

NORTHWEST NEWS

April 2021: Issue 71



Fiscally Responsible... Quality Academic Education

IN THIS ISSUE:

District..... 2-3

Athletics 4

High School 5-6

Middle School..... 7

W.S. Stinson Elementary 8-9

NW Primary School..... 10-11

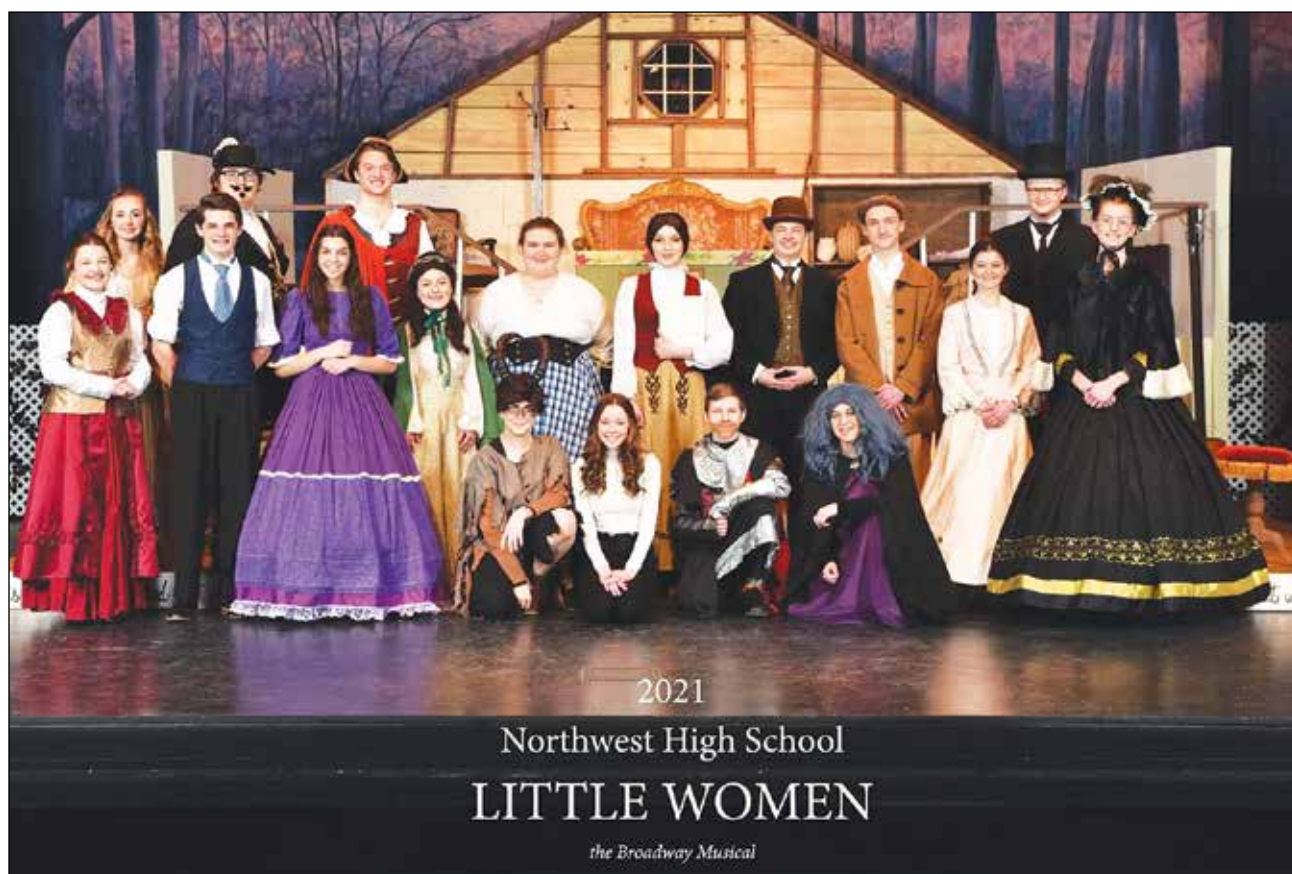
21-22 Calendar..... 12

Lunch Prices

High School/Middle School..... \$3.00

W.S. Stinson/NW Primary \$2.70

Milk..... \$.50



Little Women, Big Success!

