



ANNUAL REPORT

OHIO'S PREMIER E-SCHOOL

2019-2020 Parent Informational Booklet | 2018-2019 Annual Report

Success through digital learning...

at

QDA.

"We are preparing QDA students to be independent thinkers and self-motivators."

-Dr. Richard Varrati – Superintendent/CEO

www.go2qda.org



QDA Chief Officers

Richard Varrati, Ed.D. – CEO
Julie Erwin – Treasurer
Steve Eckert – Principal

QDA Board of Directors

President – Mr. Charles Snyder
Vice President – Mr. Don Kemp
Mr. Hugh Berry
Mrs. Karen Sterling
Mrs. Sally Stroup

Sponsorship

The Quaker Digital Academy is a public digital school sponsored by the New Philadelphia City Schools.

Academic Goals

The State of Ohio Model Courses of Study are the basis for QDA curriculum K-12. The Academy implements these resources, as well as a variety of exceptional curricular options. Our teaching staff is comprised of caring, highly qualified and licensed teachers, counselors, and administrators.

QDA is a non-profit, public online school in the State of Ohio for students in grades K-12. Any student residing in Ohio may enroll in QDA with offices conveniently located in New Philadelphia, Berlin, East Liverpool, and Steubenville. Contact us today to learn how cyber education can meet your child's needs.

QDA is state funded. There is no cost to the student. A computer is provided and up to \$40 a month for internet access. Home schooling parents will save money by sending their children to QDA.



Contact us today to learn more!

Toll Free:
1-866-968-7032 or
information@go2qda.org

A Message from Superintendent Richard Varrati
SUPERINTENDENT AND CEO FOR QDA

Why Quaker Digital Academy?

New Experience, Dedication, and Commitment.



Quaker Digital Academy offers students the opportunity and support to be successful in their academic pursuit for a solid education. QDA is designed to meet the individual needs of a student, which may not always be available in the shuffle of a traditional school classroom. Students are treated as individuals and their academics are selected based on their academic needs. It is designed for the gifted student, the regular student, and the student at risk. QDA provides support to help those enrolled find the path to success. QDA not only has certified Ohio teachers, but assigns all students an Instructional Supervisor (IS), who serves as their personal counselor and is their main point of contact for the enrolled

individual and their family. The IS handles all school related issues for the student, and keeps in regular contact to ensure success in their academic subjects. This support and guidance is extremely important in today's educational climate of Ohio. QDA is fully aware that what helps one student learn may not work for the next. That is why QDA offers varied curriculums that can help provide a custom tailored and personalized learning path for student's individual needs.

With the growing demand from students and families looking for a safe school environment and a 21st century education, QDA has the experience to meet the challenges of providing an academic setting to prepare students for the changing world and meet the needs of the individual student to find their own pathway to success.

Dr. Richard Varrati, CEO and Superintendent of QDA, has worked for 36 years in the field of education.

East Liverpool Gives Back

The East Liverpool Office of Quaker Digital Academy has once again worked diligently to help assist area youth with their back-to-school needs. Casey Havens, Instructional Supervisor, is shown with 420 backpacks stuffed full of educational supplies. The town closes streets and sets up booths for fun and educational purposes. It is truly an Edupalooza!



Steubenville Office Has Busy Schedule

The Steubenville Office was very busy this past school year with several field trip events attended throughout the state. Before the school year even started, QDA staff attended the Columbiana, Jefferson and Belmont County Fairs. Our Instructional Supervisors have been enjoying the fairs and meeting potential families. In October, QDA staff participated for the third time, in the Trunk and Treat event for area youth. For several years QDA Steubenville has linked up with Kidslink based out of Columbus. We have enjoyed events like their Olentangy Summer Bash in June and their Columbus Stem & Arts Expo held in November. Every year we host a Christmas party for our students, with art projects, movies and food. Finally, we do not forget our graduates: Each May we invite our students and families to a graduation party to celebrate students who received their diploma at any time throughout the school year.



