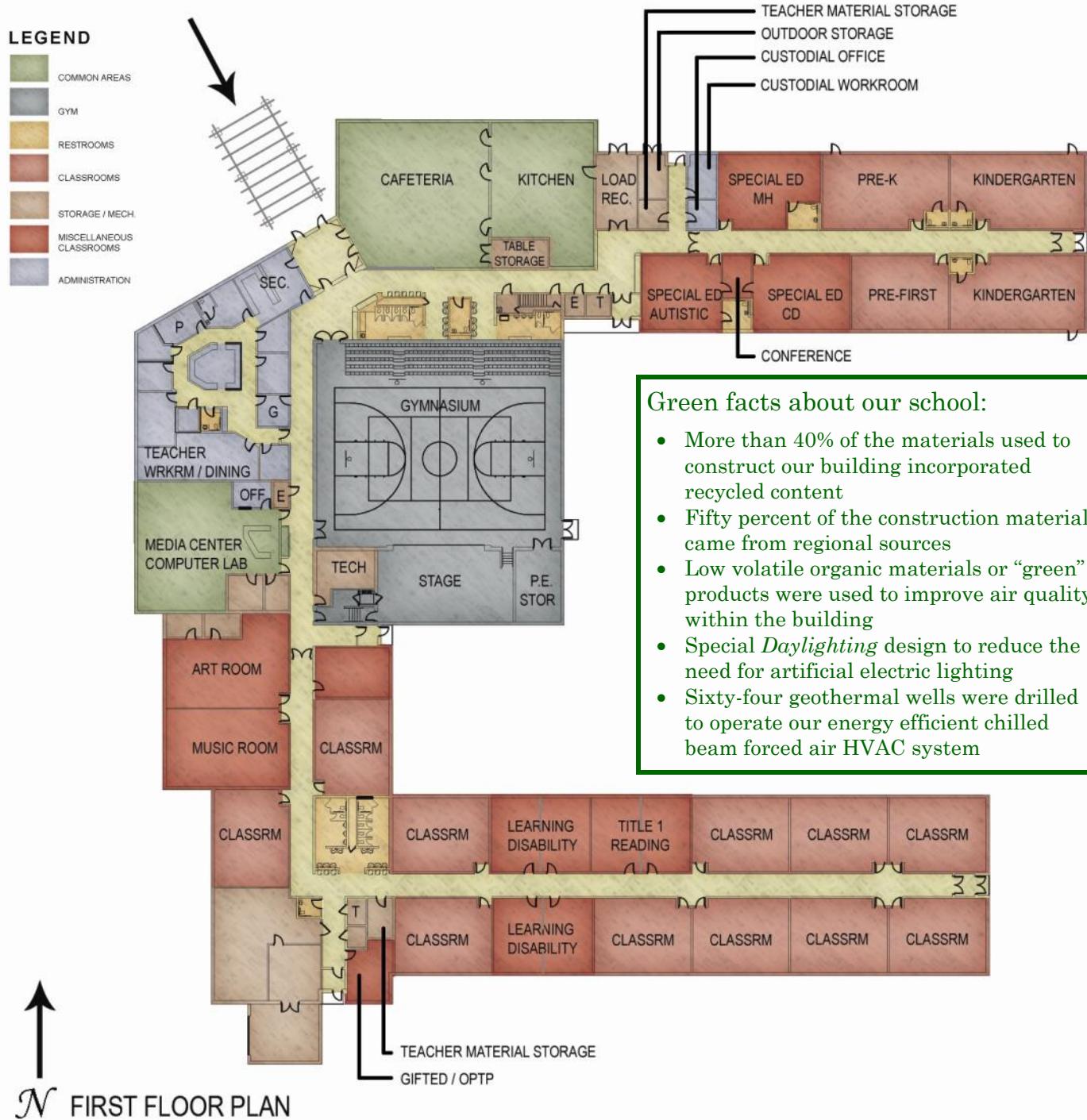
Welcome to  
**PIONEER PARK**

PREPARED BY:  
GARMANN MILLER  
ARCHITECTS / ENGINEERS  
MAY 2008



# About our school building

- Total size: 59,000 sq. ft.
- Built to hold 425 students
- Current enrollment: 356
- 16 regular classrooms
- 10 special ed./reading rooms
- Media center with 28-seat computer lab
- Art and music rooms
- Interactive whiteboards in every classroom
- Five additional computers in every classroom
- Voice amplification system in every classroom
- Hand wash sink & drinking fountain in every room
- Cafeteria with on-site kitchen for food prep
- Oversized gymnasium with theater-style performance stage
- HVAC system: geothermal with chilled beam forced air



