

WELLINGTON

EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

OCTOBER 2025 I VOLUME 6 ISSUE 2



THIS ISSUE

Ms. Glasure's Curriculum Connections
Treasurer Bailey Update: Five Year Financial Forecast
Staff Anniversaries
Nutrition Update
Performing Arts News
FFA Students Attend Camp
Leiby Breaks Soccer Assist Record

IMPORTANT DATES

Oct. 21: BOE work session @ WHS

Oct. 22: Career Expo at Ross Expo Center (students in grades 9 -1 2)

Oct 26: Westwood Trunk or Treat @ PAC 2:00 - 4:00

Oct. 31: End of marking period 1

Nov. 3: Professional Development day (No School)

Nov. 6: Parent/Teacher Conferences district-wide in evening (school is in session)

Nov. 7: Parent/Teacher Conferences (No school for WW & MMS); WHS has school.

Nov. 11: Veteran's Day Breakfast & Program at MMS 8:15 - 9:15 p.m.

Nov. 12: WHS Fall Sports Banquet @ the PAC/Lindley Center 5:30 p.m.

Nov. 14: 4 & 5 Grade Academic Awards Assembly @ PAC 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Nov. 18: BOE Business Meeting (WHS)

Nov. 26 - 28 Thanksgiving break

BEING A DUKE

LETTER FROM DR. PELTZ, SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Wellington Families,

There are two sayings that you will see around Wellington schools. The first is, "Once a Duke, Always a Duke." I love this saying. It tells me a lot about Wellington and our schools. It lets everyone know that being a Duke means that you are forever part of a family community. It lets people know that being a Duke is something to be proud of, and its membership gives you a rock-solid foundation to build off of and come home to.

It gives us the grace not to be perfect, but instead the support to know that if we struggle, we will still be a Duke. Being a Duke means you are cared about, and we expect you to care for your fellow Dukes, too. It is fitting that our primary color is maroon, for what binds us all together is definitely thicker than water.

The second saying is, "We are The Dukes." This message is just as powerful as the first. "We" is much stronger than "I" or "Me." "We" is an inclusive and collaborative term. We are The Dukes means that as our times and needs change, so do the Dukes. The Dukes are not stagnant, but instead an evolving collective that will rise to any challenge it faces and will do so in a way that benefits all.

Continued on page 2

LETTER FROM DR. PELTZ, SUPERINTENDENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



The two sayings support each other. We are a family that will do what we need to, will always have your back, and ensure that our kids graduate from high school with more doors opened than closed.



Our mission is to equip our students with the skills and opportunities to achieve success and happiness in their lives.

Our vision statement can be summarized into three key categories: Citizenship, Durability, and Academics. Words such as 'all,' ' connections,' 'empathetic,' and 'engaged' stress that being a Duke means valuing and respecting your fellow Dukes and becoming actively involved in improving your community and unlocking your citizenship.

'Adaptability,' 'advocate,' 'resilient,' and 'self-worth' are terms and concepts that show we value durability and perseverance instead of rigidity and erosion so that we are prepared to capitalize on every opportunity. Finally, our vision calls us to provide academic programming and experiences that are 'dynamic,' 'empower,' 'grow,' and lead to help our students build their 'own future' instead of waiting for the outside world to decide it for them. It is exciting that our mission and vision perfectly align with our statements of Duke identity.

I am proud to be a Duke, and I want every student and community member to share that pride as well. Thank you for supporting our schools, and I look forward to continuing the work we have begun in making our vision a reality.

-Andy Peltz

GO DUKES!

Understanding the Science of Reading and Acadience



The **Science of Reading (SOR)** isn't a new trend—it's based on decades of research showing how children learn to read.

Studies have identified six key areas of reading: **phonemic awareness, phonics, the alphabetic principle, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.**

To help all students succeed, instruction in these areas must be **systematic, explicit, and evidence-based**—using models like "I do, we do, you do" so **students can learn step by step.**

What Is Acadience?

Acadience is a set of quick, one-minute reading assessments given **three times a year (K–6)** in Wellington Schools. These screenings help teachers identify which reading skills each student has mastered and where they need extra support—such as phonics, blending sounds, or comprehension.



This allows teachers to give **targeted, small-group instruction** and adjust lessons to meet each child's needs.