Special Services Report

Elaine Karp
Director of Special Services

The Quaker Digital Academy is committed to providing support services to all students and teachers and to providing a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment to all students with disabilities. The Special Services Department monitors to ensure that the special education policies and procedures are in accordance with all federal, state and local mandates. We design, implement, and evaluate appropriate programs for students with disabilities, and provide technical assistance and staff development opportunities. The Quaker Digital Academy focuses on the consistency and quality of special education programs and related services within the district. Each year school districts throughout Ohio participate in an effort to identify, locate and evaluate all children with disabilities age 3 through age 21. The Quaker Digital Academy provides special education services to approximately 93 students with disabilities or approximately 7% of the district's student population. If you have a child or know of a child you suspect may have a disability as described by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA) or Americans with Disabilities Act Section 504, please contact Mrs. Karp, Director of Special Services or call 330-364-0618.



QDA Staff Train to Ensure Student Success

QDA staff from all four regional locations came together at Columbia Woodlands for a day of staff training. In order to ensure that all students are successful after high school, QDA has put into place the 3-E program. Upon exiting high school, students will have a plan for either employment, enlistment, or enrollment in college or technical school. Staff used hyperdoc technology to explore the Ohio Means Jobs Website to experience the backpack resources for themselves before asking students to create an account. The day was filled with technology as a mini Google Bootcamp helped both teaching and support staff sharpen their computer skills while learning the many features in Google. After a full day of learning, the teams became better acquainted through the use of team building activities. QDA Staff will use the skills learned at the inservice to assist their students as they look to the future.



tech updates

Student Information System

In September 2017, 10% of our users were accessing QDA resources from mobile devices. Today, nearly 25% of our users are accessing QDA resources from mobile devices and the number continues to rise.

In July, our student information system underwent a major update to make the system ADA compliant and mobile friendly.

With this major update, families can easily monitor their student's progress and attendance from any device at any time. In addition to the new interface, the student information system has also been configured to send out automated bi-weekly progress reports so students and their families will get progress reports delivered directly to their preferred email account.

The screenshot displays the 'Student Attendance' page. On the left is a navigation menu with options like 'Main Menu', 'My Settings', 'Message Center', 'Academic Info', 'Personal Information', 'Calendar', 'Current Courses', 'Grades', 'Attendance', 'Plan of Study', 'Transcript', 'Report Cards', 'Certificates', 'Forms', and 'External Links'. The main content area shows 'External Attendance' with 'School Year Attendance Statistics' and a 'School Year Attendance Summary'. A calendar for September 2019 is visible, with a legend for attendance types: Weekend or Holiday, Log Required, Absence - Unexcused, Absence - Excused, Present, Offline Minutes Required, and Absent. Below the calendar is a 'Log Entry For: Tuesday, 9/10/2019' section with a table of courses and their attendance status.

Course	LMS	External Start Time	External End Time	Description
2019 NWEA Spring - New Phila				
2019 - Advanced Physical Education I				
2019 - Physical Education 1/4 - Part 1				
2019 - Work Study I				
2019 - Community Service I				
2019 Intervention Algebra I (56) Semester A				
2019 Intervention Algebra I (56) Semester B				
2019 Intervention Geometry (56SE)				
2019 Intervention Algebra II Equivalent (78) Semester A				
2019 Intervention Algebra II Equivalent (78) Semester B				
2019 Mathematics 500 Semester A				
2019 Mathematics 500 Semester B				
2019 Mathematics 700 Semester A				
2019 Mathematics 700 Semester B				

State Report Card: QDA Exceeds Standards

The Ohio Department of Education has released School Report Cards for the 2018-19 School Year. Quaker Digital Academy's overall school rating **Exceeds Standards**.



Quaker Digital Academy

Districts and schools report information for the Ohio School Report Cards on specific marks of performance, called measures, within broad categories called components. Dropout Recovery Program schools receive ratings for up to eight measures and four components.

High School Test Passage Rate

The High School Test Passage Rate component represents the number of students who passed all five state tests that are required for graduation.



[View More Data](#)

Progress

The Progress component looks closely at the growth that all students are making during the school year.



[View More Data](#)

Gap Closing

The Gap Closing component shows how well schools are meeting the performance expectations for our most vulnerable students in English language arts, math, graduation and English language proficiency.



[View More Data](#)

Graduation Rate

The Graduation Rate component looks at the percent of students who are successfully finishing high school with a diploma in four, five, six, seven, or eight years.



[View More Data](#)

The full Ohio Department of Education Report Card is available on the QDA website and at www.education.ohio.gov.