## Green facts about our school:

- More than 40% of the materials used to construct our building incorporated recycled content
- Fifty percent of the construction materials came from regional sources
- Low volatile organic materials or “green” products were used to improve air quality within the building
- Special *Daylighting* design to reduce the need for artificial electric lighting
- Sixty-four geothermal wells were drilled to operate our energy efficient chilled beam forced air HVAC system



## A staff dedicated to student success

Good facilities and modern technology are important, but great staff is what makes a school excel. Cridersville Elementary School succeeds because of its skilled and dedicated staff. Our staff has an excellent blend of veteran teachers with more than 25 years experience, as well as younger staff in their first 5 to 10 years in the profession.



They are an extremely focused group, putting in long hours and working together to do all they can to help every child succeed. Ask any teacher or staff member, and they will tell you the

“family atmosphere” at Cridersville Elementary is like none they have ever experienced in the workplace. That is the secret of our success.



## Family Nights at Cridersville Elementary

At Cridersville Elementary School we believe the relationship between the school and the families of our students is very important. Success at school is linked to the support and involvement of families at home.

We help foster a strong school-family relationship by hosting family nights at the school focusing on science and reading. Our family nights typically involve 300-400 attendees. Family Science Nights allow students and their families to explore science with experiments, hands-on activities and displays. Guest speakers are invited to also participate.

During Family Reading Nights students and their families read together in the gymnasium. Costumed characters from favorite books attend and there are book swaps and book give-aways.

Our Family Nights help make our families part of our school team.

The school's staff includes 17 classroom teachers, two special reading teachers, a speech pathologist, and individual teachers for art, music, and physical education. The staff also includes nine instructional para-educators, two guidance counselors, librarian, technologist, school secretary, four cafeteria specialists, two custodians, and a principal. It's a team that does great work, and truly enjoys nurturing and inspiring kids.



A Family Science Night at Cridersville Elementary School



# A strong connection to our community



At Cridersville Elementary we believe teaching our students to be active in our community is another important lesson. Teaching respect, responsibility, and good citizenship are among our primary goals. Plus, our connections to the community also open the doors to wonderful partnerships with a wide variety of people, businesses, and organizations.

We encourage our students to participate in local food drives, book drives, fund drives for the Cancer Society and Heart Association, soliciting supplies for our local troops, and special fund raising projects for victims of earthquakes and floods.

Coming into our school, we regularly host more than 100 parent, grandparent, and community volunteers every year. They assist with tutoring, field trips, our Family Nights, skating parties, Field Day, and many other special activities.



## About our school district:

- Cridersville Elementary School is part of the Wapakoneta City School District.
- The district comprises 159 square miles; nearly one third of the land area in Auglaize County.
- The district enrollment is 3074 students in four school buildings
- Students attend Cridersville Elementary as well as an elementary, middle, and high school in Wapakoneta.
- The district maintains a 20 to 1 student-teacher ratio, with 77.8% of teachers holding a Master's degree or higher
- High school graduation rate is 92.5%
- Overall student attendance rate is 96.1%

Learn more about our district at [www.wapak.org](http://www.wapak.org)

# We invite you to learn more about Cridersville Elementary and why it is — *a great place for a good start!*

We believe learning should be fun. It should be exciting. Students should look forward to coming to their school. That is exactly what we do at Cridersville Elementary. Our student achievement scores and attendance statistics prove it. We're an award winning school, in large part, because our students like coming to school and enjoy doing their best.

We are also determined to expand learning beyond the school day. In addition to our dynamic in-school educational programming, we have created a successful after-school tutoring program — one that has been in operation for nearly 12 years. Tutors work one-on-one with third and fourth grade students every Tuesday afternoon, October through April, from 2:45-4:00 p.m. Our volunteer tutors come from local churches and retirement communities. They tutor both students who need academic help and those who simply want to learn more. It's a great program that benefits both students and tutors, and builds important links within our community.

Our local PTO is also a huge asset to Cridersville Elementary. It provides another important link between the school and our families. The PTO provides funding for special projects and sponsors book fairs, field trips, skating parties, and the annual school carnival. It also awards college scholarships to former Cridersville Elementary students. We succeed because our Moms and Dads truly believe and participate in what we do.



## Cridersville Elementary School

Principal: Jason Wolke  
501 Reichelderfer Road Cridersville, Ohio 45806  
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## Wapakoneta City School District

Superintendent: Aaron Rex  
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419.739.2900 wapak.org