

The Generals Post **AW**

Anthony Wayne Local Schools Stakeholder Newsletter

November 2024



Fallen Timbers staff members hosted a costume contest with a cause. Students could vote for their favorite costume by making a donation to Hannah's Socks. Over 400 pairs were collected.



Monclova Primary students and staff donated over 6,600 pieces of candy for Vision Ministries' Trunk-or-Treat event.

A SEASON OF GRATITUDE

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, we are reminded of the importance of community and the power collaboration in making Anthony Wayne Local Schools the incredible District it is today.

We are so very fortunate to be supported by such a strong community, committed to ensuring each child has the resources they need to be successful in the classroom and beyond.

To our stakeholders, thank you -- for making AWLS one of the best school districts in the state. We cannot do what we do without you. Happy Thanksgiving to each of you!



AWHS Athletics collected over 12,000 pounds in household goods and clothing as a part of a donation drive competition, in connection with Goodwill Industries. Nearly 18,000 total pounds were collected.



Family Consumer Sciences students at AW Junior High collected 843 non-perishable food items for the AW Ministries Food Bank and a number of personal hygiene items for Cherry Street Mission.



Waterville Primary's Land Lab garden continues to produce vegetables that are harvested delivered to a local food pantry.

A Letter from the Interim Superintendent



Anthony Wayne Local Schools Community,

As we move into the second quarter of the school year, I want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for the ongoing support we receive from each one of you. It's because of the combined dedication of our students, families, staff and community partners that we can provide an enriching, supportive environment where every student is empowered to be future ready.

Your commitment, whether shown through volunteering, attending events, or advocating for our schools, creates a foundation that strengthens our entire District. This shared effort allows us to continue offering meaningful academic and extracurricular opportunities, enhance our resources and ensure a safe, welcoming space for every student.

In a time when collaboration and resilience are more important than ever, our community continues to inspire us with your generosity and encouragement. Thank you for believing in our mission and joining us on this journey to empower young minds and foster a lifelong love for learning.

With gratitude,

Kevin Herman, Interim Superintendent
superintendent@anthonywayneschools.org



ANTHONY WAYNE HIGH SCHOOL TO ADD 22 TO WALL OF HONOR

Anthony Wayne High School is proud to announce that it will honor 22 local service members at its upcoming Veterans Day Ceremony at 9:15 a.m. on Monday, November 11. The AWHs Military Wall of Honor, established to recognize the sacrifices of Anthony Wayne High School alumni and employees who have served, or are actively serving in the armed forces, stands as a permanent testament to their dedication and courage. The newly added names, representing veterans from various branches of the military, will join the ranks of those already enshrined on the wall.

While the event is not open to the general public, the ceremony [will be streamed online](#) for those wishing to observe the ceremony.

For more about the AWHs Military Wall of Honor, or to nominate a service member for a future induction ceremony, please visit www.AnthonyWayneSchools.org/WallofHonor.

2024 HONOREES

- 1935 Robert L. Shadle, Jr., Army
- 1958 Robert L. Shadle, Jr., Air Force
- 1960 David Suleski, Sr., Army
- 1961 Thomas Shadle, Air Force
- 1967 John Snyder, Army
- 1969 Robert Neumeyer, Army
- 1979 Timothy Baranaski, Army
- 1979 Stephen Trippe, Army
- 1979 David Utley, Army
- 1980 Crystal (Kingston) Spencer, Air Force
- 1980 Keith Carter, Air Force
- 1984 Tim Hancock, Army
- 1986 Wayne Strohacker, Army
- 1989 Chris Hodge, Navy
- 1990 Valerie Strang, Navy
- 2009 Stephen Despoth, Army
- 2017 Tristen Sorensen, Coast Guard
- 2019 Nathan Keller, Air Force
- 2020 Sydney Raab, Air Force
- 2021 Donovan Miller, Army
- 2023 Blake Reed, Air Force
- Emp. David Bell, Air Force

NOVEMBER STAFF SPOTLIGHTS

We are grateful for the many opportunities that this month brings to celebrate our hardworking employees and community members! As we celebrate November's recognition days, watch for stories about the individuals below to appear on the [District website](#) and [mobile app](#), and posted to our [X \(Twitter profile\)](#) throughout the month of November. We also encourage you to take a moment to send a message of thanks to these individuals and their colleagues for their service to our schools. [Click here to view the staff directory.](#)



NOVEMBER
Family Literacy Month
Whitehouse Primary
Andrea Donley, Title I Teacher
Emily Rodriguez, Intervention Specialist



NOVEMBER
Career Development Month
District Administrators
Kevin Herman, Interim Superintendent
Brad Contat, Director of Human Resources



NOVEMBER 11-15
School Psychologist Week
Katie Hart
AWHS School Psychologist



NOVEMBER 20
Educational Assistants Day
Jody Gyurasics, Whitehouse
Bryce Douglas, AWJH



NOVEMBER 21
Parent Involvement Day
Parent Volunteers
Nicole Farthing
Jamie Smeltzer



NOVEMBER 22
Substitute Educators Day
Substitute Teachers
Samantha Hemmert
Shannon Mead

IN CASE YOU MISSED THEM:

October's Staff Spotlights are available online.

