

## IMPORTANT DATES

- April 16  
Early Release
- April 21  
Volleyball Game  
2:30-4:00
- April 22  
National Admin  
Assistant Appreciation Day
- April 25  
Prom 6:00-8:00
- April 29  
End of Testing  
Celebration
- May 1  
National Principal and  
Assistant Principal  
Appreciation Day
- May 4-8  
Mental Wellness Week
- May 18  
The Webb (all school trip)
- May 20  
Senior Luncheon,  
Graduation and Seniors  
last day
- May 21  
Transition Commencement  
Ceremony and Early  
Release
- May 25  
No School/ Memorial Day
- May 27  
Field Day
- May 28  
Last day for students



# HEIDT Happenings



April 2026

Dear Families,

It has been a busy month as we return from Spring Break and dive straight into state testing. As we enter the final weeks of the school year, we are incredibly proud of our students' hard work and are getting excited to celebrate our upcoming graduates! We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the families who donated toward Autism Acceptance Week and our upcoming Prom. Your generosity makes these special events possible, and we truly appreciate your ongoing support of our school community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Reece

### April is Occupational Therapy Month

Occupational therapy is a science-based, evidence-driven healthcare profession that helps individuals of all ages engage in meaningful daily activities, or “occupations.” It supports people in improving their ability to live independently and enhances their quality of life while managing injury, illness, or disability. Occupations include all the activities and experiences that give life meaning, such as working, driving, eating, playing, cooking, and maintaining personal health and hygiene. They also encompass managing recovery from injury, living with illness or disability, supporting mental health, addressing women’s and veterans’ health, coping with violence, participating in sports, overcoming addiction, and navigating the aging process. When injury, illness, or disability occurs, participation in these meaningful activities can be disrupted

OT is often called “the ultimate problem-solving profession” because of the creative approach occupational therapy practitioners (OTPs) can take to help people be as functionally independent as possible.

Information taken from the following website, please visit for more information:

<https://www.aota.org/about/for-the-media/aota-news/april-is-occupational-therapy-month>

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### State Testing

Our students have been working incredibly hard this month during the state testing season. We are so proud of their focus, perseverance, and dedication. Great job to all of our students!

### Special Olympics

Our athletes have enjoyed a fantastic season of volleyball and track! Students look forward to their weekly participation and scrimmages.

### Autism Acceptance Week

From April 6 – April 10, we celebrated Autism Acceptance Week. Students engaged in inclusive classroom activities all week long, culminating in an energetic gym celebration, a school-wide group photo, and an exciting raffle.

### Heidt Prom

The countdown is on! This year's Prom takes place on **April 25** with a mysterious Masquerade theme.

A huge **thank you** to all the parents who signed up to volunteer or sent in donations—we couldn't host such a special night without your support.

### Tuxedo Rental Information

**Arrival:** If you ordered a tuxedo, rentals will arrive at the school on **April 16** or **April 17**.

**Return:** Please ensure all tuxedo rentals are returned to Heidt on **Monday, April 27**

### Prom Dresses

Heidt has a small collection of donated prom dresses in limited sizes available for students to browse. If you are interested in having your student look at our selection please contact Kaitlyn Laskey at [klaskey@heidtcenter.org](mailto:klaskey@heidtcenter.org). She will coordinate with your student's classroom staff to find a time to try on dresses. If a dress is found the student is able to keep the dress!

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## Save the Date: 2026 Transition Commencement Ceremony

We are excited to announce our 2026 Transition Commencement Ceremony, a special event dedicated to celebrating the accomplishments of our senior interns in the transition program. This ceremony is separate from the traditional high school graduation and provides an opportunity for our staff to recognize each intern's growth, achievements, and next steps.

We look forward to honoring students who are graduating this year as well as those moving on to new programs as they begin the next phase of their journey.

### Event Details:

**Date:** May 21, 2026

**Arrival Time:** 9:30 AM

**Ceremony Start:** 10:00 AM

Light snacks and refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

If you have any questions about the event, please reach out to Christina Hardebeck at [chardebeck@heidtcenter.org](mailto:chardebeck@heidtcenter.org).

### Graduation Information

Graduation will be held **Wednesday, May 20th, 2026, at 6:00 PM** (graduates arrive at 5:30 PM) at the Heidt Center of Excellence, located at 4550 Red Bank Expressway. This ceremony will officially conclude the high school careers of our graduating seniors and prepare them for the next steps in their lives.

•**Attendance:** Each graduate is permitted **8 guests**. You will be able to RSVP via Google Forms as the date approaches.

•**Format:** The ceremony will be traditional in style and will **not** be streamed online.

•**Graduation Kits:** Caps, gowns, and tassels must be ordered by **April 13th** from Herff Jones Graduate Services. If you need financial assistance, please contact Shelby Yates; Heidt will cover the cost.

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## Transition and Employment

If you're interested in a summer job for your student AND you're currently signed up for services through Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, NOW is the time to reach out to your OOD counselor! Spots are filling fast across the city and neighboring counties, so lock in your Summer Youth Work Experience now! Contact Lynn Godwin at [lgodwin@bestpoint.org](mailto:lgodwin@bestpoint.org) for more information.