

The Generals Post **AW**

Anthony Wayne Local Schools Stakeholder Newsletter

May 2025



STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL 1: STUDENT LEARNING

All Generals will be provided a comprehensive and engaging learning experience whereby each can demonstrate the *Portrait of a General* competencies.

PBIS: CREATING A SAFE, POSITIVE & SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a state-required framework and evidence-based approach that creates a positive, focused learning environment. Setting clear expectations, and teaching and reinforcing good behavior gives students the consistency they need to be successful at school.

At AWLS, this means students are encouraged to:

BE RESPECTFUL • BE RESPONSIBLE • BE SAFE • BE INVOLVED

All students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately and be fully engaged in the learning experience.

A reward system is in place to acknowledge students who demonstrate The General Way, and tiered interventions are available for students who need support in developing these skills.

The District's PBIS efforts are in alignment with the [\[Portrait of a General\]](#) competencies and support the [\[Strategic Plan\]](#) goal for student learning.



TOP: FTMS students celebrate winning the House Belt after earning the most points for the week. **ABOVE:** A Monclova Primary student earned a chance to spin the Character Wheel and walk the red carpet.

PORTRAIT OF A GENERAL

Learner's Mindset

Critical Thinking

Collaboration & Communication

Adaptability & Flexibility

Empathy

LEARN ABOUT PBIS AT ANTHONY WAYNE LOCAL SCHOOLS:

Members of our school administrative teams will present more about the District's PBIS efforts at the May 12 Board of Education Meeting. All stakeholders are welcome to attend or watch online.

A Letter from the Superintendent

Anthony Wayne Local Schools Community,

As you reflect on your own childhood, chances are many of your memories include going to school—the classrooms, the lunchrooms, the playgrounds. But more than just places, schools are remembered through the people who made an impact. A caring teacher, a friendly bus driver, a dedicated coach, or a supportive school secretary—all of these individuals helped shape your experiences in meaningful ways.



This week, we take time to recognize and celebrate Staff Appreciation Week—a moment dedicated to honoring every individual within our District who plays a role in supporting and uplifting our students. From the classroom to the cafeteria, the front office to the maintenance teams, every employee contributes to the overall experience our students have each day.

At the heart of our mission is a shared goal: that every student feels cared for, safe and supported. No matter the position, every staff member has the power to make a student's day brighter and their path more successful. That sense of connection, compassion and commitment is what defines our District.

As Superintendent, I am continually inspired by the care and dedication I see throughout our schools. The success our students experience is directly linked to the tireless work of our staff. And, just as importantly, the joy our staff finds in their roles is deeply connected to the relationships they build with students.

This past week, I had the privilege of riding along on a mid-day kindergarten bus route. The conversations I had with those young students—their perspectives and how they shared those perspectives—were an incredible reminder of why we do this work and it simply made me happy. In those few moments, I was reminded just how powerful a small connection can be, and how fortunate we are to have the opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of children.

To our families, thank you for trusting us with your children and for being our partners in education. The love, guidance and foundation you provide at home are essential to your child's success at school. It truly takes all of us—parents, staff and community—working together to help our students thrive.

This week, and every week, we are grateful for the incredible staff that makes our schools places of growth, care and inspiration.

Sincerely,
Kevin Herman, *Superintendent*





CELEBRATING STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK: MAY 5 - 10

We invite our entire community to join us in celebrating the amazing individuals who make our schools thrive. From teachers and aides to office staff, bus drivers, custodians, cafeteria teams, administrators and everyone in between — each staff member plays a vital role in educating and supporting our students. Their dedication, compassion, and tireless work help shape the future of our community, one student at a time.

Let's show them how much they mean to us! A note of thanks, a small gesture, or even a kind word can go a long way. Whether you're a parent, guardian, or neighbor, take a moment to share your appreciation for the people who make a difference in our schools every day. Together, we can make sure they feel as valued and supported as they make our students feel. **[Share your gratitude and acknowledge a staff member who has made a difference.]** ***We will publish your message of appreciation in a future issue.***



LAST STUDENT DAY OF SCHOOL IS TUESDAY, JUNE 3



TECHNOLOGY TURN-IN INFORMATION

If you have a graduating senior or other student who will not be returning to AWLS next year, please be sure to turn in your child's school-issued Chromebook. These devices can be given to the secretarial staff in your child's school.

