

GENERALS BULLETIN

Anthony Wayne Local Schools Employee Newsletter



THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR GIFTS

It's the season of giving and we know that AWLS employees are some of the most generous around. You volunteer your time, contribute to donation drives, dip into your snack drawer (and wallet) to support students and thoughtfully care for your colleagues.

We also know that you have unique gifts and talents - individual strengths that contribute to the overall success of your students, your team, your building and the District as a whole.

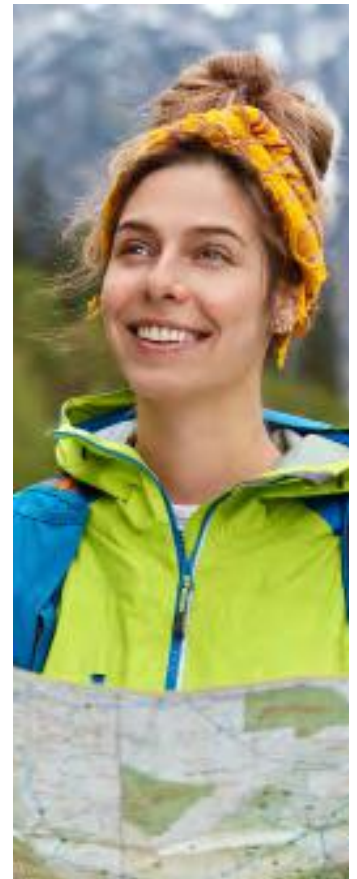
When your work aligns with your gifts and talents - it shows. Not only in your job performance, but in your confidence and overall job satisfaction. That passion is contagious, spilling over to others and encouraging them to perform at their best.

Whether it's your creativity, problem-solving abilities, or empathy - when you share your gifts, you create an environment where students:

- feel safe to make mistakes and learn
- can set and achieve goals, and
- develop the academic and personal skills they need to be successful

By sharing your knowledge and expertise, you contribute to the District by fostering a culture of personal and professional development. Your willingness to give of yourselves by offering mentorship, inspiration and encouragement truly makes a lasting difference in the lives of others.

Thank you for bringing the "whole package" to our students every day. Your unique talents, enthusiasm, and dedication are the gifts that keep on giving, inspiring our students and helping them unwrap their own potential. Each of you is an invaluable part of what makes our team so impactful, and we are incredibly grateful for all you do.



"Your purpose in life is to use your gifts and talents to help other people. Your journey in life teaches you how to do that."

- Tom Krause

UNWRAPPING YOUR GIFTS & TALENTS

In her TEDx Talk, [Your Gift Can Set You Apart](#), Stacey Susa says your gifts come to you naturally. They are the inherent qualities and capacities that are second nature. But *naming* your talents may not come so easily. If you're not sure what you bring to the table, you can start to [unwrap your gifts](#) with these tips:

Think when you are working "in the zone."

For example, if you completely lose track of time while organizing, you may have a natural talent for project management or planning.

Notice what comes easily to you.

Pay attention to tasks that you perform easily or learn quickly compared to others. If others ask you for advice in a particular area, that's also a sign of a natural talent.

Reflect on past successes.

Think about projects or challenges where you performed well or received praise, and consider the specific qualities or skills that helped you succeed.

Think about what leaves you wanting to learn more.

If there's a particular skill or topic you're drawn to improving or studying, that interest might stem from an underlying talent. Talents often inspire us to dig deeper, even if it requires effort.

Ask for feedback and look for recurring themes in compliments.

Your friends, family and co-workers may see a strength in you that you haven't considered.

Take a skills assessment test.

Tools like the [CliftonStrengths Finder](#), [Myers-Briggs](#), or [VIA Character Strengths](#) assessments can provide insights into your personality, preferences, and strengths.



A GENERAL'S GIFTS

ADAPTABILITY
& FLEXIBILITY

COMMUNICATION
& COLLABORATION

EMPATHY

CRITICAL THINKING

LEARNER'S
MINDSET



FEELING STUCK? THE EAP CAN HELP

Are you feeling unsure about your personal strengths or talents? Are you navigating a rough patch or facing challenges or finding that life is leaving you less than holly jolly? The District's [free EAP benefits](#) can help. You can receive career coaching, personal counseling, training and personal development and so much more.

You can call anytime - experienced counselors are available 24/7 to help you identify your strengths, set goals, and reignite your passion. Help is available when you need it - and it's okay to ask!

