



## Wausau School District News

### April 2022

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



## **UPDATE: Wausau School District Referendum Approved**



We would like to thank our community for your consideration of the referendum question that appeared on the ballot Tuesday, April 5. The question was approved by a majority of voters.

As a result, the Wausau School District will move forward with addressing long-term facility needs across three main categories:

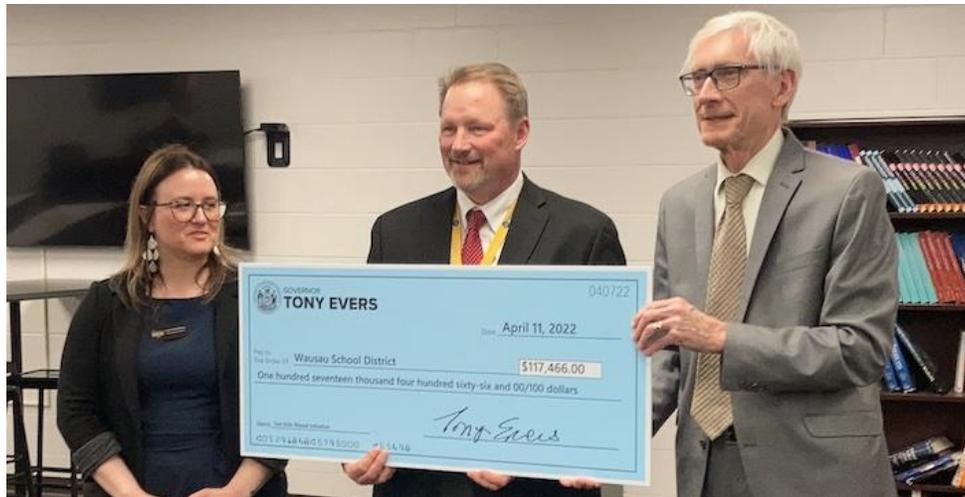
- 1) Safety & Security
- 2) Facility Systems & Deferred Maintenance
- 3) Right-sized Learning Spaces

Even with the approval of this referendum, property taxes are still projected to decrease. We appreciate all the input and feedback we received throughout this process. We are grateful for those who completed our survey, attended our community engagement sessions, and took part in conversations on social media.

We look forward to sharing more updates as this project moves forward. In the meantime, thank you for your support of our schools and the students we serve!

[Learn More About the Referendum by Clicking Here](#)

## Wausau School District Receives More Than \$117,000 for Mental Health Resources for Students



On Monday, April 11, the Wausau School District was given a check for \$117,466.00 to help provide additional mental health supports for students. Superintendent Dr. Keith Hilts and Wausau Mayor Katie Rosenberg accepted the check from Governor Tony Evers during his visit to the Greater Wausau Area.

A total of \$15 million is available to districts across the state as part of the Governor's 'Get Kids Ahead' initiative. The goal of the initiative is to ensure students are successful both inside and outside of the classroom by making sure they have all of the mental health support they need.

The Wausau School District continues to focus on student mental health. For example, the District recently added dozens of additional Pupil Services staff, thanks to the passing of a referendum in 2021. Whether it's staff or additional funding for mental health, all of those tools truly help us advance student learning, achievement, and success.

## **Cale Bushman Hired as District's Next Director of Pupil Services**



The Wausau School District is pleased to announce that Cale Bushman will take over as the District's new Director of Pupil Services this summer.

Bushman, the current principal at Wausau East High School, has an extensive background in education that spans more than 20 years; most of which have been spent in the Wausau School District. As head principal at Wausau East, associate principal of Pupil Services at Wausau West, experience as a Special Education teacher and a coach, Bushman is the perfect fit for the job.

"Our mission at the Wausau School District is to advance student learning, achievement, and success. As Director of Pupil Services, Cale Bushman's extensive experience, passion for helping all students succeed, and dedication to our District will serve him well. He's thrived in every role he's been in and we know he will have such an incredible impact on our students, their families, and our staff in this new role," said Superintendent Dr. Keith Hilts.

As Director of Pupil Services, Bushman will have an integral role in helping provide our students and their families with the support they need when they need it. Support includes, but is not limited to services like counseling and gaining access to community resources. "I am very excited to continue my career in the Wausau School District in this role," said Cale Bushman. "I feel honored to be part of our District and look forward to furthering our mission in this new capacity."

