

The Generals Post

Anthony Wayne Local Schools Stakeholder Newsletter

September 2024



Waterville Primary's Muffins in the Morning and Book Fair



Family Fun Night hosted by the AW Athletic Boosters

Thank You, Families!

NATIONAL SCHOOL PARENT GROUP DAY IS SEPTEMBER 26

Anthony Wayne Local Schools is extremely fortunate to have active families who are committed to supporting their children's success at school. We want to acknowledge and extend our deepest gratitude for all the support and dedication you provide.

We thank you for your tireless efforts in organizing events, fundraising, volunteering and being a positive influence in our school community.

You play a vital role in enhancing the educational experience for our students by ensuring our classrooms, teams and student organizations are well-equipped, providing memorable experiences and activities, and ensuring that teachers and coaches are well supported. Your generosity, energy, and unwavering support play a crucial role in shaping the future of our students and the entire school community.

Thank you for your continued commitment and generosity. We look forward to many more successful collaborations in the future.

JOIN US: Our school-parent organizations will be recognized at the September 9 Board Meeting.

BE A GENERAL: BE INVOLVED!

Parent Organizations and Boosters Clubs are kicking off a new school year. Now is a great time to be involved!

[Anthony Wayne Athletic Boosters](#)

[Anthony Wayne Band Boosters](#)

[Anthony Wayne Choir Boosters](#)

[Anthony Wayne Parent Teacher Association \(AWPTA\)](#)

[Monclova Area Parents \(MAPS\)](#)

[Waterville Parents Association \(WPA\)](#)

[Whitehouse Parents Club \(WPC\)](#)



A Letter from the Interim Superintendent



Anthony Wayne Local Schools Community,

Welcome back to another exciting school year! We are thrilled to have your children with us and are grateful for all the hard work you've done to prepare them for this new school year. Thanks to your efforts, we've had a fantastic start and are already seeing so much positivity as we move forward together.

The support our staff, schools, and District receive from you is amazing. We want to extend a special thank you to our Parent School Support Organizations. The District will be recognizing these volunteers at the September 9 Board of Education meeting. Their dedication and tireless work create incredible opportunities for our students and provide essential support for our staff, allowing us to go the extra mile in making a positive impact on every student. The excellence that our District is known for simply wouldn't be possible without these organizations' involvement and commitment.

We are deeply grateful and appreciative of everything you and all organizations do to help our school community thrive. Here's to a successful and enriching school year ahead!

Kevin Herman, Interim Superintendent
superintendent@anthonywayneschools.org

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

We are better together! New this year, we are launching Community Conversations: a chance to have your questions answered and share your ideas for making our schools the best they can be.

Interim Superintendent, Kevin Herman and other District representatives will be available to students, parents, staff and neighbors to ensure that Anthony Wayne Local Schools is the best it can be.

These meetings align with our Portrait of a General values of collaboration and communication, critical thinking, learner's mindset, adaptability and flexibility and empathy.

Their intent is to provide a space for open dialogue, and offer opportunities for everyone to share their thoughts, concerns and ideas for improving our schools.



UPCOMING DATES

Speak with
Interim Superintendent
Kevin Herman on
Saturday, Sept. 14

Whitehouse Farmer's Market
10:00 a.m. - Noon

Blue Creek Soccer Fields
12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Bring your questions,
concerns, ideas
and feedback to share!

Anthony Wayne Local Schools empowers students to be future ready!



