



WAYNE TRACE LOCAL SCHOOLS - DECEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE By BENJAMIN A. WINANS

As the holiday season has arrived and we are counting our blessings, let me take time to give thanks to the Wayne Trace staff and community for continuing to assist in the student learning process that takes place each day in our district. As I have discussed previously this process is one that includes many different aspects and without everyone working together as a group success cannot be reached. I applaud the efforts of all involved as we continue to maintain the highest expectations for learning and remain steadfast in supporting the efforts of the school district as we work to meet these expectations.

Most recently we have seen this support displayed in the attendance at our parent/teacher conferences. Our staff appreciates those who were able to attend the conference and receive updates on the progress of your child. Please know that we welcome parents scheduling a meeting with your child's teacher at any point throughout the school year. Communication is key throughout the educational process to achieve desired outcomes.

At this time academically we have successfully put the first quarter of the year behind us and are well into the second quarter of the school year. The Ohio Department of Education has provided our staff with state content standards which are being introduced to students by our staff. I would be remiss if I did not mention the state mandated testing that continues to be updated. Our staff members are working to keep ahead of the testing updates and provide our students with the most up to date information so that we will see quality results on these assessments. Our expectations are that we will continue to see a decrease in the time spent on testing, which will allow our staff to focus on lesson content and instruction with our students. While we may not all agree with the current educational mandates, it is key that we continue to work together as we labor through this time of educational transformation. Our hope is that in working with the legislators, the Ohio Department of Education, and our local boards we can create an educational system that will provide high academic outcomes.

Speaking of high outcomes, the staff at Wayne Trace is currently implementing several measures to academically assist our students across the district. Each building has focused on working toward meeting the individual needs of each child and assuring that they look forward to attending school each day. Their work relies on the simple concept that if students feel as though they want to come to school each day they are more likely to perform at higher levels. Much work has went into these various initiatives at each building in an effort to find ways to increase our students' want to be at school. I commend our staff members for putting in the extra time and effort to find new ways to be certain that all of our students are achieving at high levels. We will continue to work together to find new and exciting ways to make learning fun for our students.

As we transition from the fall into the winter our concern as far as hazardous weather situations shifts from fog to snow and ice. Just as has been the case in the fall, we will look to make sure travel conditions are favorable for both our district transportation and student drivers. Typically, snow and ice are more consistent than fog, but as I have noted in past updates due to the size of our district conditions can vary. We ask that student drivers use caution and give themselves extra travel time when winter conditions arise. We will continue to use a common sense approach when calling delays and cancellations as the safe transportation of our students to and from school is of great importance to us.

Turning to the school calendar, please note that our second quarter interim reports will be released on Friday, December 1. We will also begin our winter break starting on Thursday, December 21 and will resume classes on Wednesday, January 3.

I want to again congratulate staff members Sharon Spinner, Joni Wenninger, and Angie Stokes along with the performing arts committee and those students who performed at the annual Fine Arts Festival. This was a great evening which showcased our fine arts programs. If you were unable to attend I encourage you to do so in the future.

Acknowledgement also goes out to our staff across the district who were involved in the organization of this year's Veterans' Day assemblies. It was great to see so many Veterans able to attend these events to honor their service to our country. I speak for all involved in the Wayne Trace Local Schools when I say thank you for your service and sacrifice which has allowed us to enjoy freedom each day.

As I close this month's writing, I want to encourage each of you to support our Wayne Trace student organizations who will be sponsoring various food, clothing and gift drives for

those in need this holiday season. If you are able to assist these organizations please consider doing so to help those who are less fortunate. We enjoy seeing our student organizations working to support others as we believe this is the true meaning of this season.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's educational experience at Wayne Trace, feel free to contact your building principal or superintendent. Go Raiders!

LOOKING AHEAD...SENIOR CITIZENS DINNER

Our 22nd annual Senior Citizen's Dinner is scheduled for **Thursday, December 7**, at 1:15 p.m. at the Jr./Sr. High School. We invite you to enjoy a delicious meal for only \$1 while being served and entertained by our talented students. To register for the meal or for additional information, please call Colleen Saylor in the Jr./Sr. High School office at 419-399-4100, extension 2.

Student Services/Early Learning-Laurie Delong

Wayne Trace special education staff have been involved in various professional development trainings since the beginning of the school year. Some of the trainings are technical--for procedures and program compliance--and some are to expand knowledge to support our students. Professional Development the staff have attended include: Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence Conference, Gigi's Place for children with Down Syndrome, Dealing with Manipulative and Defiant Behaviors, Autism Certification Center, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum, Transition, Expanding Expressions Tool, and Early Learning Assessment, among others.

The Lima Mall is a site for Sensitive Santa, a special visit with Santa for children with sensory challenges. The event will be held December 3rd from 10:30-12:00. In addition to visiting Santa, children will participate in a holiday craft, enjoy snacks, and receive a goody bag. The purpose is to provide a fun experience in a calmer, sensory-friendly environment. Parents may RSVP to: <https://limamallsensitivesanta.eventbrite.com>. This event is free and professional photo packages will be available for purchase.