School Resource Officers
[Jeff Siebenaler](#)
[Morgan Schumann](#)

AWHS Coaches
[Ryan Donley](#), [Katie Pollock](#)
& [Kevin O'Connor](#)

AW Junior High Custodian
[Charlene Metzger](#)

Monclova Primary Cook
[Toni Baldwin](#)

Monclova Primary PE Teacher
[Mike Black](#)

Bus Driver and OBI
[Judi Wilkerson](#)

Head Mechanic
[Gary Vollmar](#)

ANTHONY WAYNE HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS FALL PLAY

Set in the 1980's, Rumors is a riotous comedy by Neil Simon that takes place during an elegant dinner party hosted by New York's Deputy Mayor. When the guests arrive, they discover a gunshot wound and a missing spouse - setting off a chain of mistaken identities, cover-ups, and outrageous rumors. With Simon's signature wit and comedic timing, the play delves into the absurdity of human foibles and the lengths people go to save face.

RUMORS

AWHS Auditorium

Thursday, Nov. 14 - 7:00 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 15 - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 16 - 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Adult Tickets: \$15 Students & Seniors: \$10*

**Generals Pride pass holders are eligible for a complimentary ticket to the show.*

For presale tickets, please visit:
www.AnthonyWayneSchools.org/Arts



FALL AND WINTER MUSIC PERFORMANCES

The following concerts and performances are free and open to the public, and are held at the AWHS Auditorium, unless otherwise indicated. For the full list of performances, [please visit our website](#).

NOVEMBER 7 - 7:00 p.m.
AWHS Symphonic Winds

DECEMBER 7 - 7:00 p.m.
AWJH Musical: *Wonka, Jr.*
Tickets required

DECEMBER 17 - 7:00 p.m.
8th Grade Holiday Concert

NOVEMBER 9 - 10:00 a.m.
AWHS Marching Generals
Toledo Blade Holiday Parade
Downtown Toledo

DECEMBER 10 - 7:00 p.m.
AWHS Holiday Band Concert

November 11 - 6:30 p.m.
Waterville Primary Veterans
Day Program

DECEMBER 11 - 6:30 p.m.
6th Grade Band Concert

DECEMBER 11 - 7:30 p.m.
AWJH Band Concert

NOVEMBER 7 - 7:00 p.m.
AWHS Symphonic Winds

DECEMBER 12 - 7:00 p.m.
AWHS Winter Choir Concert

DECEMBER 6 - 7:00 p.m.
AWJH Musical: *Wonka, Jr.*
Tickets required

DECEMBER 13 - 6:00 p.m.
AWHS Choir Coffeehouse
Senior Commons



GENERALS MADNESS KICKS OFF BASKETBALL SEASON

Please join the AW boys and girls programs along with our cheerleaders, spirit crew and youth travel programs for our Second Annual Generals Madness event on Saturday Nov. 16 at 7:00 p.m. at AWHS. Tickets are \$5 a person or \$10 per family, paid by cash or Venmo at the door.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 3
Daylight Saving Time Ends

NOVEMBER 4
No School: Parent-Teacher
Conferences

NOVEMBER 5
Election Day
No School: Staff Professional
Development

NOVEMBER 7
AWLS Board of Education
Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER 11 - 15
Veterans Week

NOVEMBER 16
Generals Madness Basketball

NOVEMBER 18 - 22
District Wide Donation Drive

NOVEMBER 25
No School: Staff Professional
Development

NOVEMBER 26 - 29
Closed: Fall Break

[For more activities
happening in our schools,
please visit:](#)

[District Master Calendar](#)

[Generals Athletics](#)
[Fine & Musical Arts](#)



VIDEO SERIES PROMOTES LITERACY

During the month of November, Anthony Wayne High School students will be featured in a special video series to encourage families of primary students to enjoy a story together.

Watch for new videos to be posted on the District's [YouTube channel](#) and [website](#) several times each week. Family Literacy Month is all about building connections—between students, families and books. We hope you enjoy these stories and join us in celebrating the power of reading!

DISTRICT WIDE DONATION DRIVE

In order to support those in need in our community, the District is hosting a week long donation drive. From November 18 -22, each building will plan and host a drive designed to collect non-perishable food, hygiene products, school supplies, winter clothing or other items.

More information about the drives is [available on the District website](#). Please consider giving as you are able to promote a strong and healthy AW Community!