Senior Google accounts will be deleted on June 30. Students should start making plans now for backing up their drives. Any files they wish to keep should be saved to a personal device or Google drive. They also should give college admissions departments, recruiters or employers a personal email address for ongoing communications. Instructions will be shared with students before the end of the year.



END-OF-YEAR FOOD SERVICES REMINDERS

Please [\[login to PaySchools Central\]](#) to check your child's cafeteria account and pay any outstanding balance. If you use the auto-replenishment feature, please double check that the turn-off date is set for the last day of school, June 3. This will help to ensure that your child has enough funds through the end of the year, but that payments are paused for the summer months.

If you have a graduating senior, [\[let us know if you would like your remaining balance refunded, transferred or donated\]](#).

Note: The Food Service team cannot guarantee that all meal options will be available on all lunch lines during the last week of school. This is due to closing out the kitchens for the summer. Thank you for understanding!

If you have any questions, please [\[contact Megan Menchaca\]](#), Food Service Director.



VISIT FLYER CENTRAL FOR SUMMERTIME EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

If you're looking for day camps, athletic clubs, lessons or other activities to keep your child busy over summer break, look no further than [\[Flyer Central!\]](#) This page on the District website is offered as a way to connect local organizations with our families. Check back often, because new events are added frequently.

EVENTS CALENDAR

MAY 3

AWHS Prom & After-Prom

MAY 5 - 9

Staff Appreciation Week

MAY 5

Waterville Primary 3rd Grade
Music Program

MAY 6

NO SCHOOL

MAY 7

Waterville & Whitehouse Primary
Kindergarten Parent Night

MAY 9

AWHS Choir Coffeehouse

MAY 10

District Wide Art Show

MAY 12

Board of Education Meeting

MAY 13

AW Junior High Choir Concert

MAY 15

AWHS Symphonic Winds Concert

MAY 16

Military Signing Ceremony

MAY 19

AWHS Choir Concert

MAY 26

CLOSED: Memorial Day

MAY 29

Monclova Primary Kindergarten
Music Program

MAY 31

Graduation

JUNE 3

Last Day of School

JUNE 4

Staff Work Day



CYBERSECURITY LUNCH & LEARN SERIES CONTINUES

The AWLS Technology Department hosted its latest Lunch and Learn workshop for District residents on April 16. Attendees learned about the importance of updating device operating systems, anti-virus protection and software to help defend against cyber threats.

The next free workshop will take place at noon on Wednesday, May 28. Community members are invited to learn how to configure their web browsers for better security. [Please RSVP to chamady@anthonywayneschools.org](mailto:chamady@anthonywayneschools.org).

FAMILY WEEK IS JUNE 29 - JULY 5

AWLS Family Week is a dedicated break from school activities, giving families time to slow down, relax and enjoy quality moments together. We hope that you are able to step away from your busy routines to recharge and reconnect as a family!



PREPARING FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

NEXT YEAR'S DISTRICT CALENDAR APPROVED

The Anthony Wayne Local Schools Board of Education approved a revised 2025-2026 calendar at its April 7 meeting. For those planning ahead for next year, the calendar can be found in both calendar and list view [\[on the District website\]](#).

RETURNING STUDENT REGISTRATION

Returning Student Registration for the 2025-2026 school year will open on Tuesday, July 1. The District will once again be using FinalForms for this process. Watch for an email with instructions and more information as the date approaches.

[District Master Calendar](#)

[Fine & Musical Arts](#)

[Generals Athletics](#)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGAGEMENT



ANIMAL SUPPLY DRIVE*

MAY 2 at Waterville Primary School from 5:30 - 9:00 p.m. Donate dog toys, beds, food or [\[other items on the wishlist\]](#) for Lucas County Canine Care & Control (LC4).