For questions regarding the Student Services department, which includes special needs programs, psychologist, therapists (speech, occupational, physical, vision), nursing, parent mentor, and preschool, among others, you may call (419.587.3414 ext. 330).

MESSAGES FROM THE PRINCIPALS

PAYNE ELEMENTARY-- Jody Dunham, Principal

Upcoming Events

The Rainforest is coming! On December 4, Understanding Wildlife will be coming to Payne Elementary to present an energy conservation and recycling program. They will also bring with them snakes, monkeys, kinkajous, parrots, macaws and cockatoos!

The community is invited to join us for our Christmas program on December 8 at 9:30 and 1:30 in the auditorium. Mr. O'Donnell and the students in grades 4-6 are ready and looking forward to the annual Christmas Program. **Visitor parking has moved to the pavement located in the recess area. Please use the north gym entrance.**

On December 20, come join us as the sixth grade students challenge the staff to a dodgeball game. The community and families are invited to attend this fun event at 9:30 in the gymnasium.

The Student Council is leading the annual Penny Pitch Collection this month. Proceeds from the drive will be used to purchase food items to support the Payne Elementary "Blessing for Raiders" weekend food program. Any student qualifying for free or reduced lunches may participate in this program. The classroom that collects the most money will be treated to a cocoa and cookie party in January.

Thank You!

We wish to thank all of the students and staff who contributed to the WTPE Student Council sponsored Neighbors in Need food collection during the month of November. All items collected were given to the food bank at the St. Paul United Methodist Church in Payne.

The staff at Payne Elementary wish you a blessed Christmas Season. Merry Christmas!

GROVER HILL ELEM. - Kevin Wilson, Principal

For the Grover Hill staff and students, the beginning of December marks the start of rehearsals for this year's Christmas program, the beginning of the Student Council's food drive, along with many other school activities.

As I stood in the hallway one morning and as the doors for school opened, here come all of the fourth, fifth and sixth-grade students excitedly headed to the music room. Mrs. Wieland had just posted the roles for this year's Christmas program. That morning you could hear

student voices throughout the building asking "what part did you get" or "I got the part I wanted." That excitement is still evident anytime you pass by the music room. The name of this year's program is "How to Teach a Reindeer to Fly." The date for this year's performance is December 7th. On this day we will have two shows. The afternoon show begins at 2:00 with the evening performance at 7:00. Mark your calendars at this time, and we will see you at this year's Christmas Program.

The PTO will hold their annual basket raffle and bake sale. Tickets for the basket raffle can be purchased in the Grover Hill Elementary office beginning Monday, December 4. The cost for one ticket is \$1.00 or \$5.00 for six tickets. The proceeds from these sales are used to benefit the WTGH students and school.

The GH Student Council will be organizing their annual food drive which will run from November 20th through December 15th. All items collected during at this time will be used to help the area churches' food pantry. Items needed include canned goods; boxed goods; baby wipes, diapers, and cereals; laundry items, hygiene items, and cleaning supplies. If you wish to donate, you may send your items to school with your children, or you may bring your items to the school office between the 8:00 and 3:00. Thank you for helping make a better Christmas for a needy family.

The WTGH staff and I want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL - Phil Nofziger, Principal

December is right around the corner after a very busy month at Wayne Trace Junior/Senior High School. Mr. Myers and I would like to thank the parents who participated in our recent parent-teacher conferences. Communication with parents is an integral piece of a child's education. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your son/daughter, please call or email the teachers so that we can team together to provide the best possible education for our Wayne Trace students.

Wayne Trace's Senior Studio and AP Art History classes recently spent the day in workshops and touring the Toledo Museum of Art. These groups were joined by the entire 7th grade class who participated in a variety of art activities relating to materials that they are studying in their Social Studies and Language Arts classes. All of these programs and tours are part of the Toledo Museum of Art's visual literacy program which promotes the development of critical and creative thinking skills through the use of the arts. In addition to the student field trips, this year WT's Language Arts teachers Joni Klopfenstein and Kim Miller join Art teacher Angie Stokes as part of TMA's Teacher Leader Program, a group that is looking to integrate more of the visual arts into the writing curriculum in order to enhance student learning.

Our art, band, and choir students displayed their talent recently with our annual Fall Arts Festival. The art students had many excellent displays while the high school band and choir had top-notch performances. Many thanks to Ms. Spinner, Mrs. Wenninger, and Mrs. Stokes for leading our Wayne Trace students in this endeavor!

On behalf of the students and staff at WTJH/HS, a special thanks to Mrs. Gudakunst and the other members of the Social Studies department for organizing a very thoughtful Veterans' Day program held on November 10. It was a very meaningful program and once again brought to light the sacrifices that our veterans and families endure for us to maintain the freedoms that we enjoy. Our veterans cannot be recognized and thanked enough for what they have done to protect our freedom!

