

# GENERALS BULLETIN

*Anthony Wayne Local Schools Employee Newsletter*



## *Trellising to Support Student Growth*

The seeds we planted in the fall have taken root. Through careful watering, the correct fertilizer and patient weeding, our students have stretched upward and we are starting to see the rewards of our efforts starting to ripen. Now, as we approach the end of the third quarter and look ahead to state testing season, we enter an important phase of growth: Trellising.

In gardening, trellises are not about changing the plant. They are about supporting the incredible amount of growth that has happened this year. These supports help guide stems upward, keep fruit off the ground, and ensure each plant has the structure it needs to reach its fullest potential.

This month, our work is about providing that same intentional support. March is about steadiness. It's about steady hands and clear focus. It's about reminding our students, "You are ready. You have grown. We believe in you."

And just like in any thriving garden, no plant climbs alone. Thank you for being the trellis.

Your care, your consistency, and your belief in our students are what allow them to stretch and prepare for the bounty that lies ahead.

# — *A Message from Our Superintendent* —

Dear Colleagues,

As I shared last week, each of you helps make AW an extraordinary place to learn and work. I truly believe AW is one of the best school districts anywhere—not just because of our programs or performance, but because of our people. Your dedication, care, professionalism, and heart make all the difference, and I am incredibly proud of what we achieve together every day for our students.

At the center of our work is a simple but powerful commitment:  
Student Success.

We discuss it, we measure it, we celebrate it, and we plan for it.

We know that "success" looks different for every student and we dream big for them, asking questions like "What does student success look like today? And what might it look like in the future?"

As we begin to develop our Strategic Plan and planning for student success over the next several years, we are reflecting on our current practices and systems. This reflection is not about finding fault; it is about honoring our strengths while asking thoughtful questions about how we can grow.

So we are considering more questions:

- What are we doing well?
- Where can we improve?
- How do we ensure that every student has access to meaningful opportunities and the support needed to reach their full potential?

Together we will explore answers to these questions and more as we continue provide the best for every student. Thank you for your dedication and compassion, expertise, and energy you bring each day. AW is a great place because of you.

Sincerely,  
Kevin



## — Supporting Growth Through the Mid-Year Slump —

As we enter March, our school garden is in full growth mode and some of our fruits are starting to get a little...heavy... and some of our students may start to see the mid-year slump — that point where spring fever hits, motivation dips, routines feel familiar, and challenges feel heavier.

Just like a gardener provides a trellis to guide climbing plants, we can support students without doing the work for them. Intentional scaffolds, clear expectations, and social-emotional check-ins give students the structure they need to keep growing toward their harvest — state testing and beyond.

### **PRACTICAL SUPPORTS**

**Revisit expectations and routines:** Behavior shifts are normal. [Responsive Classroom](#) offers strategies for addressing mid-year challenges.

**Reinvigorate engagement:** [PBIS Rewards](#) suggests refreshing goals, incentives, and classroom practices to keep students motivated.

**Reflect and reset:** Podcasts from [School Me](#) and [Teaching Together](#) offer practical strategies for helping students overcome mid-year dips.

### **TRELLISING TIPS**

- Provide short, targeted support that guides rather than carries.
- Use check-ins and goal-setting to help students see their progress.
- Add small elements of novelty or visual scaffolds to sustain engagement.

The mid-year slump isn't a setback — it's part of growth. With thoughtful support, students continue to climb, ready to reach their full potential this spring.



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## News You Can Use

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### REMINDER: NEW DENTAL INSURANCE

In an effort to provide high-quality healthcare and lower insurance costs, our dental insurance carrier has changed to Delta Dental effective March 1.

Remember, no ID card is necessary, but you can download one for your peace of mind from the Delta Dental member portal. Instructions for accessing the portal and how to search for your dentist are available on the [Staff Forms and Information page of the website](#).

