



# SWLCONNECT

SOUTHWEST LICKING LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
JANUARY 2024



## DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Kasey Perkins, Superintendent  
Mr. Michael Tanchevski, Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. Daniel Davis, Director of Student Services  
Mrs. Melissa Ladowitz, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Mrs. Tonya Sherburne, Director of Human Resources  
Mr. Richard Jones, Treasurer



## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Kandee Engle, President  
John Vincent, Vice-President  
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Roger Zeune, Member



# Dr. Kasey Perkins

## *Superintendent*

As we embrace the winter season, I am happy to share some exciting updates and information with our school community.

Navigating the challenges that winter brings is a priority for us. In the event of closures or delays, rest assured that timely notifications will be relayed through our official communication channels. Ensure your contact information is current through Final Forms to receive robo-calls. Stay connected with us on Facebook, the District website, and tune in to local news stations for updates. Decisions regarding school closures or delays are typically made by 5:30 a.m. Additionally, watch for weekend announcements, as activities both within and outside the District may be delayed to facilitate snow and ice removal.

As we approach the culmination of the first semester, the academic excellence of our students continues to shine. We proudly recognized over 100 students for their outstanding academic achievements at the District level, with countless others achieving excellence within our school buildings. Your unwavering support and encouragement are pivotal in helping our students towards success. Maintain a connection with your child by engaging in nightly conversations, checking Progress Book regularly, and communicating with their teachers with any questions or concerns.

We encourage you to stay connected through our social media channels and by attending upcoming school events. Your presence and enthusiasm was evident through our holiday concerts and events and we look forward to your continued involvement to help enrich the overall educational experience for our students.

I wanted to extend my gratitude to our dedicated teachers, staff, and administrators. Their hard work and commitment create a nurturing learning environment for all our students. Together, we are not just navigating the challenges of today but actively shaping the future of our students.

In staying informed, remember to keep an eye on our website and social media sites for the latest updates and announcements.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in making Southwest Licking Schools an excellent educational community.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kasey Perkins".

Dr. Kasey Perkins, Superintendent





# Mr. Michael Tanchevski

## *Assistant Superintendent*



This quarter, we're shining a spotlight on staff member Jessie Minnear. As the head of Central Registration and Reception, Jessie is the ideal person to welcome and guide anyone who comes to the District Office.

Jessie greets parents and walks them through the registration process, which entails a lot of fact-checking and looking through documents, by exhibiting patience and kindness. She is always good-natured, caring, and attentive to the needs of every person who walks through the door. Many times overwhelmed families, feeling anxious and unsure about the enrollment process, come in with a lot of questions. Jessie takes the time to listen to their concerns and answer all their questions, putting them at ease and making them feel comfortable.

"I have to make sure I go through all of their required enrollment documents," Jessie says. "If they're not uploaded into Final Forms by the parent, I upload them so that we have their documents on file. I then enroll the student and then complete a records request to get all their previous school records."

Sometimes things don't go smoothly, such as when families arrive to register without all the correct documentation and multiple attempts are required to complete the registration process. This is where Jessie's demeanor and personality keep the situation positive. "I just try to show patience and understanding and take my time and be personal with them," she says.



Jessie met her husband Brock in second grade. The Watkins Memorial High School graduates have one daughter, Brynlee, who is a fifth grader at Watkins Intermediate School. Jessie doesn't hesitate to identify what she enjoys about her experiences. "The best thing about living here is just the community--I love how close everyone is," she says. "And the best part of my job is interacting with the parents and children."

Jessie is an excellent representative of the District. Her friendliness, care, and willingness to make everyone feel welcome exemplify all that is good about this community.

# Mr. Daniel Davis

## Director of Student Services



National School Counseling Month takes place the first full week of February. Our school counselors and social workers play a vital role in supporting students' academic, career, and personal development. In the school setting, they are often the frontline of support for students who are experiencing a crisis or other major traumatic event in their lives. They wear many hats daily and the positive outcomes of their student's lives are a reflection of their care and commitment.

Amy Gengo  
WMHS Counselor

"The reason that I love my job is working with our students. I love that no day is ever the same and that our teenagers keep me young."



