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ANTHONY WAYNE LOCAL SCHOOLS EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER | FEB. 2023

From the Superintendent's Desk

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Research shows the physical environment of school facilities has an impact on how our students learn in the classroom and their experiences in extracurricular activities. In an effort to ensure that our facilities meet the needs of our students now and into the future, the District partnered with The Collaborative, a local architecture firm to complete a facilities assessment and master plan.

So what are the next steps? The Collaborative will present their AW facilities assessment to the Board of Education at their February meeting. This presentation will share a snapshot of the current conditions of the school buildings. The

facilities assessment will help the District develop a Facilities Master Plan, a document outlining the District's goals for maintaining and improving our buildings and grounds based on current and future needs.

The District wants to hear your thoughts about how the District can improve its facilities in order to achieve its mission of empowering students to be future-ready.

All District stakeholders are invited to complete a survey about potential renovations and/or new construction within the District.

[Please click here to complete the survey by February 16.](#)



The District will use this survey information to help refine the potential options at this time. As we continue to move forward, watch for more opportunities to learn more and share your thoughts at upcoming community meetings.

We value your input in this process. Thank you and go Generals!

Dr. Jim Fritz,
Superintendent

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

[Click here to read the 2022-23 Mid-Year Update >>](#)

[Click here to watch the Mid-Year Update video >>](#)

Anthony Wayne Local Schools empowers students to be future ready!

FEBRUARY IS CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH

Career Technical Education (CTE) offers hands-on learning opportunities across the 16 career clusters high school, post-secondary and adult students that help them prepare for success in employment, enlistment and/or enrollment.

AW students are eligible to take classes at Penta Career Center as early as their sophomore year, and flexible scheduling opportunities are available so students can take advantage of what both Penta and AWHS have to offer.

February is CTE Month and we want to acknowledge the 135 Anthony Wayne students enrolled a program at Penta Career Center and those who are participating in an AW-Penta Satellite Program Course or other AW class that embraces the fundamentals of CTE.



[Be a life-long learner and try CTE for yourself!](#)
[Penta Career Center offers Adult Learning Classes >>](#)

[WATCH OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL FOR INTERVIEWS WITH OUR AWLS-PENTA STUDENTS >>](#)



POG: COMMUNICATION & COLLABORATION PARTNERING WITH PENTA

Anthony Wayne is fortunate to partner with Penta Career Center to provide CTE opportunities for students without having to leave our campus.

The following teachers are Penta Career Center instructors who teach at AWLS as a part of their satellite learning program. In addition, they lead student leadership organizations such as DECA, FFA and FCCLA.

Anthony Wayne High School

Courtney Brockbrader
Agriculture

Aric Christman
Industrial Technology

Colleen Kreis (+AWJH)
Agriculture

Becky Stutz
Business and Technology

Amanda Valdez
Family Consumer Science

AW Junior High

Kay-Lynne Schaller
Family Consumer Science

[MEDIA: 13abc's The Nine Sits Down with Anthony Wayne FCCLA >>](#)

CTE-RELATED COURSES AT AWJH & AWHS

AWHS and AWJH students also have access to classes whose content aligns with career technical education courses, but are offered by AWLS.

They take a hands-on, critical thinking approach to solving real-world problems, working collaboratively with other classes and exploring various careers in their pathway.

Anthony Wayne High School

Todd Helslet
Industrial Technology

AW Junior High

Mandie Pirolli
STEM / STEAM

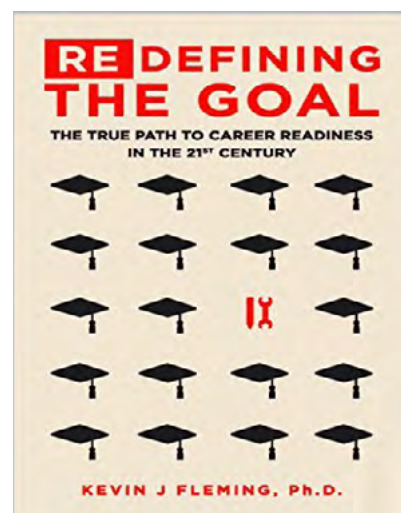
Paul Meyer
Green Architecture
& Career Connections

POG: CRITICAL THINKING & LEARNER'S MINDSET BOOK STUDY OFFERS FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Several staff members have been reading and discussing Dr. Kevin Fleming's *Redefining the Goal: The True Path to Career Readiness in the 21st Century*. The book challenges readers to consider how to best align student interests and abilities with their future goals and how to help them determine the best educational pathway toward a career.

