



WAYNE TRACE LOCAL SCHOOLS - MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE Mr. Benjamin A. Winans

We are beginning the final month of the 2020-2021 school year, which in regard to all that this year has included seems to have come and gone very quickly. As the school year wraps up we again look to celebrate the many accomplishments of the Class of 2021. Just as the past eight months have went by quickly, this final month will certainly fly by for our seniors. This is an exciting time for the seniors as well as they finish up their high school career and shift into planning for the next step in their lives. This next step may be finding work in the summer months to earn income and assist them as they begin the next step in their education, while others will begin a career, or join the military where they will protect and serve our nation. I am certain no matter what path this group determines to take that success will continue to follow them as they use the skills they have gained in education thus far. To the graduating Class of 2021, please remember though your educational experience may be coming to a close here at Wayne Trace, you are prepared to be a lifelong learner and you will always be a member of our Wayne Trace community.

The culminating event for the seniors each year is our annual commencement ceremony. We will celebrate the accomplishments of the Wayne Trace Class of 2021 on May 23 at 2:30 in the high school gymnasium. Each year this ceremony is something to look forward too as we have the opportunity to reflect back on the events that have shaped the lives of each member of the graduating class. With the current regulations in place we will be able to allow each graduate to invite eight guests to the ceremony. More information will be given to the seniors in the near future in regard to how our ceremony will run.

We have entered what schools across Ohio are calling the "testing season" for students at all levels. As I have mentioned in past updates from roughly the middle of April to early May our students at all levels are engaged in various assessments. Most if not all of these assessments have shifted their format to an online format. Our technology department, principals, teachers, and students have worked hard to prepare for this time of year. As I have been out in the buildings during these testing times, I want to commend all involved as this process has ran very smooth thus far due to the teamwork and effort all involved have put in. Just a quick reminder to students with upcoming assessments, good attendance, attention and attitude will assist you in being successful both on the assessments and as you continue through your education. As the results of these assessments are released to our district personnel we will be certain to get this information out to students and parents in a timely manner.

This time of year is not only the "testing season" but also the spring sports season. The weather has been up and down thus far for our athletes as they look to get outside and compete in their sporting events. If you have not had the chance to attend an event, I encourage you to take the opportunity to come and enjoy watching our spring sports athletes compete. A full schedule of events can be found on our website. Over the course of the year the weather has created some issues for us which has caused us to move the end date for the school year. While this does add additional days to the school calendar, barring any additional time that needs to be added we will be ending our school year prior to the Memorial Day holiday. Final dates will be relayed to students and parents as we approach the end of May.

As I close this writing, I want to make you aware of various upcoming events that will be happening in the district. Our annual Prom will be held in the junior high gym on May 8. Please mark your calendar as May 13 we will have our senior awards ceremony in the high school gym at 7:00 p.m. I encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities and the many others to attend events within our district which will showcase our student's talents. As always visit our school website to find out what events are upcoming at the various campuses.

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

Benjamin A. Winans,
Superintendent

PAYNE ELEMENTARY Mr. Paul Jones, Principal

Testing is wrapping up and we are at the beginning of the end. Our students have worked very hard and have done an awesome job completing the state assessments. The students and staff have done an amazing job this year considering the obstacles they have had to overcome!

Night of the Arts

Friday, May 14th Payne Elementary will be having its fourth annual Night of the Arts!! All students in grades preschool through 6th grade will be presenting a short program in the gym. Because we are still under restrictions from the Governor due to the pandemic, we are having the program during the school day (no public attendance), but it will be videotaped and put on Facebook live and on the school website for everyone to enjoy!

6th Grade Visit to the Jr. High

Our 6th graders are about to close a chapter in their academic careers here at Payne Elementary. On May 11th they will be visiting the Jr. High and seeing their new academic setting for next year. Good Luck to the future class of 2027!!

Field Trips

The month of May is always the best time for field trips, and we have a few lined up for our students this month. Thank you to the Board of Education for allowing us to schedule field trips safely and give our students an educational experience outside our building!!

Last Days

Our last day for Pre-school will be May 24th-25th, and our last day for Kindergarten will be May 26th. The last day for grades 1-6 will be May 28th.

FREE Breakfast/Lunch

BREAKFAST and LUNCH remain free for the remainder of the school year 2020-2021, thanks to a grant received from United States Department of Agriculture.