Amy Grezlik  
WMHS Counselor

"I like seeing how kids change and mature as they progress through high school towards graduation. Seeing the excitement they have at graduation for the future is always one of my favorite days of the year."

Erin Miller  
WMHS Counselor

"We have a phenomenal team at SWL in our department which makes many things great! Specifically in my role at WMHS, I enjoy problem-solving and prepping students for real-life situations as we relate high school experiences to situations beyond their time in school. Each day is different and busy which can be a blessing in disguise!"



Patty Werner  
6-12 School Social Worker

"As a school social worker, I love linking families to resources to be stronger and removing barriers to be successful at school, home, and in the community."

Mollie Hahn  
WMS Counselor

"I enjoy creating supportive relationships within our school community and helping students feel connected and successful."

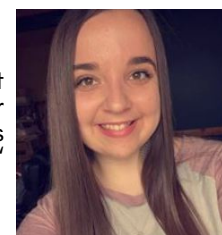


Julie Matheny  
WMS Counselor

"I love seeing the changes and growth of students over the years they are at the MS. I also love the staff I've been privileged to work with over the years."

Taylor Wright  
K-5 School Social Worker

"I love being able to form positive relationships with students, staff, and families."



Dean Bulmer  
WIS Counselor

"I enjoy meeting with individual students and helping them develop a plan that they can use on their own to help them manage their difficult feelings. It's very rewarding to see students develop independence with their ability to help themselves when they're struggling."

Stavroula Soulas  
Kirkersville Elementary Counselor

"I love that I have the opportunity to interact with every student in our building through classroom lessons. I enjoy building rapport with students and watching them grow social/emotionally as the school year progresses by using the skills that our department has taught them. Their emotional success has a direct impact on their academics, and it is the most rewarding process to be a part of!"



Brittany Truman  
Etna Elementary Counselor

"I love being able to work with students and teachers in my building! I especially enjoy seeing students' hard work pay off when they meet their goals."

Jen Windnagel  
Pataskala Elementary Counselor

"The thing I love most about my job is the ability to work proactively with students to help them address the non-academic barriers to achievement. Every day is new and different and there's always an opportunity to utilize out-of-the-box thinking to support both students and staff!"







# Mrs. Melissa Ladowitz

## *Director of Curriculum & Instruction*

All third grade students in Ohio take a fall ELA assessment to help determine who may not be on-track. Results from this fall reflect a significantly higher percentage of students scoring 700 or higher compared to previous years, and we're happy to report that the district's average scaled score is above the 700 target. Based on



the state's criteria, nearly  $\frac{3}{4}$  of our third graders are already scoring proficient or higher! We are incredibly proud of our students and teachers as they've embraced The Science of Reading.

## Kindergarten Registration & Screening

1.



### Gather Required Documents

- parent/guardian ID
- student's birth certificate
- student's complete immunization records
- two proofs of residency
- custody documents (if applicable)

2.



### Register Online

- Go to: [www.swl-oh.finalforms.com](http://www.swl-oh.finalforms.com)
- Complete the forms and upload the required documents.

3.



### Attend Kindergarten Screening

After your registration is complete, you will be assigned a time slot for screening on May 13th. Screening allows our staff to meet students and gather baseline data on what the students already know so that teachers may begin planning for students' individual needs.



### Important Dates

- February 1, 2024 - Kindergarten Registration Opens
- May 13, 2024 - Kindergarten Screening

Questions? Email

[SWLKindergarten@swl.k12.oh.us](mailto:SWLKindergarten@swl.k12.oh.us)

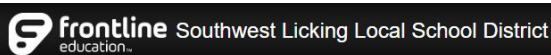
# Mrs. Tonya Sherburne

## Director of Human Resources



On March 18, 2024, we will once again host the Licking County Education Job Fair. This will be held at Watkins Memorial High School from 4pm - 8pm. Registration details will be forthcoming. Interested candidates should monitor our district website and social media accounts for additional information. All of the school districts in Licking County will be in attendance and interviewing candidates for teaching positions for the 2024-2025 school year.

