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)RTHWEST December 2020: Issue 69

Fiscally Responsible...Quality Academic Education

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Lunch Prices

High School/Middle School	. \$3	.00
W.S. Stinson/NW Primary	. \$2	2.70
Milk	.\$.50



National Honor Society Inducts 29 Members

Northwest High School's 62nd National Honor Society Induction Ceremony took place on October 22. Twenty-nine new inductees took the pledge of Character, Leadership, Wisdom, and Service. The ceremony was led, in part, by current NHS officers: President Leann Dolensky, Vice President Ethan Hyrne, Secretary Caroline Kuhn, and Treasurer Kennedy Kraft; and by faculty adviser Mrs. Heather Matoszkia.

Northwest National Honor Society members are dedicated to their school and their community. They complete four towpath trail cleanups from Lake Lucerne to the Summit County line and collect recycling at the



Current members getting ready to pin new inductees.

high school. This year, as with all things, is a bit different. In addition to traditional service projects, members are also using the online community of <u>DoSomething.org</u>. This online platform allows students to participate in socially safe service projects that benefit our local community. This organization also offers scholarship opportunities to participating students. Additionally, because our chapter of National Honor Society is self-funded, Northwest members will be planning several fundraisers to be implemented at the high school this year. It is truly an honor and privilege to be selected for National Honor Society.

Continued on page 3

A Message from the Superintendent

December is here and we have survived COVID-19. The school district has had some cases of COVID-19, and we have had to quarantine a number of students. In spite of that: our teachers, tutors, aides, office personnel, custodian, bus drivers and cafeteria workers have done an exceptional job.



Special recognition goes to our students. They are thriving in a situation they never could have imagined. Their commitment to wear masks and remain six feet away has been remarkable.

More important than academics all of us have learned patience, perseverance and concern for the welfare of others.

Dennis P. Lambes Superintendent



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Board of Education



Committed to an Open & Transparent District

Jim Gindlesberger – gindlesberger.j@northwest.sparcc.org Victor Colaianni – colaianni.v@northwest.sparcc.org Julia Barkey – barkey.j@northwest.sparcc.org Rita Gearhart – gearhart.r@northwest.sparcc.org Bob Schilling – schilling.b@northwest.sparcc.org

From left: Vice-President Victor Colaianni, Julia Barkey, Board President Jim Gindlesberger, Rita Gearhart, Bob Schilling.

Time Flies

Three short months ago we welcomed our staff and students back after a spring of remote learning and a summer break that had been significantly impacted by the pandemic. After spending countless hours reviewing virus data, constantly changing health guidelines, and educational options available, the decision was made to return to in-person learning as well as offering an online option for our families who felt it was unsafe to return to school. We knew the school environment would be dramatically different for our students, their families, and our staff members as the impact of social distancing, face-covering requirements, and online technology needs changed the landscape of our typical school environment. While there have been challenges for staff and students, they have been incredibly resilient as they adapted to all of these changes. I am amazed at how quickly the time has flown by, and we are now anticipating the holiday season and a well-deserved break. I encourage you to set aside time with your close-knit group of family and friends to enjoy the holiday season.

Happy Holidays, Debora

Third Nine Weeks Learning Option

The district's Responsible Restart plan provides families with the opportunity to choose traditional instruction (in-person five days a week) or an online learning option each grading period. As the district begins to prepare for the next grading period, we are asking families to notify the district if they plan to make a change to their child(ren)'s learning option for the third grading period.

Parents who **do not plan to make a change** in their child(ren)'s current learning option **do not need to take any further action**. Your child(ren) will remain in their currently assigned classes/courses for the third nine weeks.

Parents who **plan to make a change** in their child's current learning option will need to complete the **district's third nine-weeks learning option form** by Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. The link to the third nine-weeks learning option form will be available on the district website on Monday, December 14. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's building principal.

Kindergarten Registration

To be eligible for kindergarten in the fall of 2021, your child must be five on or before August 1, 2021.

The <u>online registration</u> link will be available Monday, January 11, 2021 through Friday, April 9, 2021 on the district website.

A computer station will be available at the Central Office for those individuals who do not have online access in their homes.