Bushman will take over the role of Director of Pupil Services beginning July 1, 2022. Dr. Matt Collins will continue to serve as interim director until then. We are so grateful to Dr. Collins for the work he has done and continues to do with our students and their families.

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## **Laura Simonson Hired as Maine Elementary School's New Principal**



We are also pleased to announce that Laura Simonson will take over on July 1, 2022 as Maine Elementary School's next principal. Current Principal Marie Northup is retiring at the end of the school year.

Simonson is currently the principal at a school in Black River Falls. Before becoming principal, she taught grades K, 1, 3, 4, and 5, was a reading recovery teacher, and an interventionist. In addition to her experience, she has a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from UW-Eau Claire. She also has a Master's degree in Professional Development Learning Community from UW-La Crosse, a Reading Teacher License, and a Principalship License from Viterbo.

We are thrilled to have Laura join the Maine Elementary community and the Wausau School District as a whole. In the meantime, please join us in welcoming Laura and also thanking Marie for all she has done at Maine Elementary. We wish her well in retirement.

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# We're Hiring!

**Educating for the Future,  
One Child at a Time**

**Regular, substitute,  
and support employment  
opportunities available**

For more information about  
Wausau School District  
employment opportunities, please  
visit Human Resources at

**[www.wausauschools.org](http://www.wausauschools.org)  
or call 715-261-0500**



**@WausauSchDist**



**First Student**  
**WAUSAU**

**Now Hiring School Bus Drivers!**  
**No Experience needed! We Train!**

-  \$18/HR Starting Wage
-  \$2,500 Driver Sign-on Bonus\*
-  \$5,000 Experienced Driver Sign-on Bonus\*
-  PAID CDL Training!

\*Conditions apply. See location for details. Offer ends 5/31/22

WorkAtFirst.com

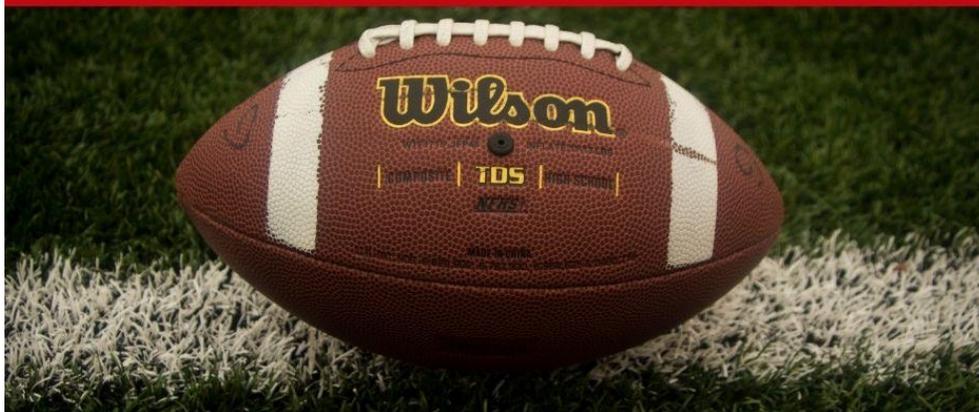
**730 South 17th Ave  
Wausau WI 54401**

 For more information call:  
**715-842-2268**

## ***Happening Now: Wausau East Football Fundraiser***

- **Collecting gently worn, used, and new shoes**
- **Until June 11th**
- **Locations listed below**

**Wausau East Football Fundraiser!**



The Wausau East High School football team is holding a shoe drive fundraiser until June 11 to raise funds for the upcoming season. The Lumberjacks will earn funds based on the total weight of the pairs of gently worn, used, and new shoes collected.

All donated shoes will then be redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of micro-enterprise (small business) partners. Funds2Orgs works with micro-entrepreneurs in helping them create, maintain, and grow small businesses in developing countries where economic opportunity and jobs are limited. Proceeds from the sales of the shoes collected in shoe drive fundraisers are used to feed, clothe, and house their families.