We have launched a new online application process. Please visit the Human Resource Department on our district website to view and apply for all job postings. We are always accepting applications for substitute teachers, substitute bus drivers, and substitute educational aides.



### Vacancies

#### Categories Locations

Food Services (1)  
Maintenance/Custodial (1)  
Secretarial/Clerical (1)  
Student Support Services (2)  
Substitute (1)  
Support Staff (2)  
Transportation (3)

All Jobs ▶

FMLA notice



### Join the Warrior Family!

If you are a passionate educator, administrator, or support staff member who values **relationships** and believes in the importance of **academics, athletics** and the **arts**, we encourage you to apply for a position at **Southwest Licking Schools!**

In order to be considered for a position, you need to complete our online application process. Please follow the directions below. Your application will remain in active status for one school year.

### External Applicants



[Start an application for employment](#)

[Use passcodes sent to me](#)

[Log in](#) ▶

### Internal Applicants ONLY



Internal applicants only.

[View internal positions](#)

[Submit as a Current Employee](#)

[Log in](#) ▶





# BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

## *Robert Jennell, Project Manager*



### **Does construction stop in winter?**

While traditional wisdom might make you think that construction stops, work does continue, though the conditions are not ideal. When most of us are huddled up to the closest source of heat, construction workers are completing vital portions of the project that keep the building on schedule. The amount and the type of work they are able to complete depends on the stage of the project. Interior work can continue throughout the winter season, while exterior work is limited by the weather conditions.

### **What about our projects?**

Kirkersville Elementary, a nearly 60,000 square foot renovation plus a small office area addition, is protected from the wintry conditions by being fully enclosed. As a result, interior work such as mechanical, electrical, plumbing, painting, drywall installation, cabinetry work and the installation of the ceiling grid continues full speed ahead. Since most of the remaining exterior work is finishing work (landscaping, concrete walkways and an asphalt topcoat), much of the work has been moved to the spring before being completed. This ability to work during the winter months places the building on schedule to open in August of 2024.

Unlike Kirkersville, Pataskala South Fork Elementary is a new 76,000 square foot building that has not been fully enclosed under a waterproof canopy. Therefore, work at this site is extremely weather dependent. However, since the December temperatures remained relatively mild, exterior work was able to continue. If you drive by the site, you will notice that winter construction work has included storm line installation, the pouring of all major building slabs, the start of truss installation, ongoing masonry work with door frame installations, and some electrical and plumbing installation. If the conditions continue to allow for winter construction, the new Pataskala South Fork Elementary will remain on schedule to open in August of 2025.



