

Schools

## Oak Creek's outdoor classroom dedicated to Jarret

**\* The first-grader died Sept. 30, and his family has started a fund to benefit district students.**

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Members of the Olentangy community will collaborate next month on a new feature at Oak Creek Elementary School to honor the memory of first-grader Jarret Feucht.

Jarret, 6, died Sept. 30 following a car accident on Interstate 270 as his family was traveling to the Mustangs and Legends Air Show at Rickenbacker International Airport.

Following his death, a planned outdoor classroom at Oak Creek will take on a new meaning as it is dedicated in his honor.

"It's become a bigger project than it was originally because its purpose has changed," said Julie Lather, Oak Creek principal.

The idea for the project began last spring when the school's PTO donated \$15,000 toward the classroom.

Following Jarret's death, community members began stepping forward to offer help.

A representative of Scotts, which sponsored the Mustangs and Legends Air Show, reportedly contacted the school to ask if the company could help.

The project will include a shelter house and picnic tables and likely will make use of the property's wetlands, Lather said.



*Jarret Feucht*

Arrowhead, Tyler Run and Wyandot elementary schools all have outdoor classrooms.

"All of them are meant to be an outdoor connection to whatever instruction is better served outdoors," Lather said.

The outdoor classroom at Oak Creek will include unique features such as a garden in honor of one of Jarret's favorite activities, Lather said.

Community members also will donate three trees to the project, "one for every life he saved," Lather said.

Jarret was able to help one child and two adults through organ donations coordinated by Lifeline of Ohio.

Parents, teachers and community members will meet at least once a month beginning in November to coordinate the project.

Lather said the hope is to either have the project completed or have an official groundbreaking for the project by April 11 -- Jarret's birthday.

The Feucht family hopes to continue Jarret's legacy of giving with the Jarret R. Feucht Memorial Fund.

Eric Feucht, Jarret's father, said the proceeds from the fund will benefit children who live in the Olentangy Local School District.

While the exact use for the fund hasn't been decided, he said it likely will relate to Jarret's love for learning, music and the arts.

The hope also is to create an annual scholarship to a senior graduating from Olentangy schools.

Those interested in donating to the memorial fund may stop by any Huntington Bank location or visit the Web site [nabco-inc.com/jarret/](http://nabco-inc.com/jarret/) for more information.