In February, the Northwest High School Drama Department performed *Little Women the Musical*, one of the first live musicals performed in almost a year in our area. From the acting to the vocal performances to the choreography, the dedication and talent of the cast, crew, and musicians truly shined. Congratulations to Director **Conner Busby**, Music Director **Douglas Beery**, Choreographer **Amanda Leemaster**, Student Director **Emma Campbell**, Costume Designer **Katie Wells**, and the many patrons and supporters for making this production a huge success!

NHS Speech and Debate Sends Six to States!

In a year where nearly everything was virtual, Interscholastic Speech and Debate had to adapt! Thanks to the support of our 2020-21 corporate sponsor, Classic Vacuum, and a grant from the OSDA, we were able to meet the team's technology needs so that we could be competitive in a virtual format. In their first full year of existence, the Northwest High School Speech & Debate Team attended 20 tournaments, earned 33 degrees, became fully chartered with the NSDA, and qualified SIX individuals to the State Tournament which was held March 3-6, 2021.

Continued on page 6



NORTHWEST NEWS

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Board of Education



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

Committed to an Open & Transparent District

Jim Gindlesberger – gindlesberger.j@northwest.sparcc.org

Victor Colaianne – colaianne.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

K-5 English Language Arts Textbook Adoption

During the current academic year, the district is reviewing K-5 English Language Arts materials with the intent of purchasing new materials for use in the upcoming school year. The materials being considered for adoption will be available in May at the Central Office for parents and community members who would like to review them. Please direct any questions or concerns to the Curriculum Department at the Central Office (330) 854-2292.

Title I/IDEA-B Flow Thru Notification

The Northwest Local School District receives notification of their entitlement of federal funds allocated in accordance with the Title I/ Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Public Law 92-142. Utilization of the funds is designated to provide services and programs for disabled students. Persons who wish to comment on how to utilize these designated funds are welcome and encouraged to contact Debora Clark, Director of Instruction, at 2309 Locust Street, S, Canal Fulton, OH 44614. The phone number is (330) 854-2291.

Title I Evaluation

Each spring, parent and teachers evaluate the Title I program. Comments and input from both are used as plans are made for services the following school year. If your child is not receiving services or you would like to provide input on the Title I program, please complete the survey that is available in all school offices or contact Debora Clark, Director of Instruction, at 2309 Locust Street, S, Canal Fulton, OH 44614. The phone number is (330) 854-2291. Surveys may be returned to any Northwest School Office or the Central Office.

McKinney-Vento Act

It is the policy of Northwest Local School District to enroll, educate, and not segregate or stigmatize children on the basis of their status as homeless. Debora Clark is the Northwest Local School's Homeless Liaison and can be reached at (330) 854-2291. Any person suspecting a child is homeless should notify Miss Clark to ensure that homeless children enroll in school and have the opportunity to succeed academically.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Northwest Local Schools are so fortunate to have such strong community support!

McDonald's has generously donated to our schools and raised student and staff morale in a variety of ways throughout the school year. They have provided monthly staff breakfasts and donated free coffee and soda cards.

McDonald's has also provided lunches for all seniors, a monthly "Spin the Wheel" lunch tradition to award students with coupons and treats, and GPA and attendance coupon incentives for our students. Thanks, again, McDonald's, for making our school days a bit brighter!