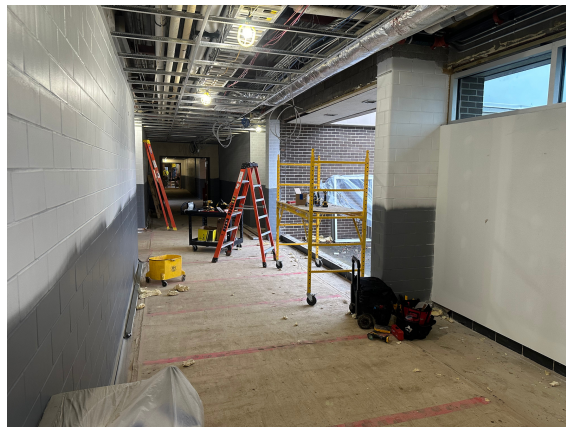


# BUILDING PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

## Pataskala South Fork Elementary



## Kirkersville Elementary Renovation







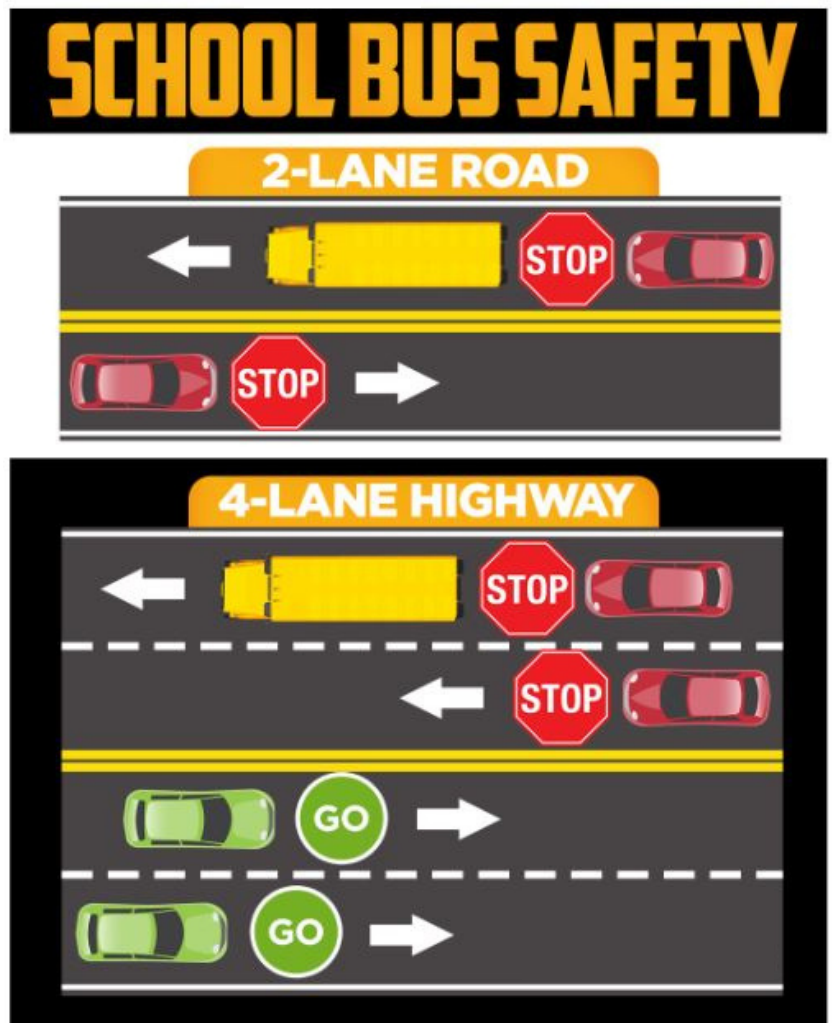
## TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

*Ryan Brown, Director of Logistics*

The Transportation Department has had a successful first semester. We continue to appreciate everyone's patience as we deal with occasional bus driver and bus monitor shortages. We are currently transporting 2,724 students daily and travel approximately 3,705 miles each day. In addition to transporting students safely to and from school each day, we have also completed 500 additional trips such as field trips or extracurricular trips so far this school year.

With the weather changing, please make sure students are dressed appropriately, preferably with colors that can be seen easily during the dark mornings. Also, monitor the local news and our District website and social media accounts for school announcements, such as school closings and delays.

We continue to need your help. We have had a significant increase in the number of motorists driving past our buses when they are stopped to pick-up and/or drop-off students. Obviously, this is very unsafe, and we are turning those motorists into the Ohio State Highway Patrol for those violations. However, we want to remind everyone that as the bus approaches a stop, their yellow (amber) lights begin to flash. This is to alert drivers to begin slowing down for a stop. Once the bus comes to a stop and opens the door, the red stop lights begin flashing and the stop arm extends. When the red lights are flashing, no one should be moving until they stop flashing. Help us keep our students safe by spreading the word to drive more cautiously around school buses.



# FOOD SERVICE UPDATE

*Cindy Pickering, Food Service Supervisor*



The menus for Jan-May 2024 have been placed on the SWL website on the Food Service Department page.

- The middle school added tomato soup & grilled cheese to the menu and the high school added calzones and turkey bacon club sandwiches. Chicken sandwiches, breakfast for lunch, and delivery pizza are still the crowd favorites.
- Area donors such as Buckeye Mineral, Wingler Construction & Remodeling, and First Baptist Life Group of Lancaster, all helped pay toward student meal debt just before winter break. Over 200 students and their families were helped by their generous donations.
- 39% of SWL students have qualified for free/reduced meals. If you have not yet applied, please visit [www.myschoolapps.com](http://www.myschoolapps.com).
- Money may be added to a student's meal account by using any of the following ways: Pay with debit/credit card on-line at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com). Send cash/check with your student in an envelope marked with their name and indicate "lunch money". Guardian may bring cash/check to the SWL District Office or to their school office.

