



Wausau School District News

December 2021



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



REMINDER! In Most Cases, Snow Days will be Virtual Learning Days



Winter is here and that means we may need to implement Virtual Learning Days if there's inclement weather like a snowstorm or dangerously cold temperatures. If and when a Virtual Learning Day needs to be implemented, you will be notified as soon as possible by phone and email, on our District website and social media pages, as well as, on local TV and radio stations.

What are the benefits of a Virtual Learning Day?

The biggest benefit of Virtual Learning Days is the continuation of learning and student achievement. This type of instructional delivery provides students the ability to interact with instructional content to develop and deepen understanding. A Virtual Learning Day also provides students needed exposure to a critical aspect of being considered College and Career Ready, the ability to independently complete activities while leveraging available technologies. Additionally, Virtual Learning Days allow for a predictable school calendar as the need for added minutes or days is greatly decreased as inclement weather days will be counted as instructional days.

How does a Virtual Learning Day work?

Students will follow a flexible schedule as directed by their teachers. This will include a combination of live instruction via Google Meet and independent/self-paced learning activities throughout the day. Staff will ensure students understand learning objectives, supporting activities, and the requirements for completion.

What if a student does not have access to a device at home?

All Wausau School District students (K-12) are issued either an iPad or Chromebook as

a tool to use when interacting with instruction. In preparation for a virtual learning day, all students will be expected to bring their District issued device home for the purpose of completing work assigned.

What if a student does not have access to the internet at home?

If a family does not have internet access at home, a district-issued hot spot can be issued from your school librarian. Please contact your child's teacher for more information.

Virtual Learning Day Protocol

NEW! Possible April 2022 Referendum

Following a months-long community engagement process, Wausau School District Administration has shared with the Board of Education a proposal for an April 2022 referendum.

As you are probably aware a referendum earlier this year failed. However, our urgent facility needs are not going away. In fact, not only are they not going away; costs are increasing the longer we wait. So, doing nothing costs not just taxpayers, but our students and staff too.

Recognizing that, we started from scratch in our efforts to find a solution for our urgent facility needs the community would support. To make sure no stone was left unturned and to hear from as many voices as possible, the Wausau School District made available online surveys for parents/guardians, staff, and community members. Expanding on that, we held 3-in person community engagement sessions and created a facility needs webpage with an instant feedback form, among other things.

During that process, we just listened. When you asked for more information; we responded, even going as far as creating scenarios for consideration and feedback. At the end of that process, here's what we heard loud and clear: Address your urgent facility needs now, but do not close or merge any schools in the process.

What this proposal does is address our District-wide outdated facility systems/deferred maintenance, safety and security needs, outdated instructional environment needs, outdated fine arts facilities, and outdated co-curricular facilities, but it does not close or merge any of our schools in the process.

If approved as is, the proposal would allow the District to borrow \$181,900,000. For the taxpayer, this means a \$12 annual increase for every \$100,000 of property value or \$1 per month. (It's also worth noting that while the District does have a maintenance budget to cover some of these costs, under the Wisconsin school finance system, most districts are not able to set aside enough money to cover big-ticket items like those we described above.)

This proposal not only aligns with our mission to 'Advance student learning, achievement, and success;' it's responsible to taxpayers and ensures equality District-wide. Not to mention, it's a proposal that the community helped create.

So, what's next? The Wausau Board of Education will look over this proposal again at their next meeting on January 10th to decide whether to approve it as is or make any adjustments.

NEW! Rapid Antigen COVID-19 Test Results Now Accepted in the Wausau School District

The Wausau School District now accepts rapid antigen COVID-19 test results. That's in addition to the PCR test results.

Don't forget the District has two mobile COVID-19 testing units available should you need a test. Those units offer both PCR and rapid antigen tests. All District students, their immediate family members, District staff, along with their immediate family members can be tested for the virus free of charge.

