



March 2026

The Generals Post

Anthony Wayne Local Schools Stakeholder Newsletter

Growing Together: Welcoming the Class of 2039!

Kindergarten is full of firsts — first backpacks, first friendships, and first steps into a lifelong love of learning. This first year of school is also where learning, curiosity and friendships blossom. It's where letters form words, numbers begin to add up, and children begin to see themselves as capable learners.

For families preparing for kindergarten, we focus on:

- Early literacy and numeracy foundations
- Social and emotional development
- Play-based, hands-on exploration
- Building independence and confidence
- Creating a strong sense of belonging



[Kindergarten Enrollment](#) opens March 2! Families with children who will be five years old by August 17 and live within the Anthony Wayne Schools District are encouraged to begin the registration process.

We invite you to turn to page 10 to meet our teachers, get tips for starting school, and find important dates to welcome you and your child to school.

The Class of 2039 represents the future of our community, and we can't wait to meet the next class of Generals!



ABOVE: Monclova Kindergarten students learn and have fun together.



AWLS Board of Education News

The AWLS Board of Education meets monthly at the Central Administrative Offices. Meetings are open to the public and are [live-streamed and recorded](#) for those who cannot attend in-person.

[View the meeting recording](#)

[Contact the Board](#)

Highlights from the February 9 Regular Meeting

New Member Welcomed

District Treasurer, Kerri Johnson administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed member, Amy Barrett.

Generals for Generations Foundation Presentation

Dr. Mike O’Shea presented an update on the formation of the Generals for Generals Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization established for the purpose of enhancing the academic, artistic and athletic experience of AWLS students.

Financial Forecast Update

The Board heard from the District Treasurer about the February update to the [District’s Financial Forecast](#) required by the state. Johnson said that while there were no major changes made, there are still many outstanding House Bills that may influence the District’s budget.

Other Actions

The Board approved advertising for bids for three passenger buses as part of the District’s annual replacement program, approved a \$17,109 Ohio Attorney General’s Safety Grant in support of the District’s facility dogs, and approved overnight trips for spring training for the varsity baseball and softball teams.

MARCH MEETING

Monday, Mar. 9
6:00 p.m.

APRIL MEETING

Monday, Apr. 13
6:00 p.m.

MAY MEETING

Monday, May 11
6:00 p.m.

COMING SOON: NEW FOOD SERVICE PAYMENT SYSTEM GOES LIVE APRIL 14

The Anthony Wayne Local Schools Food Services Department is making the switch from PaySchoolsCentral to [MySchoolBucks](#) starting Tuesday, April 14.

At that time, all remaining funds in student accounts with PaySchoolsCentral will be transferred to the new system. However, families may wish to cancel any recurring payments they currently have scheduled with [PaySchoolsCentral](#).

More information about this change, including instructions for setting up a MySchoolBucks account will be shared with families later this month.

Questions may be directed to the Food Services Department at 419-877-1229 or mmenchaca@anthonywayneschools.org.

What's
NEW?

COMING SOON
TO OUR
CAFETERIAS



AW TRUE BLUE ALUMNI SWEETHEARTS CELEBRATED

Several AW True Blue couples cheered for the Generals at the February 14 boys basketball game then enjoyed a reception filled with music, refreshments, campus tours and reconnecting. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the evening so special for our alumni. Watch for more [alumni events](#) in the future!



A Letter from the Superintendent

At Anthony Wayne Local Schools, we often say, “Once a General, always a General.” Our alumni and supporters prove that the spirit of our District extends far beyond graduation day. The pride, traditions, and relationships built here continue to shape lives—and in turn, our alumni and community shape us.

In recent years, we have made a focused effort to strengthen connections with alumni and our broader community. These relationships are essential to the continued success and growth of our District.

When alumni and community members stay engaged, everyone benefits.

Their support strengthens our schools in countless ways—from attending events and supporting performances to contributing time, resources, and expertise. These connections build trust, encourage collaboration, and create shared investment in student success.

A wonderful example was our inaugural “AW True Blue” Alumni Reunion on February 14, celebrating couples who both graduated from Anthony Wayne Local Schools. The evening was filled with laughter, memories, and General pride.

Guests enjoyed student performances, toured the high school, flipped through yearbooks, and captured new memories at a photo station. Door prizes from the Art Club and AW Alumni Association added a festive touch.

Most meaningful were the stories shared as couples reconnected and reflected on how their education shaped their paths. Their pride in our schools was evident.

Events like this remind us why alumni and community engagement matter. Your continued support strengthens our excellence and the future of Anthony Wayne Local Schools.

Thank you,
Kevin Herman, Superintendent



JOIN US WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

Coffee with Superintendent Herman

UNDERSTANDING BULLYING POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND PROMOTING SAFE SCHOOLS



Superintendent Kevin Herman will host an informal morning conversation at the Central Administrative Offices at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 11 focused on gaining General Knowledge about the District's bullying policies, procedures, and investigation process.

He and other District representatives will also share the many ways our schools work proactively to ensure a safe, supportive and positive learning environment for all students.

This event is open to all members of the community. We welcome your questions and look forward to a meaningful discussion over coffee.

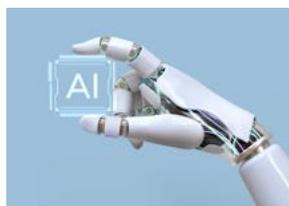
GENERALS TECH TIPS

The Basics of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

The District Technology Department will present a free lunch and learn workshop for AW community members at the Central Administrative Offices at Noon on Wednesday, April 22.

This session will provide an introduction into Artificial Intelligence (AI), an overview of several AI tools and their uses, and insight into the ways that AI can be used to make us all more productive, efficient and successful.

Space is limited. Please RSVP to chamady@anthonywayneschools.org.



EVENTS CALENDAR

MARCH 2

Kindergarten
Enrollment Opens

MARCH 3

8th Grade & AWHS
Symphonic Winds Concert

MARCH 4

Monclova Primary
Kindergarten Parent Meeting

MARCH 5

6th & 7th Grade Band
Concert

MARCH 9

Board of Education Meeting

MARCH 10

Whitehouse Primary 2nd
Grade Music Program

MARCH 11

Coffee with
Superintendent Herman

MARCH 13

End of the Third Quarter

MARCH 19

Monclova Primary 2nd Grade
Music Program

MARCH 30 - APRIL 3

District Closed: Spring Break

APRIL 6

2-Hour Delay
Staff Professional Dev.



MRS. SHEA (MOGG) Vincent ('05)

AW True Blue Alumni Spotlight

Shea turned her passion for science and engineering into a leadership role advancing life-changing medical therapies. The lessons, mentors, and experiences she gained at Anthony Wayne helped shape the drive and confidence behind her success.

[More >>](#)



MR. JEREMY TERWILIGER

Social Studies Teacher at Anthony Wayne High School

Described as fair, consistent, and engaging, Jeremy challenges students to think critically, consider multiple perspectives, and take accountability for their learning. Beyond the classroom, he has also dedicated years to coaching, continuing his role as a mentor and leader.

[More >>](#)



MRS. TONI BALDWIN

Food Services Cook at Monclova Primary

As she enters retirement, Toni reflects on how her initial intentions for a part-time position turned into career built on teamwork, dedication and genuine care for her students. Over her 28 years at AWLS, Toni made the cafeteria a welcoming place for students and staff.

[More >>](#)



SLOANE FULTS, AWHS JUNIOR

Embodies what it means to "Be Involved"

Sloane truly demonstrates The General Way — being safe, responsible, respectful, and especially involved. She is actively involved in student life, making history as a student-athlete, volunteering to support other students, and preparing for her future through the Civil Air Patrol.

[More >>](#)

DR. JACOB VINCENT ('05)

AW True Blue Alumni Spotlight

From student-athlete to orthopedic trauma surgeon, Jacob turned a non-traditional path into a career helping patients rebuild their lives. Discover how his experiences at Anthony Wayne shaped his resilience, work ethic, and commitment to caring for others.

[More >>](#)



MRS. DEBBIE JACOBY

Special Education Aide at Waterville Primary

For more than 20 years, Debbie Jacoby has made a lasting difference in the lives of students across AWLS. She embraces the Portrait of a General values of communication, lifelong learning, empathy, and adaptability and is committed to doing what is best for her students.

[More >>](#)



COPPER PRESS ROASTERY

Local Business Spotlight

Copper Press Roastery regularly serves as a welcoming space for District meetings, displaying student art, and supporting student groups. From team huddles to fundraisers, their ongoing partnership and generosity helps our students thrive.

[More >>](#)



ADDY O'SHEA, AWHs JUNIOR

Puts community engagement skills in action

Addy is strengthening her ability to communicate clearly, collaborate effectively, and lead with empathy through her involvement in the Student Visionaries of the Year campaign - while making a difference for patients and families affected by blood cancer.

[More >>](#)





Monclova Primary second graders taste-tested cheese pizzas from local pizzarias to practice their opinion writing. [See highlights in this video>>](#)

AWLS Transportation Department Head Mechanic Gary Vollmar was [named among Penta Career Center's Outstanding Alumni](#) and honored at their awards ceremony.

Generals In the News

[Ohio Schools Magazine Cover Story: Changing Lives](#)

[Area students earn nominations to U.S. Service Academies](#)

[Local attorney shares "18 and the Law"](#)

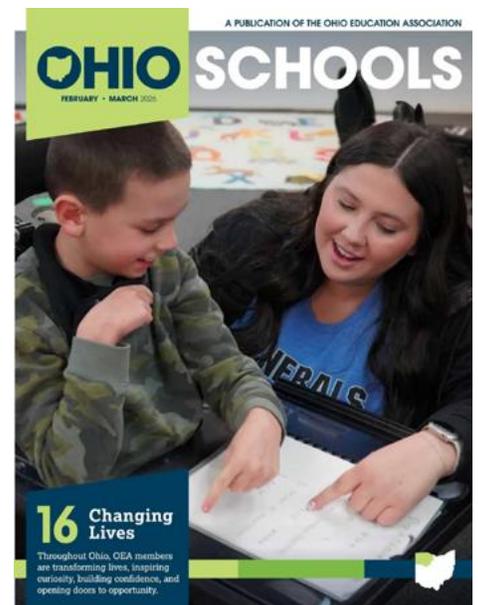
[Anthony Wayne couples relive the past at sweethearts reunion](#)

[Generals for Generations supports AW schools](#)

[AW-Penta FFA hosts annual teacher/staff luncheon](#)

[Analysis: Five things to watch in 2026 OHSAA girls basketball tournament](#)

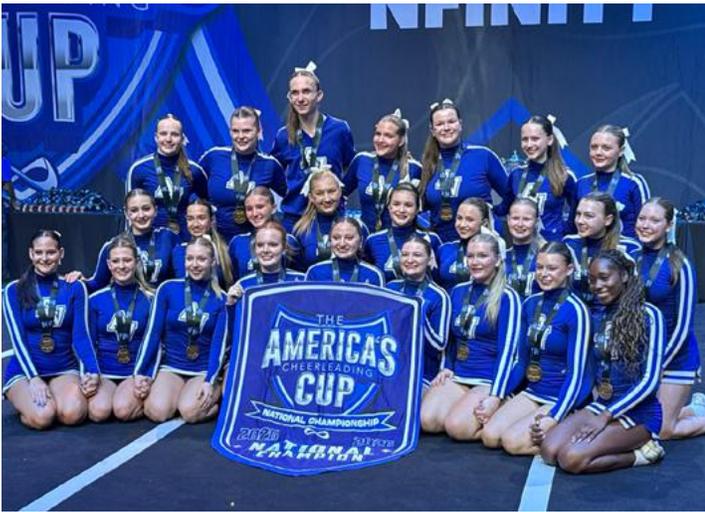
[Anthony Wayne earns spot in District Final with 50-35 win over Northview](#)



Have a story idea?

Send it to communications@anthonywayneschools.org.





AWHS CHEER CLAIMS TITLES

Congratulations to the AWHs Competitive Cheer Game Day Squad taking first place at the [America's Cup National Championships in Orlando, Florida](#) and the State Championships.



SWIMMERS ADVANCE TO STATE

Sam Brose, Nate Barasch, Landon Stollar, Max Gottschalk and Brennan Jenkins qualified to represent AWHs at the state swim meet, in Canton, OH.



Nine student-athletes signed letters of intent to continue their academic and athletic careers during the Winter Signing Day. [Each shared their reflections on their time at AWHs and their goals for the future.](#)



The 7th Grade Girls and 8th Grade Boys Basketball teams finished their seasons as NLL champions. Congratulations to our AW Junior High student-athletes.

Countdown to Kindergarten

Welcome to the Anthony Wayne Local Schools Class of 2039!

**Kindergarten Enrollment Opens
Monday, March 2**



Celebrating Holidays

AW

Children who are five years old by August 17, 2026 and reside within the Anthony Wayne Local Schools District are eligible to enroll in kindergarten for the 2026-2027 school year.

ENROLL ONLINE:

www.AnthonyWayneSchools.org/Kindergarten



Having Fun Together



Learning New Things

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: DATES FOR KINDERGARTEN FAMILIES

Kindergarten Enrollment Opens

Monday, March 2

Kindergarten Parent Night

Monclova	March 4	6:00 p.m.
Waterville	May 6	7:00 p.m.
Whitehouse	May 7	7:00 p.m.

Kindergarten Screening

Monclova	June 2	By Appointment
Waterville	June 1	By Appointment
Whitehouse	June 3	By Appointment

Kindergarten Orientation

Monclova	Aug. 11	1:30 p.m.
Waterville	Aug. 11	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Kindergarten Open House

Monclova	Aug. 13	5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Waterville	Aug. 11	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Whitehouse	Aug. 11	6:00 - 7:30 p.m. (Orientation Included)

Kindergarten Readiness Assessments

All Buildings	Aug. 17 or Aug. 18
	By Appointment

First Day of School for Kindergarten

Wednesday, Aug. 19

[Take a peek behind the scenes of kindergarten in this video from Monclova Primary.](#)

MRS. MICHELLE NACHTRAB, *Monclova Primary*

FAVORITE PART OF KINDERGARTEN:

“I love to see the growth in my students from the beginning of the year to the end of the year. They grow so much emotionally, socially, and academically.”

[Meet Mrs. Nachtrab](#)

PRO TIP:

Work on life and social skills: being a kind friend, getting along with others, and completing daily self-care tasks independently.



MRS. MARIAH PERSINGER, *Waterville Primary*

FAVORITE PART OF KINDERGARTEN:

“I love watching kids grow distinct personalities and their excitement when they experience their ‘firsts.’ It is very rewarding to experience.”

[Meet Mrs. Persinger](#)

PRO TIP:

Give them small chores around the house and have them practice self-help skills like opening water bottles and packing snacks.



MRS. RACHAEL LEHMAN, *Whitehouse Primary*

FAVORITE PART OF KINDERGARTEN:

“I love watching the students come in as kindergartners and leave as first graders. They learn so much during the year, and it is fun to watch their progress!”

[Meet Mrs. Lehman](#)

PRO TIP:

Create a calendar of your child’s school schedule and read books like *The Kissing Hand* or *The Night Before Kindergarten* to prepare for the transition.



MRS. CATHERINE STEINKE, *Monclova Primary*



27 YEARS

FAVORITE PART OF KINDERGARTEN:

“I love seeing children excited about coming to school and watching their growth throughout the year.”

[Meet Mrs. Steinke](#)

PRO TIP:

Focus on learning letters and sounds to give your child a head start on literacy skills as we prepare to learn to read.

MS. DAYNA RYAN, *Waterville Primary*



15 YEARS

FAVORITE PART OF KINDERGARTEN:

“I love seeing the excitement they have for learning. Their curiosity and ideas coming to life is truly one of the most rewarding parts of teaching.”

[Meet Ms. Ryan](#)

PRO TIP:

Encourage self-help skills: managing backpacks, getting dressed, brushing their hair, and putting on their shoes independently.

MRS. EMILY LYREN, *Whitehouse Primary*



25 YEARS

FAVORITE PART OF KINDERGARTEN:

“I love opening up a world of learning for my kindergarten students and watching the progress they make each day.”

[Meet Mrs. Lyren](#)

PRO TIP:

Give your child small chores and tasks to build confidence and a sense of responsibility.



100th Day of School

PREPARING FOR KINDERGARTEN: Practical Activities to Support Your Child's Growth

Motor Skills

- Wash and dry dishes, help clean and organize, garden, or do simple DIY tasks.
- Play catch, kickballs, jump on a trampoline, ride a bike, or walk a balance beam.
- Collect items on walks—stones, leaves, flowers—for observation and exploration.

Self-Help Skills

- Dress/undress (zip, snap, button, tie) independently.
- Put on shoes, pants, and coats without help.
- Open, pack, and close a backpack.
- Brush teeth and set the table.

Visual & Concept Skills

- Identify shapes, sizes, colors, textures; explore clay, paints, and building materials.
- Sort laundry, groceries, toys by color or shape; measure items with cups or rulers.
- Count items, learn days of the week/months, and practice using a calendar.



Teddy Bear Day



Fundraiser Run

Language & Literacy Skills

- Read many stories, nursery rhymes, and poems.
- Practice rhyming, describing objects, and following multi-step directions.
- Encourage self-expression through art, music, and dramatic play.
- Point out letters and words in everyday surroundings.

Auditory Skills

- Repeat patterns of sounds or numbers.
- Listen to stories and retell them.
- Play listening games with rhythms or sound recognition.

Enriching Experiences

- Visit libraries, museums, zoos, fire stations, post offices, or local markets.
- Explore nature, hiking, sports, camping, swimming, and other activities.
- Introduce new foods and cultural experiences.

Quick Tips

- Routine: Practice following daily routines with a calendar.
- Responsibility: Give small tasks to build independence.
- Social Skills: Model kindness, sharing, and cooperation.
- Curiosity: Encourage exploration and asking questions.

[MORE: Toledo Area Parent News: Preparing for the First Day of Kindergarten an interview with Rachael Lehman and Emily Lyren.](#)