



WAYNE TRACE LOCAL SCHOOLS - MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE Mr. Benjamin A. Winans

As we turn the corner toward the spring months, winter seems to be hanging on with the recent snow and cold temperatures we have experienced. However, in comparison to prior years we certainly cannot complain as we have been fortunate this winter season to be able to have very few delay and cancellation days. As I write this I see we have missed just four days and had only three two hour delays. While we cannot control the weather conditions, as educators we do enjoy being able to have the full time each day with students to continue to work toward increasing their achievement levels. Our hope is that the spring season will be as generous as the winter has and allow us to continue to have this time with the students.

Speaking of having the full time with all students, many of you are aware that we have recently seen a large number of absences district wide due to illness. We are in the same boat as the weather in regard to our inability to be able to have a firm control on illness. However, I want to assure you that our staff has taken varying precautions to make certain we are doing all we can to keep our facilities as germ free as possible. Most recently our custodial and transportation staff have utilized disinfectant tools to make certain our facilities are as clean as possible. Our building principals have also been in touch with the local health department on a regular basis to make sure we are doing all we can to keep our students and staff healthy.

Regardless of the weather and health factors in our district, our number one priority each day is to make certain our facilities are safe and secure. We are very thankful to be able to have Deputy Lyons in our district each day to assist our staff and students and continue to examine the district to make certain we are providing the safest environment possible each day. Our principals are again working with their staff members to make certain we conduct the necessary training and drills to prepare us for any circumstance that might arise. When we conduct these drills we work closely with our first responders to engage them in the process as well. While we do not ever want to insight panic with these drills, we know that the more we can prepare our staff and students through conducting these drills the better off we will be should a situation pop up. As a district we will go above and beyond what is required by the State of Ohio in regard to these trainings and drills to assure our campuses are secure and ready for any situation. Should you have any questions please contact your building principal.

At the January Wayne Trace Board of Education meeting our school calendar for the 2020-2021 school year was adopted. Important dates to note include the first day for students – Wednesday, August 19, Christmas break – December 21 to January 1, and the last day of school – May 26. A complete calendar is available to the public on our school website.

As many of you may be aware the state mandated testing season is moving closer and closer as spring approaches. Our staff members continue to introduce, develop and assess students on academic content standards as outlined by the Ohio Department of Education to ensure the success of all our students. Parents can continue to assist in this process by encouraging students to continue to work hard and put forth their best effort through the end of the school year. While we know that no one is overly excited to take the state assessments, the results that come from them will allow us to determine student growth in the core academic subjects. A continued effort being put forth by all students will provide us with accurate data, so we can know in what areas improvement is necessary. As I have stated before success in school is a team effort between home and school. We all play a vital role in the education of our students.

The district has been approached by a group of stakeholders from within our community in regard to allowable release time from school for religious activities. Specifically, the Lifewise Academy is currently working to provide our elementary students with this release time for the 2020-2021 school year. As a district we are working with this group to develop a schedule that will allow this release time as it is permissible under the Ohio Revised Code. However, we ask that if you have any questions in regard to this program that you contact Jeremy Laukhuf who is their Field Director at jeremy@lifewiseacademy.com

There is still time for you to nominate a former staff member for the Wayne Trace Staff Hall of Fame Class of 2020. If you wish to obtain a nomination form, contact Sarah Sennebogen in the central office, or visit the link on our school website. The Hall of Fame event has become very popular in the community, and you can play a vital role by nominating one of more worthy former staff members.

Congratulations go out to our varsity athletic squads. For the fourth year in a row the girls' basketball team has captured the Green Meadows Conference title. Our wrestling team has enjoyed several successes this season as well, with Eli Moore earning a GMC title. With the OHSAA tournament seasons now under way, we wish our athletes the best of luck as they pursue success down the tournament trail.

Finally, please be aware of some 2019-2020 school calendar reminders. School will operate on a two-hour delay, district-wide, on Friday, March 20 and Friday April 24 for the purpose of a teacher in-service. Buses will run two hours late that day. Our 3rd Quarter will come to a close on March 20. Also, school will not be in session for students on March 26-27 and April 10-13 as we utilize these days for a couple short spring breaks. Please note these dates on your calendars. As always, if 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

PAYNE ELEMENTARY Mr. Paul Jones, Principal

Hopefully March will come in like a lamb! The winter has definitely been better than last year, but the flu virus has thrived in Northwest Ohio! As a reminder, if your child has the flu, they cannot return to school until 24 hours have passed after they are fever free.

As we approach Spring, we have a busy month ahead of us as we have several events going on, Preschool and Kindergarten screening/registration, STEAM Museum, and the beginning of our last nine weeks (that's right...the last nine weeks of the school year).