Mobile Unit #1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Stettin Elementary	Thomas Jefferson Elementary	Wausau West High School	John Muir Middle School	G.D. Jones Elementary School
1:00 p.m. - 4 p.m.	N/A	South Mountain Elementary	Maine Elementary	NTC Alternative School	Rib Mountain Elementary

Mobile Unit #2

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Wausau East High School	Horace Mann Middle School/ Montessori	Riverview Elementary School	Franklin Elementary	Hawthorn Hills Elementary
1:00 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Hewitt-Texas Elementary	John Marshall Elementary	Lincoln Elementary	Grant Elementary	Longfellow Administration Center

[Wausau School District COVID-19 Webpage](#)

***Note: The COVID-19 Mobile Testing Units will not be available during Winter Break. They will be back on campuses Monday, January 3.**

REMINDER: Wearing Masks on Buses

This is a gentle reminder that your student(s) is required to wear a mask on all school buses per a Transportation Security Administration (TSA) ruling. This ruling, which went into effect on August 20, will be in place until at least March 18, 2022.

If your student(s) is in need of a mask, all Wausau School District schools have them available. There are also masks on all First Student buses.

Thank you for your help!

WAVE's Spring Enrollment Window Open!



Students interested in joining Wausau Area Virtual Education's virtual learning community for the spring semester of 2022 should complete the online application below. WAVE is a virtual charter school in the Wausau School District open to students in grades K-12. The spring semester starts on January 18, 2022.

[Enroll at WAVE](#)



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 them at 715-261-0636.



EEA's Website

So many great things happening in the District!



EEA Gets Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) Program

Enrich, Excel, Achieve Learning Academy, or EEA, has officially been chosen to be a Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) school.

JAG is a model of learning designed to keep students in school through graduation; improving their success rates in education and career. There are three components to the JAG learning model: 1) Project Based Learning, which focuses on learner-centered, inquiry-based, and active-learning methods; 2) Trauma Informed Care, which not only teaches life skills, but helps students overcome adversity and builds self confidence; 3) Employer Engagement.

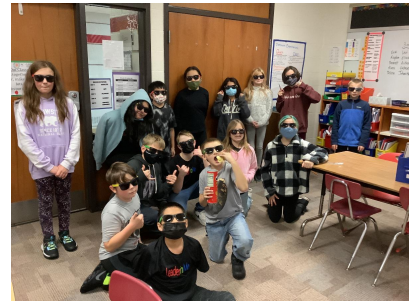
Employers will play an active role in the new JAG program by investing resources, talent, and sharing their wealth of knowledge. JAG develops connections between students and professionals, disseminating ideas and matching up skills in the classroom and real-life situations.



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



I Have a Plan and My Future is Bright! Franklin Elementary students (above) celebrate Habit #2, Begin with the End in Mind.





Our Lincoln Loggers and Grant Bulldogs explain what they want to be when they grow up! It's all part of a lesson on Habit #2.

Rib Mountain Elementary School "Hunts Down Hunger"

Students at Rib Mountain Elementary School learned how to be proactive by putting an end to hunger! They collected food for Peyton's Promise as part of their 'Hunt Down Hunger' food drive. It was all part of a *Leader in Me* lesson, as well.

Students far surpassed their goal of 900+ items during their food drive! Way to go, Rib Mountain Elementary!



Food for Hope Turkey Drive Raises \$12,318.73 for Families in Need!



Wausau East High School Teacher Rob Hughes once again helped put food on the tables of families in need just in time for Thanksgiving. As part of the Food for Hope Annual Turkey Drive, Hughes raised a whopping \$12,318.73 this year alone; breaking previous records.

Then, Mr. Hughes distributed the turkeys and hams at Trig's on Wausau's west side. They went to 22 different schools and organizations. On the list were several Wausau School District schools, as well as some D.C. Everest schools, not to mention, other organizations like the Women's Community, the Salvation Army, and the Neighbors' Place.

For years, Mr. Hughes has been championing this turkey drive because he wants to help others who are struggling.

Thank you, Mr. Hughes for your dedication to helping others in need!

