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ANTHONY WAYNE LOCAL SCHOOLS EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER | NOV. 2022

From the Superintendent's Desk

First Quarter Reflections with Gratitude

In the famous words of Ferris Bueller, "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it." Yes, it's November!

Sometimes we get into the fast lane cruising along and we don't stop and appreciate what we have accomplished. I encourage you to reflect back over those last three months of the start of this school year and identify positive moments you are thankful for in your life.

Gratitude is meant to be shared!

In this month of Thanksgiving, I share my gratitude for all the work that you do each and every day to provide these outstanding opportunities to our students!

As I reflect on the first three months of school and the last 13 years of serving as



I am grateful to have the opportunity to receive feedback from the Student Advisory Committee. These young people are helping to shape the future of AWLS by sharing their experiences.

superintendent I can't remember a better first quarter of school. Thank you for all that you do to help our students achieve at such a high level in and out of the classroom!

I hope you all can find opportunities to share your gratitude with each other in this month of Thanksgiving.

Go Generals!

Dr. Jim Fritz,
Superintendent

Anthony Wayne Local Schools empowers students to be future ready!

NATIONAL MILITARY FAMILIES MONTH

November was first declared as Military Family Month in 1996 as a way to recognize the sacrifices of American service members and their loved ones.

Military families face unique demands, and it's

important that we recognize how these challenges affect the way the parents engage with our schools and our students' academic and personal needs.

This newsletter is full of ways to learn more about their experiences.

AWLS thanks our active duty service members, veterans and their families for their contributions to our nation.

DID YOU KNOW?

[We have information for military families available on our website >>](#)

PURPLE STAR DESIGNATION RECOGNIZES MILITARY SUPPORT

[The Purple Star Award](#) recognizes schools that show a major commitment to students and families connected to the military. Schools are awarded this honor if they complete a list of required and optional activities, and must renew their designation every three years.

We are proud that each of our schools has earned this honor for choosing to support our students as they face the challenges that come with having a loved one serve in the military.



AWJH PURPLE STAR GENERALS TO HONOR VETERANS

The Anthony Wayne Junior High Purple Star Generals, under the leadership of Purple Star Liaison and Social Studies Teacher, Christine Young are busy preparing to recognize and thank our community's active duty and veteran service members.

All AWJH students are given the opportunity to honor a veteran with a flag to place on their lawn. "I began these efforts in my social studies class and over the last three years have purchased enough flags for the whole school," Christine said. "This year's flag placing will take place on, November 9 and 10."

During HomeBase, students will make thank you cards that will be delivered to veterans in Veteran Hospitals throughout Ohio and lower Michigan.

The Purple Star Generals are planning a Veteran Honor Breakfast on Friday, Nov. 11. "If all goes as planned, all JH students, not just our military families, will be able to invite one veteran to attend breakfast with them," Christine said.

Also on Veterans Day, students will hear from local active duty and retired service members during social studies class. These special

guests will share about their military service and what sacrifice means to them.

Christine is also working to secure donations for Military Family Appreciation Gift Baskets filled with a restaurant gift card, movie gift card, a board game and candy and snacks for each AWJH military family.

Thank you, Christine and the Purple Star Generals for your commitment to honoring the veterans in our community and recognizing our military families.



VETERANS DAY IS NOVEMBER 11

Various recognition programs, assemblies and guest speaker presentations will be held in each of our buildings as we honor those who have chosen to serve our country through service in the military. A list of these activities will be shared as they are available on the District website at [AnthonyWayneSchools.org/Veterans Day](https://AnthonyWayneSchools.org/VeteransDay).

MONCLOVA PRIMARY SUPPORTS MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS

School counselor Chris Buehrer also serves as the Purple Star Liaison for Monclova Primary School.

He said as a result of the military-connected activities that have occurred at Monclova, the student body, staff, and faculty have a better understanding and appreciation of the sacrifices and challenges that members of the military and their families face.

Chris checks in regularly with military-connected students before, during, and after the

deployment process to work with the student, family and teacher in order to best meet the student’s academic and social-emotional needs

Teachers connect daily with military-connected students in their classrooms, and a monthly group meeting is offered to provide military-connected students with counselor and peer support.