Read Across America

Our school will celebrate Read Across America again this year from Monday, March 2 through Friday, March 6. This same week we will also be having the Follet Book Fair, where student may purchase books and other items. Our 5th annual Book Exchange, led by Mrs. Krouse, will also take place Friday, March 6. Students are encouraged to bring in up to 4 gently used books that may be exchanged for different books to take home.

Transitional & Traditional Kindergarten Screen

Wayne Trace will have two Kindergarten age programs for the 2020-21 school year. These options include a Transitional Kindergarten depending upon the numbers, and a regular Traditional Kindergarten.

Students enrolled in both Traditional Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten will need to be 5 years old on or before September 30, 2020.

All students interested in enrolling in either program are required to participate in the Kindergarten screening process. Screenings will take place at WTPE on April 6-7. To register your child, please fill out the form that was sent home with students, or call the school at 419-263-2512.

It is important to note that the Transitional Kindergarten classroom will be contingent upon a minimum enrollment as determined by Wayne Trace administration.

Battle of the Books

WTPE School-wide Battle of the Books will be held on March 10, with the winning team competing at the Paulding County Fairgrounds on March 25th.

STEAM Museum

Mobile Ed Production's will be putting on a portable, hands-on museum on March 25th in the Payne Elementary Gymnasium. The name of the event is the STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) Museum. It will take place during the school day and is made possible by our 21st Century After School Program. This is a great opportunity for our students and the experience will benefit our students academically. I have not experienced this program before, but it looks similar to COSI on Wheels, which many of you may be familiar with.

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 March 2020

- March 2-6—Right to Read Week
- March 4-5—Preschool Screening
- March 8—Daylight Savings Time begins
- March 20—2 Hour Delay; End of 3rd Quarter
- March 25—Battle of the Books
- March 25—Steam Museum
- March 26-27—No School
- April 2—Spring Pictures

GROVER HILL ELEMENTARY Mr. Kevin Wilson, Principal

As we enter the month of March, we look forward to the end of Winter weather and the arrival of warm Spring days. We also look forward to many exciting activities in March. We have highlighted these activities in this newsletter.

Students at WTGH will celebrate Read Across America again this year. Read Across America is held in conjunction with Dr. Seuss' birthday. This year the Grover Hill students will celebrate Read Across America beginning on Monday, March 2nd through Friday, March 6th. Dr. Seuss was born Theodor Seuss Geisel (March 2, 1904 – September 24, 1991). He was an American writer, poet, and cartoonist who is widely known for his children's books written and illustrated by Dr. Seuss. Mrs. Noffsinger has many activities planned for reading Across America week. Parents, if you would like to get involved with Read Across America, you can go to the school website, click on math and reading, then click on Dr. Seuss. On this site, you will find many different activities including games and books. Enjoy some fun with your child and reading.

WTGH teachers have rescheduled STEAM Night for Thursday, March 19th. This year, just as in years past, the WTGH staff has worked for months putting together an evening full of great activities. With the addition of the Virtual Reality station along with many other stations, we know you will have an enjoyable experience.

Let the Battle Begin. These words can be heard around the school, as our students prepare for this year's Battle of the Books. On Monday, March 16th, the Grover Hill students will participate in the local Battle of the Books. This competition will determine which team represents Grover Hill on the Paulding County Battle of the Books on Wednesday, March 25th. The Battle of the Books, organized by the Paulding County Carnegie Library, is done in conjunction with the local school librarians. We want to take this time to thank the Paulding County Carnegie Library staff and Mrs. Vicky Noffsinger, Grover Hill Librarian, for the time and effort they put into making reading fun and enjoyable for the Grover Hill students.

Kindergarten registration for the 2019-2020 school year is just around the corner. If you have a child of Kindergarten age, you can go to the school website or contact Grover Hill Elementary to request a materials packet. Parents, once you have your information filled out and returned to the Grover Hill office, your child will be ready for this year's screening. Kindergarten screening is at Grover Hill Elementary on April 17th & 18th. Once again, we plan to offer the Young Five's Program. The young fives program does depend on the number of students enrolled. Parents, if you have a student who might not be ready for kindergarten and they have a spring or summer birthdate, this might be a good option for your child. Our goal is to have students start their school years successful, and we have designed our Y5 program for that purpose. If you should have a question concerning the Y5s program, please contact the elementary office.

In closing, the Grover Hill staff and I would like to thank Mrs. Noffsinger and the Grover Hill PTO for their efforts with this year's Book Fair. Next, we also want you to know how much community support means to our students. This year through the Book Fair, our library was able to raise over \$1,836. This money will be used toward the purchase of new books and to replace older worn-out books with new copies. Again, thank you to everyone who helped with and purchased books through this year's Book Fair.