ANTHONY WAYNE LOCAL SCHOOLS ANNOUNCES STAFF MEMBERS OF THE YEAR

Anthony Wayne Local Schools recently honored two exceptional staff members for their outstanding contributions. Bethany Swift, a 5th-Grade Teacher at Fallen Timbers Middle School, was named Certified Staff Member of the Year. Known for her commitment to continuous improvement, Bethany consistently seeks innovative ways to engage her students and encourages perseverance. She also serves as a supportive mentor to fellow staff members, embodying a positive and creative approach to problem-solving. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

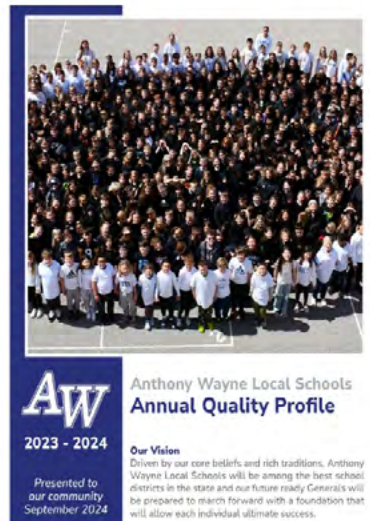
Meanwhile, Bob Reyome, *Building Engineer* at Waterville Primary School, was recognized as the Classified Staff Member of the Year. Bob is praised for his proactive problem-solving skills and his dedication to maintaining a safe and efficient school environment. His conscientious care for students and staff, along with his efforts to foster a positive culture, have made him a valuable asset to the school community. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

COMING SOON: 2023-2024 QUALITY PROFILE

The Quality Profile is an annual report that highlights the activities and accomplishments of our students and staff, and demonstrates the many ways that the District provides outstanding opportunities for students to learn and grow.

Watch for the 2023-2024 Quality Profile to be released the week of September 15.

[Last year's Quality Profile](#) has been viewed over 30,000 times! [You can check out previous editions on the District website.](#)





HOMECOMING 2024

Cheer for the blue and cheer for the white!

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

We're thrilled to announce the 2024 Anthony Wayne Homecoming Parade and Football Game, a time-honored tradition that brings our community together to celebrate our schools.

Whether you're watching for your favorite students in the parade, clapping along with the band, or shouting from the stands - we hope you will put on your BLUE and WHITE and show your support for our Generals!



GENERALS PRIDE PASS: YOUR TICKET TO FREE ADMISSION

District residents who are 60 years old or better can receive free admission into athletic and performing arts events with a Generals Pride pass. Show your photo ID to the Central Administrative Office to claim your card.

**HOMECOMING PARADE
5:00 p.m.**

[\[VIEW THE ROUTE\]](#)

**PRE-GAME FESTIVITIES
ROYALTY CROWNING
6:00 p.m.**

**AW GENERALS VS.
START SPARTANS
7:00 p.m.**

[\[PURCHASE TICKETS\]](#)





CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF GENERALS FOOTBALL

The 2024 season marks the 75th anniversary of the kick off of the Anthony Wayne football program. All former members of the team are invited to be recognized before the game on Friday, Sept. 27. Wear royal blue and help us celebrate 75 years of Friday Night Lights at Anthony Wayne High School! [\[PURCHASE TICKETS\]](#)



SHOWCASE OF BANDS

The Anthony Wayne Marching Generals will host the 36th Annual Showcase of Bands in Schaller Stadium at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 28. It is a high-energy show featuring the talents of musicians from across our region. [\[PURCHASE TICKETS\]](#)

CLICK TO VIEW THE AWLS EVENTS CALENDAR

MILITARY WALL OF HONOR NOMINEES SOUGHT

Anthony Wayne Local Schools proudly supports those who have chosen to serve our country in a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces. Our goal is to recognize all AW alumni and employees on the Military Wall of Honor at AWHS. If you or someone you know should be included, please share their name with us. [\[NOMINATE A SERVICE MEMBER\]](#)



NEIGHBORHOOD BRIDGES PREPARES TO SUPPORT STUDENTS



The neighborhood bridges steering committee met to plan for the 2024-25 school year. In its first year on our community, the nonprofit organization has collected \$31,584.11 to support AW students in need and their families. When you sign up to be notified of a request, you can help increase this impact.