[In this 10-minute video](#), Dr. Fleming shares how success in the new economy equals a mix of technical skills, industry-recognized certifications and employability preparation combined with a rigorous general education.

If you're interested in exploring more, there are extra books available. [Contact Stephanie Buckenmeyer](#) to borrow a copy.



EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO BE FUTURE READY



AWLS MISSION, VISION & GOALS

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of a group of District stakeholders who took part in the Strategic Planning process, [AWLS has a new mission, vision, core beliefs and goals](#). This Strategic Plan will guide our work over the next several years, to help ensure each student has a foundation of academic, technical and personal skills that will prepare them to be adaptable, lifelong learners who can work with others to set and achieve personal and professional goals.



OHIO GRADUATION SEALS

[Ohio's new graduation requirements include 12 diploma seals](#) for students to demonstrate academic, technical and professional readiness for careers, college, the military or self-sustaining professions. Each seal allows students to demonstrate knowledge and skills essential for future success in their chosen post-high school paths.



INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

[The Industry-Recognized Credential Seal is one of the state-defined graduation seals](#). An industry-recognized credential means a student has demonstrated a specific set of competencies related to an industry or occupation. CTE programs are one way for students to earn IRC, but there are other options, including, but not limited to traditional coursework, CCP or third-party training.



PORTRAIT OF A GENERAL

[The Anthony Wayne Local Schools Portrait of a General competencies](#) were determined based on feedback we received from stakeholders regarding the characteristics and skills our students will need to be prepared to take on the challenges they will face as adults. When our students participate in meaningful and rigorous learning experiences, and have a clear vision for their next steps, they are empowered to be future ready.



EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO BE FUTURE READY CAREER EXPLORATION FOR ALL AGES

Monclova Second Grade

Students in Alyssa Lewis' second grade class interviewed family and community members about their careers and presented what they learned. [They also hosted Officer Schroeder and his K9 partner, Mati](#) to learn what it is like to be a police officer.

AW Junior High

Eighth grade students will visit Penta Career Center to learn about available programs on March 15.

AWHS Career Talks

Students have the opportunity to hear from professionals about their educational background and career path during HomeBase. Recent and upcoming speakers include speech language pathologists, attorneys, architects, engineers and even a plant geneticist. If you know of someone who would like to meet with students, please contact [Stephanie Buckenmeyer](#).

AWHS Career Fair

Employers, university representatives and recruiters will be at AWHs on February 28 to network with students who are looking for more information about their enrollment, enlistment and employment options upon graduation.



POG: EMPATHY

HOW TO ASK STUDENTS ABOUT THEIR FUTURE PLANS

Each of our students will forge a unique path. We can help them identify their individual interests, talents and goals in order to prepare them for their future.

Primary Grades

FOCUS

People have careers / jobs

KEY QUESTIONS

Do you know why people go to work?

Can you name a job that someone does that helps you? Your family? The community?

DISCUSSION POINTS FOR A CAREER LESSON OR SPECIAL GUEST

Can you explain why this job is important?

What makes you curious about this job?

Middle/Junior High

FOCUS

Careers are different. Which could be right for me?

KEY QUESTIONS

What do you like to do? What are your talents?

Do you like to work inside or outside? With people or alone?

Can you work at a desk all day, or do you need to move around?

Do you like it quiet or noisy?

DISCUSSION POINTS FOR INTRODUCING A CAREER OR CAREER HOUSE

How does this career align with what you like/don't like to do?

What about this career interests you?

How much education/training do you need?

High School

FOCUS

Which career/career cluster interests you? How do you get there?

KEY QUESTIONS

Which career cluster DOES NOT interest you?

Which would you like to strive for?

What steps do you need to take to get there?

DISCUSSION POINTS FOR A CAREER LESSON OR SPECIAL GUEST

What are your plans after graduation? What is next for you?