Kindergarten Registration

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

The **online registration** 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 must 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)

Spreading Kindness Across the District

In a year as unusual as this one, students truly have recognized the importance of kindness. Students across the district participated in Kindness Week activities the week of February 22. From crazy hair to superheroes to tie dye, students dressed up for themed days throughout the week. High School students wrote cards to other students, and teachers gave out Kindness Cards to students helping their peers. Kindness Quotes were a part of the daily announcements and part of the daily lessons at Northwest Primary. Middle School students even recognized the importance of being kind to animals by collecting items to donate to One of a Kind Pet Rescue and the Stark County Humane Society. Yes, now more than ever, **Kindness Matters!**



NORTHWEST NEWS

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SEASON REVIEW

Girls' Basketball

What a great group of student-athletes this past season! With all the distractions and uncertainty this past year, these girls continued to work hard, improve, and help each other achieve



*Jordan Marecek
PAC-7
Player the Year*

their goals. They have left a lasting legacy for the Northwest Basketball Program, finishing as PAC-7 Champions for 2nd straight season. This back-to-back championship is a first in school history! They were runners up at the District Tournament. **Lily Bottomley, Ashley Cudnik, and Jordan Marecek** earned 1st Team All-League Honors, and **Carly Spradling** earned Honorable Mention All-League. **Jordan Marecek** was selected PAC-7 Player of the Year and Coach **Kevin Lower** was named Coach of the Year in the league. At the District level, Lily Bottomley



*Lily Bottomley
District 4
Player the Year*

was selected as District 4 Player of the Year. Jordan Marecek, Carly Spradling, and Ashley Cudnik all received District 4 Honors as well. Jordan Marecek set two Northwest records: Most 3-Point Shots in a game (7) and Most Steals in a season (105). Lily Bottomley set the school record for Most Blocks in a season (69). Congratulations, Girls!

Wrestling

Under the leadership of Coach **Corey Tanksley**, the Northwest wrestlers had a great season, remaining competitive amidst shutdowns, cancellations, and procedure changes. All returning athletes improved their record from last year. The team placed 5th at the PAC tournament. At the sectional tournament this year, seven wrestlers placed, five of which qualified for the district tournament. **Cody Logan** placed 4th at the district tournament to qualify for the state tournament!

A special congratulations to both **Austin Donaldson** and **Cody Logan** for showing true grit to finish their season despite injuries that could have easily sidelined them. They both have given so much to this program and were able to finish their season on a positive note of personal success.

Congratulations to Sectional Placers: **Mason Gonzales** - 3rd, **Cody Logan** - 3rd, **Josh Faris** - 4th, **Austin Donaldson** - 4th, **Cody Workinger** - 4th, **Riley Plotner** - 5th, and **Bradyn Wolfe** - 6th. Cody Logan placed 4th in the district and was also selected first team; Riley Plotner earned Honorable Mention.

The Lower Brothers bring Tradition and Talent

Brothers **Mike and Kevin Lower** are both former athletes and Alumni of Northwest. The brothers both played basketball at Northwest under their father. Head Coach **Jim Lower** was a successful coach at Northwest for twenty years. Mike took his place as Boy's Head Basketball Coach fifteen years ago. His brother Kevin is in his second year as the Girls' Basketball Coach.

Both Mike and Kevin were selected as the PAC-7 Coaches of the Year. We are very lucky to have this duo here at the high school at the same time. Congratulations Lower brothers!



*Coach Mike Lower,
Boys' PAC-7
Coach of the Year*



*Coach Kevin Lower,
Girls' PAC-7
Coach of the Year*

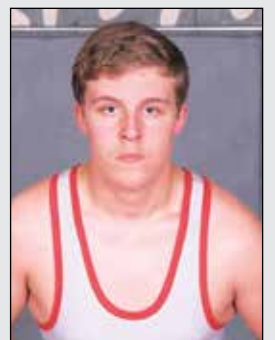


Boys' Basketball

The boys finished their season as the Principals' Athletic Conference (PAC) Champs. They finished the season with an overall record of 13-7 and a league record of 9-3 to grab a share of the PAC-7 title. **Nick Dinkins, Ethan Hyrne, and Nick Smith** earned 1st Team All-League Honors, and **Noah Harper** earned Honorable Mention All-League. **Nick Smith** was named PAC-7 Player of the Year and Coach **Mike Lower** was named Coach of the Year in the league. At the District level, Nick Smith earned 1st Team honors and was selected Player of the Year. Nick Dinkins and Ethan Hyrne both earned Honorable Mention. Congratulations!