KEVIN'S CORNER: A Message from Our Interim Superintendent

Dear AWLS Staff:

As we enter this time of year often associated with gifts, let us shift our focus from the material exchanges to the gift of making a difference in the lives of others—a gift we have the privilege to give every single day.

It's easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the season, but when we pause to reflect, we realize that the most meaningful gifts are not wrapped in boxes. Instead, they are found in the connections we build, the care we show, and the impact we have on others.

I want to take a moment to thank each of you for the incredible role you play in our District. Through your dedication, you give our students the gifts of knowledge, encouragement, and the assurance that they are valued. In doing so, you also receive an invaluable gift: the knowledge that your work is shaping lives, helping students achieve their goals, and encouraging them to share their unique gifts with the world.

If I could offer one gift to each of you, it would be the understanding of how important you are—not just to the success of our District, but to everyone you interact with each day. Your efforts truly make a difference, and for that, I am deeply grateful.

Thank you for all that you do, and may this season bring you joy and fulfillment as we continue to give and receive the gifts that truly matter.

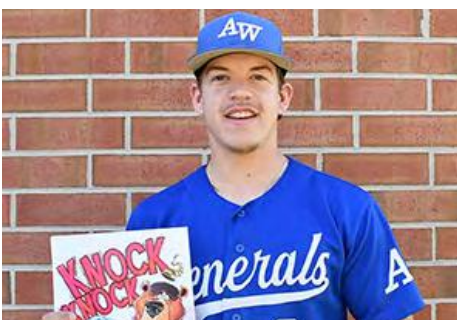
Kevin Herman, *Interim Superintendent*



SCHOOL CLOSINGS & DELAYS

Winter weather is coming (eventually) and with it comes the chance of a school delay or closing. The District will send out a phone call, text message and email if there is inclement weather affecting school. REMEMBER, YOU HAVE TO OPT IN TO RECEIVE TEXT MESSAGES. Text YES to 87569 to subscribe.

Closings will also be announced on the website and local TV stations.



LITERACY VIDEO SERIES CONTINUES

We are continuing our special story time featuring AWHs students reading children's books to promote literacy skills and a love of reading. You are encouraged to visit www.AnthonyWayneSchools.org/Literacy to view the list of stories, and share them with your families. If you know of an AWHs student who would like to represent their team or organization by participating, please contact [Rebecca Schwan](mailto:Rebecca.Schwan).

SANTA'S SEASONAL SANITY SAVERS

The holiday season, while a time of joy and celebration, can also be a source of stress and anxiety. By adding these tips to your list, you can reduce holiday stress and enjoy a more peaceful and fulfilling season.

Don't Overschedule Yourself

Prioritize activities and avoid over committing. Remember, it's okay to say no to an invitation.

Simplify Travel and Limit Car Time

Plan your travel in advance to reduce stress and avoid last-minute rushes. Consider alternative transportation options, such as public transit or carpooling.

Manage Gift Giving

Set a budget and stick to it, and focus on quality over quantity. You may also consider homemade gifts or experiences over material possessions.

Be Responsible About Food and Alcohol Consumption

Eat healthy foods and avoid overeating. Drink alcohol in moderation, and be aware of the potential risks of substance abuse.

Enjoy Family on Your Terms

Set boundaries and communicate your needs to family members. Don't feel obligated to participate in every family tradition.

Respect Differences

Be mindful of others' beliefs and perspectives. Avoid controversial topics and focus on positive interactions.

Take Time for Yourself

Schedule time for relaxation and self-care. Practice mindfulness techniques, such as meditation or deep breathing.

Honor Losses

Acknowledge and process grief and loss. Seek support from friends, family members or a therapist.

Don't Forget Routine Maintenance

Maintain regular sleep schedules, healthy eating habits, and exercise routines.

Reach Out if You Need Help

Don't hesitate to seek professional help if you're struggling with stress or anxiety.

Source: University of California Davis Health



AW STAFF PICKLEBALL

Improve your physical and social wellness by dropping in to play a game or two of pickleball! No previous experience or equipment necessary.

