



# WAYNE TRACE LOCAL SCHOOLS - NOVEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER



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

As the calendar turns to the month of November, our staff and students are excited to begin the second quarter of the school year. The fall season is definitely upon us as the leaves are changing color and the temperatures continue to drop. While the months and seasons seem to be rolling along quickly our staff continues to put in the necessary time with our students to teach the required curriculum. As I travel to our three campuses I am encouraged as I see staff utilizing new and exciting tools to make certain our students are achieving at high levels. We appreciate this hard work in the classroom by both staff and students and also the continued support we get from our parents and community members.

Speaking of parents, with the end of the first quarter and the second quarter starting we are again looking to conduct our annual parent-teacher conferences on November 22 and 23. These conferences allow parents to have a conversation with those who work to educate their children each day. This is a very positive way for teachers and parents to work together toward the success of each child. We are scheduling in person conferences with parents for these dates, but have also given the option for a virtual conference if parents are not comfortable coming into the school building. I encourage all parents to complete the forms that have been sent home for these conferences and as always if there are questions please just contact the building your child attends.

We also work to keep our stakeholders updated each day as information is added to our district website ([www.waynetrace.org](http://www.waynetrace.org)). Here you will find general information in regard to the whole district, as well as links to each of our individual buildings. Please take some time to visit the website as our staff works very hard to keep these pages updated to allow our stakeholders to have access to the most up to date information in regard to our district.

We hope all parents and students are aware that our district has received a notice from the U.S. Department of Agriculture that we are eligible to continue to offer both free breakfast and lunch to all students through the end of the 2021-2022 school year. This extension will allow all students to receive both breakfast and lunch at no cost throughout the year. Any funds on accounts will automatically roll over for next school year. We encourage all students to participate as our cafeteria's provide very balanced and nutritious meals for our district.

November also brings with it the end to our fall extra-curricular seasons. We want to congratulate and thank all those who participated in our fall extra-curricular activities. We would also like to thank all those who supported our events throughout the fall. As we turn to the winter seasons we are pleased to announce that we will be able to provide a live stream of our varsity and junior varsity events for the winter in much the same manner we did for our fall events. Please keep an eye on our website and social media as links will be posted for the upcoming events.

Our report card from the Ohio Department of Education did not contain the normal data we see each year due to changes in legislation in regard to COVID pandemic. However, we are working as a district to utilize our own local data to provide feedback on areas that we will look to improve in. The breaking down of this data and really digging into it allows our staff to better be able to service the needs of each student. We appreciate the cooperation of the community as you allow us the time to do this during our scheduled professional development days throughout the school

year. As a reminder, we have scheduled two hour delays for in service on December 10, February 11, March 18, and April 22. These scheduled days allow our staff to collaborate and develop plans to increase the achievement across the district.

At our most recent Board of Education meeting the Board agreed to work directly with Garmann Miller and Associates out of Minster to conduct a Master Planning Project. This project will allow us to take a deep dive into our facilities across the district and gauge how we can plan for the future. Our last major renovation project in the district is fast approaching being 20 years behind us and the Board is committed to this planning project to make certain we are prepared for the next 20 years. As we work through this Master Planning Project we will continue to update the stakeholders on our findings.

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

The end of the first nine weeks have come and gone! Friday, October 15th, was the end of our first quarter and we have moved into November. The weather has changed, and hopefully this will take care of our bee problem on the playground. Payne Elementary ended the month of October with the annual Halloween Parade which was scheduled for October 29th.

Our students and Teachers have worked very hard so far this year. Our 3rd graders completed the Fall State Tests a few weeks ago, and have crossed that off their list! We will continue to move forward through the Holiday season, and prepare our students for the Ohio State Tests in the spring. Along the way will be many awesome experiences that our staff are preparing.

### Parent/Teacher Conferences

Payne Elementary will have Parent/Teacher conferences beginning November 22 from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM. There will be NO SCHOOL on November 23rd so that we can have a full day of Parent/Teacher Conferences from 1:00PM through 8:00PM. If you are unable to attend during these days, please contact your child's teacher and set up a date and time to meet with them.

### Veteran's Day Assembly

We will have our annual Veteran's Day Assembly on Thursday, November 11th, in the school auditorium. All Veterans are welcome to attend and also we will be serving lunch from 11-1 pm to those Veterans who would like to attend. More information will be coming concerning this as everything is finalized in the coming days.

Follow Payne Elementary on Twitter:  
[@trace\\_wayne](https://twitter.com/@trace_wayne)

## GROVER HILL ELEMENTARY Mr. Mark Lange, Principal

It seems that the rain has finally given us a break and the beautiful fall colors are finally starting to appear! Friday, October 15th marked the end of the first grading period! It is hard to believe that we are 25% of the way through the school year already. We held our first quarter rewards party on Thursday, October 28th. Students enjoyed taking a trip to Bell's Skating Rink in New

Haven, Indiana where a great time was had by all. The trip was sponsored by the WTGHE PTO, and we greatly appreciate their generosity. They just wrapped up their annual fund-raiser which was a huge success again this year. Thanks to all of the parents, grandparents, relatives, and community members who supported their Butter Braid sale.