*Nick Smith
PAC-7
Player the Year*



*Cody Logan
4th Place
District Tournament
& State Qualifier*

Northwest High School

Choirs Take to the Stage in March Performances

Ashton Nair, Choir President

Singing and performing during the pandemic has been very difficult. Many of our performances have been canceled, and even our concerts have been spread over three nights! It is very sad that we cannot perform in our usual settings or even sing around Canal Fulton. The most difficult thing is singing with a mask. It is so hard to get the proper breath through a mask to prepare to sing.

This year, choirs performed in October and in March. December concerts were canceled because Northwest students were learning remotely. This was really upsetting to us because we had all prepared so much for it. But, we are very glad that we had the chance to perform in March!

We are looking forward to our final performances. **Our next performance will be on May 6, and Spring Showcase will take place on May 14.** Also, Chorale will be traveling to Cedar Point to perform in *Music in the Parks* on May 15.



2020-2021 Choir Officers: (L to R) **Mykenzie Cross** (Business Manager), **Marina Foulk** (Vice President), **Ashton Nair** (President), **Sarah Caniglia** (Secretary), and **Natalie Bender** (Co Business Manager).

Under the leadership of Director **Mr. Douglas Beery** and Assistant Director **Mr. Conner Busby**, the High School Vocal Music Program includes nine choirs in total including Chorale, Varsity Choir, Concert Choir, Men's Chorus, Women's Chorus, Northwest Singers, Kokopelli Scholars, Vocal Muse, and the newest addition, Accafellas.



TESTING

End-of-Course Tests for IN-PERSON students

APRIL

14 ELA II

22 Algebra/Geometry

27 US History

28 Biology

29 Government

End-of-Course Tests for ONLINE students (administered in the aux gym)

APRIL

19 ELA II

20 US History & Government

21 Biology

22 Algebra/Geometry



AP Exams

(administered in the Main gym)

MAY

4 AP Calculus

5 AP Lit & Comp

6 AP US History

12 AP Language & Comp

13 AP Computer Science Principles

14 AP Biology

May Activities and Events

3 Senior Honors Assembly..... 7 pm

8 Senior Prom (HS outdoor/under tents)

14 Choir Spring Showcase..... 7 pm

16 Senior Sunset

18 Senior Walk..... 1 pm

19-21 Senior Exams

24 SWORD

25 Senior Parade 6 pm

26 Mandatory Graduation Practice 10 am

Canton Civic Center

GRADUATION..... 7 pm

Canton Civic Center

27 Last Student Day: Underclassmen



NORTHWEST NEWS

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Speech and Debate *Continued from page 1*

The 2021 State Qualifiers included **Skylar Miller**, *Senior*, Dramatic Interpretation; **Mary Paydock**, *Junior*, Congressional Debate; **Abigail Meighen**, *Sophomore*, Congressional Debate; **Connor Kilkenny**, *Sophomore*, Congressional Debate; **Kaylee Turley**, *Freshman*, Program Oral interpretation; and **Charolette Knicely**, *Freshman*, Congressional Debate.

Our State Qualifiers did Northwest proud, scoring enough points as a team for us to beat 45 other schools in State Team Sweepstakes! Mary, Abigail, and Charolette put up impressive performances in the preliminary rounds of competition with all three breaking to the quarter-finals. Mary Paydock went on to finish fifth in her semi-final round making her one of the top 20 Congressional Debaters in the state of Ohio! There were 175 total competitors in the event, and over 1,000 students in competition in all events combined! Kaylee Turley, Freshman, won State Champion honors at the Novice State Tournament held on March 13 with her first-place finish in Program Oral Interpretation.