Students have written thank you letters, completed service projects and participated in classroom lessons and other school-wide activities to learn



Last year, students made thank you cards for local veterans.

what it means to be a part of the U.S. Armed Forces and to give back to our active duty and veteran service members.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY HONORING OUR AWLS VETERANS



BRAD CONTAT
Human Resources Director
ARMY, Retired



MATT DICK
Director of Operations
AIR FORCE, Retired



JIM EBERLY
AWHS Math
ARMY, Retired



DAVE JOHNSON
AWHS Physics
NAVY, Retired



JAKE NEKORANEC
AWJH Science
ARMY RESERVE, Active



STEVE TROMPETER
AWHS Operations Engineer
AIR FORCE, Retired

**PORTRAIT OF A GENERAL:
LEARNER'S MINDSET & EMPATHY
SUPPORTING MILITARY-
CONNECTED STUDENTS**



Over 13,000 students in Ohio are members of military families. Frequent moves and family separations through deployments, as well as reintegration issues can make life and learning especially challenging.

You can support our military-connected students by learning more about their unique needs and concerns. The resources on this page can help you support our students and connect with their families.

[The Ohio Department of Education offers a resource guide for Supporting Ohio Veteran and Military Families >>](#)

TEDEd offers a series of eight lessons focused on what it means to be a military-connected student and addresses the challenges they can face in becoming college and career ready by graduation. [The free lessons](#) include a short video, in-depth content area, discussion forum and brief assessment for understanding.



**ARTICLES FOR
EDUCATORS**

[How to Help Military & Veteran Families: For Teachers >>](#)

[Military Kids Connect: Caring for Students >>](#)

[10 Things Military Teens Want You to Know >>](#)

[Army National Guard Resources for Educators >>](#)

[Support & Solutions for Children of Military Personnel >>](#)

35+ SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS >>

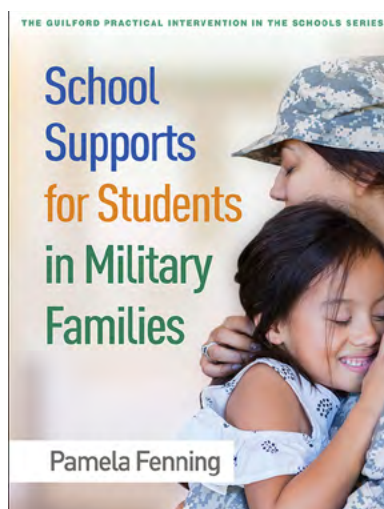
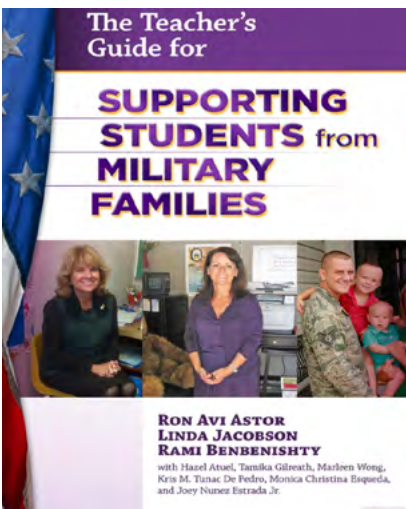
**MILITARY families
MAGAZINE**

[Military Families Magazine](#) provides news and resources to support and inform military service members, their families and our community. Issues are released 10 times each year and subscription to the digital publication is free.



**ONESOURCE
PODCAST**

The Military OneSource podcast provides information, tools and resources on topics unique to the military, like spouse employment, special needs family members, deployment, relocation, finances, parenting and more. [Click here to view the episodes and listen in >>](#)



NOVEMBER EVENTS: FROM FALL BACK TO FALL BREAK

NOVEMBER 5: DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour, and enjoy the extra hour of rest!

NOVEMBER 7: EVENING CONFERENCES

We will host fall conferences for families of students in grades K-6 after school on Monday, November 7.