Facebook

Be on the lookout for the launch of Payne Elementary's Facebook page.

Upcoming Events for April, 2021

- May 5-6 – 5th Grade Science Test
- May 11 – 6th Grade visit Jr. High
- May 14 – Night of the Arts (no public attendance)
- May 24-25 – Last day for Preschool
- May 26 – Last day for Kindergarten
- May 28 – Last day for students

GROVER HILL ELEMENTARY Mr. Mark Lange, Principal

Greetings from Grover Hill!!

By the time you are reading my May article, much, if not all, of our statewide testing will be completed for the year. Students in grades 3, 4, 5, and 6 will have taken assessments in Language Arts and Mathematics, and fifth grade students also must complete an assessment in the area of Science. I am hopeful that our students put forth their best efforts and will make Grover Hill Elementary and the district as a whole very proud!

The stakes for our third grade students are very high due to the Third Grade Reading Guarantee. Students in third grade are given a fall language arts assessment and also a similar assessment in the spring. It is hoped that students will pass one or both of these assessments. If not, students can pass an alternative assessment that is approved by the state. If a student fails to earn a passing score, the Ohio Department of Education deems them ineligible for advancement onto fourth grade. This is part of the state's plan to ensure that all students across Ohio have basic reading skills.

As we wrap up our final month of school, it is field trip time! Each one of our grade levels are planning day trips to places such as the Toledo Zoo, the Fort Wayne Zoo, Sauder Farm & Craft Village, the Ohio Caverns, and Science Central. We are so thankful that these destinations have opened their doors and are allowing visitors. As a district, we have reviewed the Covid protocols of each facility to ensure that our students will be safe while they are having fun! By now, teachers have sent field trip information home with each student and are in the process of collecting permission slips and payments. As of this writing, we have more than enough chaperones for each grade level and I would like to thank all of the parents that have volunteered to serve!

During the last full week of school, Mrs. Farley, our guidance counselor, will be hosting her first annual mental health and wellness week. She has a host of activities planned for each grade level as well as a school-wide picnic, a staff/6th grade dodgeball tournament, and several guest visitors. Please keep your fingers crossed that we have beautiful weather that week and that the students find the activities beneficial and applicable. With the stress of Covid, our students deserve to have a strong and fun finish to the 2020/2021 school year!

The WTGHE PTO will be hosting our annual carnival day on Thursday, May 27. This is an annual tradition that we feared may not take place due to Covid regulations. However, we have developed a great plan that allows students to participate in this special day and do so safely. I want to thank the PTO for their willingness to shoulder much of the work that carnival day requires, and for their continued support of our students.

Our preschool and kindergarten screenings have been completed, but it is not too late to register your child if you have not yet done so. Please contact Laurie DeLong if you are interested in enrolling your preschooler and contact Kimberly Troth if you have a future kindergartener to register. The number to call is 419-399-4100, option #3 or delongl@waynetrace.org or trothk@waynetrace.org.

Your partner in education,
Mark Lange
WTGHE Principal

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

The 2020-2021 school year is quickly coming to a close with our final student day scheduled for Friday, May 28 and graduation set for Sunday, May 23 at 2:30 PM in the high school gymnasium. Graduation practice will be Thursday, May 20 at 10:00 AM. Congratulations to all of our seniors and their parents for meeting the challenges and hard work required to succeed, while maintaining the perseverance necessary to make this day a reality. My hope is that our seniors have come to recognize the value of education and that learning is a life-long process!

Our students are finishing up their state testing the first week of May. We test the first thing in the morning for approximately 90 minutes. The periods are rearranged throughout the testing days so our students who are testing do not miss the same classes. Our students are working hard and appear to be giving their best effort.

Our juniors and seniors will enjoy a special time on Saturday, May 8 as the prom will take place in the Wayne Trace junior high school gym. After-prom activities will be held at the Crazy Pinz Entertainment Center in Fort Wayne, IN.

We have several opportunities to recognize academic success and enjoy the talents of our students. The annual senior awards will take place on Thursday, May 13 at 7:00 PM. The junior high band and choir will hold their spring concert at 7:00 PM on Monday, May 17 and the high school band and choir concert will be on Tuesday, May 11 at 7:00 PM. Both concerts will be in the high school gymnasium. There will be a Wayne Trace School District Art Show on Saturday, May 15 from 12 - 3 pm in the Junior High gym. Our seniors at Vantage will be recognized with their awards ceremony at Van Wert High School on Tuesday, May 18 at 7 pm.