Copies of the following documents <u>must</u> be brought to Central Office *by 5:00 p.m. on April 9, 2021* to complete the online registration process:

- **√** Birth certificate
- √ Proof of residency (2 forms required utility bill and a rental agreement or mortgage statement)
- Child's social security number
- **√** Parent's Photo ID
- √ Immunization record
- Custody papers (if applicable)

Nominate an Exemplary Youth Who Volunteers in our Community



United Way of Greater Stark County

United Way of Greater Stark County is now accepting applications for the 2021 Inspired Youth award.

"Volunteer work is empowering," says Maria Heege, United Way of Greater Stark County President & CEO. "It teaches youth the value of teamwork, commitment, and follow-through. Volunteering offers them real-life experiences that provide unique opportunities which foster leadership. This award recognizes their motivation, contribution and success to their community while promoting a positive culture that promotes self-value and encourages future leaders to give back."

According to the Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning and Engagement of the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts University, there are many benefits to youth who volunteer. Besides personal growth and satisfaction, young volunteers can build a network and often encounter others who act as mentors. Participation in volunteering activities also helps build "soft skills" such as leadership and organizational skills that are sought after in the job market. Youth also lend their perspective to important civic issues such as inequity and economic mobility.



Inspired Youth Award: United Way's Inspired Youth Award recognizes one exceptional young leader who demonstrates outstanding volunteer leadership in their school, community or group and is 18 and under. Criteria for the award include: demonstrates initiative,

leadership and creativity in their service to others; serves as a role model for others in their community; inspires others to join them in their effort; helps improve the overall quality of life of fellow citizens and the community in the areas of health, education or financial stability. The nominee must have been engaged in a volunteer activity that occurred at least partly during the 12 months prior to the date of nomination; be a resident of Carroll or Stark County; 18 and under.

Previous recipients of this award include Bradley Mull of Oakwood Middle School and Isabel Lombardi of St. Michael School. You can learn more about them at uwstark.org/press-releases and uwstark.org/ younteer-stories.

Know someone you would like to nominate? Nominations open November 30 and close January 22. Final recipient will receive an award and be featured on our website in the volunteer section. Visit <u>uwstark.</u> <u>org/inspiredyouth</u> today to submit your recommendation.

About United Way of Greater Stark County

United Way of Greater Stark County fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in every community. We win by living United. By forging unlikely partnerships. By finding new solutions to old problems. By mobilizing the best resources. And by inspiring individuals to join the fight against their community's most daunting social crisis. Our mission is to improve the quality of life in our communities by leading in the development of solutions to critical social issues in the areas of health, education and financial stability. In order to live better, we must live United. For more information about United Way of Greater Stark County visit uwstark.org. Offices are at 401 Market Avenue North, Suite 300, Canton, Ohio 44702, (330) 491-0445.

National Honor Society continued from page 1

NHS Inductees



Front row: Rachel Deininger, Mary Paydock, Kylee Cottrill, Emma Barnes. Back row: Alexis Pitsch, Mary-Grace Huth, Olivia Ellis, Abby Sharrer, Amanda Keith, Brooke Kovacs.



Carly Spradling and Kate Cunningham.



Front row: Ashton Schwiger, Bri Davis, Will Campbell. Back row: Zack Kurz, Anna Nicholson, Brady Aneshansel.



Front row: Natalie Bender, Emily Crookston, Alivia Nair, Bayleigh Lower, Lucie Doubet, Paige Owsiany. Back row: Victoria Friedrichsen, Colin Sokolowski, Luke Kager, Lauren Sigrist, Madison Zellers.











High School Dates to Remember

DECEMBER

3	Parent/Teacher Conferences	2:30-7:30 PM
11-12	Choir Concerts	7:00 PM
13	Choir Concert	3:30 PM
14	Symphonic Band Concert	7:00 PM

21-1/1 Christmas Break: No School

JANUARY

- 4 Classes Resume
- End of 2nd nine weeks/end of semester
- Martin Luther King Day: **No School**

FEBRUARY

- 19-21 Musical: Little Women
- 12 Waiver Day: No School
- 15 Presidents' Day: No School
- Parent/Teacher Conferences 2:30-7:30 PM

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"Keep that Northwest Spirit Up" is a well-known chant at NHS. Amid the stress of the pandemic and academics, the students of LEAD and the Show Up Committee are committed to continually improving the culture and climate of Northwest High School. This fall, the spirit of Northwest was plentiful as students celebrated spirit week, participated in the Senior Sunrise event, and enjoyed treats from McDonald's, Kona Ice, Peace Love & Little Donuts, and Penguin Ice Cream. We are proud of our students for all their hard work and their positive, resilient attitudes.



