Saluting QDA's 104 Graduates



THE CLASS OF 2019



The Quaker Digital Academy Graduation Ceremony was held on May 23, 2019 at Kent State University – Tuscarawas Campus Founders Hall Auditorium at 7:00 PM. Seats were filled with proud parents, students, family and friends of those participating in the ceremony. In attendance were QDA Board members Don Kemp, Hugh Berry, and Karen Sterling, QDA Treasurer Julie Erwin, as well as Superintendent Richard J. Varrati, Principal Steve Eckert, and Guidance Counselor Jill Westbrook. All were

on stage to shake the hand of each student and present them with their official high school graduation diploma.

Special music was provided by Annabelle Cessna. Instructional Supervisors were in attendance to share this special moment with their students. A cookie and punch table, flowers, and photos took place after the ceremony.

Students must earn a total of 20 credits and meet State of Ohio Test requirements in order to receive a high school diploma.





2019!



National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony

The 9th annual National Honor and National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony was held on May 2, 2019 at the Dover First Moravian Social Hall. The National Honor Society members inducted were Lydia Appleton, Lane Corder, Logan Ortt, Kathryn Todd, and Shayann Wilson. The National Junior Honor Society members inducted were Evan Ernst, Truman Fisher, Sayje Hill,

and Noah McGarr. The QDA Board Members, Administration, faculty, staff, current members of NHS and NJHS, and parents celebrated the accomplishments of these dedicated students. The ceremony concluded with an ice cream social and some fun picture-taking moments!



The QDA Educational Foundation

The QDA Educational Foundation (a non profit 501(c)(3)) was formed in 2015 to encourage and assist QDA students to invest in themselves by continuing their educational pathway after graduation. The Foundation continues to fund raise and seek donations to support this mission and is proud to announce that QDA graduates in 2020 will have the opportunity to apply for up to \$5,000 in scholarships.

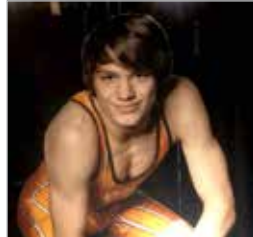
Community businesses have continued to support the following fundraising programs: Window Installation/Advertisement at Harry Clever Field Airport Building (completed in 2018) and Advertising Sign Placement on City of New Philadelphia Sanitation Trucks (openings still available). The City of New Philadelphia receives a portion of advertising dollars, as well as the Foundation. The Electronic QDA sign on the corner of Front Avenue and Broadway is available to new advertisers.

Should you wish to donate, or need further information regarding participation, please contact Dr. Richard Varrati, CEO or Mr. Tom Farbizo, Director of Recruitment and Fundraising, at 330-364-0618. The Foundation wishes to thank the community and businesses who have given support toward this scholarship program.

Saluting Outstanding QDA Students



Each QDA student is assigned to their own individual Instructional Supervisor. Supervisors take a personal interest in all of their students and are proud of each and every one. We highlight just a few of their success stories below:



Justice Armstrong

Justus Armstrong is an outstanding young man. He enrolled in September, 2018, as a 10th grader from Claymont City Schools. He completed 5.5 credits this year with a 3.7 grade point average and also competed on the wrestling team.

~ Tony Casini, *Instructional Supervisor*



Sarah McKee

Sarah came to us from Akron Digital Academy and successfully completed her final seven credits this spring and was one of the QDA students who walked across the Kent State University – Tuscarawas Stage on graduation day. Sarah's mother said to me, "The other schools that Sarah attended set her up for failure, but QDA set her up for success." We congratulate Sarah, an outstanding young lady.

~ Roni Leeper, *Instructional Supervisor*



Emma Wirtz

Emma Wirtz is a Junior, she is starting her second year at QDA, she does a great job, very conscientious - we enjoy working with her and her family.

~ Bob Zontini, *Instructional Supervisor*



Luke Edgell

Congratulations to Luke Edgell who graduated roughly 1.5 years early. Luke works for his family's business (DRE Walls) and wanted to complete his schooling so that he could focus more time and energy toward the business. A terrific, motivated young man. All the best Luke!

~ Casey Havens, *Instructional Supervisor*



Kelley Powell

Kelley Powell is a goal oriented, efficient, and organized student. During her junior year at QDA, she completed 8 college courses through the College Credit Plus program and was also inducted into Phi Theta Kappa. While volunteering at her local humane society, Kelley has been able to maintain an overall GPA of 3.82. Kelley plans on attending Marietta College, majoring in computer science. QDA is excited to see what her future holds!