Examples of how we use Acadience:

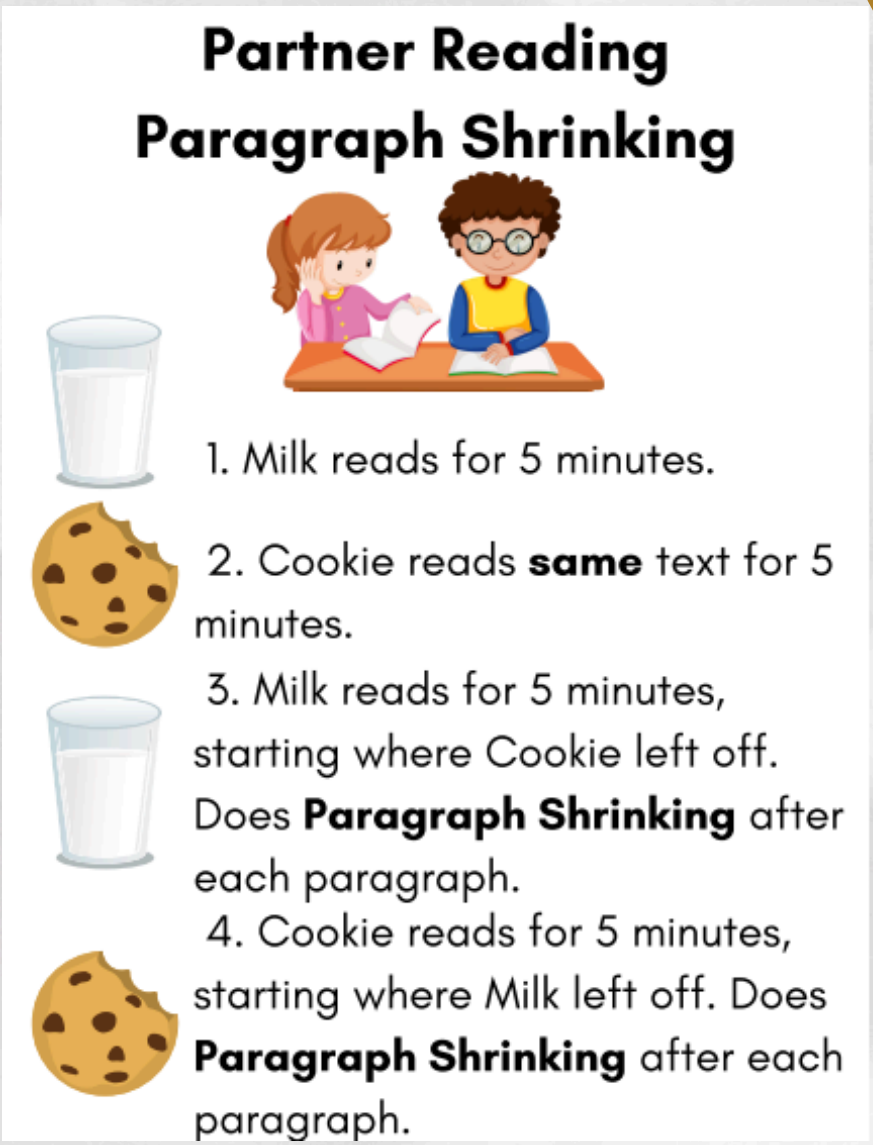
- In **Kindergarten,** we group students who know their letters but need to name them faster to build fluency.
- For students who can say individual sounds but not blend them into words, we provide small-group lessons focused on **blending practice.**

New Focus: Building Reading Fluency

Reading fluency means reading with **accuracy, speed, and expression.** It's the bridge between decoding words and truly understanding what you read.
This year, we're introducing a new **classwide fluency program** to strengthen these skills and help every student become a confident, motivated reader.



Understanding the Science of Reading and Acadience



Partner Reading Paragraph Shrinking (PRPS) is an evidence-based, classwide reading intervention for **grades 2-8** that pairs students to improve both reading fluency and comprehension.

It combines paired reading with a paragraph-shrinking strategy where students take turns reading a text, then summarize the main points of each paragraph in 10 words or less, providing feedback to their partner to check understanding. This strategy helps students apply learned reading skills and improve their ability to identify main ideas and summarize content.