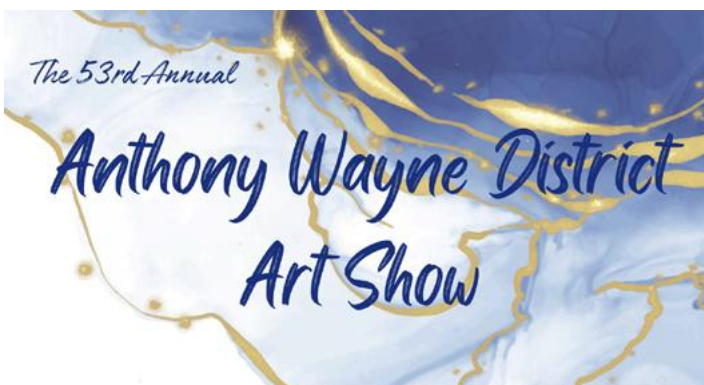
LUNA'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

MAY 5-9: Whitehouse Primary School's facility dog, Luna is turning 8 and you can help her celebrate with a donation supporting her care. The school is hosting a spirit week and incentives for students who contribute to her fundraiser. Full details are available on the Whitehouse Primary page of the website.



FFA SPRING PLANT SALE

UNTIL MAY 8: The AWHs-Penta Chapter of FFA has a variety of annual flowers and succulents available. Proceeds support student attendance at leadership conferences and other local FFA activities. [\[Order online\]](#)



53RD AWLS DISTRICT ART SHOW

MAY 10: The AWLS Fine Arts Teachers are proud to present the [53rd Annual District Art Show](#). Thousands of works of art from students in grades 3-12 will be on display in the AWHs Gymnasium from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

The show is open to the public and admission is free.



STRIKEOUT BREAST CANCER GAME*

MAY 10 at AWHs starting at Noon. Purchase concessions and raffle tickets at the Generals varsity softball game vs. Mercy Farmington Hills. Proceeds will benefit a local family affected by cancer. Admission is free.



6TH GRADE TRACK CAMP*

MAY 12-14 at AWHs from 5:00-6:30 p.m. [\[Registration is \\$25\]](#) with proceeds funding program shirts and prizes. Any remaining funds will support students with pay to participate expenses. Space is limited.

** Events marked with an asterisk are organized by students enrolled in the AWHs Community Engagement course. They are learning the importance of philanthropy, event planning and community involvement through projects designed to help others. You can ensure their efforts are successful by taking part in their fundraisers, donation drives and other events.*

SUPPORT & CELEBRATE OUR STUDENTS

MILITARY SIGNING CEREMONY

MAY 16: Members of the Class of 2025 who have chosen to serve our country upon graduation will be honored at a Military Signing Ceremony hosted by the District's Purple Star Generals groups. The inaugural event will recognize seven recruits as they formally sign letters of commitment to serve. The ceremony will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the AWHs Gymnasium. Members of the public are invited to attend.



AW BANDS AND BBQ EVENT & FUNDRAISER

Enjoy a meal catered by Brookview Farm Meats and BBQ while listening to various AWLS instrumental ensembles perform in the AWHs Gymnasium.

[\[Food orders are due by May 4.\]](#)

Tuesday, May 20

6:00 p.m. - Symphonic Band
6:30 p.m. - 8th Grade Band
7:00 p.m. - Concert Band
7:30 p.m. - Symphonic Winds

Wednesday, May 21

6:00 p.m. - 5th Grade Band
6:30 p.m. - 6th Grade Band
7:00 p.m. - 7th Grade Band



CLASS OF 2025 COMMENCEMENT

Anthony Wayne High School will celebrate Graduation for the Class of 2025 at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 31 at the Stroh Center on the campus of Bowling Green State University. The event is open to the public, with doors opening at 9:00 a.m. [\[Graduation is live streamed\]](#) for those who cannot attend in person. Congratulations and best of luck to our graduates!



BECOME A SUBSTITUTE EMPLOYEE

Do you enjoy working with students while maintaining a flexible work schedule? Substitute teachers, secretaries, nurses, bus drivers, custodians and food service workers are critical to the seamless operation of our schools. Please consider how you can use your skills to support our students and [\[apply online\]](#) today!



BE A PART OF OUR PARENT & BOOSTER CLUBS

Parent and booster organizations are essential to our school's success. These volunteers help fund extracurricular programs, organize events, and advocate for school needs that go beyond the regular budget. Your involvement strengthens our school community and helps every student thrive. [\[Discover how you can make an impact.\]](#)



MAY STAFF SPOTLIGHTS

Throughout the year we will share the stories of the individuals who have devoted their careers to the education and support of AWLS students. Watch for Staff Spotlights about the individuals below to appear on the [District website](#) and [mobile app](#), and posted to [X \[Twitter\]](#).