ENIOR SUNRISI

Northwest Speech and Debate Team is ALL IN!



The Northwest High School Speech and Debate Team enters its first full year with 20+ students in active competition. In a Covid-19 world, the Speech and Debate Community has had to pivot from live in-person competition to a live synchronous virtual environment. Students and judges report to Northwest High School on Saturday mornings and are each assigned their own room to facilitate social distancing. Students and judges then log on to their virtual rooms through the National Speech and Debate platform. There, they connect remotely with students from other schools for rounds of competition.

Northwest is all in this year with a full year Interscholastic Speech and Debate Class to give our kids the chance to earn credit for their efforts. We have a great group of motivated young people competing with some very promising results through our first three tournaments. Mr. Woods is extremely grateful for the support of a committed team of adults who make Saturday tournaments possible. Special thanks to the Assistant Coaches, Boosters, Judges, and Team Sponsor Classic Vacuum for their time, talents, and financial support. To become a Speech and Debate Booster or learn more about judging at Speech and Debate tournaments, contact Mr. Woods, Head Coach at richard.woods@nw.sparcc. org or Andrea Jenkins, Booster President at andijenkins.1@gmail.com.



This Year's Musical



February 19-20 at 7:00 PM & 21 at 2:30 PM

Based on Louisa May Alcott's life, *Little Women* follows the adventures of sisters, Jo, Meg, Beth, and Amy March. Jo is trying to sell her stories for publication, but the publishers are not interested. Her friend, Professor Bhaer, tells her that she has to do better and write more from herself. Begrudgingly taking this advice, Jo weaves the story of herself and her sisters and their experience growing up in Civil War America. The audience is taken on this journey through time with the March sisters and their love interests who have interwoven themselves into her Jo March's publications of an Operatic Tragedy.

2020 Fall Play

The Northwest Middle School Drama Department took us back in time to the Wild West and into a classic "who dunnit" murder mystery scene with plenty of energy, laughter, and twists and turns!



Under the direction of Mr. Conner Busby, the students performed a series of one-act plays in *The Fall One Act Festival!* The program featured the shows A Murdered Mystery, Mine All Mine, and A Blind Woman's Bluff.

This year, our students really rose to the occasion. We are proud of their hard work and dedication to following all of the health precautions involved with safely rehearsing and performing the show. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, seats for family were very limited and the plays were divided over four evenings. The performances are available as a "Video on Demand" option for many to experience the show in the safety of their homes. Special thanks to Mr. Greg Ramos and staff for their support, Kyle Grim and the AV Club for their technical support, and the families of all of our students for encouraging them to pursue the arts and being a part of the ever-growing Northwest Choir and Theater family!







Middle School Dates to Remember

DECEMBER

	Holiday Choir Concerts: A Merry Grinchmas7:00 PM
8	6th grade Choir

8th grade Choir

10 7th grade Choir

Holiday Band Concerts7:00 PM

15 8th Band Concert

16 7th Band Concert

17 6th Band Concert

21-1/1 Christmas Break: No School

JANUARY

4 Classes Resume

15 End of 2nd nine weeks/end of semester

18 Martin Luther King Day: No School

FEBRUARY

11	Parent/Teacher	Conferences	2:40-8:40 PM
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12 Waiver Day: No School

15 Presidents' Day: No School

Overall A Award

In December of last year, Northwest Middle School was recognized by the Ohio Department of Education as a winner of the "Overall A Award." This prestigious recognition is granted only to schools in Ohio that receive an "A" average on the state report card. Our middle school was one of just five school buildings in Stark County receiving this award. Recently, the state sent a new banner which is now on display near the main entrance. Thanks to our teachers and staff for their amazing work, and congrats to our students for their dedication to learning!









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Veterans Day

November 11, Veterans Day, is a special day to honor all veterans for their service and the perfect opportunity for Northwest students to show their appreciation and pride. Children district-wide are educated on the meaning and importance of Veterans Day, and they honor local heroes by creating special projects such as poems, essays, artwork, and letters. This year, students also created video projects to share with their classmates. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the traditional assemblies were not permitted. Instead, students gathered curbside to honor our local veterans in a special parade. Students decorated windows, waved flags, and offered words of thanks to those who served. Locally, veterans are honored 24/7 at the Ohio Veterans' Memorial Park in Clinton. The memorial continues to grow yearly, and we are so lucky to have this beautiful remembrance in our neighborhood! Today and every day, we honor those who served and thank them for their many sacrifices.