TREASURER'S OFFICE UPDATE

A MESSAGE FROM MR. BAILEY

Pete Bailey, Treasurer
(440) 647-7979
pbailey@wellingtonvillageschools.org



The financial forecast was submitted and approved by the Wellington Exempted Village Board of Education on Tuesday, October 7, 2025.

Changes in legislature have modified the Five Year Forecast to be submitted as the current year plus 3 years, essentially
making it a four-year forecast. School treasurers still believe the fifth year in the forecast is an important piece in the district financial planning so the forecast report is posted on the district website will still include the fifth year.

School Districts were required to submit their forecast by October 15 instead of November this year. The next financial forecast requirement will be in February instead of May as in previous years.

While the current forecast looks more favorable than one year ago, we are aware of how fast the financial outlook can change with changes in legislature, property taxes and our funding. Two days after the October financial forecast was approved by the Wellington Exempted Village School Board of Education, we received notice that the Lorain County Commissioners passed a resolution authorizing a permissive "piggyback" exemption for homestead and a 2.5% partial real property tax exemption for tax year 2025 for real property and tax year 2026 for manufactured homes in Lorain County.

Click here to read our monthly Financial Statements!



TREASURER'S OFFICE UPDATE

A MESSAGE FROM MR. BAILEY

Pete Bailey, Treasurer
(440) 647-7979
pbailey@wellingtonvillageschools.org



Currently the state reimburses for these tax credits, however no reimbursement for the tax loss is given when the county voted to double both credits.

As a result, Wellington Schools will see an estimated reduction in real estate revenue of $235,164 in calendar year 2026 according to the Lorain County Auditor's Office.

State and federal funding continue to decline, and more responsibility has fallen on local funding and property taxes. While we agree there is a need for some property tax reform there needs to be consideration for public schools and how these changes can affect their revenues.



These changes make it very difficult for the district to budget and plan when the changes come so quickly and sometimes without warning. The district will be cautious and conservative with our financial planning while we wait to see how the potential legislative changes could affect the district.

As always, we will continue to be good stewards of public funds while looking for ways to be efficient with our funding.

Click here to read the five year forecast on our website.

-Pete Bailey

STAFF ANNIVERSARIES!

5-Year Pins. Congratulations!



Congratulations to the following amazing staff members for their service to Wellington students!

Dukes Service Years Recognition:

25-Year Pin:
Molly Smith (Transportation)

15-Year Pin:
Emily Campofredano (McCormick)
Marcia Friend (WHS/Transportation) (she's 16 years!)
Richard Friend (WHS)
Rhonda Lara (McCormick)
Jeremy Muhl (WHS)

10-Year Pins:
Sherry Arcuri (McCormick & WHS)
Stephanie Boyd (Westwood)
Rosalyn Harrell (Transportation)
Margo Voss (Westwood & McCormick)

5-Year Pins:
Lindsay Bowman (District)
Angela Conley (McCormick)
Matthew Kimmich (McCormick)
Amanda Lawson (McCormick)
Jennifer McCloskey (Westwood)
Rebecca Piotrowski (Westwood)
Chrystal Poling (WHS)
David Schoonover (WHS)
Tracy Strait (WHS)
Logan Wiegand (Westwood)

We applaud your dedication!

STAFF ANNIVERSARIES!

10-Year Pins. Congratulations!



15-Year Pins. Congratulations!



NUTRITION PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Andrea Helton, MS, RDN LD
Director of Nutrition Services

What's for lunch today?

A common question we hear from kids!
To view our daily menus, please visit www.myschoolmenus.com, (click here) or download the mobile app!

Quick hint: you can google "my school menus" and then search for "Wellington" and then a specific building "Westwood." Sometimes this can be faster than going to our website and our Nutrition page.



Apple Cruncher

October is Farm to School Month!

In the Nutrition Services Department, we strive to purchase and serve local produce when available. We feature Tyler's Farm Local Hydroponic Lettuce in our salads and serve apples from Bauman Orchards in Rittman Ohio!

On October 9th, our schools celebrated The Great Apple Crunch and "crunched" into local apples together! This event is an opportunity to promote healthy eating, support local farmers, and highlight the importance of local foods!











STAY IN THE KNOW!

Let's be friends!