The team wishes to thank all of the supporters who made this season possible by sacrificing many hours of judging, serving, coordinating, meeting, feeding, supporting, cheering, and coaching. They are integral members of our NHS Speech & Debate family! Without them, COVID competition simply wouldn't have been possible!

NHS Speech & Debate will be hosting a **Showcase** on **Friday, April 16** in Puffenberger Hall where our team will perform for the public. Individuals interested in supporting the team next year will get a sampling of what our students have worked so hard on all season and learn how they can become part of the Speech & Debate community. Students interested in joining the team for 2021-22 are invited to come see why Speech & Debate is the best thing they'll ever do! Due to Covid restrictions, seating may be limited, so watch for details closer to the event. For more information about how to get involved in Speech & Debate at Northwest High School as a competitor or a supporter, email Head Coach Rick Woods at richard.woods@nw.sparcc.org.

Musical Memories



Northwest Middle School

Students of the Month

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. Whether in person or online, these students get the job done! Congratulations to the January and February Students of the Month!

Sixth Grade

Seventh Grade

Eighth Grade

January



**Savannah
Geniec**



**Kane
Boskoski**



**Caiden
Hickok**



**Cameron
Palmer**



**Tamia
Clark-Akers**



**Dominic
Nichols**

February



**Alyse
Trent**



**Luca
Novakovic**



**Emilee
Robertson**



**Konner
Bale**



**Nevaeh
Doney**



**Bradly
Garber**

We are All Woven Together

Mrs. Marala's eighth-grade American History classes created "quilts" in honor of Black History Month. From Maya Angelou to Jackie Robinson, Harriet Tubman to Jessie Owens, Martin Luther King to Ray Charles, Oprah Winfrey to Rosa Parks, Louis Armstrong to Sojourner Truth—the African American History Quilts honor so many ground-breaking, history-making figures! These eighth grade students proudly displayed their creativity and their research as they learned that "We are All Woven Together."



Middle School Dates to Remember

Ohio State Testing Dates

APRIL

All Online Learners: 4/13, 4/23 (8th only) & 4/26

6th Grade In-person learners: 4/15, 4/16, 4/27, & 4/28

7th Grade In-person learners: 4/19, 4/20, 4/29, & 4/30

8th Grade In-person learners: 4/19, 4/21, 4/22, 4/29 & 4/30



NORTHWEST NEWS

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W.S. Stinson Elementary



Stinson Students and Staff raise \$4,593.79 for Akron Children's Hospital

Stinson Elementary collects money each winter for the "Have a Heart, Do Your Part" charity event, benefiting Akron Children's Hospital. This is a very worthy cause; so many of our Stinson families have relied on getting good care for their loved ones at Akron Children's Hospital. The students are encouraged to donate any small amount to do their part. The class or grade level that raises the most money gets an extra recess or a small treat for their efforts.

This year, the Stinson students' generosity knew no bounds! We typically raise between \$1000 - \$1500. As one teacher stated, "The kindness the students showed just touches your heart. They were eager to hear the totals, but also excited to contribute any amount they could find laying around." Just another fine example of being able to "Count On" Stinson students! A big thank you goes out to all of our families for their generous donations to Akron Children's Hospital!

SAVE THE DATES!

Ohio State Testing for ALL Stinson Students

In-School Students: Grades 3-5

APRIL

- 13-14 English Language Arts
- 20-21 Math
- 27-28 Science - 5th Grade only

Online Acellus Students

*Students will take these tests in the Stinson library. It is state mandated that they are administered at the school.

APRIL

- 14 English Language Arts – Grade 3
- 15 English Language Arts – Grade 4
- 16 English Language Arts – Grade 5
- 21 Math – Grade 3
- 22 Math – Grade 4
- 23 Math – Grade 5
- 28 Science – Grade 5





Retired Stinson Counselor turns Author

Joan Cogan retired from Northwest Local Schools in 2007. Miss Cogan had been the elementary school counselor for 13 years and previously spent 22 years teaching Grades 2-8. Joan has continued to give back to our schools and community, making a difference in many lives since her retirement. She has been an active supporter of the Canal Fulton YMCA through the Schalmo Family YMCA first endowment called, “Cogan’s Corner Energized Endowment.” Miss Cogan became involved after visiting Stinson’s fourth grade students during their swim lessons, and she knew she wanted to contribute to this great local treasure.