Please come and support our students by attending the remaining concerts, ball games, and track meets as we close an excellent year at Wayne Trace Junior/Senior High School. Go Raiders!

Mike Myers, Principal

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Wayne Trace Jr./Sr. High School teachers recently voted on the following Students of the Month for March: 7th Grade: Lexi Moore, 8th Grade: Makenna Johnson, 9th Grade: Briley Coffman, 10th Grade: Astrid Martinez-Sandoval, 11th Grade: Christina Graham, 12th Grade: Kenadie Daeger. As part of their award each student received a "Raider Pride - Pay Forward" t-shirt. Congratulations Raiders!

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

Dr. Joseph Kuhn will be performing sports physicals for all athletes from Wayne Trace Schools on Tuesday, May 18th from 8:00am-11:30am & 1:00pm-3:00pm. The cost will be \$15 for the sports physical. Please make sure that all forms are completely filled out by both students and parents prior to arrival.

FREE SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

Every child ages 1-18 in the Wayne Trace Local School district is eligible to receive 5 breakfasts and 5 lunches each week throughout the summer absolutely free. Meal pickup will be on Mondays from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at WTPE & WTGHE. The summer lunch program will begin on June 7, 2021 and the last serving date will be August 9, 2021. Please take advantage of this fantastic program! For questions please contact the Central Office at 419-263-2415.

DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 7 Battle of the Books @ PC Fairgrounds
- May 8 JR/SR Prom
- May 10 5th/6th grade band visit WTHS
- May 11 6th grade visit to WTHS
- May 11 HS Band & Choir Concert 7:00 pm
- May 13 Senior Awards 7:00 p.m.
- May 14 WTHS Relay for Life 1-3 pm
- May 14 WTPE Night of the Arts
- May 15 WT District Art Show 12-3 in JH Gym
- May 17 JH Band & Choir Concert 7 pm
- May 17-18 Senior Exams
- May 18 6th grade track meet @ WTHS
- May 18 Vantage Senior Awards @VWHS 7 pm
- May 18 Sports Physicals
- May 21 Senior Class Trip
- May 23 Graduation 2:30 pm
- May 24 WTPE Olympic Day
- May 24-25 Last day for Preschool
- May 25 WTGHE Energy Town Projects
- May 26 Last day for Kindergarten
- May 26-27 Final Exams for WTHS
- May 27 WTGHE Carnival Day
- May 27 Last day for students
- May 28 Staff Professional Development day

ATHLETIC EVENTS

Varsity Baseball

- May 3 St. Johns - H 5:00
- May 4 D Jefferson - H 5:00
- May 7 LCC - A 5:00
- May 10 Parkway - A 5:00
- May 14 Miller City - H 5:00

Varsity Softball

- May 3 Elida - H 5:00
- May 4 Paulding - H 5:00
- May 6 Wauseon - A 5:00
- May 7 Lincolnview - A 5:00
- May 10 Celina - H 5:00

JV Baseball

- May 1 Liberty Center DH - H 10:00
- May 4 Paulding - A 5:00
- May 6 LCC - H 5:00
- May 7 Van Wert - H 5:00
- May 13 Ayersville - A 5:00

JV Softball

- May 3 Elida - A 5:00
- May 5 Crestview - A 5:00
- May 6 Allen East - A 5:00
- May 7 Lincolnview - H 5:00
- May 8 Hilltop - A 10:00
- May 11 Paulding - H 4:30
- May 13 Defiance - H 4:30
- May 14 Coldwater - A 5:00

HS Track

- May 4 Crest/St Johns/Pauld - H 4:30
- May 7 Antwerp Invite 4:30
- May 10 County Meet @ Pauld. 4:30
- May 14 GMC @ Ayersville 3:30
- May 19 District Track @ Ayersville TBA

JH Track

- May 3 Crest/Ott/Pldg @ Pldg 5:00
- May 6 Ayers/Hick/FV/WT @ WT 4:30
- May 11 Paulding Relays @ Pldg 4:30
- May 13 Edg/Hicks/Tinora @ Edg. 4:30
- May 18 GMC @ Hicks 4:00

GO RAIDERS!