SIGN UP FOR NEIGHBORHOOD BRIDGES

AWLS partners with AW neighborhood bridges to fill more immediate and specific needs in our community, anytime of year.

[Please register to receive an email notification](#) when a need is posted. There is no commitment to donate, and all recipients and donors remain anonymous.

SAFETY REMINDER FOR DRIVERS

Student safety is a top priority for the District, and we want to take a moment to remind drivers to remain vigilant behind the wheel. This is important no matter where you drive, but please be especially mindful in school zones and during student drop-off and pickup time.

This means no phone use, following posted speed limits and yielding to crosswalks. Please help us keep our school zones and pedestrians safe!





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

UPCOMING MEETINGS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7
6:00 p.m.
Central Administrative Office

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9
8:00 a.m.
Central Administrative Office

The date for the January organizational meeting will be set in December.

To view recordings from previous meetings, please visit the Board page of the website.

[\[EMAIL THE BOARD\]](#)

Anthony Wayne Board of Education Briefs

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

- The Board heard from District Treasurer, Kerri Johnson about the impacts of the Lucas County Auditors real estate reappraisals on District finances and the proposed operational levy.
- Director of Teaching and Learning, Jim Conner presented about the District's success on the State Report Card, performing among the top 5% of schools in the state.
- Learned about the process of starting a school district foundation from guest speaker, Jenny Goldberg Perin from Shift Consulting.

MEET THE MEMBERS: SHELLIE MCKNIGHT

A longtime resident of the District, Shellie McKnight is a retired reading and special education teacher. She attended The Ohio State University and earned her Bachelor of Science in French/English Education from Bowling Green State University. She also earned a Masters Degree in English and ABD in Speech/Rhetoric from BGSU.

Shellie has two adult children who graduated from AWHS and now live in Durango, Colorado. She is active in the AW community, having volunteered with Nature's Nursery and the Anthony Wayne Area Democratic Club. She enjoys reading, gardening, dancing, traveling and writing. [\[Learn more about Shellie\]](#)



DISTRICT FINANCES: OPERATIONAL LEVY REQUEST

ABOUT THE OPERATIONAL LEVY

In order to offset increasing expenses, the District placed a 5-year, 2.42-mill operational levy on the November 5 ballot. If passed, the levy will generate \$3.3 million each year to support the day-to-day operations of the District. These funds will be used to pay for educational expenses such as staff salaries and benefits, classroom materials, office and cleaning supplies, fuel, insurance and utilities.

LUCAS COUNTY PROPERTY REAPPRAISAL EFFECTS

At this time, we believe the projected increase in property values will result in the District's effective millage rate falling below the 20-mill minimum required by the state's constitution.

THIS IS IMPORTANT because it means that District residents will see a property tax increase starting in 2025 whether or not the levy passes, in order to bring the District's effective millage back up to the 20-mill rate. **Please refer to the following links** for more information about this unique situation:

AWLS WEBSITE: www.AnthonyWayneSchools.org/Reappraisal

TREASURER'S PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD: [\[Click here to view\]](#)

THE BLADE: [Anthony Wayne voters to pay more whether levy passes or fails](#)



LEARN ABOUT THE LEVY: www.AnthonyWayneSchools.org/Levy

ASK ABOUT THE LEVY: Call 419-877-5377 or [email planning@anthonywayneschools.org](mailto:planning@anthonywayneschools.org)



GRANTS AND DONATIONS ACCEPTED

Anthony Wayne Local Schools accepted \$9,050 in donations and was awarded nearly \$13,000 in grant funding last month. We appreciate our generous community members and educational support organizations for helping us provide excellent academic and athletic opportunities for students.

Waterville Primary School will receive \$5,000 from the Ohio STEM Learning Network Classroom Grant Program. The funds will give students in grades K-4 the opportunity to learn the importance of environmental stewardship by studying soil and water conservation practices in the school's Land Lab.

[\[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE AWARD\]](#)

Fourteen AWLS staff members were awarded grants from the Anthony Wayne Education Foundation in support of projects that enhancing academic engagement, promote positive behavior, foster social skills and increase inclusivity.