You are encouraged to register your email to be a part of this campaign for kindness. There is no obligation to donate. You can choose give when a need matches what you are able to provide. [\[LEARN HOW IT WORKS\]](#)



ANTHONY WAYNE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION INDUCTS EIGHT INTO HALL OF FAME

The Anthony Wayne Alumni Association recognized eight individuals for their outstanding accomplishments by inducting them into the Anthony Wayne Hall of Fame at a luncheon held on August 26. Included in the Class of 2024 are: Michael Short ('68); Beth Gottschling-Huber ('88); Jason Graven (1998); Josh Hartbarger ('00); Doug Meyer (00); Zak Weimer ('02); Lawrence Battles (retired faculty); and Sam Macera (community member). [\[READ MORE ABOUT THE INDUCTEES\]](#)

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: FACTS ABOUT OUR SCHOOLS

4,270

students in grades K - 12
are enrolled for the
2024-2025 school year

Pictured: Seventh graders enjoy lunch together for the first time at AWJH on the first day of school.



480

certified and classified
staff members are
employed by the District

Pictured: The staff of Monclova Primary pause for a photo before the Back to School Open House.





UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, Sept. 9 6:00 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 7 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 7 6:00 p.m.

Meetings are held at the Central Administrative Office at 9565 Bucher Road, Whitehouse, OH unless otherwise announced.

CONTACT THE BOARD

Kyle Miller, *President*
Jeff Baden, *Vice President*
Lindsay Hoipkemeier, *Member*
Shellie McKnight, *Member*
Mike Stamm, *Member*

Board@AnthonyWayneSchools.org

Anthony Wayne Board of Education Briefs

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE AUGUST MEETING: [\[VIEW RECORDING\]](#)

- District Treasurer Kerri Johnson shared that the District's bond rating was downgraded due to the need for additional revenue.
- The Director of Teaching and Learning, Jim Conner shared curriculum updates and plans for AWHs students to return to taking end-of-course exams starting this year.
- The Board approved the District to advertise for bids for two new buses and a van as a part of the regular replacement schedule for the fleet. The vehicles will be purchased using Permanent Improvement funds.
- The Board also discussed a section of the Ohio Revised Code that allows parents to excuse their children from school to attend religious instruction classes conducted by outside organizations off-campus.

MEET THE MEMBERS: JEFF BADEN

Jeff and his wife Tina have lived in Whitehouse for nearly 25 years. Their three children graduated from AWHs and Penta Career Center. He is employed as a Senior Program Manager for Dana Inc. in Maumee.

Jeff is an active member and past president of the Waterville Rotary Club and is an active member and financial chairman at Community of Christ Lutheran Church in Whitehouse. He also serves on the steering committee for neighborhood bridges, a community support organization for AW students and families. Jeff enjoys all outdoor activities, especially biking and running. He is also a hobby woodworker and mechanic.



DISTRICT PLACES OPERATIONAL LEVY ON NOVEMBER BALLOT

When you head to the polls this fall, you will see an operational levy for AWLS on the ballot. The 5-year, 2.42-mill levy is the same request that was put before voters March. If passed, it will generate \$3.3 million each year to support the day-to-day operations of the District.

How will the District use the money?

The revenue generated by the new operational levy will go into the General Fund to pay for education-related expenses like staff salaries, materials and services.

Why does the District need more money?

The short answer to this question is that while our state and federal funding continues to drop, our expenses continue to rise.

The District has made nearly \$2M in cuts and is evaluating every expense, but with no new local funding since 2013, it's becoming increasingly difficult to stretch our dollars. This price inflation, along with legal requirements for the services schools must provide and the educational services expected by our community, means that our belt is getting uncomfortably tight.

Unfortunately, Ohio's model for school funding places the larger the responsibility of supporting schools on property owners. We do not want to ask taxpayers for more funding. We are only asking for what is needed to maintain our current level of operation without making more cuts.



LEARN MORE:



[Click here to visit our website for more details.](#)

Contact us with your questions.

Call 419-877-5377 or [click here to send an email.](#)

DOLLARS AND CENTS: SCHOOL FINANCE 101

Laws dictate how school districts may use the money held in certain accounts. The proposed levy would support the General Fund to cover the day-to-day operations and expenses of the District.

