

Bowling Green City Schools

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NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Conneaut Fifth Grader Awarded NWOCCG Scholarship for Passion in Educational Game Design

BOWLING GREEN, Ohio (August 30, 2024) – Aiden Xu, a fifth-grade student at Conneaut Elementary, was selected for a \$200 scholarship from the Northwest Ohio Consortium of Coordinators for the Gifted (NWOCCG). The annual scholarship is presented to applicants who demonstrate a strong passion or interest in a specific area. Applicants must submit an essay describing how the award will help support or enhance their passion and include specific details regarding how they will use the scholarship. This year, NWOCCG received 25 submissions from students across Northwest Ohio and selected six scholarship winners.

Xu will use the award to help cover the cost of coding apps and classes, enabling him to create educational video games for students. In his essay, he expressed a passion for video games and his desire to challenge the negative stigma surrounding frequent gaming. He plans to learn coding for game design and invite friends and peers to test his games for success.

Xu is a gifted student in the P.A.C.E. class with identification in superior cognitive ability and math skills. Mrs. Laura Weaver, P.A.C.E. teacher and district coordinator for gifted services, praised his achievements, stating, "Aiden is a phenomenal math student and was a gold medalist in our annual International Perennial Math competition program last year. He earned a perfect score on the Intermediate (grades 5-6) and Advanced (grades 7-8) Teams. His achievements, including the Rookie (grades 3-4) Team, put him in the top 10% of 2,695 students in grades 3-8 in the competition. Aiden is enrolled in Math 8, an accelerated Math class for seventh graders, at Bowling Green Middle School. I am confident his math mind, analytical skills, creativity, and technical abilities will help him design enjoyable games for academics. I can't wait to play! I am so proud of Aiden for being one of the six winners from Northwest Ohio!"

About Bowling Green City Schools

Bowling Green City Schools is committed to high academic expectations and extracurricular opportunities in an inclusive, caring, safe, and healthy environment. We empower and support our staff to be responsive to each student through challenging and engaging curriculum. We partner with families and the community to ensure student success. For more information, visit www.bgcs.k12.oh.us

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Mr. Daniel Black
High School Principal

Mr. Eric Radabaugh
Middle School Principal

Mrs. Alyssa Karaffa
Conneaut Elementary Principal

Mr. Zebulun Kellough
Crim Elementary Principal

Mr. Michel Bechstein
Kenwood Elementary Principal

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