Sarah Mihalec
Speech Therapist
Monclova Primary School



Heidi Love
Art Teacher
Whitehouse Primary School



Megan Woodrum
Art Teacher
AW Junior High

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RETIREES



Todd Heslet
Industrial Arts Teacher
Anthony Wayne High School



Pam Frankfather
6th Grade Science Teacher
Fallen Timbers Middle School



Cindy Swindle
Physical Therapist
ESC of Lake Erie West



Mark Nell
PE / Health Teacher
Anthony Wayne Junior High

APRIL SPOTLIGHTS

[Jessica Mead](#)
Media Specialist
Fallen Timbers Middle School

[Madeline Schnabel](#)
Occupational Therapist
Waterville Primary School

[Jill Schwanz](#)
Administrative Assistant
District

[Claudine Strayer](#)
Secretary
Monclova Primary School

[Our School Facility Dogs](#)



[Send a message of thanks
to a staff member who is
making a difference!](#)



The Board of Education recognized members of the Purple Star Generals, students with a loved one serving in the military, at the April meeting.

Anthony Wayne Board of Education

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE APRIL MEETING:

[\[VIEW RECORDING\]](#)

- All members were present for the regular meeting held on Monday, April 7.
- April is the Month of the Military Child and the Board recognized the District's military-connected students in attendance. They also heard about the District's Purple Star program and celebrated the Purple Star designation renewals for AWHs, Fallen Timbers Middle School and Waterville Primary School.
- The Board voted to approve the [\[2025-26 District calendar\]](#).
- Kerri Johnson discussed the potential impact of the state's pending budget plan on the District's finances, however there is a lot of work to be done and discussions that need to happen before the state budget is signed by the Governor on June 30.
- The Board also approved a Resolution for Execution of Real Estate Purchase Contract 6446 N. Texas Street, Whitehouse. The house will be removed and the property will become part of the Whitehouse Primary School campus.
- With approval from the Board, the following projects will be opened for public bid: Monclova Primary School Roof Replacement, AWJH & FTMS Cooler and Freezer Projects, AWHs Auditorium Lighting and Sound Project. [\[More details about these Permanent Improvement projects are available online.\]](#)
- Member discussion and a vote to make modifications and/or revisions to Board Policies related to Release Time Religious Instruction took place.
- The Board also accepted grants awarded to Waterville Primary School.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Regular Meeting

Monday, May 12 6:00 p.m.

Special Meeting (if needed)

Monday, June 9 8:00 a.m.

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, June 25 8:00 a.m.

Regular Meeting (if needed)

Wednesday, July 16 8:00 a.m.

Regular Meeting

Monday, Aug. 4 8:00 a.m.

Regular Meeting

Monday, Sept. 15 6:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Monday, Oct. 13 6:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Monday, Nov. 3 6:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Monday, Dec. 8 6:00 p.m.

All meetings are held at the Central Administrative Office unless otherwise announced. Board meetings are also streamed live for those who cannot attend in person.

Agendas are available two days prior to the meeting date.

Meeting dates, times and locations are subject to change. Stakeholders are encouraged to [visit the District website](#) for the most up-to-date information.

CONTACT THE BOARD

If you have a question or idea you would like to share with the AWLS Board of Education, [\[please send an email to the members.\]](#)

STATE BUDGET CREATES UNCERTAINTY FOR DISTRICTS

Kerri Johnson, *AWLS Treasurer*

Every two years, the Governor prepares and proposes a State Biennium Budget. The adjustment and approval process starts in the House, then moves to the Senate before returning to the Governor for signature. The budget must be signed by the Governor by June 30.

The House had several changes, and as of the end of April, there are still many unknowns regarding school funding - making it difficult to predict what our state aid will be for the next two fiscal years.

Here is what we know to date and its potential impact on AWLS:

The House rejected the Governor's proposal to continue the phasing in of the Fair School Funding Plan (FSFP) for school district state aid.

The FSFP is the first equitable funding formula that the state of Ohio has had in over 30 years. Doing away with this funding formula has an unknown impact to schools, since there will be no clear and concise formula to follow.

The House wants to change the Ohio State Constitution by modifying the calculation of the 20-mill floor to include emergency levies and income tax levies.