General Fund	Permanent Improvement Fund [PI]
<p>Used for: expenses, services and consumables that support day-to-day operations: For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff salaries and benefits • Fuel and utilities • Paper and cleaning products • Classroom and office materials • Educational service agreements 	<p>Used for: projects, improvements and purchases that have a lifespan of five years or more. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum books and materials • School buses • Lawn equipment • Building mechanicals • Maintenance and repairs of school property
<p>NOTE: Funds could be moved to other District accounts to cover extra expenses, if available.</p>	<p>NOTE: Funds cannot be moved to other District accounts and must only be used for PI purchases.</p>

Anthony Wayne Local Schools is considered a “high wealth” district by the state, and therefore must rely more heavily on local taxpayer support.

The state provides funding to school districts using a *foundation formula*. This formula aims to balance the ability of a district to raise taxes locally with the state-determined minimum funding needed to provide an adequate education. The formula is designed to provide a higher level of assistance to school districts with low property wealth relative to districts with higher property wealth.



AWHS students representing Cross Country, Tennis, Band, DECA and Student Council got up early on the first day of school to take part in live interviews with 13abc, where they discussed their goals for the year.

Generals in the News

[District: AWLS cuts staff going into new school year, looks to pass levy in November](#)

[Staff: Scenes from Opening Day 2024](#)

[Transportation: New art installation unveiled](#)

[Band: Anthony Wayne marching band plays for success](#)

[Tennis: AW's Boyd triumphs over Perrysburg's Giammarco](#)

[Soccer: Teams embrace spotlight of opening games](#)

[Soccer: Anthony Wayne battles past Perrysburg in girls soccer](#)

[Volleyball: Anthony Wayne, Perrysburg expected to pace NLL Buckeye](#)

[Football: Anthony Wayne football hosts Victory Day](#)

[Golf: Anthony Wayne outpaces Archbold in Defiance Invite](#)

[Alumni: Alumni Association welcomes eight to AW Hall of Fame](#)



The Mirror recently published an interview with Theresa Frost about her new role as the District's new Director of Transportation.

[\[READ THE STORY\]](#)



First grade teacher Melissa Gotschalk and the entire staff at Waterville Primary School were recognized by 13abc as a part of their Back to School Shout Out a Staff Member segment. [\[LEARN MORE\]](#)



Kevin Herman talked about plans for the upcoming school year with Dan Cummins from WTOL. [\[WATCH\]](#)

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



Fallen Timbers Middle School

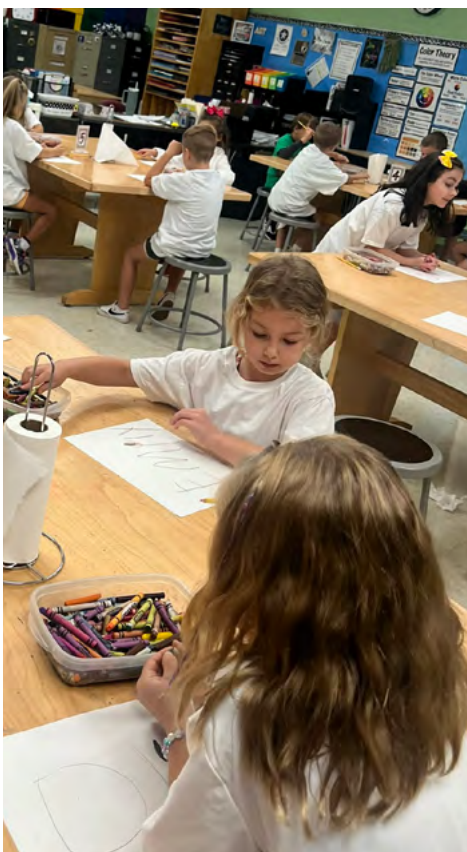


Waterville Primary School



Anthony Wayne High School

CELEBRATING THE START OF A NEW SCHOOL YEAR



Monclova Primary School



Whitehouse Primary School



PENTA Career Center



Anthony Wayne Junior High School