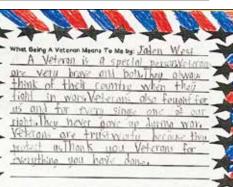






























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Northwest Middle School Students of the Month

Beginning the School Year Right!

Each month, the middle school staff honors trustworthy, hardworking students who accept responsibility and do their work promptly and efficiently. These students respect authority and respect their peers, demonstrating honesty and fairness. They are dependable and often do more than is required of them. Congratulations to September and October Students of the Month!

Sixth Grade

September

October

Natalie Kozlosky



Paxton Murray



Brayden Maclaryn Venables Funk

Seventh Grade



Madelyn Begert



Austin Elliott



Luke Aneshansel



Kailey Dempsey

Eighth Grade



Evelyn Wade



Devin Gilliam



Caiden Todaro



Kendall Lower

Character Counts at Stinson Elementary

Stinson celebrated **Character Counts Week** with a "Count
on Me" Mash-up Day! Each
morning, the teachers discussed
the Character Counts theme
with the students and how they





could demonstrate that theme in their daily lives. This year's themes included Hats Off to Good Character, Be an Up-Stander, Be Someone's Hero, Good Character Shines Bright, and We Don't Scare Easily because we are fair, caring, responsible, respectful, and trustworthy citizens!

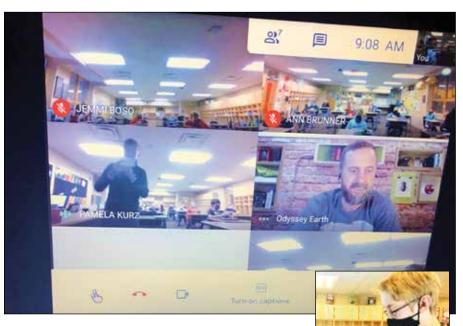


Typically each day of the week, the students dressup according to the theme. This year, Stinson decided to do an entire mash-up day for all of the themes so the students could get really creative!

Dressing up in the themes provided a little extra excitement for the students on October 30, and they deserved

deserved some fun! The students continue to do a great job with all of the new safety rules this year. They have had a fantastic first nine weeks of school!





Fifth Graders "Visit" the Rainforest

Taking a trip to the rainforest isn't entirely out of reach when you have camera men and filmmakers, like Richard Kern, who uses his interests in nature and art to highlight his experiences to fascinating places. Stinson Elementary fifth graders had the fortunate opportunity to participate in a Google Meet with the knowledgeable filmmaker.

Sponsored by the Herbert W. Hoover Foundation, the students were able to view his video, *Rainforests of the Maya* and ask questions during their live video chat. Students in Mrs. Fisk, Ms. Brunner and Mrs. Lower's science classes have been learning about ecosystems, food chains, and invasive species. Their Q & A session with the filmmaker furthered their curiosity and excitement about science and the Mayan culture which they learn about in social studies. They asked questions such as 'What inspired you to be out in nature?' 'What equipment did you use to capture the experience?' **Logan B.** from Mrs. Lower's class said the whole experience was, "Pretty cool because I want to be a zoologist when I grow up, so it was neat how he showed different animals and we got to see him scuba dive in one of the oldest cave systems." Although this live presentation was merely a screen encounter, the excitement and enthusiasm it generated will no doubt create a whole new generation of future explorers.

Celebrating a Mexican Holiday

Fifth-grade students in Mrs. Fisk and Mrs. Manns's classes enjoyed learning about Mexico's Day of the Dead celebration. After reading the book, *Dia De Los Muertos*, students **Alex Ortiz** and **Alberto Villanueva** were able to share their family traditions about this joyful holiday celebrated to remember and honor their loved ones who have passed away. All the students enjoyed learning about this special tradition.









Stinson students celebrate our nation's right to vote on Election Day. They also created a video to share with the school on Veterans Day.

Stinson Dates to Remember

DECEMBER

Talent show?

Count On Me Day?