## American Heart Month - February

Check out some of the ways SWL school meals are the best choice when it comes to heart healthy eating!

- Choose lean meats & poultry - SWL school cafes serve lean meats and protein options daily.
- Eat plenty of fruits & vegetables - SWL school cafes offer a variety of fresh fruit & vegetable options daily.
- Limit beverages and foods with added sugars - SWL school cafes only serve extra beverages and snacks that meet the Smart Snacks nutrition guidelines that limit sugar.
- Limit sodium - School meals are planned to meet established USDA sodium targets for breakfast, lunch, and snacks.







## ATHLETICS UPDATE

*Jake Perkins, Director of Athletics*

Winter sports season is off and rolling!

- Make sure to follow the Warriors on Twitter/X at: WM\_Warriors
- Team schedules can be accessed at:

<https://oh.dragonflyathletics.com/sites/OHSAA>

- Tickets for home events can be purchased at:

<https://swl.hometownticketing.com/embed/all>





## CLINIC UPDATE

*Tirzah Hammond, School Nurse*



**Prevent  
Blindness**  
Ohio

We recently completed vision screenings in the schools. You may have received a notification that your student did not pass the screening with a recommendation for an eye exam. Please be sure to return the form to the school health clinic after it is completed by the eye doctor. It is helpful to our screening process to know the results of the vision referral. If you are in need of assistance to obtain an exam, please see the information from Prevent Blindness Ohio, a program that offers free exams and glasses for those in need. Please contact the school health clinic with any questions or concerns.



ASK US ABOUT HOW YOU CAN GET

# FREE GLASSES

Thanks to the Vision Care Outreach Program at  
Prevent Blindness

The Prevent Blindness Vision Care Outreach Program serves adults and children that meet the 200% Federal Poverty Guidelines and are uninsured or underinsured.

It's cold and flu season.

[General Guidelines for Keeping Children Home From School Due to Illness](#)



# ATTENDANCE UPDATE

*Jeff Severino, Truancy Consultant*

**Attendance  
Matters!**



It's that time of the year where bad weather--snow, slush, freezing temperatures--can present challenges to getting children to school, just like the illnesses such as colds, flu, fevers, and earaches that often come with the winter months. Here are some ideas to help students miss less school:

1. Develop back up plans for getting your children to school in bad weather.
2. Keep your children healthy, including strategies such as:
  - a. Maintain a regular bedtime and morning routine.
  - b. Ensure your children eat a good breakfast every morning.
  - c. Stress hand washing.
  - d. Reinforce the importance of avoiding close contact with individuals who are sick.
  - e. If your children seem anxious about going to school, ask teachers, school counselors for advice on how to make your children feel more comfortable.
3. Keep your children engaged in learning if they cannot attend school in person.
  - a. Ask your teacher for work that they can do while at home.
  - b. Encourage your children to log into Google Classroom, call classmates, and stay connected to the teacher to find out about what they have missed.

We understand that students will miss school but there are lot of things you can do at home to keep them from falling further behind in work.

## SWL DIGITAL ACADEMY

The second semester has started at the SWL Digital Academy. We currently have 76 students enrolled, but it is not too late. If you have a student that would thrive learning at their own pace and own time, I encourage you to consider enrolling them in the Digital Academy. You can do that by going to the SWL school district website, choosing SWL Digital Academy, and then clicking the link for the 2nd Semester Application link on the right hand side of the website. Another option is to use the QR code below to jump to the application.

For our students and their families that are enrolled, we encourage you to establish daily routines to make sure you stay on track with both your coursework and the state-required hours. Remember that each school day, students must login to Edmentum and be working on their coursework and submitting guided notes. Students should also be using IXL each day to review core content. If you need assistance, reach out to Mr. Brown, the Director, at [rbrown@laca.org](mailto:rbrown@laca.org); he is able to unlock post-tests, reset tests, and answer any other questions that you might have.