PRO TIP

Think broader. Avoid "Where are you going to college?"

FEBRUARY 6-10: NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK



National School Counseling Week highlights the many ways that school counselors make a difference in our students lives. This year, the theme is "Helping Students Dream Big" with a focus on the impact of school counselors on students' school success and career readiness.

We are very fortunate to have such an outstanding team of school counselors who work with administrators, teachers, families and our community to ensure our students have the resources they need to reach their academic, personal, social and career goals.

Whether it's a classroom presentation, small group meeting or one-to-one support, our counselors help students acquire the skills to achieve academic success, make connections between school and life experiences and to acquire knowledge and skills to be college and career ready upon high school graduation.

Thank you to our school counselors for empowering our students to be future ready!

Christopher Buehrer, Monclova
Jillian Cowell, Waterville
Kate Bailin, Whitehouse
Stephanie Huntley, Fallen Timbers
Jennifer Minni, Fallen Timbers
Amy Barbour, AW Junior High
Shawna Dunbar, AW Junior High
Beth Bunde, AWHs
Dan Kalo, AWHs
Joseph Puhl, AWHs
Michelle Reid, AWHs



SCHOOL FACILITY DOGS

We are also very lucky to have our four school facility dogs that create such a calming and positive school environment for our students, staff and visitors. Thank you, Laney, Astro, Luna and Teila for your unconditional love!





WELLNESS COMMITTEE NEWS

Thank you to the 130 of you who stopped out to BGSU for last month's staff and family wellness event. [If you liked what the Rec Center had to offer, check out their February membership special - you can join for \\$24.99 and add a dependent for \\$10!](#)

INTELLECTUAL WELLNESS

This quarter's focus is on [intellectual wellness](#), which includes things like maintaining positive mental health, continued learning, improving problem solving skills, expanding your verbal and logic skills and other ways to challenge your mind and practice creativity.

Look for a new team activity coming to your buildings soon, in the meantime consider trying these activities to improve your mental fitness:

- [Turn off the TV and tune into a podcast.](#)
- [Put down your phone and pick up a book.](#)
- [Avoid autopilot and take a new route home \(without GPS\).](#)
- [Kick it old school and host a board game night.](#)
- [Rest your noodle and doodle!](#)
- [Plan your next vacation](#)
- [Get the right amount of sleep](#)



FEBRUARY IS HEART MONTH

Heart disease is still the leading cause of death in the United States, but there are many ways you can improve your heart health.

Love Your Heart

- [These tips will help you live a heart-healthy lifestyle >>](#)

Every 40 seconds someone in the U.S. has a heart attack, and quick action could save your (or someone else's) life).

Learn the Symptoms of a Heart Attack:

- [These are common heart attack warning signs >>](#)

Learn Life-Saving Techniques:

- [Watch this video from the American Heart Association to learn two-step CPR >>](#)
- [Brush up on how to use an AED with this video >>](#)
- [Get certified: find a CPR or First Aid Training Class >>](#)



CONFIDENTIAL HELP IS AVAILABLE 24/7

Anthony Wayne Local Schools partners with ProMedica for the Employee Assistance Program, a free counseling service available to all staff and their families. Simply call 866-327-3759 to learn ways to navigate life's challenges.



"Like the robin, we sometimes sing to show how strong we are, and sometimes sing in hope of better times.

We sing either way."

- Katherine May, *Wintering*



UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

AWLS Board of Education Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Valentine's Day

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17 & 18

AWHS Winter Musical

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Presidents Day: No School

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Evening Conferences, Grades 7-12

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

AWHS Band Concert, 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

Kindergarten Registration Opens

[VIEW THE FULL DISTRICT EVENTS CALENDAR >>](#)

2022 - 2023 DISTRICT CALENDAR

[Click to view the District calendar for the rest of the school year >>](#)

2023 - 2024 DISTRICT CALENDAR

[Download a copy to start making your future plans today >>](#)

LOCAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

February 13
March 13
April 10
May 1
May 22

[More information is available on the District website >>](#)

AWLS BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

All meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Administrative Offices unless otherwise indicated.

[Meetings are streamed live online for those who cannot attend in person >>](#)

February 6

March 13

April 10

May 15

June 28

July 10 (8:00 a.m.)

