



WAYNE TRACE LOCAL SCHOOLS - FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE Mr. Benjamin A. Winans

As we approach the end of the first month of the new year, our hope is that the beginning of 2021 has been a very good to everyone. Here at Wayne Trace Local Schools our resolution for this year as a district remains the same as it has in the past, which is to see all students achieve academically at high levels and to graduate with knowledge, skills and attitudes which will assist them in being productive citizens with the critical thinking skill necessary in our changing global society. As we look to achieve this resolution we will continue to work very closely with our community to uphold the values you have and provide technology and education resources to the students in a safe and caring environment.

As we work to achieve our goal as a district, I am reminded each day that a team effort is needed to continue moving forward. As I have mentioned in prior writings this takes a collaborative effort between school and home, and your cooperation is needed as we continue to put high demands on our students so that they are prepared to perform at high levels. Our teaching staff is working with our students at all levels to teach the standards set by the Ohio Department of Education. Each day our staff prepares lessons for students which will reinforce these standards and in the end better prepare all students as they move on in their educational endeavors. We certainly appreciate all the support that we get from parents and community as we work toward our goals as a district. We welcome your input to assist in the education process and welcome a personal contact when you or your student have questions in regard to this process.

Speaking of assessment, we are moving toward the time of year when students will be engaging in a variety of assessments across the grade levels. All indicators are telling us that testing will continue to be conducted in English/language arts, math, science, and social studies curriculums. The bar in each of these areas continues to be raised for our students, and to meet this bar our faculty and staff is committed to teaching to the content standards. While we know this is a very trying time with everything taking place in our world today, we continue to work to make certain our students have consistency at school and are prepared for these assessments.

We are working to finalize our nominations for the 2020-2021 Wayne Trace Staff Hall of Fame induction. As you may recall this ceremony typically takes place in the fall, but this year we are attempting something new and moving the ceremony to the winter. We have narrowed our candidates down and look to have the selection made to honor the new inductee at an upcoming basketball game.

You may have noted from the minutes of our January Board meeting that the Ohio State Board of Education has designated January as "School Board Member Appreciation Month." The men and women who serve on local school board do so as they have a vested interest in their local schools. Please be sure as you see those that serve on the Wayne Trace Local Schools Board of Education that you thank them for all they do for our district. The Wayne Trace Board of Education meets each month and all are welcome to attend.

Should you have 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

STUDENT SERVICES Mrs. Laurie DeLong, Director

Our students are doing a great job wearing masks and following the health routines in our district. As we continue into late winter and February, a reminder from our school nurse that the CDC recommends wearing a clean, dry mask every day. Damp, dirty masks can be hard to

breathe through and are less effective than dry masks. Children's masks can get soiled and wet as they go through their day, and aren't as clean as they were at the beginning, so parents may want to check their children's masks regularly! Thank you for helping keep everyone healthy!

Early Childhood Screenings are coming March 24 – 25, 2021. Our appointment times are 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Payne area families can schedule a time on March 24, and Grover Hill families on March 25. To schedule a time, call 419-587-3414 extension 309. To be screened, children should be 3 years old by April 1, 2021. A child turning 3 after April 1 may come to the fall 2021 screening, or parents may call Help Me Grow at 419-399-4620 (for children birth – 3).

Coming in April is our first virtual Coffee & Dessert Parent/Professional information event, focused on those with junior high/high school age students. The topics covered will include tips, strategies, and information from different agencies, and how to get eligibility and services. The session will help promote and support employment and transitioning into adulthood for people with disabilities.

If you have any questions about preschool registration, Coffee & Dessert, or any other special education or early learning matter, you may contact our special education office at 419-587-3414.

PAYNE ELEMENTARY Mr. Paul Jones, Principal

Winter has been unseasonably mild to say the least! February usually brings the worst weather, so let's hope the winter continues to be mild.

Our third grade Reading test results from the fall are in. Third grade parents should have received a score report from their student's classroom teacher. If you did not receive a report, please contact your student's teacher, or call the school office.

OneView/NEW Instant Alert System

If you have not yet completed your student registration in OneView, please do so. You can access OneView via the school web site at <https://www.waynetrace.org/Parents.aspx> (under "Links" you will see "OneView Parent Portal-Contact and Emergency Information") or call Wayne Trace Payne Elementary at 419-263-2512 for help and assistance. Also, on January 1st, 2021, Wayne Trace implemented a NEW Instant Alert System. It is important to note that your information will NOT automatically be loaded into the system. If you want to receive communication, you must register for the alerts.

Spelling Bee

Our annual building spelling bee was held December 16th. Our runner up was fifth grader Brinna Collins, and our champion was fifth grader Brock Knowles. Brock will represent Payne Elementary in the Paulding County Spelling Bee on February 8th, 2021, at 7 pm at the Antwerp Auditorium, 303 S. Harrmann Rd. Antwerp, OH.

Kindergarten Registration

It's never too early to start thinking about Kindergarten registration. Kindergarten registration this year will be on April 5th and 6th in the gymnasium at Payne Elementary. Registration information will be sent out February 19th. If you need more information, please contact Payne Elementary at 419-263-2512.

Dress and Appearance Code

A reminder to parents and students that **colored hair** is prohibited at Wayne Trace Payne Elementary. If a student comes to school with an unnatural hair color, parents will be notified via a phone call and could be required to pick the student up at school. Please refer to the Parent/Student Handbook.

Payne Baseball/Softball Sign-ups

Online sign-ups begin Monday, February 8th through Wednesday, February 28th. For more information, go to www.payneball.com

GROVER HILL ELEMENTARY Mr. Mark Lange, Principal

It is hard to believe that we are beyond the half-way point in the school year. With all of the challenges that Covid had presented us, it is reassuring to know that we are able to continue to provide our students with high quality, in-person learning and are starting to see many students

making gains this year as we try to overcome the loss of the last quarter of the 2019-2020 school year. Many thanks go out to our parents, grandparents, and guardians for all that you have done to make this year as successful as it has been.