JANUARY 16 | 7:00-8:30 PM | Waterville Primary School

FEBRUARY 13 | 7:00 - 8:30 PM | Whitehouse Primary School

APRIL 8 | 7:00 - 8:30 PM | Monclova Primary School

Need a pickleball primer? [This video promises to teach the basics of pickleball in just 5 minutes.](#)



FRI. & SAT., DEC. 6 - 7	AWJH MUSICAL: WILLY WONKA, JR.
MONDAY, DEC. 9	BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, DEC. 10	AWHS BAND CONCERT
THURSDAY, DEC. 12	MONCLOVA GR. 3 MUSIC PROGRAM AWHS CHOIR CONCERT
FRIDAY, DEC. 13	AWHS CHOIR COFFEEHOUSE
MONDAY, DEC. 16	AW CHOIRS AT TOLEDO ZOO
TUESDAY, DEC. 17	MONCLOVA REVERSE CAROLING GR. 8 CHOIR HOLIDAY CONCERT
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18	WHITEHOUSE GR. 3 MUSIC PROGRAM
DEC. 23 - JAN. 1	CLOSED: WINTER BREAK
THURSDAY, JAN. 2	CLASSES RESUME

AWJH PRESENTS: WILLY WONKA, JR.

Enter a world of pure imagination with this adaptation of Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, a whimsical tale of a famous candy maker with an appetite for adventure. Follow Charlie Bucket and the rest of the Golden Ticket winners as they meet the dancing Oompa Loompas and taste their way through Willy Wonka's chocolate factory.

This scrumdiddlyumptious fantasy will satisfy your sweet tooth and leave you humming the familiar tunes from this entertaining show!

AWHS AUDITORIUM
Friday, Dec. 6 and Saturday, Dec. 7
7:00 p.m.
PRESALE TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE

2024 BOARD MEETINGS

December 9

8:00 a.m.

[Meeting Agendas, Policies & Livestream](#)

2024 - 2025 LPDC MEETINGS

January 12

February 10

March 10

April 7

May 5

May 19

[Materials Deadlines & Representatives List](#)

2024-25 DISTRICT CALENDAR

GENERALS ATHLETICS

Anthony Wayne Junior High
 presents
 Roald Dahl's
Willy Wonka Jr.
 December 6th and 7th 7:00 PM
 The Anthony Wayne High School Auditorium
 5967 Finzel Rd., Whitehouse, OH 43571
 Music and Lyrics by Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley
 Adapted for the Stage by Leslie Bricusse and Timothy Allen McDonald
 Based on the Book "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" by Roald Dahl

S.U.B. AWARDS

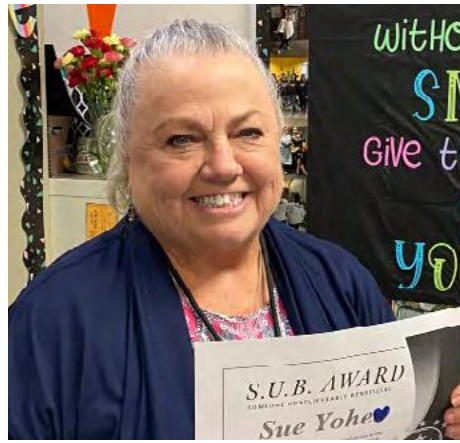
SUE YOHE

nominated by Betsey Murry

MARYANN KING

nominated by Kevin Pfefferle

Thank you both for being
Someone Unbelievably
Beneficial to our schools!



CELEBRATE THE GIFT OF KINDNESS



The Mirror Newspaper is accepting nominations of individuals who make a difference by being kind to others. This is a great opportunity to honor someone who performs acts of kindness in their everyday role as an employee, volunteer, team member or student - or simply uplifts others through their actions and/or words. Send your nominee's name, contact information and a few sentences about them to karen@themirrornewspaper.com.

DECEMBER STAFF SPOTLIGHTS

Watch for interviews highlighting the work of the following outstanding AW team members during the month of December. Their stories will be posted online on the dates indicated below.



SPECIAL EDUCATION DAY

DECEMBER 2

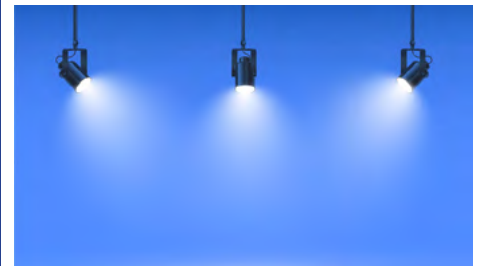
[Angela Gardner & Jennifer Karl-Thompson](#)



ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATOR DAY

DECEMBER 11

[Marissa Dazell & John Snyder](#)