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### OHIO TEACHER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS OPEN

Nominations are being accepted now through March 31 for the 2027 Ohio Teacher of the Year. School administrators, colleagues, community members, parents, or students may [nominate one or multiple teachers](#). Please consider recognizing a teammate with a nomination!

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### NEW ANTHONY WAYNE AREA NEWS SOURCE



If you miss The Mirror Newspaper, this news is for you! Local news will once again be available to the AW community via the Anthony Wayne Free Press. A sister publication of the Toledo Free Press, this totally-digital, totally-FREE publication is now covering the communities that make up our school district. Karen Gerhardinger is still serving for the reporter for our area and you may see her in the District from time to time.

[You can read the AW Free Press online or sign up for a weekly recap sent right to your inbox.](#)

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# Wellness Committee News

## \*YAWN\* HOW ARE YOU SLEEPING?

As [this article from Education Week](#) discusses, many school employees sacrifice sleep to keep up with planning, grading, and busy school schedules — but consistently getting less than 7–9 hours a night can affect focus, mood, energy, and overall health.

Prioritizing sleep isn't a luxury — it's essential for showing up as your best self for students and for your own well-being.

**Looking for support?** The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) offers helpful tools and resources to improve your sleep health, including the [Sleep Health Center](#) and the links to the right.

Rest up — your mind and body will thank you!



### HELP ME SLEEP!

#### PART 1

[What Happens When I Sleep?](#)

#### PART 2

[Sleep Regulation](#)

#### PART 3

[General Tips to Improve Sleep](#)



## Q3 WELLNESS CHALLENGE CONTINUES: BOOST YOUR INTELLECTUAL WELLNESS

It's not too late to get your name in the drawing for some seriously AWesome prizes -- and boost your brain health at the same time!

Complete the EAP website scavenger hunt (instructions on the Staff Wellness page) and submit it to [Brad Contat](#) by April 6.

**BONUS:** Attend a Talkspace Go webinar and/or complete a Peak Performance Coaching session.

All participants earn a dress-down day and prize entry — complete all three activities for a chance at top-tier wellness prizes!

**DETAILS:** [www.anthonywayneschools.org/staffwellness](http://www.anthonywayneschools.org/staffwellness)

# Technology Department News



## AWLS REPRESENTED AT STATE CONFERENCE

Devin Filip, *Tech Supervisor* and Chris Hamady, *Technology Director* recently presented at the Ohio Education Technology Conference on the topic of *Increasing Community Engagement with a Cyber Security Lunch & Learn Series*.

## GENERALS TECH TIPS: THE BASICS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The Tech Department continues their free community workshops, with its seventh lunch and learn at noon on April 22. District residents are encouraged to attend for an overview of Artificial Intelligence and various AI tools to increase productivity and efficiency in our everyday lives.

Space is limited, and attendees are encouraged to register by emailing [chamady@anthonywayneschools.org](mailto:chamady@anthonywayneschools.org).



## TECH IN YOUR BUILDING: STOP BY FOR ASSISTANCE

Monday, March 9	8:00 a.m.	Waterville Primary	David Hadley
Monday, March 16	7:00 a.m.	Fallen Timbers	Devin Filip
Monday, March 23	7:00 a.m.	AW Junior High	Nickie Sattler

## Help Wanted

### CONCESSIONS WORKERS NEEDED

Anthony Wayne Concessions is looking for adult workers for next school year! If you are interested in helping out in the concession stands for some of our home games, please contact [Laura Lochtefeld](#) for more details.