Miss Cogan is currently making a difference in the lives of Stinson Elementary fifth grade students through a book study. Joan has added “author” to her many titles, publishing two books, *Anchored in Love* and *Anchored in Perseverance*. The Betterment League purchased *Anchored in Perseverance* for all fifth grade students to help them focus on a positive growth mindset. 2020 was a year where this book was definitely needed! The students have really embraced this book study and get very involved in their classroom discussions. The students are thrilled when the author visits and they are able to have a discussion directly with Miss Cogan and learn from her expertise and experiences. It’s like Miss Cogan never left the classroom, as she is able to immediately make connections and make a difference in the lives of Northwest children!

Stinson Elementary feels blessed to have had her lead the way many years ago as the first elementary school counselor at Northwest Local Schools and to have her continue to lead through her time, commitment, and connection!



It’s Not Too Late to Join Band this Year!

The Northwest Instrumental staff is so excited to be working with these awesome fifth-grade band members! The start of fifth grade band was delayed this year due to COVID, but we are now going strong and having a great time learning to make music. Fifth grade band meets from 7:25-8:00 am in the middle school band room. Fifth grade band students have the option to ride the middle school bus in the morning or be dropped off at the middle school by their parents. Return bussing to Stinson is provided each day. **It’s not too late to join band this year!** Please contact Mrs. Meffan at meffan.m@northwest.sparcc.org or Mrs. Good at good.k@northwest.sparcc.org for more information. You may also sign up for sixth grade band when

scheduling middle school classes. No prior band experience is necessary! The band staff is here to help you learn the instrument of your choice.

Music is a great form of expression, and participation in band helps students not only to learn an instrument, but also to develop life-long friendships. We hope to see you in band!



NORTHWEST NEWS

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Northwest Primary

100 Days of Learning and Growing!

February 9 marked the 100th day of school at Northwest Primary. One of the state standards for kindergartners is the ability to count to 100. What better way to demonstrate this skill than a day of activities and celebration! Students and their families designed T-shirts with 100 objects on them. Some students even got to show off their unique creations in a fashion show. They sorted 100 snacks, wrote 100 words, and did 100 exercises. Can they count to 100? Check this skill off the list!

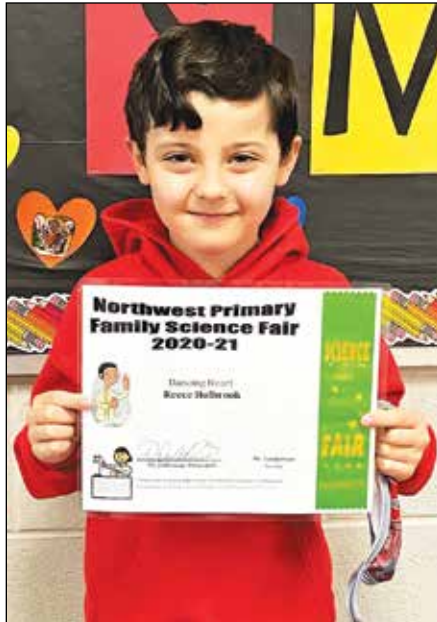


Exploring Science

February 22-26 was Family Virtual Science Fair Week. Students proudly shared their projects and earned awards for their research and creativity. Congratulations to this year's participants: **Andrew Daily**, *Planets*; **Reece Holbrook**, *Dancing Heart*; **Whitleigh Holbrook**, *Growing Gummies*; **Grayson Mayher**, *Magic Orange*; **Harper Mayher**, *Balloon and a Bottle*; **Logan Pfefferle**, *All About Clouds*; **Brooklynn Weininger** and **Zeddie Weininger**, *Valcano Slime*.