"We are excited about our shoe drive," said Henry Kremnitzer, Head Football Coach of Wausau East. "We know that most people have extra shoes in their closets they would like to donate to us. By doing so, we raise money for our players, and we have the chance to help families in developing nations who need economic opportunities. It's a win-win for everyone." By donating gently worn, used, and new shoes to the Wausau East Football team, the shoes will be given a second chance and make a difference in peoples' lives around the world.

**Donation Locations:**

Longfellow Administration Center  
Wausau East High School  
Horace Mann Middle School  
Franklin Elementary  
Riverview Elementary  
Hawthorn Hills Elementary  
Pick 'n Save  
YMCA  
Wausau City Hall

PLEASE JOIN US  
FOR OUR 60TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION!!!

HEWITT-TEXAS

**60**

EST. 1962

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**FRIDAY, MAY 20TH**

**5:00-7:30 P.M.**

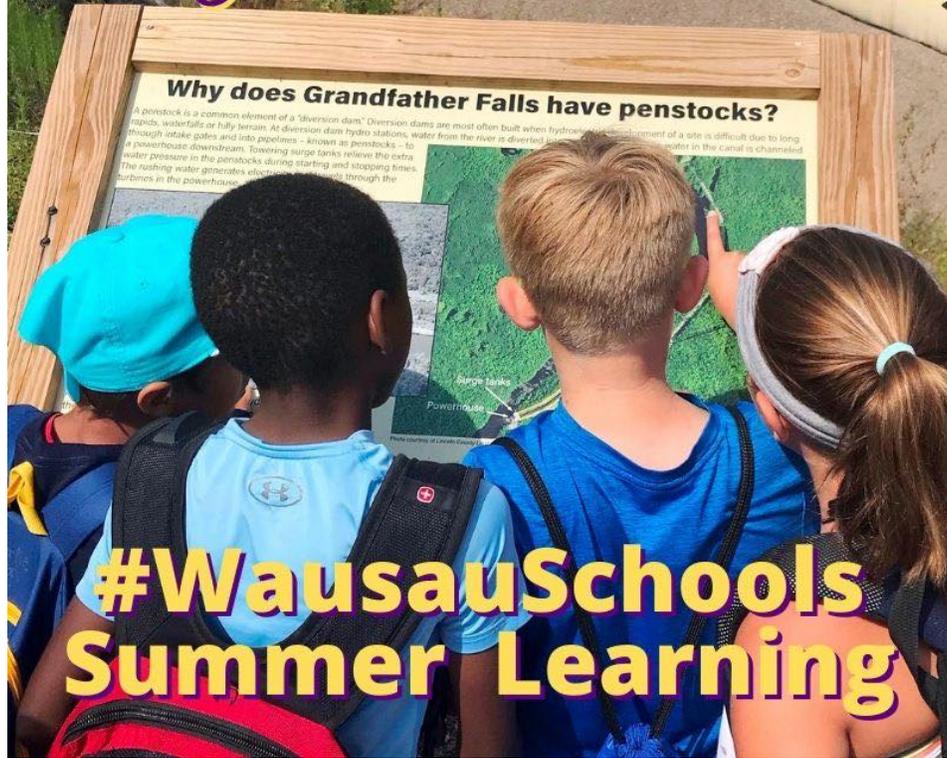
WE WILL BE HAVING A SELF PAY FOOD TRUCK, CASH ONLY!!!

Join us for a night of fun with yard games, an oral history presentation, and artwork on display.

Please RSVP by: May 15th

***Don't Forget! Registration Open for Summer Learning***

# Register Now!



## #WausauSchools Summer Learning

[Click here to register your child for summer learning](#)

### Wausau School District Students Honored



# #WAUSAUSCHOOLS



## **EEA Student Receives 2022 Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Initiative Scholarship**

Congratulations to Casey Sturzenegger from Enrich, Excel, Achieve Learning Academy for receiving a 2022 Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Initiative Scholarship.

Initiative Scholarship recipients, chosen by their schools, have overcome significant obstacles or adversity, have demonstrated exceptional initiative in the classroom, and have shown strong promise for succeeding in college and beyond, but have not yet received other academic-based scholarships.

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## **Wausau West Student Receives Perfect ACT Score**



Congratulations to Wausau West High School Junior Nicholas Knezic for earning a perfect 36 score on the ACT exam! Less than a half percent of students who take the ACT get a perfect 36 score.