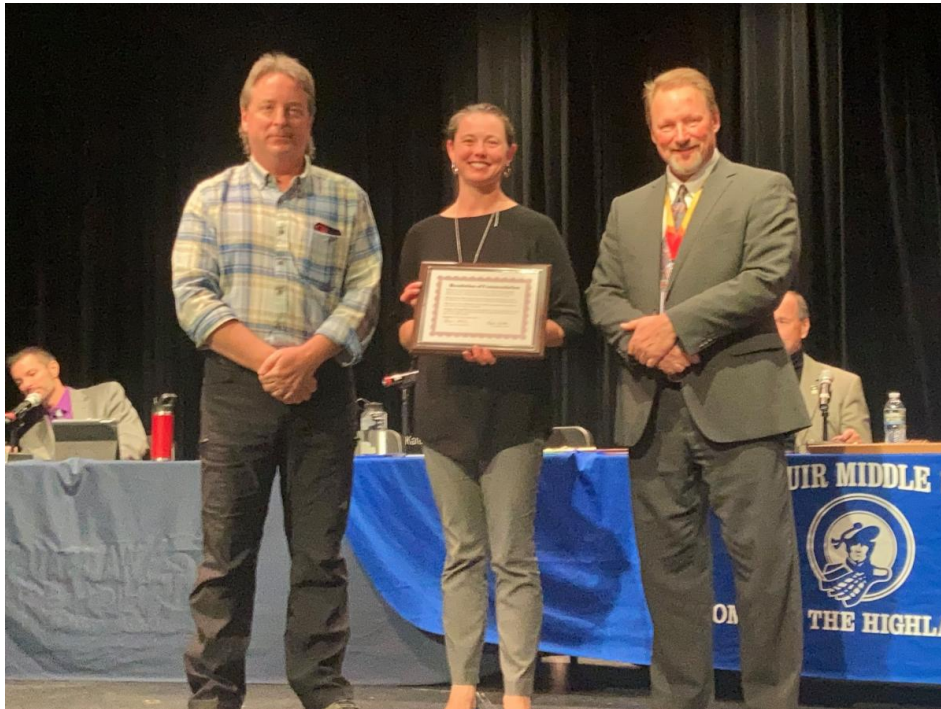
Wausau East and West Volleyball Teams Raise More Than \$11,000 for K-Tech Charities



The Wausau West volleyball program presented K-Tech Charities with the proceeds from their annual Pink Ribbon Volley (formerly Volley for the Cure) match against Wausau East.

This year the teams raised \$11,606.33 to go toward helping local families who are dealing with cancer. The West and East volleyball programs would like to thank the community for their support of this wonderful cause! They would also like to thank K-Tech Charities for their support of local families in need.

Wausau West's Krista Gates Receives Board Resolution of Commendation



Krista Gates, a Wausau West High School General and AP Physics teacher was awarded the Board Resolution of Commendation during a recent Board of Education meeting.

She was nominated by Principal Jeb Steckbauer for receiving Recertification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. According to its website, the NBPTS is recognized as the gold standard in teaching certification -- with a mission to advance accomplished teaching for all students.

Congratulations, Krista!

Wausau East Custodian Recognized by the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association



Wausau East High School's Logan Davidowski earned the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association, or WADA, service award for buildings and grounds!

According to Wausau East Athletic Director Kurt Vanden Heuvel, Logan consistently brings his best; keeping the school's outdoor facilities looking great!

Congratulations, Logan! Thank you for everything you do!

Longtime Franklin Elementary Crossing Guard to Retire



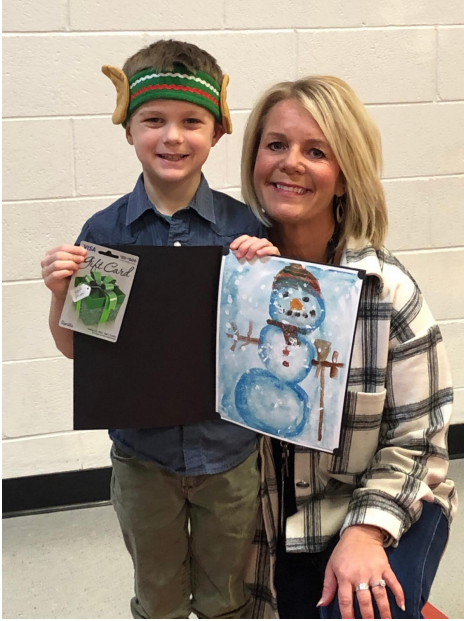
Longtime Franklin Elementary Crossing Guard Eugene Hauer has crossed into retirement this week. He kept students and staff safe for the last 14 years!

On behalf of Franklin Elementary and the entire Wausau School District thank you, Eugene! Your hard work and dedication over the years has meant so much to us all.

We wish you well!

Wausau School District Students Honored





Riverview Student wins Schierl Tire Coloring Contest

Congratulations to Riverview Elementary student Weston for winning the Schierl Tire Coloring Contest!