The rain did not cooperate with us on Friday, October 29th for our costume caravan. It was touch and go right up to the end, but we ultimately had to have it inside again this year as we have done in the past. Unlike previous years, the parade was recorded and posted to the building's Facebook page for all to enjoy. Next year, we plan to be outside again weather permitting.

Our third grade students completed their 3rd grade reading assessments on Tuesday, October 26th and Wednesday, October 27th. This is the assessment that third grade students must pass in order to be promoted to the fourth grade. When you hear of the "Third Grade Reading Guarantee," this is the test they are referring to. Any student not passing the fall test will be provided additional reading interventions and will take the test again in the spring during the spring testing window.

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for Monday, November 22nd from 5:30 to 8:30 and on Tuesday, November 23rd from 1:00 to 8:00 pm. Many parents have scheduled their conferences already, but anyone still wanting to meet with their child's teacher can log into our online conference scheduler and schedule the time slot that works best for them. If parents have any questions, please call the school office at 419-399-4100, option #3.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the school.

Respectfully,  
Mark Lange

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

The first nine weeks concluded on October 15 for the 2021-2022 school year. Overall, the students have worked hard to keep up with the expectations of our teaching staff and follow the state guidelines and protocols dealing with the pandemic. Grade reports were mailed on October 22 to parents/guardians of our students at Wayne Trace Junior/Senior High School.

Parent-teacher conferences are set up for Monday, November 22nd from 5:30-8:30 p.m. and Tuesday, November 23rd from 1:00-4:30 pm and 5:30-8:00 pm. We encourage parents to set up appointments to come in person or you may do a virtual meeting with teachers if there are concerns after receiving the grade reports. Contact our office staff and we will try to schedule appointments where teachers may still have openings. Also, parents may call or email teachers directly if questions arise throughout the year. An important factor for student success is having parents who are involved and care about their child's education.

A special program that took place in November is the National Honor Society induction ceremony on November 5. Junior and senior students who met the criteria in scholarship, character, service, and leadership were honored.

As always, I want to thank the community for its outstanding support of all the activities involving our students at Wayne Trace JR/SR High School. Go Raiders!

Go Raiders!  
Mike Myers, Principal

## Music Department News

Thanks to all who attended our Fine Arts Festival! It was a great evening featuring our high school choir and marching band!

Also, we appreciate everyone who bought tickets for our steer raffle! Our students were able to raise over \$4000 to go towards their trip to Florida in 2022!

Let us help you with your Christmas shopping! The Performing Arts will again be offering gift cards for your convenience. It's simple - you purchase the gift cards at face value and we receive a percentage back for ordering in bulk. There are hundreds of retailers to choose from and three dates to place orders. Go to the school website, waynetrace.org, where you will find a link to get the information! The first order date is November 11th!

Looking ahead:

December 6th - JH Band and Choir Christmas Concert 7:00pm HS Gym

December 13th - HS Band and Choir Christmas Concert 7:00pm HS Gym

## Athletic Department News

Changes to the basketball schedule for the upcoming season:

Nov. 27 WT girls hosting St. John-no JV team so Varsity starts at 1:00 p.m.

Dec. 18 WT boys at Van Wert—4:00 p.m. start time due to OSU game

Dec. 21 WT boys hosting Arlington starts at 5:30 p.m.

Believe it or not, the Athletic Booster's are starting to sell reverse draw tickets. The date is April 2, 2022 at Divine Mercy Hall in Payne. If you purchase your ticket/tickets before Dec. 20th there will be an early bird drawing for a free ticket on Dec. 21 at the boys basketball game. If you are interested please contact someone on the Athletic Boosters.

## DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 22 P/T Conferences 5:30-8:30PM  
Nov. 23 **No School** (P/T Conferences 1-8)  
Nov. 24 **No School**  
Nov. 25 **No School** (Thanksgiving Break)  
Nov. 26 **No School** (Thanksgiving Break)

## ATHLETIC EVENTS

**HS Girls Basketball**  
Nov. 22 N. Central -H 6:00  
Nov. 23 Defiance -A 6:00  
Nov. 27 St. Johns -H 1:00  
Nov. 30 Bryan -A 6:00

**HS Boys Basketball**  
Nov. 26 Columbus Grove - A 6:00  
Nov. 27 Parkway - H 6:00

**Freshman Boys Basketball**  
Nov. 29 Kalida -A 5:00  
Nov. 30 Van Wert -A 4:30

**JH Girls Basketball**  
Nov. 22 Lincolnview -H 5:00  
Nov. 23 Edgerton -H 4:30  
Nov. 27 St. John's -T 9:30  
Nov. 30 Miller City -A 5:00

**JH Boys Basketball**  
Nov. 30 Ft. Jennings -H 5:00

**GO RAIDERS!**