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# CULTURAL ARTS FESTIVAL AT EAST



MAY 11TH

5 - 7 PM

**Be our GUEST!**

29 Years CELEBRATING  
ART, MUSIC, & ETHNIC FOOD.  
PLANT SALE, CAR SHOW,  
STUDENT PROJECTS & more.

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**Wausau West's SkillsUSA Team Competes at State  
Competition**



Congratulations to Wausau West High School's 2022 SkillsUSA team members for competing at this year's state competition.

Events included Welding, Masonry, Welding Fabrication, Woodworking Display, Precision Machining, Job Interview, and a Team Engineering Challenge.

Levi Pernsteiner earned bronze with a 3rd place finish in Masonry. Simon Schumacher brought home the gold with a 1st place finish in Precision Machining and qualified for the SkillsUSA National competition in Atlanta, Georgia in June.

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## **Wausau East's SkillsUSA Team also Competes at State Competition**



Congratulations to Wausau East High School's 2022 SkillsUSA team members for earning 10 medals, two of which were gold from this year's state competition!

Lumberjacks attending the State SkillsUSA competition included Drew Crispell, Nora Imhoff, Brooke Ohde, Kendra Ohde, Katherine Rauscher, Taea Schiefelbein, and Izzy Wilke.

Drew Crispell placed 1st in Screen Printing and 3rd in T-shirt Design

Nora Imhoff placed 1st in State Trading Pin and 2nd in National Pin Design

Brooke Ohde placed 2nd in Customer Service and 2nd in Job Interview

Kendra Ohde placed 2nd in Extemporaneous Speaking and 3rd in Medical Terminology

Katherine Rauscher placed 2nd in Technical Drafting

Taea Schiefelbein placed 2nd in Screen Printing

Nora Imhoff's State of Wisconsin trading pin will be mass-produced and distributed nationwide.

Drew Crispell will be traveling to the National SkillsUSA Convention in Atlanta, Georgia in Screen Printing.

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## **Horace Mann's 7th, 8th Students Compete at National Quiz Bowl Spring Competition**

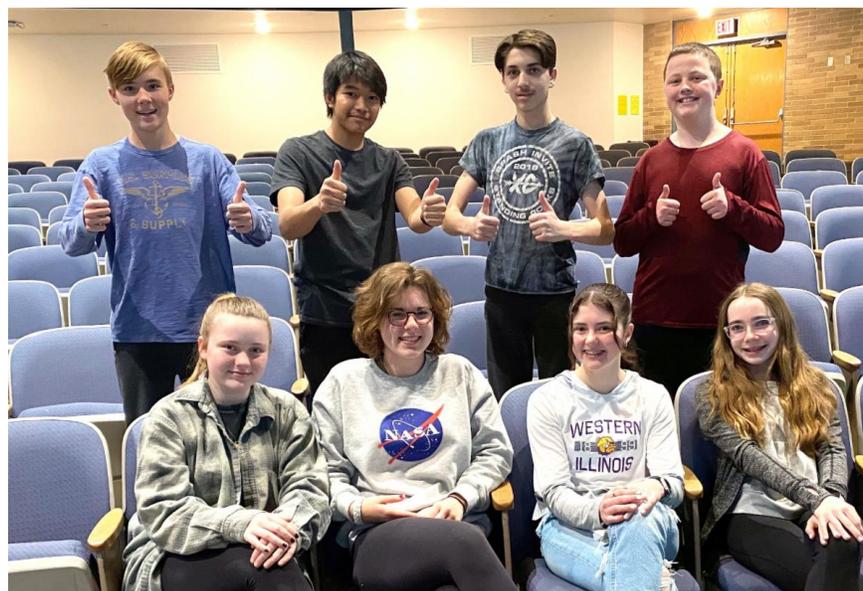


Congratulations to Horace Mann 7th and 8th Grade Quiz Bowl students!

The 7th-grade team placed 44th place against other 7th-grade U.S. teams! Horace Mann team members included Noah Berghammer, Arriana Bluhm, Bryce Gilbert, Jackson Gumbert, Addison Khang, Serenity Lee, Lina Lee, Nick Schumacher, Kian Sullivan, Isaac Tomaszewski, and Jackson Zarins.