"Like" us on Facebook:

Wellington Exempted Village Schools

Westwood Elementary School

McCormick Middle School

Wellington High School

Wellington Friends of Theater



TikTok: WellingTok

Instagram: dukes_k12

Instagram Athletics: wellington_dukes_athletics

YouTube: Search: WEVSD

Follow your child(s) Class Dojo app for class specific information.

National Bullying Prevention Month

October is recognized as National Bullying Prevention Month, a nationwide initiative aimed at raising awareness about the harmful impact of bullying and encouraging kindness, empathy, and positive action.

Westwood welcomed the Echo Dance Team on October 9th. This provided a school-wide assembly with a high energy performance! They discussed recognizing and stopping bullying, respecting yourself and others, taking responsibility for your actions and leading a positive life.

Thank you to our Wellington Schools Endowment for funding this fun and educational event for our Dukes.

Watch the video of the assembly here!







WESTWOOD ELEMENTARY
IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER

7: 3rd Grade Parent Meeting @ 4:00pm or 5:15pm (WWE Cafe)
8. End Tri-C Parent Co-op Fundraiser
9: ECHO Dance Assembly @9am (WWE Gym)
9: Parent Teacher Conferences (3:30pm-7:30pm)
10: NEOEA Day - No School
14: K-Kids Meeting @3pm (WWE Cafe)
14: Parent Co-op Meeting @ 6pm (WWE Library)
16: First Grade Field Trip (Playhouse Square)
21 & 23: Fall ELA Test & Big Breakfast!(3rd Grade)
26: Co-op Sponsored Trunk-or-Treat (Lindley Parking Lot, 2pm-4pm)
31: End Quarter 1

NOVEMBER

3: Professional Development Day - No School
4-6: NNAT3 Gifted Testing (2nd Grade)
6: Parent Teacher Conferences (3:30pm-7:30pm)
7: Parent Teacher Conferences - No School
11: K-Kids Meeting @3pm (WWE Cafe)
11: Parent Co-op Meeting @ 6pm (WWE Library)
26: Teacher Comp Day - No School
27-28: Thanksgiving Vacation - No School

DECEMBER

1: School Resumes
9: K-Kids Meeting @3pm (WWE Cafe)
9: Parent Co-op Meeting @6pm (WWE Library)
11: Polar Express Assembly
13: Parent Co-op Sponsored "Cookies with Santa" 5-8pm (WWE)
15-19: Parent Co-op Santa Shop *during library classes*
22-Jan 2: Winter Break - No School
Jan 5: School Resumes

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS









FFA NEWS - OHIO FFA CAMP MUSKINGUM



Wellington middle school FFA members spent the last weekend of September at Greenhand FFA Camp!

They spent the weekend learning more about the organization, improving leadership skills, and setting goals for their FFA journey.

Campers also got to enjoy time on the water and explored the outdoors.