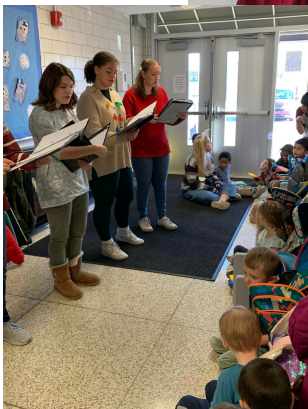
# EARLY LEARNING CENTER

As we move into the second half of the year we are always thrilled at how quickly preschool students make gains. They truly are little geniuses and amaze us daily. We are well underway within our multisensory handwriting curriculum, Handwriting Without Tears.



We talked about different cultural celebrations including Diwali's Festival of Lights. The ELC is proud to partner with a diverse group of families on this early educational journey with their students.

The winter weather doesn't slow us down! We work on our gross motor skills daily in our gym. Kicking, throwing, building, balancing, running, jumping, bike riding, and practicing on stairs are just some of the skills we target.



Students and their families came to share a special night with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus. While at the ELC students decorated and devoured yummy sugar cookies and shared their biggest Christmas wishes with Santa. The high school choir came over to sing carols for the preschool students. We were proud of how well our youngest learners attended to the rendition and celebrated for each and every song.





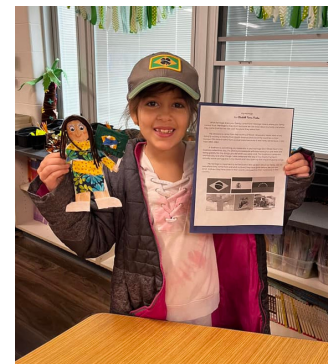
# ETNA ELEMENTARY

Believe it or not, it's 2024, and we are heading full steam ahead into the second half of a fantastic school year at Etna. We are incredibly proud of how hard everyone has been working and all they have accomplished. We cannot wait to see what we can achieve this semester.

Students and staff from all three elementary schools participated in the 12 Days of Giving in December, which donated items collected to LEADS to support Licking County residents in need. This fantastic project allowed our students to learn about generosity and helping others. In addition, Etna participated in Trash or Treasure with the National Wildlife Federation. Students brought plastic candy wrappers to be recycled, made into doggy waste bags (and other plastic items), and donated to animal shelters. The third-grade students used their math skills to keep track of all their progress.



There have been many great things going on. Our kindergarten held their first ever Friendsgiving and participated in activities celebrating a sense of belonging and friendships. Our first grade participated in mud scraping to build background knowledge to support 95% literacy instruction, and they visited The Works in Newark. Second grade continued to partner with their Reading Buddies. While some 3rd graders explored their heritage and celebrated this learning, they created their heritage dolls to represent their origins. We also had some incredible holiday play performances within the 2nd and 3rd-grade classrooms and a 2nd-grade vocal performance led by Mrs. Blume at WHS.



It is impossible to highlight all the fantastic activities and learning that are occurring daily at Etna. We encourage you to follow the Etna Facebook page to see more highlights. We post multiple times a week.

# KIRKERSVILLE ELEMENTARY



Kirkersville has had a busy second nine weeks. Students participated in the 12 days of giving which was a huge success. All of the items collected were donated to the Pataskala LEADS center to help families in our community. Thank you to everyone who was able to donate!

Kindergarten and second grade students had their Winter concerts. We had a full house for both shows. They did a great job!



Kirkersville third grade students were able to walk to the middle school and watch Mrs. Hayes' drama class perform plays that they had written. It was great for our third grade students to get some experience in a theater setting since they will be going to the symphony in early January.



The second grade received a grant to have The Works come in and present to them. The grant also allows for our second grade classes to take a field trip to The Works to enjoy some hands-on learning.

All Kirkersville students attended a performance of *Scrooge* by the Columbus Children's Theater. A huge thank you to the PTO who sponsored the event.





# PATASKALA ELEMENTARY

January is here! The holidays have come and gone and we are ready to take on the second half of the school year! Check out some of the highlights and pictures from this past quarter.

Some activities and presentations students enjoyed this quarter include: Macy's Day Float Parade, Doll Museum, read aloud and author visit from Maria Manzo, field trip to Lynd Fruit Farm, a presentation by The Works, Holidays Around the World, Christmas Carol performance by the Watkins Memorial High School choir, and Attendance Matters Incentive days.