Recently, our local chapter of the National Honor Society inducted 19 new juniors into NHS. The tapping ceremony was held on November 21 with families and students in grades 10-12 in attendance. These students have met the academic requirements for induction and have demonstrated character, leadership, and service traits to our faculty that warrant this recognition. Congratulations NHS members and a many thanks to Miss Klopfenstein and Mrs. Hatcher for advising our local chapter of the National Honor Society.

Lastly, I encourage everyone to get into the spirit of the Christmas season by attending our upcoming choir and band concerts. The junior high school band and choir will be on Monday, December 4 and the high school band and choir will perform on Monday, December 11. Both concerts will be at 7:00 pm in the high school gymnasium.

Students of the Month

Wayne Trace Jr./Sr. High School teachers recently voted on the following Students of the Month for October: 7th Grade: Mallory Moore; 8th Grade: Kaden Vielma; 9th Grade: Carlee Mead; 10th Grade: Jhen Kuo; 11th Grade: Grant

Baumle; and 12th Grade: Chelsea Sinn. As part of their award each student received a "Raider Pride - Pay Forward" t-shirt. Congratulations Raiders!

Music Department News

Thank you to all who came out and supported our 5th annual Fine Arts Festival! We were excited to see so many people who enjoyed an evening of food, art and music! Appreciation goes out to all who made food, helped set up, tear down and made the evening a success!

Congratulations to Haley Schaffer and Carson Rupp for being selected to participate in BGSU's Honor Band weekend on November 16-18.

If you are looking for gift cards this Christmas season, please consider purchasing them from us! We buy gift cards in bulk and receive a discount from the vendor. Please check out the order form on the school website or you may call and have an order form sent to you.

Be sure to attend a Christmas concert as the HS and JH bands and choirs will be putting on wonderful programs to celebrate the season!

Performing Arts Center News

Please consider giving a gift yet this year to the Performing Arts Center project. We are excited to see the support of businesses and community members as this is becoming a reality! If you need more information, please go to the school website: www.waytrace.org and click on the Performing Arts tab. Be watching for a flier to come in the mail soon!

DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 1	2 Hr Delay--Staff In Service
Dec. 1	Interim reports
Dec. 1	PE Gr. 5 & 6 VIP Day 2:00-3:00
Dec. 4	PE Rainforest Assembly 10:15
Dec. 4	JH Band & Choir Concert 7:00 HS Gym
Dec. 7	GH Christmas Program 2:00 & 7:00
Dec. 7	PE Gr. 6 Field Trip to Science Central
Dec. 7	Senior Citizen's Dinner @ HS 1:15
Dec. 8	PE Christmas Program 9:30 & 1:30
Dec. 11	HS Band & Choir Concert 7:00
Dec. 20	PE Gr. 6 vs. Staff Dodgeball 9:30
Dec. 21-Jan. 2	No School - Christmas Break

ATHLETIC EVENTS

Varsity & JV Boys Basketball

Dec. 1	Columbus Grove-T	6:00
Dec. 8	Bryan-H	6:00
Dec. 9	Paulding-T	6:00
Dec. 15	Liberty Center-H	6:00
Dec. 16	Lincolnview-T	6:00
Dec. 22	Miller City-H	6:00
Dec. 23	Van Wert-T	6:00
Dec. 29	Woodlan-T	6:00

Freshman Boys Basketball

Dec. 4	Kalida-T	5:00
Dec. 5	Van Wert-T	4:30
Dec. 7	LCC-H	5:00
Dec. 12	Paulding-H	5:00
Dec. 16	Columbus Grove-T	10:00
Dec. 29	Woodlan-T	6:00

JH Boys Basketball

Dec. 5	Ft. Jennings-H	5:00
Dec. 7	Crestview-T	5:00
Dec. 12	Hicksville-H	5:00
Dec. 14	Ayersville-H	5:00
Dec. 19	Woodlan-T	5:00
Dec. 21	Fairview-H	4:30

Varsity & JV Girls Basketball

Dec. 5	Bryan-T	6:00
Dec. 12	Paulding-T	6:00
Dec. 18	Lincolnview-H	6:00
Dec. 21	Ft. Jennings-H	6:00
Dec. 23	Van Wert-T	2:00
Dec. 26	Ottoville-T	6:00
Dec. 28	Woodlan-H	6:00

JH Girls Basketball

Dec. 2	Holgate-T	10:00
Dec. 5	Continental-T	5:00
Dec. 7	Antwerp-H	5:00
Dec. 9	Crestview-T	10:00
Dec. 12	Hicksville-T	5:00
Dec. 14	Kalida-T	5:00
Dec. 18	Fairview-T	4:30
Dec. 19	Woodlan-H	5:00
Dec. 21	Delphos Jefferson-T	5:00

High School Wrestling

Dec. 5	Tinora @ Hicksville	6:00
Dec. 9	Arcadia Inv.	9:00
Dec. 12	Fairview @ Edgerton	6:00
Dec. 19	Ayersville (SN)-H	6:00

JH Wrestling

Dec. 2	Wayne Trace Inv.-H	9:00
Dec. 9	Allen East Inv.	10:00
Dec. 18	Tinora @ Patrick Henry	4:30