NOVEMBER 8: NO SCHOOL / CONFERENCES

Fall conferences continue on Tuesday, November 8. There is no school for students. Thank you for providing our parents with this opportunity to learn about their student's progress and how they can engage with their learning.

NOVEMBER 8: ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, November 8 is Election Day. The polls are open from 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Please make time to vote, as there are many local issues on the ballot.

The AWLS Board is asking voters to renew a \$3M Emergency Operating Levy that has been in effect for the District since 2003. More information can be found at AnthonyWayneSchools.org/LevyRenewal

NOVEMBER 17: LUNCH & LEARN

The ProMedica Employee Assistance Program will offer *Overcoming Burnout* at Noon on Thursday, November 17. Email Brad Contact at bcontat@anthonywayneschools.org for a registration link for this free online event

NOVEMBER 21: PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Our fall professional learning day is Monday, November 21. There is no school for students.

NOV. 22 - 25: HAPPY THANKSGIVING

The District is closed Tuesday, November 22 through Friday, November 25 for fall break. Have a restful and enjoyable holiday with your friends and family!



UPCOMING MEETINGS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, November 7
Monday, December 12

[Meetings are also streamed live online >>](#)

LOCAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

November 14
December: No Meeting
January 9
February 13
March 13
April 10
May 1
May 22

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

[VISIT THE DISTRICT EVENTS CALENDAR FOR MORE EVENTS, ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS CONTESTS >>](#)

FACILITIES MASTER PLAN UPDATE

The District continues to work with The Collaborative to complete a facilities assessment to help develop a District Facilities Plan. District administrators recently received the assessment

summary report, and are moving into the review and community feedback portion of planning.

Dr. Fritz will hold meetings with coaches, board

committees and internal and external stakeholders this fall. It is the District's goal to have the Facilities Master Plan completed in the spring of 2023. [A timeline is available on the website >>](#).

SUPPORTING STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

November is National Homeless Youth Awareness Month, and provides the opportunity to learn more about how you can play a part in supporting families in our District who may be struggling to find suitable housing.

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act identifies a student as homeless if they **lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence**.

This could mean the student is living in a vehicle or shelter, but it also extends to students who are living "doubled

up" with another family, or who are "couch surfing" with friends.

The District works closely with the Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West and local churches and other organizations to ensure that families have the resources they need for their child to be successful in school.

This support can take the form of food and hygiene items, clothing and school supplies, transportation or help in finding a more permanent living situation.

Each situation is unique, and our team of school counselors, school social worker, administrators and community contacts works to ensure families and students have what they need to be successful.

If you suspect a child is living in substandard housing or is homeless, please notify [Kevin Herman](#), Assistant Superintendent and Homeless Liaison or start the conversation with your building counselor.

WELLNESS COMMITTEE: MANAGING HOLIDAY STRESS

Whether the next few weeks have you dashing through the snow to shop for gifts, decking the halls or preparing to have some pumpkin pie and do some caroling, the holiday hustle and bustle can leave us a little less than holly jolly and pining for the sunshine of a friendly gaze.

If you find that everyone telling you to be of good cheer is making you feel more like the Grinch, it's important to acknowledge the causes of your stress and look for ways to revive your holiday spirit.

The Wellness Committee challenges you to consider the Portrait of a General Competencies when preparing for the holidays:

Critical Thinking

Angels-in-training don't have all the answers, but Clarence made a big difference by considering ways to improve an awful situation. You can too.

Adaptability & Flexibility

Santa had to improvise when the weather didn't cooperate, but it didn't stop the sleigh! Try to roll with unexpected challenges as they arise.

Communication & Collaboration

Invite friends and family to help hang the outdoor illumination, or ask Aunt Bethany to bring her famous jello salad to the family dinner.

Empathy

Children in this animated classic remind us that consulting a therapist is okay, and all most of us need to be our holiday best is a little love.

Learner's Mindset

Try not to focus on the noise, noise, noise and take time to learn something new about the holidays and the way you celebrate them.



You may not be able to turn your Ebenezer Scrooge into Buddy the Elf, but we hope you can find a little gratitude, hope and peace this holiday season.