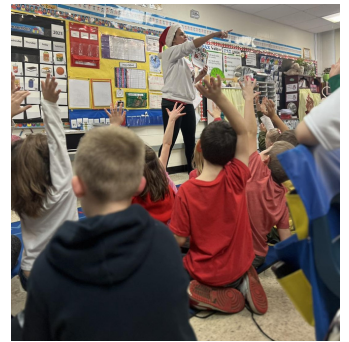
Once again our three elementary buildings teamed up to participate in the annual 12 Days of Giving. Students collected a ton of items that were donated to LEADS in Pataskala.



In addition to academics, PBIS and SEL are a big focus in our day-to-day activities. Our SEL curriculum, Character Strong, focuses on a different character trait each month. This quarter we focused on gratitude and empathy. We continue to celebrate students with PAX tootle notes and Paws of Pride for going above and beyond expectations!

Under the direction of our music teacher, Mr. West, kindergarten and 1st grade students performed a fantastic winter concert. Students enjoyed being on the big stage at the high school auditorium!

3rd grade Lion Leaders have taken on many responsibilities. They assist with morning announcements, making slides for the TVs, give building tours to our Watch DOGs and meet monthly to work on leadership skills.



# WATKINS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

As we conclude our 2nd quarter, here are some of the highlights that have filled our school with energy and accomplishment. This quarter was a testament to the dedication of our students, the commitment of our staff, and the support of our community. "Attendance Matters" is pushed for being here everyday and then staying engaged in the classroom. Academic excellence is shining, as evidenced by the continued growth shown by our students in their STAR diagnostic assessments and their effort on their practice OSTs. Students are being acknowledged for being PAX leaders through Warrior Black & Golds, classroom acknowledgement systems, monthly and quarterly awards.



Our 4th graders had the privilege of learning about fossils from a guest presenter from the Ohio Natural Energy Institute, while our 5th graders celebrated their entrepreneurial spirit at the WIS Winter Bazaar as they sold their group products that raised funds for the Eli Effect. The Fall Scholastic Book Fair was a resounding success, fostering a love for reading and exploration among our students. We concluded the first semester of our WIS Clubs, providing students with various avenues for exploration and skill-building. Looking ahead, students are eagerly anticipating choosing new clubs for the upcoming semester.

Our school community embraced a spirit of generosity and kindness through various initiatives. The Warrior Leader Club organized a successful Soctober drive, collecting socks for those in need, while our Winter Clothing/Toy drive brought immense support, displaying the generosity of our school community. In honor of our veterans, we raised funds for Honor Flights, demonstrating our gratitude for their service and sacrifice. Bringing families together, the Mother-Student Dodgeball brought competition but lots of laughter after school hours. Our students were treated to a Holiday Choir Concert and Orchestra performance at the WMHS auditorium, providing cultural exposure and musical enrichment. As we celebrate the achievements and collective efforts of our school community this quarter, we are grateful for the dedication and support that continue to make Watkins Intermediate School a hub of learning, compassion, and growth.





# WATKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL

As we approach the midpoint of the school year, the students and staff of WMS are excited to celebrate our accomplishments from the first half of the year, while preparing for the future. Our building goals have been steadfast in focusing on academic growth and achievement through targeted interventions during our FOCUS block periods. We've also looked to reinforce both academic and behavioral success through our PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Systems) during our monthly class meetings.



One part of the WMS mission statement involves helping our students become contributing members of our community. Seventh grade students are exposed to many career-based skills as a part of our career tech coursework. During October and November, all 400 of our seventh graders visited OSU Newark where they received college enrollment exposure through the enrollment offices of OSU Newark and COTC (Central Ohio Technical College). Eighth graders students will take spring visits to C-TEC to learn about career-based education opportunities for high school. This will ensure that every student in Southwest Licking Schools will have both career exploration and college exploration opportunities prior to entering high school.

