



# WAYNE TRACE LOCAL SCHOOLS - DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER



## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE Mr. Benjamin A. Winans

As hard as it is to believe, the holiday season is again upon us. This is a time when we at Wayne Trace Local Schools reflect on all that we have to be thankful for. It is truly a joy to work in a community which continues to support the learning processes that are taking place each day in our district. We are very thankful of our staff who put in much time and effort to be certain that our students receive the high quality education that our district is known for and expects. Again, I applaud your efforts and appreciate all that you do.

We were recently reminded of the support from our local families as we saw many parents come out for our parent/teacher conferences. As I have mentioned in past updates, the learning process involves a combined effort between school and home to be successful. 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. If you were unable to attend parent/teachers conferences and would like to meet with our staff members I encourage you to contact the school and schedule a time to do so. Once again, 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 changes in testing, so we will continue to work with staff and students to do our best to prepare them for the assessments. 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 examined the data provided to them for each individual student and we are currently working in varying ways to assist students in areas where we are seeing shortfalls. Specifically, we have created different daily schedules to allow time for teachers to work with individual group and target deficiencies. Our hope is that through this extended engagement in specific content the students will see growth on the upcoming assessments. I applaud the efforts of our staff who have taken the additional time necessary to create specific lessons to engage our students in this extended learning.

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 December 6. We will also begin our winter break starting on December 23 and will resume classes on January 6.

I also want to acknowledge 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!  
Benjamin A. Winans  
Superintendent

## LOOKING AHEAD...SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCHEON

Our 24th annual senior Citizens Luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, December 6th at 11:00 a.m. at the JH Gym. We invite you to enjoy a delicious meal for only \$1 while being served and entertained by our talented students. Please RSVP to Colleen Saylor in the Jr./Sr. High School office at 419-399-4100, ext. 2. Please note, **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.**

## Laurie DeLong, Student Services/Early Learning

Merry Christmas! Here are a few events to add to your winter and spring calendars. More events will be added in upcoming newsletters.

On December 8, 2019, Lima Mall is hosting a Sensitive Santa event. Sensitive Santa is an opportunity for children with special needs and their families to enjoy a subdued photo session with Santa. There will be sensory-friendly activities for everyone to enjoy, and photos are available for purchase. The event will be located at the Old Navy Concourse, and will be held from 9:30 – 11:00 AM. the Lima Mall is at 2400 Elida Road, Lima, OH.

The next Early Childhood Screening will be March 4 & 5 2020. Registration details and location will be announced after Christmas.

Finally, our next program in the Coffee & Dessert Parent/Professional Series will be Thursday April 2nd, 2020 from 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM at the Wayne Trace JH/HS Lecture Hall. The topic will be "Taking the Sting Out of Behavior". Participants will learn how to work with children to eliminate inappropriate behaviors and how to teach children skills necessary to self-monitor their actions. Kelly Buerger from the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities will be the presenter. If you are interested in attending, please contact Parent Mentor Cathy Ruiz at 419-399-4711 or at [cruiz@wbesc.org](mailto:cruiz@wbesc.org).

For additional information regarding special needs programs, psychologists, therapists (speech, occupational, physical, vision), nursing, parent mentor, and preschool, please call the district's special education office.

## PAYNE ELEMENTARY Mr. Paul Jones, Principal

Winter has made an early appearance, but so far we have been fortunate in calamity days, having only needed to use one. Hopefully we can make it to Christmas break without missing any school days!

December will be a busy month as we approach the Holidays. Our Christmas programs will be on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, at 10:00 AM and 1:45 PM. The performances will be held in the Payne Elementary auditorium. Emily Wallace, who has been filling in for Mr. O'Donnell this year at Payne Elementary, has done an outstanding job. We look forward to a packed auditorium this year!

**Parking** for the Christmas Programs will be on the West end where the gymnasium is located. Please park on the asphalt and enter the doors by the gymnasium. **Handicapped Parking** will be located on the East end of Payne Elementary near the cafeteria. This is also where drop-off and pick-up is located. Utilize the cafeteria door as this is the most convenient entrance to access the elevator.