As we inch further into the winter months – the months of cold and gloom – we are excited to have our eyes focused on the month of February and our upcoming February Kindness Challenge! When most of us think of February, we think of St. Valentine's Days. Here at WTGHE, we are thinking about kindness, and we are partnering with 28,000 schools across 115 countries to host our very first Grover Hill Kindness Challenge. Lydia Farley, GH and Payne guidance counselor, has spearheaded our efforts to bring a week-long event dedicated to creating a culture of kindness and compassion to our school, our community, and to society in general. Students will be focusing on a sense of positivity the week of February 8th – 12th which leads up to the most popular day of February.

Students will have the opportunity to make positivity posters, participate in a classroom banner contest, and practice spreading kindness and compliments. There are several other activities that will be unveiled during this week of festivities. We are very excited to help teach our students that there is more to being a great citizen than just academics and athletics. Thanks to all of the staff members who have embraced the challenge as we try to teach our students the concepts of care and compassion for others.

Besides St. Valentine's Day and Presidents' Day, February is also the month of cold and snow. Please be sure that your children come dressed appropriately for the inclement weather. Unless the temperatures dip below 20 degrees, students will be going outside each day for recess and it is important that they have hats, gloves, scarves, and a heavy winter coat. If you child should be lacking any of these essentials, please let us know so we can help partner your child with our community support network and get them what they need to play safely outside.

This is also a great time to remind parents that your child's mask should be washed on a regular basis. Please make sure to make mask washing part of your regular laundry routine. We are also asking parents to pack an extra mask in your child's bookbag. Occasionally masks become soiled at school and having a freshly laundered replacement is very helpful as we keep out students safe here at school.

Our 21st Century after-school program continues to offer our students help worth their homework and engages them in a variety of hands-on learning opportunities each night in a mentorship-type setting. At this time, our roster is full, and we have several students on the waiting list should any vacancies present themselves. I would like to thank all of the teachers that stay after school until 5:45 each night to provide this outstanding opportunity to our students, and recognize those students who stay late each night to take advantage of this phenomenal program.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, never hesitate to call.

Your partner in education,
Mark Lange
WTGHE Principal

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

The second semester of the 2020-2021 school year is under way. Our students continue to be in a mindset to learn. Our seniors once again have been challenged with an incentive program that could eliminate some or all of their spring final exams. Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School staff will continue to examine our programming to challenge all students to work up to their capabilities and prepare them to be the best they can be.

All of our Wayne Trace sophomores heard from Vantage Career Center in January on what programs they have to offer. They will get the chance to tour Vantage later this spring and each student will visit two programs that are offered at Vantage. This is an excellent opportunity for our students to be exposed to the programs at our career school. Vantage Career Center usually offers an evening Open House & Taste of

Vantage for students and parents in the spring. This time has not been made available yet but will allow students to view additional programs and for parents to view the school and programs. This is also a great time to get answers to questions from the staff at Vantage.

I would encourage parents to go the Ohio Department of Education website if you have a chance to view example test questions. The ODE tries to answer as many questions or concerns that parents may have in regard to state testing.

As always, if there are concerns regarding your son/daughter's education, please contact us at the school. Together, we can make a difference in each student's life!

Go Raiders!
Mike Myers, Principal

Performing Arts Association News

We are excited to be able to announce that "Willy Wonka" will be our musical this year! The kids have been rehearsing and we look forward to taking you to a world of "Pure Imagination"! Due to seating limitations, there will be 6 shows, March 5-7 and 12-14. Ticket availability and more information will be coming soon!

Music Department News

A big shout out to our WT Pep Band! They have been kickin' out some great tunes at boys and girls basketball games this season and we appreciate the effort they give to come and play to support our teams!

DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb. 8 Paulding Co. Spelling Bee @ Antwerp
Feb. 12 **2 HR Delay- Staff In-Service**
Feb. 15 **NO SCHOOL—PRESIDENT'S DAY**

ATHLETIC EVENTS

HS Girls Basketball

Feb. 2 Continental – H 6:00
Feb. 4 Holgate – H 6:00
Feb. 8 Crestview – T 6:00
Feb. 11 Ayersville – T 6:00

HS Boys Basketball

Feb. 5 Holgate – T 6:00
Feb. 6 Crestview – H 6:00
Feb. 12 Ayersville – H 6:00
Feb. 19 Ottoville – H 6:00

Freshman Boys Basketball

Feb. 1 Crestview – T 5:00
Feb. 4 Holgate – T 5:00
Feb. 9 Lincolnview – H 5:00
Feb. 11 Ayersville – H 5:00
Feb. 13 GMC @ Tinora TBA
Feb. 15 GMC @ Tinora TBA
Feb. 20 GMC @ Tinora TBA

JH Boys Basketball

Feb. 4 Lincolnview – T 5:00
Feb. 6 GMC @ Holgate 10:00
Feb. 8 GMC @ Holgate 5:45
Feb. 9 7th Tourney @ Hicks 5:00
Feb. 11 7th Tourney @ Hicks 5:00
Feb. 13 GMC @ Holgate 10:30

HS Wrestling

Feb. 2 Ant/Pauld @ Pauld 6:00
Feb. 9 Archbold – H 6:00
Feb. 13 GMC @ Fairview 9:30
Feb. 16 Versailles – H 6:00

JH Wrestling

Feb. 2 Ant/Pauld @ Pauld 6:00
Feb. 13 GMC @ FV 9:30

GO RAIDERS!