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Student Newspapers

Peyton Frankovich's seventh and eighth grade English Language students created newspapers in December.

The assignment was the culmination of their mini journalism unit. Throughout the unit, students were introduced to various types of journalism and their purposes.

The overall goal for this assignment was to allow students to explore writing in different contexts, for different purposes (persuade, entertain, inform), and for different audiences. The students wrote four articles total: An editorial on social media, a news story on social media, a personal narrative piece on coming to America, and finally a sensationalized ghost story.

The students did amazing – showing off their usage of subjective and objective language along with adding exciting details to hook their readers. The final product is certainly something they should be proud of, and this was a meaningful and enjoyable writing experience for all.



WHS Alum Presents to Engineering & Architecture Class

Katie Willi, former Westlake High School Technology & Engineering student, stopped by the advanced architecture and engineering class recently to share her experiences about college.

Willi will graduate from Wright State University this Spring. She stated that learning about the design process and making “something from nothing” was not only extremely rewarding, but helped her build up capabilities to learn just about anything. She said another important attribute she picked up in



high school that she continued to develop in college was the ability to systematically solve problems even at a high level.

Katie was an accomplished T&E student at WHS. She is also one of 250 students who have taken classes from the Technology and Engineering Department, gone on to major in a STEM related field in college, and now work in professional fields around the world.



Mallorie Haworth says, "We are proud of our staff and community as this has been our biggest donation year yet! They are the rock stars that make it happen."

Sharing is Caring

The WES Counselors, staff, PTA, Caring Closet, and the community came together support families. The Winter Giving Program is a program inclusive of all families, cultures, and religions.

The focus is to provide household essential items for families who need some extra support. Donated items are specific to the needs of each family. The items are collected in November and December, then delivered before Winter Break.



Excellence in Service Awards

At the January 23, 2023 Board of Education Meeting, Hannah Ahrens and Pam DeAnna were presented with the Excellence in Teaching Award while Jill Miner and Dianne Campo received the Excellence in Classified Service Award.

These staff members were nominated by their peers and endorsed by their building principals. Criteria for nomination includes that they display outstanding service which sets them apart from others and makes a positive impact on the school and community.



Founders' Day PTA Celebration - February 23, 2023

Founders' Day is a banquet that celebrates and recognizes community and PTA Members who have made a significant impact in their contributions to the students of Westlake.

Click [here](#) to make a reservation. The cost is \$35.



School Resource Officer Body Cams

The safety and security of our students, staff and district community is a top priority for the Westlake City School District. An important component of our safety strategy includes having a School Resource Officer (SRO) assigned to each of our four school buildings.

Beginning this month, the Westlake City School District SROs will wear body cameras while working in our school buildings. The Westlake Police Department previously mandated all WPD officers wear body cameras beginning in November 2022. Our SROs are Westlake Police Department officers who have received additional training and certification to prepare them to identify and prevent crime in the K-12 school setting.

Body cameras are being used by more SROs every year and can help protect our students, staff, and the SROs from false accusations, claims of wrongdoing, or claims of abuse. The cameras hold the officers and others accountable and could help prevent or decrease dangerous or violent situations. Body cameras in schools monitor the school building environment, document any concerning events, and ensure the upstanding performance of the district SROs.

It is important to note the body cameras will not be recording continuously. In fact, they will only be recording when the SROs are in the act of "law enforcement activities." Even when a camera captures "law enforcement activities" laws such as HB 425 restrict the video footage from being considered public record.

Daily activities, conversations and personal interactions will not be recorded. A red flashing light will indicate when the body camera is recording.

We believe that the Westlake City Schools will be a safer place with the use of these body cameras. The cameras have the potential to enhance our existing safety practices and procedures.

LAST CHANCE!!! We are 1 week away from our annual car raffle!

Car inventory low? Prices too high? Take a chance at winning a car! As of January 23, less than 800 tickets have been sold. Those are great odds! Tickets are available, but time is running out. **[Buy Tickets Here](#)**



The drawing will take place on Tuesday, January 31, 2023 at halftime of the WHS Boys' home basketball game.

Meet Board Member



Liz Pirnat

School Board Recognition Month - Supporting Success for All Students

As we celebrate Board Recognition Month, we also welcome a new President, Mrs. Pirnat. Liz is a graduate of Case Western Reserve University with a BS in Management.

Meet Board Member



Joseph Kraft

Joe Kraft is past Board President. He is Director and CFP with Baird & Co and is serving his second term on WCSD BOE.

Dr. Bob Stoll is a graduate of Cleveland State University with his Ph.D in Business Administration. Prior to that, he earned

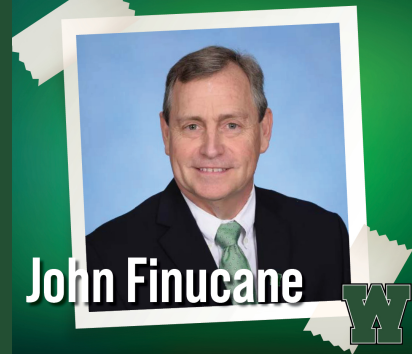
Meet Board Member



Barbara Leszynski

Mrs. Leszynski is serving her fourth term on the Board. She is currently Vice President. A retired middle school science teacher, Barb has a BA from Kent State and MA from Mount St. Joseph.

Meet Board Member



John Finucane

John Finucane is serving his third term as a Board member. He is a graduate of John Carroll University with a BSBA in Management.

his MS in Mechanical Engineering at Case Western Reserve and his BS & MBA in Mechanical Engineering from Rochester Institute of Technology. Dr. Stoll is serving his second term on the BOE. At Ashland University, he is Management Department Chair and Supply Chain Management Professor.

Meet Board Member



Dr. Bob Stoll

We are grateful to each Board Member for their dedicated service to Westlake Schools.

Preschool - What are Our Youngest Learners Doing?



Our afternoon preschoolers take advantage of the warm January day.



Mr. H introduces string instruments to the morning preschool class. Elise is a natural!



The girls in Miss Kathy's preschool class are getting a headstart on Valentine's



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