Andrew Daily



Reece Holbrook



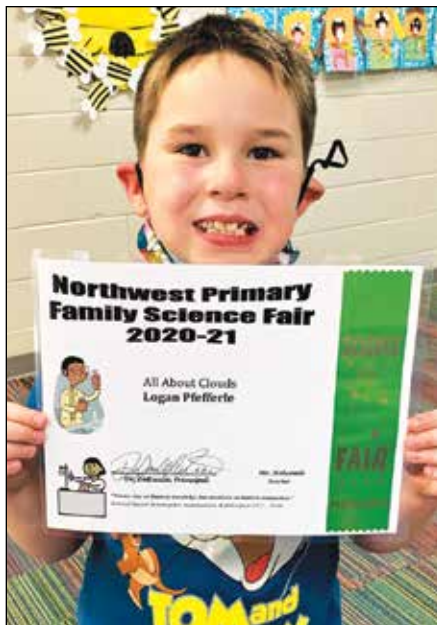
Whitleigh Holbrook



Grayson Mayher



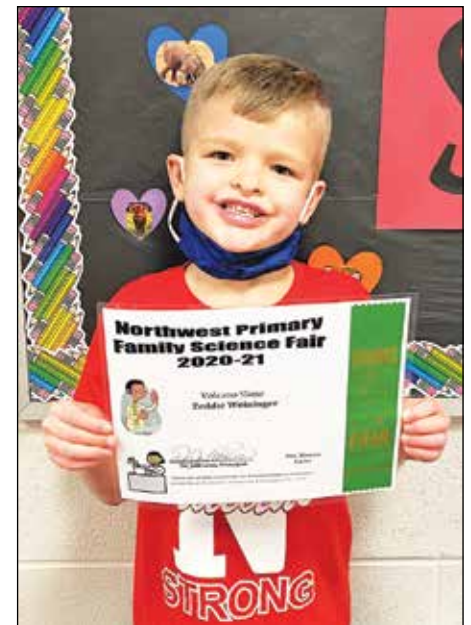
Harper Mayher



Logan Pfefferle



Brooklynn Weininger



Zeddie Weininger

Northwest Primary Dates to Remember

FEBRUARY

- 12 Waiver Day: **No School**
- 15 Presidents' Day: **No School**
- 22-26 Kindness Week
- Virtual Family Science Fair Week
- 25 Parent/Teacher Conferences..... 3:45-5:45PM

MARCH

- 18 Parent/Teacher Conferences..... 3:45-5:45PM
- 19 End of Third Nine Weeks
- 3/29-4/5 Spring Break: **No School**



NORTHWEST NEWS

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August 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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29	30	31				
September 2021						
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26	27	28	29	30		
October 2021						
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31						
November 2021						
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December 2021						
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January 2022						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Northwest Local Schools Calendar 2021-22

August

16 Teacher Day – No School
17 First Student Day

September

3 Bldg In-service No School
6 Labor Day

October

11 Teacher Inservice On Your Own Day - No School
22 End of 9 weeks (47 days)

November

24-26 Thanksgiving Break
29 No School

December

20-31 Christmas Break

January

7 End of 9 weeks (42 days)
7 End of semester (89 days)
17 Martin Luther King Day

February

18 Waiver Day – No School
21 Presidents Day

March

11 End of 9 weeks (43 days)
28-31 Spring Break
No School

April

1 Spring Break - No School
15 No School
18 No School

May

27 Last Student Day
27 End of 9 weeks (48 days)
27 End of semester (51 days)
31 Teacher Day – No School

Calamity Day Make-Up Schedule:
1st Day – May 31, 2022 – consecutive weekdays as needed

- Teacher Day - No School for Students
- First & Last Student Day
- No School
- Teacher Exchange Day – No School

Student Days 180
Teacher Days 184

February 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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27	28					
March 2022						
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April 2022						
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May 2022						
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29	30	31				
June 2022						
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26	27	28	29	30		
July 2022						
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

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.