## Parent/Teacher Conferences

If you were unable to attend Parent Teacher Conferences that were held on November 6-7, and would like to still schedule one, please contact your child's teacher at 419-263-2512.

## Follow Payne Elementary on Twitter: @trace\_wayne

Payne Elementary event cancellations will often be posted here, as well as recognition of students and staff, and the wonderful everyday things we do here at Wayne Trace Payne Elementary!

## Upcoming Events for December, 2019

Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> – Payne Elementary Christmas Program.  
Dec. 13 – 2-hour Delay for students (Teacher Professional Development)  
Dec. 23 – Jan. 5 – Christmas Vacation – Payne Elementary closed

## GROVER HILL ELEMENTARY Mr. Kevin Wilson, Principal

When we wake up and realize there is snow on the ground and the cold winds are blowing, we know December has arrived. Also, the kids are getting excited and starting to think about the excitement December brings. 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.

Mrs. Schmidt, WTGH's music teacher, has been working with the fourth, fifth and sixth-grade students as they prepare for this year's Christmas program. This year "Snow Bizz" will be performed on December 12<sup>th</sup>. On this day we will have two shows with the first show at 2:00 followed by an evening performance at 7:00. Mark your calendars now and we will see you at this year's Christmas Program.

Again, this year, the PTO will hold their annual basket raffle and bake sale. Tickets for the basket raffle can be purchased the day of the program. The cost for one ticket is \$1.00 or \$5.00 for six tickets. The proceeds from these sales are used by the PTO to benefit the WTGH students.

Once again, the GH Student Council will be organizing their annual food drive. All items collected during at this time will be used to help the area churches' food pantry. This year's food drive will run from November 18<sup>th</sup> through December 13<sup>th</sup>. 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 do so by sending your canned food to school with your children. If you do not have a child in school but would still like to donate; 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.

In closing, the WTGH staff and I want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kevin E. Wilson, Principal

## JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL Mr. Mike Myers, Principal

December is right around the corner after a very busy month at Wayne Trace Junior/Senior High School. Mr. Howe 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.

Last month, our College and Career classes attended MakerFest at the Lima County Fairgrounds, which was put on by the Greater Lima Area, Inc. There were over 100 employers and multiple colleges represented, plus more than 1,200 students attended the event. Students participated in various "brain games" like, Cake Crazy, Design a Catapult Competition, Operation Game Challenge, Perfection, and Robot Coding Challenge, to name a few. Students also attended breakout sessions talking about social media, interviewing, engineering, tech start-ups and much, much more! Finally, students were able to network with various employers and college reps who were on site.

The social studies department organized this year's Veterans Day assembly. The program took place on Monday, November 11 at 8:00 am. The program featured the Wayne Trace High School band and choir as well as a guest speaker. The band played Let Freedom Ring by Ruth Morris Gray while the choir sang a piece called For Our Heroes by Alan Lee Silva. This year the guest speaker was former Wayne Trace graduate Mark Turner. Mark shared how opportunities in his life led him to achieving a college degree and eventually serving in the military. Through his stellar career, he served in the theater of operations during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and experienced the 911 attack at the Pentagon. A special thanks to Mrs. Gudakunst and the other members of the Social Studies department for organizing a very thoughtful Veterans' Day program. It was a very meaningful program and 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 16 new juniors into NHS. The tapping ceremony was held on November 26 with families and students in grades 9-12 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 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 9 and the high school band and choir will perform on Monday, December 16. 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: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Braden Miller, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: TJ McClain, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade: Jake Downing, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade: Hunter Long, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade: Treyton Banks, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade: Charity Stoller. As part of their award each student received a "Raider Pride – Pay Forward" t-shirt. Congratulations Raiders!

## DECEMBER MUSIC DEPT NEWS

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!

The Performing Arts will be having a chili supper before the first home basketball game on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, and host a baked goods raffle during the game. Come get a hot bowl of

chili, cheese and crackers, cookie and water for a donation from 4:30-6pm in the cafeteria. Your donation will go towards our HS Band students getting to experience a Disney Workshop when they travel in March of 2020. In this workshop, they will get to perform a section of music from a Disney movie, it then will be recorded into the movie and we will receive a DVD of their performance. This is an awesome opportunity while we are there! Part of the proceeds that evening will also go towards Angel Tree gifts for the community kids.