21-1/1 Christmas Break: No School

JANUARY

- 4 Classes Resume
- End of 2nd nine weeks/end of semester
- 18 Martin Luther King Day: **No School**

FEBRUARY

- 11
- Waiver Day: No School
- 15 Presidents' Day: No School
- Parent/Teacher Conferences3:30-6:30 PM



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Northwest Primary Celebrates Fall

On Friday, October 9, Northwest Primary students enjoyed a day of sunshine and fall celebration. In place of traditional fall parties, Northwest staff organized a truly special day for their students! A playground pumpkin patch, a fall scavenger hunt, classroom snacks and S'mores, and pumpkin painting made this a day students will remember!













Officer Muntean shares a story with students.

First Grader Ranks 17th in Nation

First grader Kyler O'Neil placed second in the USA **BMX** Northeast Regional Gold Cup Finals. Kyler started racing Strider bikes



at two years of age (push bike, no pedals), and moved to the big track (pedal bike) at age three. At age four, he won first place in Louisville, KY at the Derby City Nationals. At age five, he went from Novice to Intermediate, earning his 10th win in Dothan, Alabama. He ranked 17th in the Nation for 2020. One day, he hopes to make it to the Expert class (20 first place wins or 5 National wins).



Northwest Primary Dates to Remember

DECEMBER

21-1/1 Christmas Break: No School

JANUARY

- Classes Resume
- 15 End of 2nd nine weeks/end of semester
- 18 Martin Luther King Day: No School
- 26 Kiss the Pig Contest begins

FEBRUARY

- Kiss the Pig Contest ends
- 11 Valentine's Day Parties
- 12 Waiver Day: No School
- 15 Presidents' Day: No School
- 22-26 Virtual Family Science Fair Week
- 25

PROUD of our Indians!



Varsity Football

The Northwest Indians Varsity football team fought through a unique, unprecedented 2020 season, finishing as the Principals Athletic Conference (PAC) champions, going undefeated in conference play. The Indians finished the season with an 8-1 overall record, narrowly losing a hard-fought contest in the OHSAA Regional Semi-Finals to Mentor Lake Catholic.

Seniors **Jordan Mick** (quarterback) and **Nick Dinkins** (wide receiver) helped re-write the offensive school record books on their way to earning 1st Team All-PAC nominations. Mick was named the PAC Player of the Year for his outstanding performance throughout the season. Joining them on the 1st Team were fellow seniors **Anthony Grossnickle** (wide receiver)

and Logan Wise (defensive end), while junior Connor Ramsey (linebacker) and sophomore Braden Mick (wide receiver) also earned 1st Team status. Juniors Jason Greenfield (linebacker) and Cody Logan (offensive tackle) were Honorable Mention nominees.

What a memorable season for new head coach **John DeMarco** and the coaching staff, the athletes, the cheerleaders, the marching band, and, of course, the fans who backed them in spirit even when they couldn't fill the stands!









Cross Country

This year's cross country team was proud to host the very first Northwest Cross Country Invitational. It was a huge success, and all the teams that came enjoyed it and want to return next season. Our girls team won the team championship of the first Northwest Invitational. They also placed 3rd in Division II/III of Stark County and were Runners-up in the PAC-7 Championship. They also just missed qualifying to the Regional by finishing 8th at the District Championship. The boys team was very young with five freshman in our top ten runners. They worked hard and improved each week. They placed 7th in our division of Stark County. They were 6th in the PAC and placed 15th at the District Championship. Individually Lucie **Doubet** and **Mario Zito** each qualified to the Regional Championship meet. PAC-7 honors included First Team: Lucie Doubet and Leeann Dolensky; Honorable Mention: Megan Swogger, Emma Campbell and Mario Zito. All-Stark County, Division II Honors included First Team: Lucie Doubet, Leeann Dolensky, and Mario Zito; Second Team: Megan Swogger, Emma Campbell, Emma Weaver, Madison Smith, Dylan Easterling and Luke Micklos; Honorable Mention: Gracelyn DeGraw and Luke Metzger. Coach Brian Armstrong earned the girls Coach of the Year Award for the team's performance.