# Events Calendar

## MONDAY, MARCH 9

LPDC Meeting  
Board of Ed. Meeting

## MONDAY, APRIL 13

LPDC Meeting  
Board of Ed. Meeting

## THURSDAY, MAY 7

**PAYDAY**  
Whitehouse Kdg. Parent Mtg.

## THURSDAY, MARCH 13

End of the Third Quarter

## THURSDAY, APRIL 23

**PAYDAY**

## MONDAY, MAY 11

Board of Ed. Meeting

## THURSDAY, MARCH 12

**PAYDAY**

## SATURDAY, APRIL 25

District-wide Art Show

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

LPDC Materials Due

## THURSDAY, MARCH 26

**PAYDAY**

## FRIDAY, MAY 1

Military Signing Ceremony

## MONDAY, MAY 18

LPDC Meeting

## MARCH 30 - APRIL 3

**DISTRICT CLOSED:  
SPRING BREAK**

## SATURDAY, MAY 2

AWHS Prom

## THURSDAY, MAY 21

**PAYDAY**

## MONDAY, APR. 6

**2-HOUR DELAY  
STAFF PROF. DEV.**

## MAY 4 - 8

Staff Appreciation Week

## MONDAY, MAY 25

**DISTRICT CLOSED:  
MEMORIAL DAY**

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

LPDC Materials Due  
**WELLNESS WEDNESDAY**

## TUESDAY, MAY 5

**NO SCHOOL:  
STAFF PROF. DEV. DAY**

## THURSDAY, MAY 28

Last Day of School

## THURSDAY, APRIL 9

**PAYDAY**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 6  
WELLNESS WEDNESDAY**

Waterville Kdg.  
Parent Mtg.

## FRIDAY, MAY 29

Teacher Work Day

[District Events  
Calendar](#)

[2026 - 2027  
DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)

[Athletics  
Schedules](#)



## MARCH PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

Spring is full of opportunities to support our students in the musical arts, and they love to see friendly and familiar faces in the audience!

A full schedule of concerts showcasing both instrumental and vocal performances across a variety grade levels is [available on the Arts page of the website](#).

# Staff News & Recognition

## STAFF SPOTLIGHTS



**TONI BALDWIN**  
MONCLOVA



**JEREMY TERWILIGER**  
AWHS



**DEBBIE JACOBY**  
WATERVILLE

## MEET OUR KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS: ENROLLMENT IS NOW OPEN



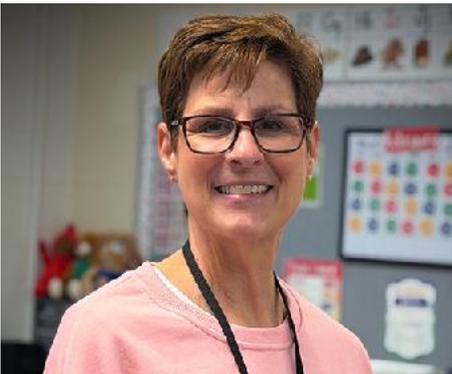
**MICHELLE NACHTRAB**  
MONCLOVA



**MARIAH PERSINGER**  
WATERVILLE



**RACHAEL LEHMAN**  
WHITEHOUSE



**CATHERINE STEINKE**  
MONCLOVA



**DAYNA RYAN**  
WATERVILLE



**EMILY LYREN**  
WHITEHOUSE

HAVE NEWS TO SHARE? KNOW SOMEONE WHO SHOULD BE  
FEATURED WITH A SPOTLIGHT STORY?

[Email Rebecca Sanford with details!](#)

# Staff News & Recognition



## PENTA CAREER CENTER HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

AWLS Transportation Department Head Mechanic Gary Vollmar was named among Penta Career Center's Outstanding Alumni and honored at an awards ceremony on February 26.



## STATEWIDE HONOR EARNED

AWHS-Penta Marketing Teacher and DECA Advisor, Becky Stutz was honored at the state conference with the Ohio DECA Honorary Life Membership Award.



## HARD HAT AWARDS

Nicholas Mendoza was honored with this month's Hard Hat Award by Jared Mattin for his outstanding service to the District as a classified employee.

## S.U.B. AWARDS

S.U.B. Awards celebrate our substitute employees who go above to help us out in our time of need. Please take a moment to [submit a nomination](#) for



**KELLIE DANIELS**



**ZACH HATCHER**