Looking ahead:

**December 5<sup>th</sup>** - HS Band & Choir will be providing entertainment for the Senior Citizen's Luncheon at the HS.

**December 9<sup>th</sup>** - JH Band & Choirs Christmas Concert 7:00pm HS Gym

**December 16<sup>th</sup>** - HS Band & Choir Christmas Concert 7:00pm HS Gym

## PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

If you use/give gift cards during the Christmas season, you can get them from us! We offer gift cards to hundreds of retailers in various denominations. You purchase the gift card like you would in a store and we get a percent of it back for ordering in bulk. Go to [www.waynetrace.org](http://www.waynetrace.org) and click on the gift card link. You can print out a listing and send your order and check into the school. Just mark it for the music department and we will get it ordered! There are 2 order dates in December – the 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>. Orders must be received by noon that day to get it processed. Thank you for supporting us which allows us to support our music students!

## DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 5 Senior Citizens Dinner @ HS 11a  
Dec. 6 WTPE Christmas Program 10a & 1:45p  
Dec. 9 JH Band/Choir Christmas Concert @ 7p  
Dec. 12 "Snow Bizz" @GH 2p & 7p  
Dec. 13 2 HR Delay—Teacher In-Service  
Dec. 16 HS Band/Choir Christmas Concert @ 7p  
**Dec. 23-Jan 5—No School—Christmas Break**

## ATHLETIC EVENTS

### HS Boys Basketball

Dec. 6 Bryan-H 6:00  
Dec. 7 Paulding-A 6:00  
Dec. 13 Liberty Center-H 6:00  
Dec. 14 Lincolnview-A 6:00  
Dec. 20 Miller City-H 6:00  
Dec. 21 Van Wert-A 6:00  
Dec. 28 Woodlan-A 6:00

### HS Girls Basketball

Dec. 3 Bryan-A 6:00  
Dec. 5 Liberty Center-H 6:00  
Dec. 10 Paulding-A 6:00  
Dec. 17 Van Wert-A 6:00  
Dec. 19 Ft. Jennings-H 6:00  
Dec. 21 Ottoville-A 12:00  
Dec. 23 Lincolnview-H 6:00  
Dec. 28 St. Johns-H 12:00  
Dec. 30 Woodlan-H 6:00

### Freshman Boys Basketball

Dec. 2 Kalida-A 5:00  
Dec. 3 Van Wert-A 5:00  
Dec. 5 LCC-H 4:30  
Dec. 7 Paulding-A 4:30  
Dec. 9 Ottoville-A 5:00  
Dec. 12 Lima Perry-A 5:00  
Dec. 14 Columbus Grove-A 10:00  
Dec. 28 Woodlan-A 6:00

### JH Boys Basketball

Dec. 3 Ft. Jennings-H 5:00  
Dec. 5 Crestview-T 5:00  
Dec. 10 Hicksville-H 5:00  
Dec. 12 Ayersville-H 5:00  
Dec. 19 Fairview-H 4:30

### JH Girls Basketball

Dec. 3 Continental-A 5:00  
Dec. 5 Antwerp-H 5:00  
Dec. 7 Crestview-A 10:00  
Dec. 10 Hicksville-A 5:00  
Dec. 12 Kalida-A 5:00  
Dec. 16 Fairview-H 4:30  
Dec. 19 Delphos Jefferson-A 5:00

### HS Wrestling

Dec. 12 Edg/Ayers/Tinora @Ayers 6:00  
Dec. 14 Arcadia Inv. 8:00  
Dec. 17 FV/Tinora/WT @ WT 6:00  
Dec. 27-28 Defiance Inv. TBA

### JH Wrestling

Dec. 7 Wayne Trace Inv. 9:00  
Dec. 12 Edg/Ayers/Tinora @ Ayers 6:00  
Dec. 14 Allen East –A 10:00  
Dec. 17 FV/Tinora/WT @ WT 6:00

**GO RAIDERS!!!**