Kevin E. Wilson, Principal

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

Academically, during the month of March our focus turns to the upcoming state end-of-course testing. Students in the Class of 2020 and beyond are taking end-of-course exams in six tested areas (Algebra I, Biology, American History, Geometry, English II, and American Government). These exams, along with seventh grade English and Math, and eighth grade English, Math, and Science will be administered April 16, 17, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30 at Wayne Trace Junior/Senior High School.

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.

We have several special events taking place in March. Our high school band and choir will perform at the OMEA district contest on March 13 and 14 at Celina High School. This will be a terrific opportunity for our students to perform. Also, the FFA Pancake and Sausage

Breakfast will be March 14 from 7-11am in the HS cafeteria. The FFA will be scheduling a date for their banquet very soon.

Our high school students will perform the musical *Tarzan* on March 6-8 at the Payne Elementary auditorium. We encourage everyone in the school community to come and see our students display their talents!

As always, if there are questions regarding your son/daughter's education, please contact us at the school. We are committed to provide the best possible education for all students!

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Wayne Trace Jr./Sr. High School teachers recently voted on the following Students of the Month for November: 7th Grade: Kailyn Dienstberger 8th Grade: Jake Downing, 9th Grade: Tatum Tigner, 10th Grade: Ethan Farmer, 11th Grade: Alexis Gibson, 12th Grade: Madi Brigner. As part of their award each student received a "Raider Pride – Pay Forward" t-shirt. Congratulations Raiders!

MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

Congratulations to the following JH students who will be representing our school in the D3 Honors Band and Choir Festival on March 7th in Wapakoneta. For choir: Meg Thompson, Kyle Stoller and Kyle Clark. For band: Caitlyn Thomas and Brenna Thomas.

Also the first weekend of March, the Wayne Trace Performing Arts Association is pleased to announce the production of "Tarzan". Come out and support this great group of JH/HS students as they take us to the depths of the jungle and find Tarzan being raised by a family of apes. Performance dates are March 6 & 7 at 7:30pm and March 8 at 2:30pm in the Payne Elementary Auditorium. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children/students and are available at both elementary schools and the Jr/Sr High School. Tickets will also be available at each performance. Doors will open 45 minutes prior to show times. Elevator access is through the cafeteria entrance on the east side of the school.

On March 13th and 14th, the high school band and choir will travel to Celina High School for district contest. This is a free event to attend and the public is welcome to come. Good Luck to all our HS Choir and Band students!

Come out and support 12 of our HS Choir students as they perform at the Neil Diamond Tribute Concert on March 21st at the Niswonger. The 7pm concert is sold out so they are adding a 2:00 pm concert. Tickets are still available for the afternoon at www.npacvw.org.

March 24th the HS Band leaves for Florida! While there, they will get to perform in Disney Springs at Marketplace Stage. They will also get to participate in a workshop where they get to learn and record a song from a Disney movie.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Wayne Trace Jr./Sr. High School teachers recently voted on the following Students of the Month for January: 7th Grade: Ava Stoller, 8th Grade: Olivia Longstreth, 9th Grade: Storm Tracy, 10th Grade: Brayson Parrish, 11th Grade: Ethan Moore, 12th Grade: Kirsten Lewis. As part of their award each student received a "Raider Pride – Pay Forward" t-shirt. Congratulations Raiders!

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Athletic Boosters will hold their annual Reverse Draw and Duck Races on Saturday, March 28, 2020. The dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. and this year will be held at Divine Mercy Catholic Church Hall in Payne. The drawings and duck races start at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$50 each and that gets you into the drawing plus dinner. Extra meals are \$25. Hurry, tickets are going fast! Contact any Athletic Booster or WT head coach.

DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Mar. 2-6 Right to Read Week
- Mar. 6 "Tarzan" @ WTPE Auditorium 7:30p
- Mar. 7 "Tarzan" @ WTPE Auditorium 7:30p
- Mar. 8 "Tarzan" @ WTPE Auditorium 2:30p
- Mar. 13-14 HS Band & Choir @ District Contest
- Mar. 14 FFA Pancake & Sausage Bkft. 7a-11a
- Mar. 19 WTGH STEAM Night
- Mar. 20 End of 3rd Quarter
- Mar. 20 2 HR DELAY-Staff In-Service
- Mar. 25 WTPE STEAM Museum
- Mar. 26-27 NO SCHOOL-SPRING BREAK
- Mar. 29 FFA Banquet 6:30p

ATHLETIC EVENTS

- Varsity Baseball**
- Mar. 30 Continental-H 5:00
- Varsity Softball**
- Mar. 30 Ottoville-H 5:00