The District fell below the 20-mill floor following the 2024 Lucas County property tax revaluation. AWLS will receive roughly \$3.4 million as a result of being brought back up to the 20-mill floor. *If there are changes to the calculation of this minimum, the District could see a revenue loss - resulting in need to return to voters for operational funding.*

The House also proposed that school districts cannot end a fiscal year (June 30) with more than a 30% cash carryover of the General Fund expenditures. They want the Budget Commission to rollback millage and not collect upon those voter-approved tax dollars.

This will not impact AWLS, as we do not have that kind of carryover balance, but it will impact over 400 other districts across the state.

There are still more questions than answers.

An analogy I have shared with the Board of Education is that the state budget process is like a football game. In the first quarter, the Governor has the ball; in the second quarter, the House has control; in the third quarter it shifts to the Senate. We are waiting to see what the fourth quarter brings when the proposals return to the Governor.

In the meantime, the potential changes to the state funding have Ohio school districts doing their best to estimate their budgets. We will share information as we know more.



DISTRICT HONORED FOR FINANCIAL EXCELLENCE

The AWLS Treasurer's Department accepted the Auditor of State Award on April 30. The award signifies a "clean" audit, free of findings for recovery, deficiencies or financial concerns, and affirms the department's attention to detail, compliance with state requirements, and dedication to responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars.



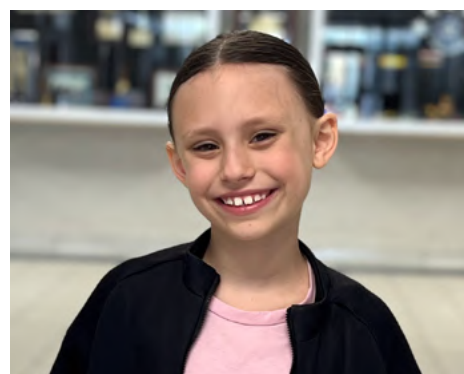
AWHS, Fallen Timbers Middle School and Waterville Primary School earned renewal designations as Purple Star Schools from the state of Ohio for their commitment to supporting military-connected students and their families. Whitehouse Primary also received a renewed designation.



AWHS Senior, Mallory Rettig was selected to speak at the MVCDS TEDx event. [\[Learn about the inspiration behind her topic.\]](#)

Generals in the News

- AWHs: [Anthony Wayne HS holds mock prom night crash](#)
- STUDENTS: [Hit & Run band is ready for music-filled summer](#)
- BASEBALL: [NLL Buckeye preview: Anthony Wayne title favorite](#)
- LACROSSE: [AW wins defensive battle over Perrysburg](#)
- SOFTBALL: [Molly Conner throws perfect game and hits home run](#)
- TRACK: [AW track off to a great start with Clyde Hybrid meet](#)
- STAFF: [Anthony Wayne girls basketball coach Jami Carter retires](#)
- STAFF: [AW hires Chandler Adams as next girls basketball coach](#)
- STAFF: [AW principal eliminated in 10th place on The Floor.](#)
- STAFF: [Inside the NLL: AW lacrosse head coach Kyle Williams](#)
- ALUMNI: [Former local standouts teaming up as softball analysts](#)



Kylie Stout, Waterville Primary student, was awarded third place in the Toledo City Paper's ODE to the Zip Code poetry contest. The third grader had two poems make the finals. [\[Read her work.\]](#)



As winners of the 2025 Project Prom, AWHs Student Council received \$1,000 toward After-Prom Activities from BCSN. Students shared their reasons for staying substance-free on Prom Night. [\[View the surprise announcement.\]](#)



Matt Dewitz is a millwright who was recognized by General Motors for the impact he's having on AW students as a bus driver. [\[Read the story on the GM website.\]](#)

MORE DISTRICT NEWS: Information and updates about Anthony Wayne Local Schools can be found on the [District website](#) and on [YouTube](#).

APRIL HAPPENINGS IN OUR SCHOOLS

Our schools are very busy places! We encourage you to [follow our schools on X](#) and watch for [news stories posted to our website](#) for a peek into the activities taking place across the District!



Students in Mrs. Jesko's math class at Fallen Timbers Middle School were treated to a pizza party courtesy of Beer Barrel Pizza after working hard to master pi and finding the circumference of a circle.