Kevin Beyer from Schierl Tire presented Weston with the award along with Mrs. Lingford, his art teacher. Weston's artwork will be featured on Schierl Tire's Christmas card that will be sent out to 1,800 customers.

In addition, Weston was awarded with a \$75.00 gift card for himself and a \$250.00 check to Riverview's art program for continued support.

Thank you, Schierl Tire for your support of our schools and to Weston for his incredible artwork!

Wausau West Athlete Wins 2021 Win Brockmeyer Award



Congratulations!
Colton Geurink

Wausau West's Colton Geurink is the recipient of the 2021 Win Brockmeyer Award! The running back and linebacker for the Warriors was recognized during an awards ceremony on Friday, December 17. The award, which is in recognition of outstanding courage, sportsmanship, aggressiveness, and physical development, is given to the most outstanding senior high school football player in the Wausau area. As the recipient of the award, he will receive a scholarship.

**Wausau East Athlete Nominated for 2021 Win Brockmeyer
Award**



Congratulations!
Sawyer Trevillian

Congratulations also go out to Wausau East's Sawyer Trevillian. The Wausau East linebacker was one of the four nominees up for the 2021 Win Brockmeyer Award. He also received a scholarship for being nominated.

Wausau East's Luke Fenhaus Captures 2021 Kulwicki Cup!



Luke Fenhaus has captured the 2021 Kulwicki Driver Development Program Kulwicki Cup! The Kulwicki Driver Development Program, the premier short track driver development

program in North America, was founded by Alan Kulwicki, the 2019 NASCAR Hall of Fame Inductee. By claiming the cup, Fenhaus will receive more than \$54,000.

Fenhaus spoke with WSAW about capturing the 2021 Kulwicki Cup, [click here](#) to watch the story.

Wausau School District Students Place at SkillsUSA Competition



Congrats to Wausau East's Izzy Wilke (bronze) and Brooke Ohde (silver) for placing at the Midstate Technical College SkillsUSA competition!



Congratulations to these Wausau West High students for also placing at the SkillsUSA competition! Simon Schumacher earned gold in Precision Machining Technology. Dylan Teske earned silver in CNC Turning and Caleb Anker earned bronze in Diesel and Heavy Equipment.

[Visit our Website](#)

2021-2022 Wausau School District Calendar

Board approved: 2-22-2021

July 2021						
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	

August 2021						
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				

Aug 26, 30-31: Professional Learning
Aug 27: No Classes - Non-Contract Days

September 2021						
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		

Sept 1: First Day of School
Sept 6: No Classes - Labor Day

October 2021						
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	

Oct 27: No Elementary Classes
No AM/PM Pre-K Classes
No PM Secondary Classes
Oct 27: 1st Quarter Ends (40)
Oct 28-29: No Classes - PL

November 2021						
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				

Nov 24: No Classes - Non-Contract Day
Nov 25-26: No Classes-Thanksgiving Break

December 2021						
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	

Dec 23-31: No Classes - Winter Break

January 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					

Jan 14: No PM Elementary Classes -
Recordkeeping
No AM/PM Pre-K Classes
Jan 14: 2nd Quarter Ends (46)
Jan 17: No Classes - PL

February 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					

Feb 18: No Classes - PL

March 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	31		

March 18: No PM Elementary Classes -
Recordkeeping
No AM/PM Pre-K Classes
March 18: 3rd Quarter Ends (43)
March 21- 25: No Classes - Spring Break

April 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	

April 15: No Classes

May 2022						
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				

May 27: No Classes - PL
May 30: No Classes - Memorial Day

June 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2		
	6	7	8	9	10	
	13	14	15	16	17	
	20	21	22	23	24	
	27	28	29	30		

June 3: No PM Classes - All
Elementary Recordkeeping
No AM/PM Pre-K Classes
June 3: Students' Last Day
June 3: 4th Quarter Ends (46)
June 6: 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

2022 High School Graduation: May 23 - West; May 24 - WAVE; May 25 - East; May 26 - EEA

Quarter Ends (1st - 40) (2nd - 46) (3rd - 43) (4th - 46) = 175

Teachers' last day of school

No PM Elem Classes-Recordkeeping. No AM/PM Pre-K Classes

Upcoming Board of Education Meetings:

- January 10 at 5 p.m.
- January 24 at 5 p.m.

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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