[\[READ ABOUT THE PROJECTS\]](#)

The Waterville Parents Association donated \$9,000 to Waterville Primary to purchase materials for literacy and STEAM learning and to support the Purple Star Generals. James and Maryam Berta donated \$50 to AW Generals Athletics in memory of Dick Hayes. [\[SEE MORE RECENT DONATIONS\]](#)





13abc stopped by Waterville Primary to learn about its Building Buddy program. Fourth and first graders work together to support learning, serve as mentors and promote positive building culture. [\[WATCH THE STORY\]](#)

Generals in the News

[What to expect from school levies on fall ballot](#)

[Leadership Toledo hosts 20th annual community breakfast](#)

[AP football rankings: Perrysburg, Anthony Wayne in top 5s ahead of showdown](#)

[Girls tennis team returning to state tournament](#)

[Anthony Wayne girls golf team heading to states](#)

[High school boys cross country: BG, Perrysburg grab titles](#)

[AW \(girls soccer\) shutout propels Generals to District Championship](#)

[Anthony Wayne sweeps Perrysburg to clinch Buckeye Volleyball title](#)

[Anthony Wayne football celebrates 75th year with 10-0 regular season](#)



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: AWH Senior, Carly Hemmelgarn reflects upon her successes in fine arts, including illustrating a children's book. [\[READ MORE ABOUT CARLY\]](#)



The AW Junior High girls cross country team were named state champions at the OHSAA Invitational. [\[LEARN MORE\]](#)



Four AWHs students were recognized by ELKS Maumee-BG 1850 as Students of the Month for their accomplishments. [\[LEARN MORE\]](#)

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



Whitehouse Primary students built catapults to learn about fulcrums and levers.



AWHS students conduct hands-on field work and collect data for the Student Watershed Watch program. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

FIRST QUARTER FUN AND LEARNING



Monclova Primary kindergarten students learned about fire safety and different types of careers as a first responder on a field trip to the fire station.



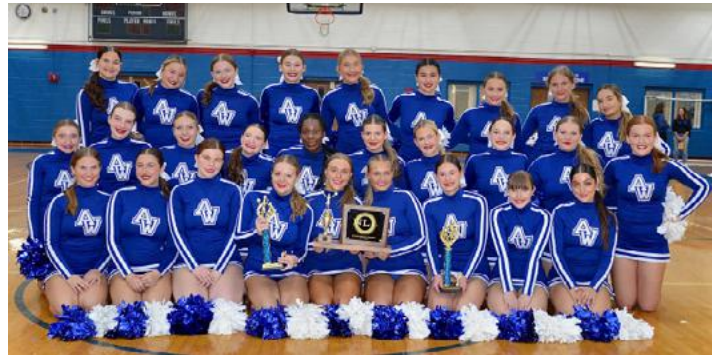
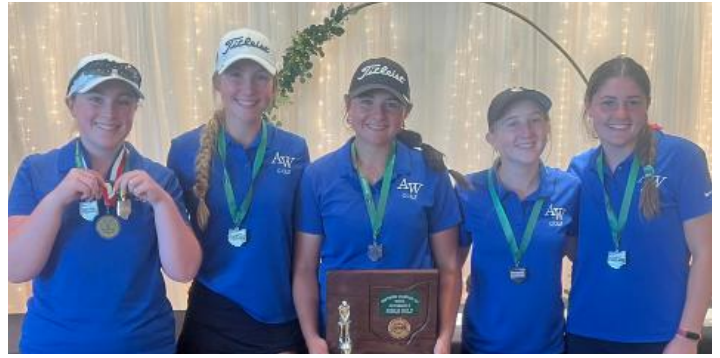
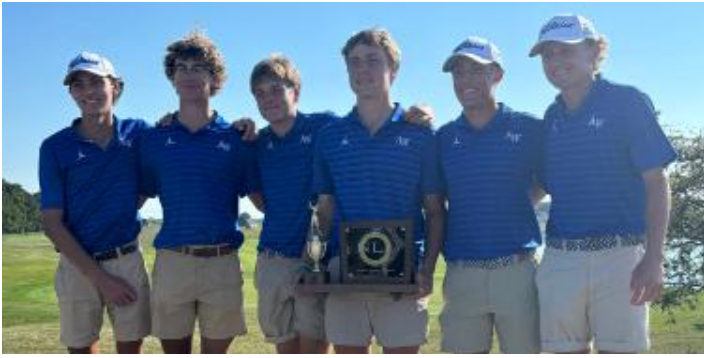
AW Junior High students were rewarded with lunch in the principal's office with school facility dog, Loraine.



Waterville Primary 3rd graders contribute to the Homer Farms mural featuring historical presidents created by Dean Davis.



Fallen Timbers Middle students demonstrate their greeting skills during the first quarter House competition. Interim Superintendent, Kevin. Herman served as judge.



A "BANNER" SEASON FOR AW ATHLETICS



- BOYS GOLF - NLL CHAMPIONS
- GIRLS GOLF - NLL CHAMPIONS
- FOOTBALL - NLL CHAMPIONS
- CHEERLEADING - NLL CHAMPIONS
- VOLLEYBALL - NLL CHAMPIONS
- TENNIS - NLL CHAMPIONS
- GIRLS SOCCER - NLL CHAMPIONS
- BOYS SOCCER - NLL CHAMPIONS
- DAVE'S RUNNING JR. CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONS