



Wausau School District News January 2022

Our Mission . . .To advance student learning, achievement, and success.



UPDATE! Wausau School District Referendum to be on the April Ballot



On Tuesday, April 5, 2022, residents of the Wausau School District will vote on a referendum question.

If approved by voters, the \$119,800,000 million referendum would lower the tax levy, while at the same time allow the district to address its most pressing facility needs. The district would move forward with safety & security improvements at all elementary schools, as well as, adding additional classroom space at Stettin, South Mountain, and Riverview elementary schools to address increasing enrollment and alleviate capacity concerns. The district is also moving forward with all work at its middle and high schools; addressing deferred maintenance and safety and security needs there. It will also make facility improvements at the Wausau School Forest, including a new Environmental Learning Center.

An approved referendum would have an estimated property tax impact of negative \$0.43 on every \$1,000 of property value in the school district. The owner of a home valued at \$150,000 would see

an annual tax reduction of about \$64.50.

The solution the Board of Education is presenting on April 5 was created based on the input and feedback of our community. This effort included online surveys for community and staff members, three community engagement sessions, staff listening sessions at all schools, and engagement on social media. We have also communicated and gathered feedback through a facility needs webpage and via the local media.

We invite you to learn more about our district's needs, how the board developed the proposed solution, and the question that will appear on the April 5 ballot.

[Watch for More Information Here](#)

***NEW!* 2022-2023 Calendar Available**

2022-2023 Wausau School District Calendar

Board approved: 1-10-2022

July 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	
	4	5	6	7	8	
	11	12	13	14	15	
	18	19	20	21	22	
	25	26	27	28	29	

August 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	
	8	9	10	11	12	
	15	16	17	18	19	
	22	23	24	25	26	
	29	30	31			

September 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	
	5	6	7	8	9	
	12	13	14	15	16	
	19	20	21	22	23	
	26	27	28	29	30	

Aug 29-31: Professional Learning

Sept 1: First Day of School
Sept 5: No Classes - Labor Day

October 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	3	4	5	6	7	
	10	11	12	13	14	
	17	18	19	20	21	
	24	25	26	27	28	
	31					

November 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	
	7	8	9	10	11	
	14	15	16	17	18	
	21	22	23	24	25	
	28	29	30			

December 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	
	5	6	7	8	9	
	12	13	14	15	16	
	19	20	21	22	23	
	26	27	28	29	30	

Oct 26: No Elementary Classes-Recordkeeping
No PM Secondary
No AM/PM Pre-K Classes
Oct 26: 1st Quarter Ends (39)
Oct. 27-28: No Classes - Prof Learning

Nov 23: No Classes - Non-Contract Day
Nov 24-25: No Classes - Thanksgiving Break

Dec 23-30: No Classes - Winter Break

January 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	2	3	4	5	6	
	9	10	11	12	13	
	16	17	18	19	20	
	23	24	25	26	27	
	30	31				

February 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	
	6	7	8	9	10	
	13	14	15	16	17	
	20	21	22	23	24	
	27	28				

March 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	
	6	7	8	9	10	
	13	14	15	16	17	
	20	21	22	23	24	
	27	28	29	30	31	

Jan 13: No PM Elem Classes-Recordkeeping
No AM/PM Pre-K Classes
Jan 13: 2nd Quarter Ends (46)
Jan 16: No Classes - Prof Learning

Feb 17: No Classes - Prof Learning

Mar 17: No PM Elem Classes-Recordkeeping
No AM/PM Pre-K Classes
March 17: 3rd Quarter Ends (43)
March 20-24: No Classes - Spring Break

April 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	3	4	5	6	7	
	10	11	12	13	14	
	17	18	19	20	21	
	24	25	26	27	28	

May 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	
	8	9	10	11	12	
	15	16	17	18	19	
	22	23	24	25	26	
	29	30	31			

June 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	
	5	6	7	8	9	
	12	13	14	15	16	
	19	20	21	22	23	
	26	27	28	29	30	

April 7: No Classes

May 22 - WAVE Graduation
May 23 - East High Graduation
May 24 - West High Graduation
May 25 - EEA Graduation
May 26: No Classes - Prof Learning
May 29: No Classes - Memorial Day

June 2: No PM Classes - All
Elementary Recordkeeping
No AM/PM Pre-K Classes
June 2: Students' Last Day
June 2: 4th Quarter Ends (47)
June 5: Teachers' Last Day

- No Classes
- Students' first and last days of school
- No Classes - Professional Learning (PL)
- No Pre-K or Elementary Classes / No PM Secondary Classes / Recordkeeping AM (Elem) and Parent/Teacher Conferences PM
- 2023 High School Graduation: May 22 - WAVE; May 23 - East; May 24 - West; May 25 - EEA
- Quarter Ends (1st - 39) (2nd - 46) (3rd - 43) (4th - 47) = 175
 Quarter Ends (1st - 39) (2nd - 46) (3rd - 43) (4th - 47) = 175
- Teachers' last day of school
- No PM Elem Classes-Recordkeeping, No AM/PM Pre-K Classes

REMINDER! Change to COVID-19 Isolation Guidelines

As you may be aware, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently issued new COVID-19 quarantine and isolation guidelines. As a result, the District is updating its guidelines. **If a student tests positive for COVID-19, the child must now stay home and isolate for 5 days from the COVID-19 test date.** To return to school, the student must be fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication and have improvement of symptoms. The student must also wear a mask for 5 days after the isolation period ends.

Click the box below for more information.

So many great things happening in the District!



Wausau East Transportation Is More Than Just Auto Mechanics

Wausau East High School is home to an 8,000-square foot automotive shop that gives students the opportunity to learn all three career areas within the transportation pathway: Auto Technicians, Auto Collision, and Diesel Mechanics.

The shop, built after the passing of a community-wide referendum in 2015, features three two-point hoists, two four-point hoists, one heavy duty four-post hoist for semi/diesel, a low-rise hoist for auto collision, a paint booth and paint mixing room, as well as, new state-of-the-art wheel alignment equipment, a tire balancer, and an attached classroom. It also has its own semi truck that students can work on.

Thanks to all of that equipment, students are able to take a wide variety of courses. They include:

- **Introduction to Power Mechanics:** This course is designed for students who are interested in exploring the use of energy, its relationship to power and transportation, and its importance to our society. During this class, students will examine the various sources and forms of energy; explore the transmission and control of power systems, examine small engine theory of operation and its application to drive systems. Student experiences include: observing, troubleshooting, and applying two and four-cycle engine theory.
- **Auto Awareness:** This course covers basic systems of the automobile. Units of instruction include: tools, auto products, ignition, fuel, electrical, cooling, general maintenance, interior/exterior care, and new/used car purchasing. This course provides a theory of operation and practical lab experiences for the automobile owner.
- **Occupational Mechanics I:** An occupational preparation course that develops job entry level skills in: Basic maintenance, Electronics, Brakes I, and Auto Tune-up. The

students will have the opportunity to work on their own vehicle repairs. This course is based on hands-on lab activities, supported by classroom operational theory of automotive systems. Students who successfully complete this course will receive dual credit through Northcentral Technical College (NTC).

- **Occupational Mechanics II:** This class is a continuation of Occupational Mechanics I. The course develops entry level skills/competencies in the following ASE (National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence) areas: Suspension & Steering, Brakes, Electrical/Electronic Systems, and Engine Performance. Time will be spent both in class and at the jobsite (where applicable). In the lab and at the jobsite (where applicable) students will gain hands-on experience with state-of-the-art tools and large-scale diagnostic/repair equipment, develop employability skills and spend time developing a good resume. Lab work will be performed mainly on late model donated vehicles; however, students will have the opportunity to work on their own vehicle repairs. Students who successfully complete this course will receive dual credit through Fox Valley Technical College.
- **Auto Academy (NTC):** Students who successfully complete the prerequisite transportation classes may be eligible to participate in NTC's Auto Academy during their senior year of high school. Academy coursework will be taught on campus at NTC by NTC instructors. The Auto Academy will prepare students to be workforce-ready through Youth Apprenticeship at area businesses, and they will earn an Automotive Maintenance & Light Repair Technical Diploma. All credits (a tuition value of \$1,800) transfer to NTC associate degrees or technical diplomas, so students will have a jump start to continue their education after high school.

While students can work on their own vehicles in the automotive shop, they can also work on 'customer vehicles' that are dropped off at the beginning of the day. Students diagnose them, develop quotes, order parts, install the parts and repair, and help with billing. All experiences that set them up for success after high school.

Through the automotive shop, staff is also trying to address a serious shortage of collision technicians by introducing auto body collision technology to students. Not only does the shop have the paint booth, paint mixing room, and necessary tools and equipment -- automotive shop staff are working on developing a dual credit curriculum through Fox Valley Technical College's Auto Body Program to offer a dual credit class to the Occupational Mechanics I class second semester.

Of course, all of this would not be possible without Fox Valley Technical College, Northcentral Technical College, and so many of our wonderful community businesses and foundations. For instance, the Wisconsin Automotive and Truck Education Association or WATEA, which covered the cost of all of the lifts within the facility, continues to provide a lot of opportunities and experiences for students. They coordinate the Wheels to Work Program, which allows students to work on cars, in partnership with industry experts. Then those cars are donated back into the community for those who need transportation to get to work. Furthermore, they provide thousands of dollars in scholarships to students pursuing a career in transportation.

Students are not the only ones benefiting from the automotive shop. The community is, too. In fact, Northcentral Technical College has been holding auto collision courses at Wausau East during the evenings. Industry leaders also hold an Automotive Career Night in February to show middle school and high school parents the exciting careers in transportation.

"This automotive facility at Wausau East is a shining example of what happens when administration, businesses, and community members are all pulling in the same direction. This is truly a win-win scenario in our community and our school district," said Wausau East Teacher Mark Poppe.

All of this aligns to the Wausau School District's mission of advancing student learning, achievement, and success.

Leader in Me®

All of the schools within the Wausau School District continue to implement the *Leader in Me* program into the classroom. The program is all about inspiring greatness in every student. There are 7 Habits within this program:

- Be Proactive
- Begin with the End in Mind
- Put First Things First
- Think Win-Win
- Seek First to Understand Then to be Understood
- Synergize
- Sharpen the Saw



(Above) Rib Mountain students and staff have been working hard to learn about and practice Habit #2: *Begin with the End in Mind*. This habit is all about making a plan first, and then thinking about goals to help get us where we want to be in the end.

Developing a classroom mission statement was an important first step. Students thought about what a happy classroom would look like, sound like, and feel like. Then, they drafted a mission statement that was signed by all and hung in their rooms.

Riverview Elementary Students Collect 564 Items for Humane Society of Marathon County!



Students and staff from Riverview Elementary collected 564 items for their animal friends at the Humane Society of Marathon County. They surpassed their goal of 500 items set as part of their Habit #2: Begin with the End in Mind lesson.

Sparky from the Humane Society visited each class and was very excited to accept the donations! Great job Roadrunners!

South Mountain Giving Tree Supports Aspirus Family House



Students and staff donated these items to the Aspirus Family House -- which offers lodging to patients with families who must travel to Wausau for specialty care or have a loved one in medical crisis and need help with a safe, affordable, healing place to stay.

Thomas Jefferson G2M Class Collects Donations



The Thomas Jefferson G2M Helping Hands class took on a bunch of donation drives this session! They included The Women's Community, Humane Society of Marathon County, and the Salvation Army.

Wausau School District Students Honored



Wausau East Senior Recognized by The Boys & Girls Club

Congratulations to Payton Steffen, Wausau East High senior, for being awarded The Boys & Girls Club of the Wausau Area 2022 Youth of the Year!

Youth of the Year fosters new generations of leaders, fully prepared to live and lead in a diverse, global and integrated world economy. Throughout the year, youth are honored as Members of the Month, and from that pool of candidates, the Youth of the Year is selected. Candidates draft a resume, create a cover letter and submit three essays as part of the qualification process. The candidates participate in interview preparations, which include answering sample questions and learning best practices for interviewing.

Way to go, Payton!

Wausau West DECA Members Qualify for State Competition



Congratulations to all Wausau West High School DECA members who competed at the District Conference at Mid-State Technical College with 11 other area schools!

These students automatically qualified for the state competition in February:

Grace Albee, Jackson Albee, Charlotte Bell, Joe Berens, Rhys Burnett, Jack Ecke, Anika Eder, Lauren Edwards, Julia Engebretson, Sammi Federici, Amber Frostman, Ethan Graham, Cade Gruber, Fletcher Haggerty, Nora Keele, Karlie Knoll, Nick Knezic, Sam Kray, Oscar Kruger, Abby Kufahl, Chris Mackay, Will McCorison, Sebastian Nadolski, Jackson Ngo, Anika Parks, Allison Rausch, Lexi Schauls, Irie Schirmacher, Sadie Steinbach, Beckett Teske, William Tischler, Lucca Tonelli, Ryan Trucco, Caleb Tuley, Maria Voigt, Mason Voigt, Vanessa Voigt, Lexie White, and Sophie Wokatsch.

East, West FFA Place during District 21 Speaking Competition



Congratulations to FFA students from Wausau East and Wausau West High for placing during the District 21 speaking competition held at Mosinee High School! Every Wausau member made it to sectionals by placing first or second!

Patti Laudron: 1st place Creed Speaking
Lilly Knetter: 2nd place Creed Speaking - East
Aubrey Arneson: 1st place Employment Skills - West
Kendra Ohde: 1st place Extemporaneous - East
Ashley Zoborowski: 2nd place Extemporaneous - West
Desirae Rausch: 1st place Prepared Speech - West
Kendra Ohde: 2nd place Prepared Speech - East

Great job on all your hard work and good luck at Sectionals!
FFA is a youth organization that prepares members for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.





Wausau West Boys, Girls Teams Win Tietge Bonspiel Championships!

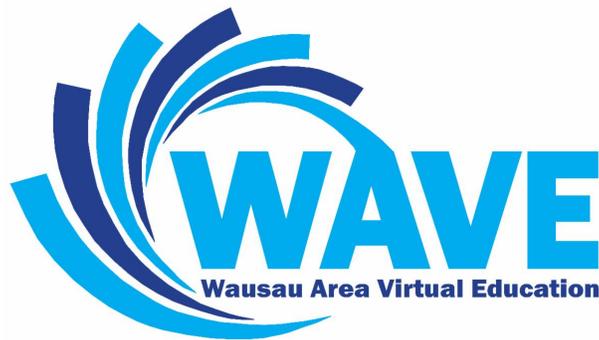


Congratulations to Wausau West High School boys and girls teams for winning the Tietge Bonspiel Championships!

The Tietge is the largest and longest-running high school Bonspiel in the United States and is named for former Wausau High School curling coach Dennis Tietge. The West High girls rink included Amelia Hintz (skip), Kaydee Rennie (3rd), Madyson Olson (lead), and Ella Wendling (2nd). The West High boys rink included Jacob Hamann (2nd), Wes Wendling (skip), Carson Kirsch (lead), Chris Kirsch (3rd).



WAVE's Spring Enrollment Deadline is Approaching!



Students interested in joining Wausau Area Virtual Education's virtual learning community for the spring semester of 2022 should complete an online application by clicking on the link below. WAVE is a virtual charter school in the Wausau School District open to students in grades K-12.

The enrollment window is open through February 1st.

[Enroll at WAVE](#)

Did you know the Wausau School District is home to Wausau Area Montessori

Charter School?

Wausau Area Montessori Charter School is free to families of students in grades K-6. It's housed inside of Horace Mann Middle School.

Montessori is a method of education named after Dr. Maria Montessori. Dr. Montessori looked at education from a scientific level. She believed that education should prepare a person for all aspects of life. She designed materials and techniques that would promote a natural growth of learning in students. Working with these materials and techniques forms a pattern that children carry over naturally to reading, writing, and mathematics. Each skill is developed to interlock with another.

Do you want to learn more? Call 715-261-0795 today!



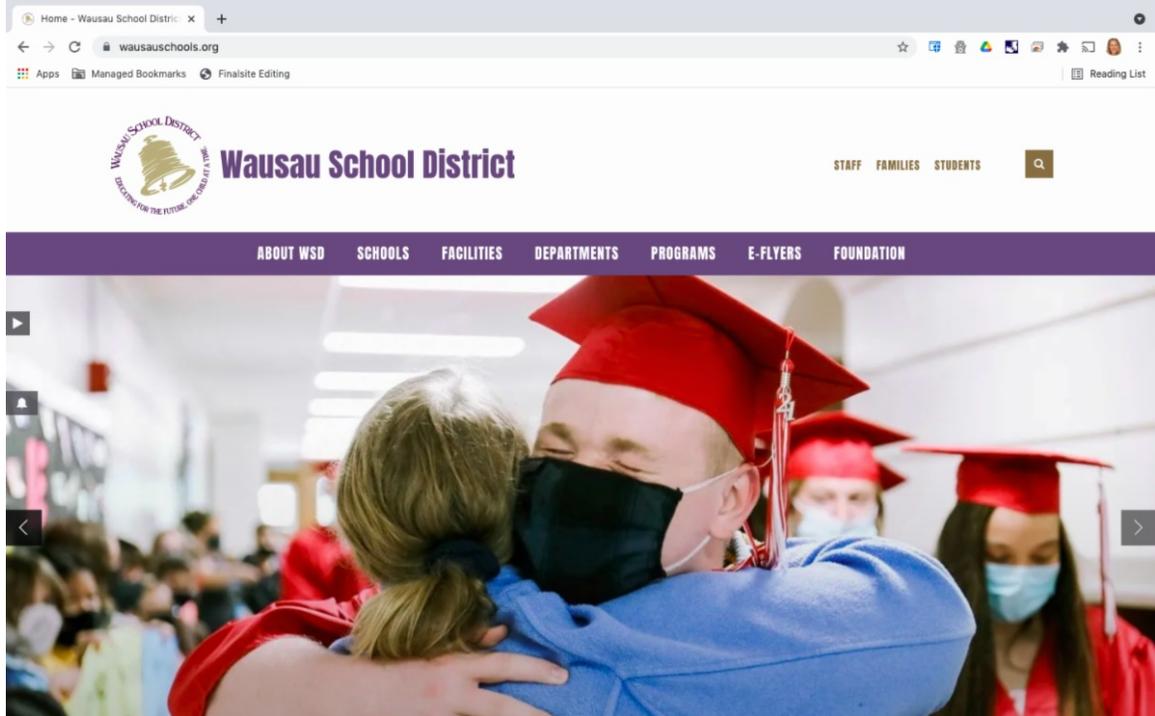
Have you heard of Enrich, Excel, Achieve Learning Academy?

Enrich, Excel, Achieve (EEA) Learning Academy is a resource in the Wausau School District for students who have not found success in the traditional school setting. If your student could benefit from a non-traditional and more individualized form of learning, we invite you to look into our program and explore the possibilities EEA can offer you and your child.

For more information or to set up a tour, please call 715-261-0636.

[EEA's Website](#)

Stay Informed on What's Happening in the Wausau School District!



Our new Wausau School District website is designed to be a hub of information for students, parents/guardians, staff, and community members. Find everything from important information about learning, to Board of Education meeting materials, to the latest news. To check it out, click on the box below.

[Visit our Website](#)

January: School Board Recognition Month



The Wausau School District thanks our School Board members for their commitment to the Wausau community and children!

Members of the Wausau Board of Education include:

- Pat McKee, President
- James Bouché, Vice President
- Lance Trollop, Treasurer
- Karen Vandenberg, Clerk
- Jon Creisher
- Ka Lo
- Cody Nikolai
- Jane A. Rusch
- Lee Webster

Wausau School District Hall of Fame

Do you know a Wausau School District graduate who has gone on to distinguish themselves? If so, nominate them for the Wausau School District's Hall of Fame!

Every year, a selection committee chooses one of the nominees to be inducted into the Hall of Fame and they are recognized during the District's Annual Twenty-Five Year Club and Retirement Banquet held in the Spring.

To nominate someone, fill out the form below.

[Nomination Form](#)

The Wausau School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, sex, (including transgender status, change of sex or gender identity), or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability ("Protected Classes").



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