~ Breanna Barton, *Instructional Supervisor*



Jake Falter

Jacob Falter is a 12th grade (15 credits) with a 3.35 GPA. He is also enrolled in the CCP at Wayne College. He has been a very successful QDA student. I wish Jacob all the best in his future career.

~ Tony Casini, *Instructional Supervisor*



emma WIRTZ

EMMA WIRTZ combines love of learning and love of horses!

QDA student, Emma Wirtz, combines learning with her love of horses. Emma has been showing horses for many years. This was her first year of competing in American Quarter Horse Association sanctioned shows. Sixteen-year old Emma, is making it clear she is a serious contender. She was involved in her 4-H program early on, but set her sights on AQHA competition. She competes in Showmanship, Western Pleasure, Horsemanship and Trail. Emma credits her mother with being her biggest supporter. She had been home-schooled until her enrollment in Quaker Digital Academy this past school year, where she has been named to the Honor Roll. She also enjoys boating and music. QDA wishes Emma continued success in her many pursuits!

SOURCE:
INSTRIDE EDITION
June 2019
PHOTOS:
Shane Rux and
Larry Williams



Title One Review and 2018-19 Student Field Trips

Submitted by: Susie Bambeck - Field Trip Coordinator

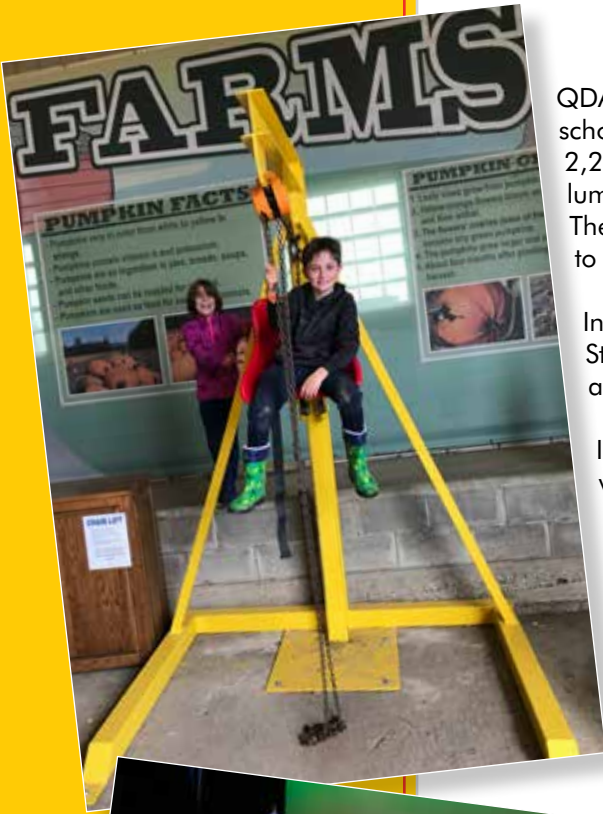
QDA families and students attended various field trips during the 2018-2019 school year. We began the school year at Blue Rock Station in Philo, OH. We toured 2,200 square foot Earthship home completely made of tires, cans, bottles salvaged lumber, mud and sand. The owner is devoted to creating a sustainable way of life. The owner is devoted to creating a sustainable living way of life. It was amazing to see!

In October we enjoyed a fall day at Nickajack Farms in North Lawrence, OH. Students and families enjoyed outdoor games, navigating through a corn maze, a wagon ride and picking out a pumpkin in the pumpkin patch!

In December we traveled to The Magical Theater Company in Barberton to watch "Prancer." The theater group was made up of school-age students who were amazing actors.

In May we enjoyed a beautiful day at the Cleveland Metro Parks Zoo and Rainforest. We saw lions, and tigers, and bears! Some even enjoyed a camel ride and feeding the giraffes. The following week we traveled to COSI in Columbus, and spent a day of exploring the world of science. We enjoyed learning about everything from dinosaurs to exploring the ocean bottom.

As always, QDA students attended several Kent State Performing Art Center Class Acts.



2019-20 FIELD TRIPS

SEPTEMBER

Legoland (Columbus)

Legoland Discovery Center Columbus



LEGOLAND Discovery Centers offer hands-on learning across the curriculum, including science, mathematics, language arts, technology, and engineering design, while building and reinforcing Collaboration, Communication, Creativity, Critical Thinking and Problem Solving.