It's always a great time at the happiest place on dirt! - Miss Butler





FFA NEWS - OHIO FFA CAMP MUSKINGUM









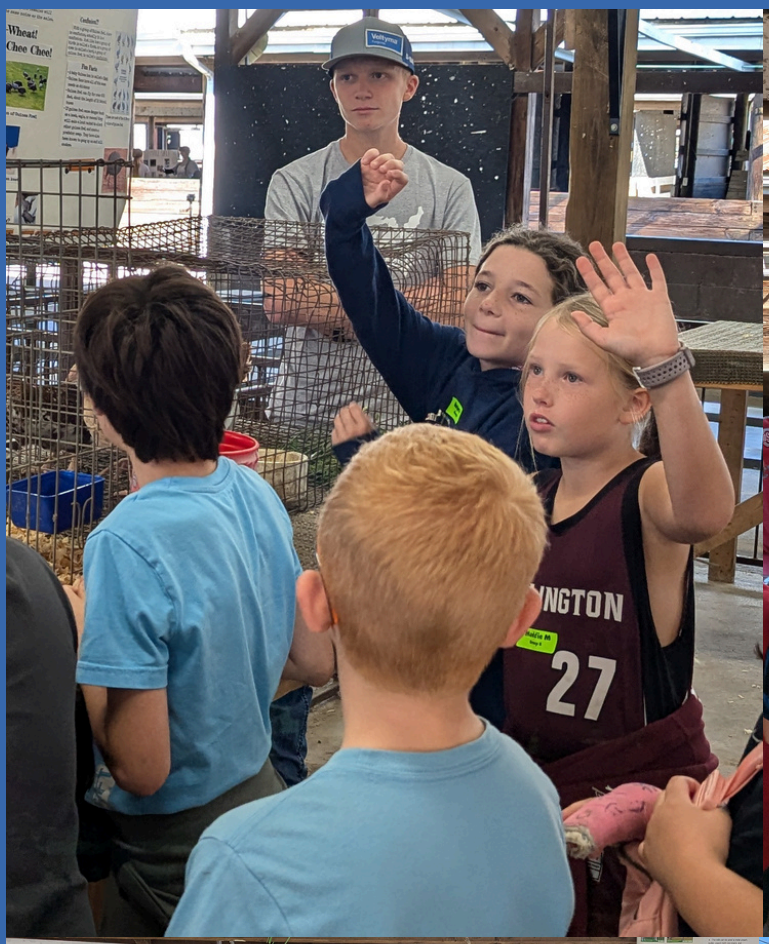


WHS FFA worked with Firelands, Black River & JVS FFA chapters on October 3 at the Lorain County fairgrounds for "Food For America Day."

Watch the video here!

FFA NEWS - FOOD FOR AMERICA DAY

OCTOBER 2025 I VOL 6 ISSUE 2









LEARNING AROUND OUR DISTRICT





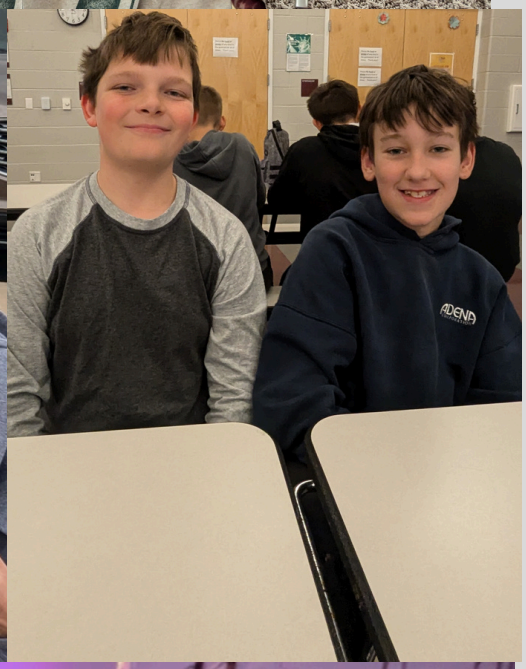


LEARNING AROUND OUR DISTRICT











LEARNING AROUND OUR DISTRICT













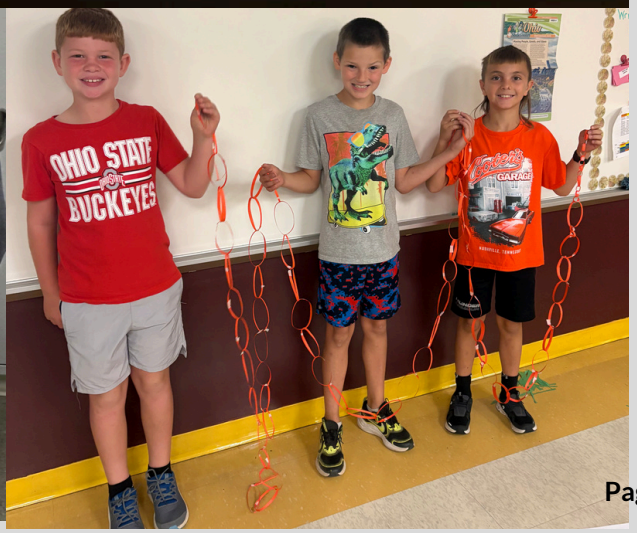
LEARNING AROUND OUR DISTRICT











ART CLASSES CREATING AWAY!