The AW Junior High track team is off to a strong start, with standout performances like this one from Payton Hill. She won the 100-meter hurdles race at the Fremont Middle School meet.



Monclova Primary students earned lunch with the principal for demonstrating the General expectations and showing good character.



Waterville Primary 2nd graders in Mrs. Siravo's class use Foundations letter boards to practice making words that say 'ew.'



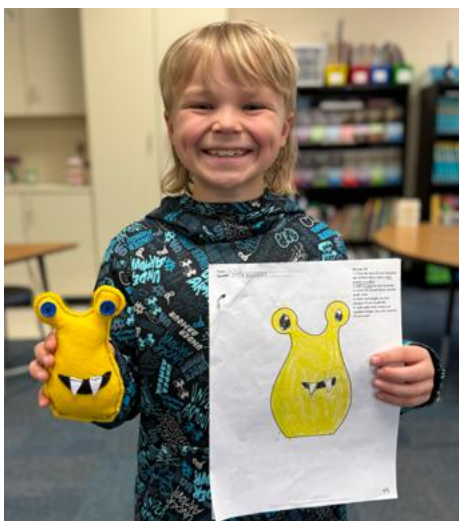
Whitehouse Primary families enjoyed a donut and shopping at the Book Fair before school at Breakfast with a Buddy.



The Anthony Wayne High School Theatre Department brought down the house with a four-performance run of Disney's *High School Musical, On Stage!*



Six Waterville Primary students were selected to have their artwork on display at the Northwest Ohio Youth Art Month Show. They were honored at a public reception in downtown Toledo on April 13. [\[Read more.\]](#)



AWHS Senior and FCCLA member Makenna Rinehart turned her interest in sewing into a competition project that taught her high school classmates a useful skill while bringing delight to second grade students at Monclova Primary School. [\[See how she turned their sketches into plush toys.\]](#)



The kindergarten students at Waterville Primary had a successful spring donation drive, collecting more than 70 items for Nature's Nursery.



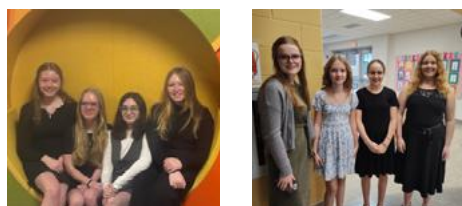
Seven AWHS students claimed nearly \$7,000 in scholarships and cash prizes at the 75th Annual AIA Toledo High School Design Competition. They were challenged to create a new 4,000 sq. ft. Learning Center for Aurora Project, Inc. [\[See their project boards.\]](#)



Allison McDowell ('23) and guest Jessica Mural spoke with AWHS Honors Physics and Physical Science students about Civil and Environmental Engineering.



The Waterville's Easter Egg Hunt was a success and the city is looking sharp for spring thanks to the volunteer efforts of our AW Junior High students.



Ten vocalists represented AW Junior High at the OMEA Solo & Ensemble Contest, returning with superior and excellent ratings for their performances. [\[Read more.\]](#)



The AW Junior High and AWHs chapters of FCCLA enjoyed great success at the state conference. The keynote speaker was AWHs junior, Grant Hubley and junior Aradhya Muthumula was named State Council President. Seven AWHs students will move on to nationals, and each of the each of the seven AWJH students placed in the Top Three in their categories. [\[Read more about the AW Junior High chapter\]](#) and [\[see who is moving on to represent the AWHs chapter in Orlando, Florida.\]](#)



AWHS hosted a mock crash and court hearing assembly for juniors and seniors to remind them of the dangers of impaired and distracted driving. We are grateful for the partnership of our local first responders, Judge Dan Hazard and Peinert-Dunn Funeral Home in sharing this important message in advance of Prom and Graduation. [\[See photos from the event.\]](#)



The AWHs eSports team finished the 2025 spring season at 6th in the state. This is the third year for the team that competes against other high schools in the video game, Rocket League. [\[Read more.\]](#)



This weekend, the FTMS Heart and Sole team will wrap up their season with a 5k run. The program inspires girls to gain confidence and mental and physical health.



Waterville Primary third graders learned about the history of the Anthony Wayne area from the Waterville Historical Society's Student Advisory Council (SAC), made up of AWHs student volunteers.