OCTOBER 17

Ramseyer Farms

4000 Ramseyer Lane, Wooster, OH 44691



At Ramseyer Farms, family-friendly fun is the focus! With over 45 activities including two giant corn mazes, hayrides, slides, animals, pedal cart race tracks, and pumpkin picking, there is something for everyone to enjoy!

OCTOBER 22

Spaghetti in a Hot Dog Bun Musical

Kent State Performing Arts Center



"Lucy, Lucy, eats stinky food that puts us all in a big, bad mood!" How can Ralph be so mean, This tasty new musical, based on the award-winning book by Maria Dismody, empowers children, when faced with bullying, to always do the right thing and to be proud of themselves.

NOVEMBER 22

Full STEAM Ahead with Mister C

Kent State Performing Arts Center



Join Mister C for another fun day of learning in the lab! As the creator and host of Full STEAM Ahead, a show on PBS Kids' member stations CET and ThinkTV in southwest Ohio and Alabama Public Television, Mister C is no stranger to finding exciting and engaging ways to explore STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) in our everyday lives.

DECEMBER 5

Never Ending Story

Magical Theatre (Barberton)



On his way to school, Bastian (Barret Oliver) ducks into a bookstore to avoid bullies. Sneaking away with a book called The Never Ending Story, Bastian begins reading it in the school attic. When Bastian reads a description of himself in the book, he begins to wonder if Fantasia is real and needs him to survive.

FEBRUARY 4

Zak Morgan

Kent State Performing Arts Center



GRAMMY nominee Zak Morgan's unique brand of children's music delivers songs and poems with wit and charm. His wordplay has drawn comparisons to Shel Silverstein and Dr. Seuss. Zak's live performances encourage children to READ, IMAGINE and BELIEVE in themselves.

FEBRUARY 12

Fanny Mae Tour and MAPS



Experience the exquisite aroma of fresh chocolate and get an exclusive look at conveyors with luscious delights of every kind. Go behind the scenes to learn the step-by-step process we use to carefully craft our gourmet chocolates.

MAPS Air Museum is an internationally known museum of aviation and serves as a center of aviation history for Northeast Ohio. The museum features over 130 exciting educational displays in its collection of acquired artifacts, interactive exhibits and historical archives in its own library. The museum currently has over 50 aircraft in the inventory and is a War Memorial as we have a piece of the Battleship Arizona on display.

FEBRUARY 19

Rosa Parks

Kent State Performing Arts Center

Age Appropriateness: 3rd-6th grade



In Montgomery, Alabama, a determined activist named Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a city bus. Walk On: The Story of Rosa Parks weaves together music and drama to tell the story of Rosa Parks from her childhood in rural Alabama to her famous decision to "sit down and be counted." Exciting and inspirational, Walk On: The Story of Rosa Parks shows how the determination of one individual made all the difference in the struggle for freedom and equality in the United States.

APRIL | TESTING | NO FIELD TRIPS



MAY 12

The Farm at Walnut Creek

Welcome to The Farm at Walnut Creek! Come explore a working farm and feed our exotic animals while taking a horse drawn wagon ride. Tour our barns and houses.

did you know?

ACT RESULTS

English	18.7
Math	16.7
Reading	23.6
Science	19.3
Composite	19.9

12 Different Curriculums Available



Students may choose from:

- General Education
- College Preparatory
- Advanced Placement Courses
- QDA Offers Many World Languages



QDA Students Participated in College Credit Plus

JVS & CCP Locations That Our Students Attended in 2018-19

- East Liverpool City HS - Career Classes
- Buckeye Career Center
- Washington State Community College
- Eastern Gateway Community College
- Stark State College of Technology
- Ohio Christian University
- Columbiana County-JVS
- Mid- East Career and Technology Center- JVS
- Kent State University
- University of Akron - Wayne



2018 Average Enrollment

GRADE # STUDENTS

K	12
1	12
2	10
3	18
4	13
5	22
6	28
7	37
8	33
9	65
10	100
11	91
12	135

900 Graduates to Date
104 2018-19 Graduates



QDA Employs:

- 4 Administrators
- 1 Director of Technology
- 1 Computer Technician
- 50 Teachers (Part Time & Full Time)
- 15 Support Staff
- 2 Special Services
- 10 Tutors, Substitutes & Testing Staff



5 Students were inducted into National Honor Society in 2017-18

4 Students were inducted into Junior National Honor Society



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