NOVEMBER SPOTLIGHTS

Career Development Month
[Kevin Herman & Brad Contat](#)

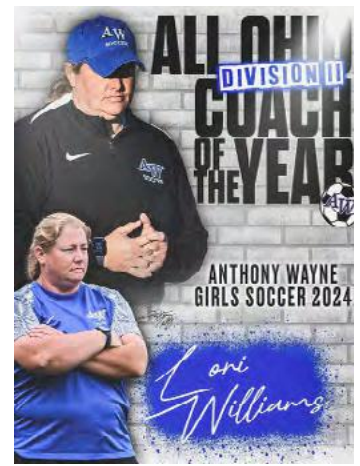
Family Literacy Month
[Emily Rodriguez & Andrea Donley](#)

School Psychology Week
[Katie Hart](#)

Educational Support
Professionals Day
[Jodi Gyurasics & Bryce Douglas](#)

Parental Involvement Day
[Jamie Smeltzer & Nicole Farthing](#)

Substitute Educators Day
[Shannon Mead & Samantha Hemmert](#)



CORBETT RECEIVES OMLA AWARD

Julie Corbett, FTMS 6th Grade Social Studies Teacher, was recently awarded the 2024 Regional Award for Best Middle Level Practice from the Ohio Middle Level Association for her commitment to caring for her students and building relationships that lead to learning.

[Read more about Julie and her compassionate teaching philosophy on the District website.](#)

FALL COACHES OF THE YEAR

NORTHERN LAKES LEAGUE (NLL)
AND ALL-OHIO [DIVISION II]
Chrissy Graven, Volleyball
Lori Williams, Girls Soccer

NORTHERN LAKES LEAGUE (NLL)
Jason Gwin, Girls Golf
Pat Phillips, Boys Golf
Andy Brungard, Football
Brian Billings, Boys Soccer



BIRTHDAY BUDDIES: WELCOME ALLISON & AVERY

November 7 at 6:05 a.m.
ALLISON ROSE ZERVOS

Parents:
Amy Zervos, Monclova Preschool OT
and Rob Zervos

Allison was welcomed home by her fur siblings, Lexi and Jake.

November 7 at 11:15 a.m.
AVERY ARLENE DOTSON

Parents:
Kelsey Dotson, AWHs Math Teacher
and Josh Dotson

Avery's big brother Eli was happy to have his mom and sister home with him.

HAVE NEWS TO SHARE? Send your announcement or achievement to communications@anthonywayneschools.org to be included in the *Generals Bulletin* staff newsletter.

Anthony Wayne Local Schools 2024/2025 School Calendar

August 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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*FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL						

September 2024						
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October 2024						
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27	28*	29**	30	31		
^End of First QTR; *Evening Conferences; **2-HR DELAY						

November 2024						
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December 2024						
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January 2025						
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^End of Second QTR						

February 2025						
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*2-HR DELAY						

March 2025						
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April 2025						
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^End of Third QTR; *2-HR DELAY						

May 2025						
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June 2025						
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29**	30**					
*LAST DAY OF SCHOOL **AW FAMILY WEEK						

July 2025						
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**AW FAMILY WEEK						

Holiday – No School
 Teacher Work/In-service Day/PD/No Report – No School for Students
 No School – Fall/Winter/Spring Breaks

8/20	Professional Development/Teacher Work Day	1/17	Teacher Work Day – No School for Students
8/22	First Day of School for Students	1/20	Martin Luther King Day – No School
9/2	Labor Day – No School	2/17	President's Day – No School
10/25	Teacher Work Day – No School for Students	2/18	2-Hour Delay Day – Teacher Professional Development
10/28	Parent Conferences K-12 – Evening Conferences	3/24-28	Spring Break – No School
10/29	2-Hour Delay Day – Teacher Professional Development	4/18	Good Friday – No School for Students
11/4	Parent Conferences K-12 – No School for Students	4/21	2-Hour Delay – Teacher Professional Development
11/5	Professional Development Day – No School for Students	5/6	No School for Students
11/25-29	Professional Development - Fall Break – No School	5/26	Memorial Day – No School
12/23-1/1	Winter Break	6/3	Last Day of School for Students
		6/4	Teacher Work Day

June 4, 5, 6, 9 and 10 will be used as make up days. Make-up days will be at the end of the school year as determined by the Board of Education. The Teacher Work Day will be scheduled the day/s after the final student day.

Anthony Wayne Local Schools 2025/2026 School Calendar

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