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## **John Muir Middle School Students Also Compete at National Quiz Bowl Spring Competition**



Congratulations to the John Muir Middle School 8th Grade Quiz Bowl Team for placing 19th in the National Quiz Bowl Spring Competition with a score of 1184!

Team members included Kade Dunham, Addison Fochs, Emma Huggenvik, Parker Jerabek, Avery Kessen, Leonardo Silavanh, Greta Weiland, and William Zastrow.

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## Wausau West Names Wall of Excellence Award Winners



Congratulations to the Wausau West High School Wall of Excellence Award winners for the 2021-2022 school year!

These students demonstrated a special passion and interest for their awarded subject as well as great citizenship in their classes:

Agriculture - Ashley Zoborowski

Art - Mia Schuler

Business Education - Lucca Tonelli

Computer Science - Zachariah DeByle

Dare to Dream - Galatea Esterly

Drama - Rayna Warrick

English - Ellise Markevitch

English Language Learner - Mongxay Khang

Family/Consumer Science - Hadley Hosler

French - Charlotte Knihtila

German - Naomi Nygaard

Math - Fletcher Haggerty

Music - Luke Brown

Physical Education - Gabriel Ramos

Science - Ruby Edmondson

Social Studies - Carl Knaack

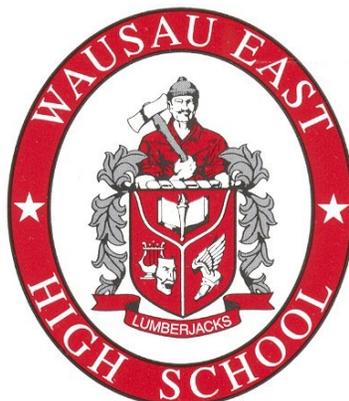
Spanish - Isabelle Sunby

Technical Education - Simon Schumacher

Youth Apprenticeship - Evan Scheidler

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## Wausau East DECA Gives Back in Big Way



Wausau East's DECA chapter has been busy doing good deeds in the Wausau community. This year's members have already volunteered more than 100 hours of their time!

Volunteer hours have been put in at local churches, by doing food collection for Zoro's Locker, which provides food for Wausau East students and their families who are in need, tutoring, and much more.

This spring, students will be doing yard cleanup for elderly and/or disabled people in the community.

DECA officers Alex Klemp-North and Garrison Stockwell coordinated a "miracle minute" at the spring band concert. The audience was encouraged to donate their pocket change as baskets were distributed and one minute was put on a clock. Wausau East has tremendously generous friends and family, as \$571.67 was donated in that minute. That money will be donated to Wisconsin Make-A-Wish.

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## **Wausau West Jazz Ensemble Recognized during Eau Claire Jazz Festival**



Congratulations to the Warrior Brass Band and Jazz Ensemble for stellar performances at the Eau Claire Jazz Festival! Both groups performed exceptionally well in their concert and sight-reading portion of the competition.

The Jazz Ensemble was awarded a Division A 1st place - an incredible achievement and honor. Students were invited to dinner with the UW Eau Claire Jazz Band 1 and performed during the evening concert at the Pablo Center for the Arts.

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**Register Now for our 4K Program!**

Registration is open for our 4-Year-Old



Kindergarten Program for the 2022-2023 school year!

Our District is proud of our 4K Learning Academies located at G.D. Jones, Hawthorn Hills, Riverview, and Thomas Jefferson elementary schools. Our 4K research-based learning model focuses on collaboration and provides a solid foundation for children to reach their full potential. Whether children are enrolled in one of the District's 4K Learning Academies or one of our collaborative community outreach sites - children and their families will be warmly welcomed and come to know and love the 4K program mascot, Tucker Turtle!

[Learn More by clicking here](#)



**Dive into WAVE K-5 Virtual Education**

**WAVE IS A WHOLE CHILD-WHOLE SCHOOL EXPERIENCE. WE OFFER A RICH ONLINE SCHOOL PROGRAM PARTNERED WITH IN-PERSON SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES.**

**Join us for access to highly qualified teachers, a standards-aligned, vetted curriculum, and a focus on social-emotional learning.**

**Contact Principal Jennifer Seymour for more information.**

[Click Here to Enroll](#)

## 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](#)

*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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