FOR FURTHER READING

[What is 'Christmas Creep' and why can it stress you out? >>](#)

[Stress Management for Teachers: 5 Tips to Help You Survive the Holiday Season >>](#)

PRIZE ALERT: HOLIDAY FUN

Can you name all of the **holiday movies** referenced in this article? The first three employees who email correct responses to [Rebecca Schwan](#) will receive a stocking full of treats!



AWHS GRAD'S INTERACTIVE ART SELECTED FOR SHOW

Anthony Wayne High School graduate Bradley Scherzer ('06) was selected to participate in last month's 2022 BLINK light art festival in Cincinnati, Ohio. His interactive art piece, POOF! was first commissioned by The Arts Commission for Toledo's Momentum Festival, and has since been on display at several other arts events. Bradley is an art teacher at Fremont Ross High School, and his mural work can be found in Fremont, Bowling Green, Findlay, Maumee and Toledo.



AWHS OPENS TIME CAPSULE SEALED IN 1997

On Wednesday, October 12 the AWHS senior class gathered in the gymnasium along with staff members and community guests to watch as members of student council opened a time capsule prepared by the class of 1998. The capsule was sealed as a part of the high school's rededication ceremony following major renovations and additions in 1997. Items included a video on VHS-C video cassette, a copy of the student newspaper, pop culture highlights and handwritten messages from students.



FTMS STUDENTS HEAR FROM MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

Aaron Wheelz Fotheringham is an internationally-known motivational speaker, author and wheelchair stunt artist. Born with Spina Bifida, Aaron uses his wheelchair as a tool to accomplish his goals, and he encouraged FTMS students to consider how their challenges can be their greatest motivators to success. Through his work, he hopes to change the perception of individuals with disabilities and inspire hope. [Learn more about his story by watching his appearance on America's Got Talent Extreme >>](#)



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SELF-CARE BINGO WINNERS!

Rachel Birt (Monclova), Elena Boyle (Waterville) and Lisa Pietras (AWHS) received AW stadium blankets from the Wellness Committee for completing the self-care bingo challenge in the September issue of the *Generals Bulletin*. Thank you for participating! Look for another opportunity to win a prize in this issue.



ABILITY CENTER FEATURES AWLS THERAPY DOG PROGRAM

The Ability Center and a team of photographers put Teila, Laney, Luna and Astro along with Anthony Wayne students and staff members in the spotlight in October. The photos will be used in a training guide and to highlight the many ways school districts can use therapy dogs to support learning and wellness. A sincere thank you goes out to our staff and students for demonstrating adaptability and flexibility as the photo shoot spilled over into classrooms and offices. [Take a behind the scenes look at the photo shoot and the project >>](#)



GENERALS ATHLETICS FALL SEASON CONTINUES INTO PLAYOFFS

Cross Country

Boys Cross Country earned both the NLL and District Champion titles and finished Runner Up at Regionals to qualify for the state race on Saturday, November 5. Connor Long won both the NLL and District races and finished second at Regionals.

Brandy Outly qualified for, and represented AW Girls Cross Country at Regionals.

Football

The Generals defeated North Ridgeville to advance to the next round of the playoffs. They will take on Olmsted Falls at home on Friday, November 4. Kickoff is at 7:00 p.m.

Golf

Boys Golf brought home both the NLL and District titles and qualified for the OHSAA State Championship for the second straight year. Logan Sutto was named NLL and District medalist.

Girls Tennis

The Girls Tennis team qualified for the Ohio Coaches Association State Tournament Final Four. Lilly Black and Mara Boyd both qualified for the OHSAA State Tennis Championship. Lilly ended her incredible high school career with a 3rd place finish at State.

Soccer

AW Boys Soccer was named NLL Champions. Parker Schofield earned NLL Player of the Year.

Girls Soccer was named NLL Runner-up and District champion. They will compete for the Regional title on Saturday, November 5.

Volleyball

AW volleyball finished 3rd in the NLL and was named District Runner-up.

Quiz Team

The AW team has advanced to the finals. Their next match is Monday, November 7.