Monthly class meetings give teachers and administrators an opportunity to celebrate the great things that students have accomplished during the previous month. Teacher nominations for "On a roll" (growth awards) and "Ultimate Warrior" (above and beyond awards) are recognized, along with any quarterly attendance, academic, and athletic achievements. Academic, attendance, and discipline data are shared out with students to maintain transparency and to address goals and course corrections for the month. Our PBIS committee organizes student recognition programs and special incentive events. Recently, students were able to use their PBIS tickets to purchase items from Porters Coffee. These incentives are vital in reinforcing academic and behavioral expectations by recognizing students for doing the right thing.

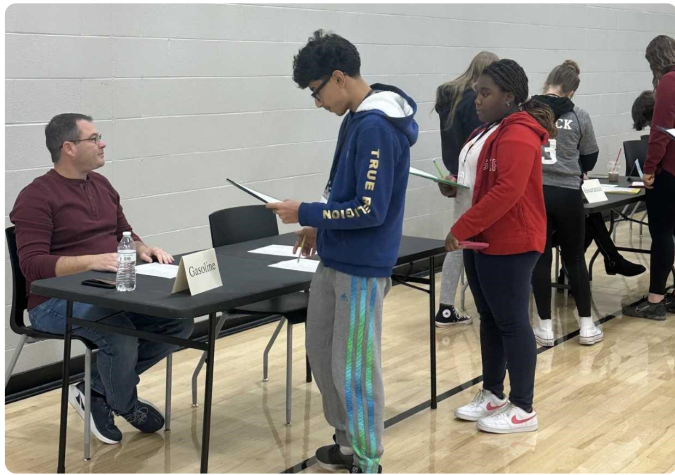


In order to continue to reinforce high school readiness, we build upon student depth of knowledge through the development of project based learning initiatives. Students in select 8th grade ELA and social studies classes collaboratively developed PBL lessons focused on resilience. PBL exposure is consistently utilized throughout our STEM and art programming and reinforced throughout the core in select lessons. The picture below depicts a PBL lesson utilized in the Environmental Sustainability classes where students competed in "Food Truck Wars", where they designed a prototype truck, food menu, and business plan with select sustainability models. Students also prepared sample food items for judging during the competition.

The third quarter will bring about several exciting ventures prior to spring break. Sixth and seventh graders will participate in a much-anticipated Valentines Dance. March will bring about our community favorite 'Math Night', and our eighth graders will take their yearly trip to C-TEC. It's going to be a great spring at WMS!

# WATKINS MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Elder's Calculus classes participated in Pancake Pandemonium. Students poured pancakes, measured the radius by the second, and found the volume. Students used these measurements to calculate the actual average velocity of the radius of the pancake at different intervals and then used calculus to determine the theoretical velocity of the radius at the end of each interval. They compared the two, identified sources of error, and discussed strategies for improving accuracy.



Freshmen took part in "Life in the Real World," a budgeting activity to help them practice for adulthood. Community volunteers provided scenarios to students who "paid their bills" and made budgetary decisions as they circulated from station to station.



Mrs. Rahm's Physics students created water bottle rockets and shot them off using air pressure. They evaluated the projectile motion by measuring angle, range, and hang time to calculate velocity. Students also had to design successful fins and find the center of gravity for their rocket. Students will continue to use their rocket data as they move through the force and energy units.



## UPCOMING DATES

- January 12 – No School: Staff Development
- January 15 – No School: Martin Luther King Day
- February 1 – Conferences K – 8
- February 8 – Conferences 9 – 12
- February 16 – No School: Conference Trade Day
- February 19 – No School: President's Day
- March 21 – End of Third Quarter
- March 22 – No School: Staff Development
- March 25 – 29 – No School: Spring Break
- April 1 – No School: Waiver Day
- April 2 – Fourth Quarter Begins

## CONTACTS

Early Learning Center

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740.927.5437

Etna Elementary

Susan Caudill, [scaudill@laca.org](mailto:scaudill@laca.org)  
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Kirkersville Elementary

Brad Wehrman, [bwehrman@laca.org](mailto:bwehrman@laca.org)  
740.927.7281

Pataskala Elementary

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740.927.3861

Watkins Intermediate School

Joe Pratt, [jpratt@laca.org](mailto:jpratt@laca.org)  
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Watkins Middle School

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