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Girls Golf

The Northwest girls golf team had a tremendous season. This was their first year in the Tri-County League. The girls finished 4-4 in the Tri-County League and 11-5 overall. **Maria Dangelo** placed 1st Individually at Sectionals, placed 32nd Individually



at Districts; she made 1st Team All-County, 1st Team Tri-County League and 2nd Team at the Tri-County League Pre and Post-Season Tournaments. **Jessica Cliff** made 2nd Team Tri-County League Post Season Tournament and placed 22nd at Sectionals Individually. **Natalie Geiger** made 2nd Team Tri-County League Post Season Tournament and placed 23rd at Sectionals Individually.

Girls Soccer

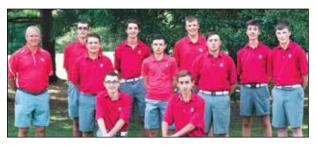
The goal this season was simple and direct: Improve from one game to the next--simply because they didn't know if there would be a next game. There was continual progress through most games, even if only a little at a time. In the end, they went on a three-game winning streak and played a very even match at Tallmadge in their first playoff game. Unfortunately they lost 1-0 in overtime. Looking forward to 2021, they will continue to get better and hopefully be able to return to a little normalcy. The drive to get better, the passion for what the girls do, and the will to win is easy to see. They need to continue to work and grow together, but if they can do that in the offseason, there is no reason next season that they can't take a huge leap forward.

Boys Soccer

The boys varsity soccer team placed second in the PAC with a 6-6-3 record. They finished their season with a 9-6-3 overall record and earned key wins over Manchester, CVCA, Fairless, and Coventry. Senior Cody Harris set the Northwest Career Assist Record at 43, holds the Single Season Assist Record at 17, and ranks 5th in Career Goals at 42. The PAC-7 1st Team included Cody Harris, Ian Donohue, and Micah Prickett; Jacob Metzger and Ryan Moellendick both earned Honorable Mention. The All-Stark County Honors included 1st Team: Cody Harris and Micah Prickett; 2nd Team: Ian Donohue and Jacob Metzger; and Honorable Mention: O'rion McAvinew and Garrett Baughman. The GASSCA All-District Team included 1st Team: Cody Harris, 2nd Team: Ian Donohue, and Honorable Mention: Micah Prickett, Jacob Metzger, and O'rion McAvinew.

Boys Golf

The Northwest boys golf team had a successful season. They finished 8-4 in the PAC and continued to improve. Sophomore



Zach Huscusson made First Team All-PAC and earned Honorable Mention All-Stark County. Coach Foutty and his team are looking forward to next year.



Volleyball

The volleyball team finished in 3rd place in the PAC. **Ashley Cudnik** was 1st Team All-PAC and **Jordan Marecek** was Honorable Mention. Their overall record was 11-12. Their best game of the year was beating Triway at home.



L to R: Seventh Grade Coach Natalie Sarbaugh, Lola Bleakley, Callie Baughman, Maddie Koprevic, Laura Dangelo, Sadie Villers, Brianna Plotner, Autumn Kennard, Rachel Baker, Sammy Kaughman, Evey Cooper, Audrey Hall, Kendal Lower, Elisa Dangelo, Eighth Grade Coach Cheryl Nash.

Seventh Grade Volleyball: Back-to-Back PAC Champs!

It was a rocky start going 0-3, but they got it together and faced a lot of tough PAC teams. There were a lot of exciting matches, including the championship match which lasted 1-1/2 hours. They ended up 11-5, which was great considering the various COVID-19 obstacles that popped up. We are so proud of our girls!

Child Find

In an effort to serve young people with disabilities, Northwest Local is continually in the process of locating and evaluating children from 3 to 21 years of age who are suspected as having a disability. Disabilities may include developmental delays, health impairments, autism, and traumatic brain injury. Individuals may contact the building Principals or Director of Special Services about children suspected as having a disability that may qualify for special education services. Information is available about special education policies and procedures in each building by contacting the building Principal. Northwest has a child identification process that includes the location, identification and evaluation of a child suspected of having a disability within and outside of district buildings. The Department of Special Services coordinates the child identification process. The Northwest evaluation staff uses a variety of community resources and systematic activities in order to identify children requiring special services. Included in this effort is consultation with appropriate representatives of private school students attending private schools located within the boundaries of the Northwest Local District to carry out this process. Northwest ensures that this process for students attending private or religious schools located in the Northwest Local District is comparable to activities undertaken for students with disabilities served in the public school setting. If you have questions about the process, please call Scott Burnett, Director of Special Services, at 330-854-2292.