August 7 (8:00 a.m.)

September 11

October 9

November 9

December 11 (8:00 a.m.)

[Meeting agendas and policies are available on the district website >>](#)

2022 TAX DOCUMENTS

W2 forms were distributed to mailboxes in January. Please contact [Cindy Brahier](#) if you did not receive yours, or if you have questions.

The Health Insurance Marketplace Statement, Form 1095-A will be mailed to your home address.

Please let Cindy know as soon as possible if your address has changed.

STAFF FORMS AND INFORMATION

Did you know that you can find many District forms and informational documents on the district website? You can update your address, download the staff handbook and view back issues of this newsletter by choosing Staff > Forms & Information from the homepage, [or by clicking here.](#)



WELCOME CLASS OF 2036!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration opens March 1. Children who are five years of age by September 30 are eligible to become members of the AW Class of 2036.

[Information about required documentation for enrollment is listed on the Kindergarten Registration page of the website >>](#)



SHARE YOUR CLASS PROJECTS

You have probably experienced this scenario:

TEACHER: *pulls out all the stops on an amazing lesson*

STUDENT: "Whoa! So COOL!"

PARENT: "What did you do at school today?"

CHILD: *shrug* "Nothing."

PARENT: "My kid says you don't really teach anything..."

Our families (and staff across the District) reported in the fall communications survey that they want to see more of what our students are learning in the classroom -- and we are working hard to meet this request.

What are you working on? Send a note about what your classes are learning to [Rebecca Schwan](#), who will help get the word out to our families and community members.

[Get a behind-the-scenes look at what our students are learning across the District >>](#)



NOMINATE YOUR COLLEAGUES

[Ohio STEM Learning Network: Excellence Awards](#)

Nominations due: February 24

[Ohio Middle Level Association: 2023 Educator of the Year](#)

Nominations due: March 9

[2024 Ohio Teacher of the Year](#)

Nominations due: March 31



TECH TIP: BACK UP YOUR FILES

Whether its your carefully prepared lesson plans, or your precious family photos, it's always a good idea to save a backup of your files. You can create a copy of important files either on a flash drive, or uploaded to Google Drive, or preferably, both. Flash drives should then be stored in a secure location once the data has been copied to them. [Click here for more strategies to preventing data loss >>](#)

TALK WITH TECH

The next chance to chat with the Technology team is Tuesday, February 14. Join the 2:30 p.m. or 3:30 session via Google Meet.



MARK NELL ADDED TO OHSBCA HALL OF FAME

Congratulations to Mark Nell who was inducted into the Ohio High School Baseball Coaches Association (OHSBCA) Hall of Fame on January 19.

Mark was a Health/PE Teacher and Varsity Baseball coach for 21 years. He led the Generals to a 422-157 record, six NLL titles, 14 Sectional titles, six District titles, one Regional title and one State Runner-up.

Coach Nell decided to retire from coaching after the 2021 season, one that went 24-5 with an NLL championship and had the division one Ohio Player of the Year, Garret Pike.

Congratulations, Mark and thank you for your commitment to serving our student-athletes.

[For more about Mark's coaching legacy, visit the OHSBCA website >>](#)



FAMILIAR FACES, NEW ROLES

We are excited to announce that two members of our secretarial team have accepted new roles within the District. Laura Lochtefeld will leave her post as Attendance Secretary at AWHS to become the high school Counseling Secretary. Becky Bethel will transfer from her Attendance Secretary role at AWJH to replace Laura. We thank them both for their flexibility and wish them well in their new positions!



WELCOME TO AWJH

Officer Matt Johnson was recently assigned as the new School Resource Officer for AWJH. Matt has been an officer with the Whitehouse Police Department for two years and has two children who are students in the District. Please say hello when you see him on Campus!



NEWEST FUTURE GENERAL BORN

Lennon Rose Fink was born at 12:30 p.m. on January 5. Celebrating as a family of four are Marissa (AWJH Language Arts and Social Studies) and Mike Fink, and big brother Carter.



VIEW BACK ISSUES: Previous editions of the Generals Bulletin can be found on the [Staff Forms and Information page of the District website >>](#)