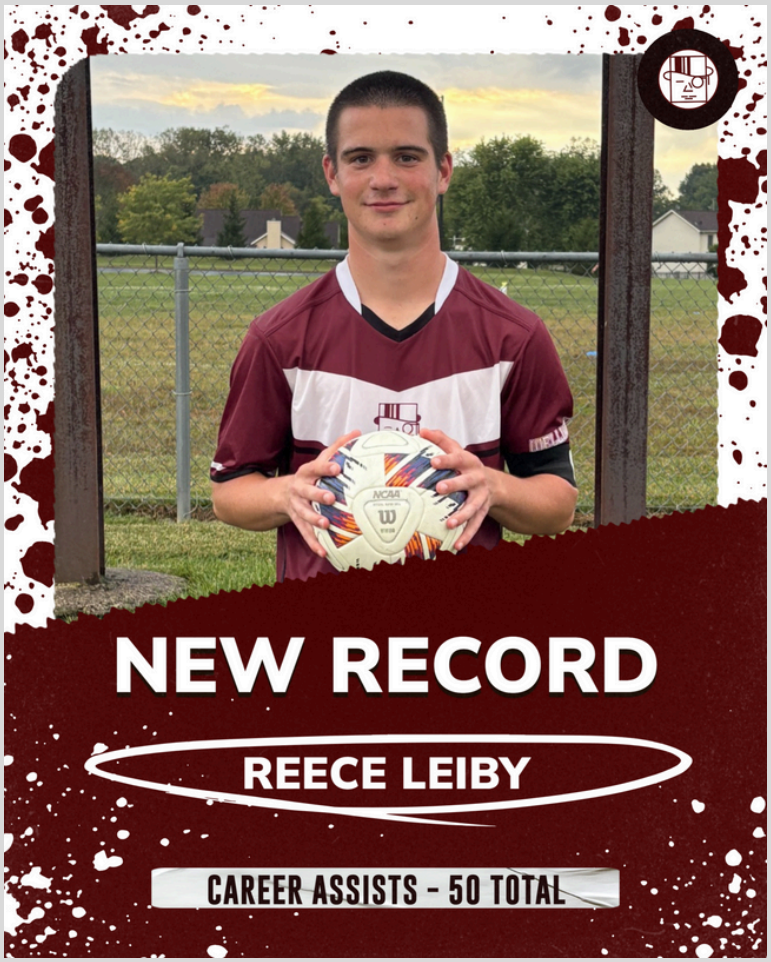








REECE LEIBY SETS ASSIST RECORD!





Wellington High School student-athlete Reece Leiby accrued 3 assists Wednesday September 24 against Clearview in the Dukes 7-1 win over the Clippers. Reece now has fifty total career assists, the most by any Wellington Dukes soccer player in school history. As just a junior, Reece will have plenty of time to increase his total to a record that will be hard to beat. The previous record was held for seventeen years and set by AJ Hyde back in 2008.

Wellington's Varsity Head Coach Will Pabst shares that "Reece has been able to capitalize on the last few years of building back our program and has been a huge part of the goal to get it back to what it once was with our history in terms of the regional titles, conference championships and district championships we have won. In order to get a record breaking statistic like that you have to have good teammates around you and he has that.

Last year we had a very strong team and a good striker in Spencer Brasee that helped score a bunch of those goals for him. It takes a team effort and Reece is part of the engine that makes our team go. It's a huge accomplishment. I had the privilege of playing with AJ Hyde and even scoring some of the goals for the previous record and to think about what the teams were with former Coach Bill Little. Breaking the record as a junior is extremely impressive and will set a high standard moving forward with big goals for younger kids coming up through the youth to try to achieve."

JR. HIGH VOLLEYBALL TEAMS





Watch our eighth grade athletes signing the wall to finish off their Jr. High careers before heading to WHS!



Go Dukes!

CROSS COUNTRY







Congratulations!

Lauren Vannatter
First team
all-conference

Nicholas Sword
Third team
all-conference

Fynlee Morris & Hadley Fleming
Third team
all-conference

CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations!







BAND

Congratulations to our band! In September they competed at the OMEA competition at Perkins High School and received an Excellent overall rating of a 2. The WHS Color Guard received a Superior rating of a 1!










EXIT
Dukes
62
Dukes
87
Dukes
Dukes
11
Dukes
10
Dukes
1
Dukes
24


DUKES


our
school

STUDENT LIFE





LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES



WHS student-athletes had an awesome day listening to speakers at the OHSAA (Ohio High School Athletic Association) leadership conference.

This great event was hosted at the Firestone Community Learning Center in Akron. Coach Howells and Athletic Director Mr. Bowman enjoyed the event too.