



THE BLUE DEVIL DISPATCH

DECEMBER 2025



As we move into the winter season, we want to thank you for staying connected with your child's learning. Your involvement makes a real difference, and we appreciate everything you do to support success at home and at school.

Please remember that daily attendance is one of the strongest predictors of progress. **The new attendance law requires schools to count all absences, both excused and unexcused, when we review student attendance. If your child is absent or sick for five or more days, a doctors note is required. This helps us keep accurate records and support your child when they return to school.**

When a child misses school, even for a short time, it becomes harder for them to keep up with lessons and build strong learning habits.

If your child is struggling, or if you have questions about attendance or classroom progress, we encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher. Working together helps us support your child in the best way possible.

Thank you for your partnership and your continued commitment to your child's education.

School Attendance

From the Attendance Office

The new attendance law requires schools to count all absences, both excused and unexcused, when we review student attendance. If your child is absent or sick for five or more days, a doctors note is required. This helps us keep accurate records and support your child when they return to school.



Please notify the office first thing in the morning by phone, email, or note if your child will be leaving school early. Without prior notice, there may be a delay in getting your student to the office for dismissal, which could cause you to be late for your appointment. Lower School parents should also inform their child's teacher.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Lower School

Basketball Jones will be joining us for the day as a treat before we go on Winter Break ~ sponsored by our PTO!

This is a powerful assembly about having a Growth Mindset. Students will learn perseverance and that it is okay to make mistakes. The students will meet "Yeti," who is a featured character from Jim's #1 Best Selling Children's Book: *Bouncy and The Power of Yet*. This is a fun and engaging assembly that will inspire and empower students to keep trying and persevere.



2025-2026 Yearbook Purchase!

Purchase your child's yearbook today on Josten's website



🎓 Upper School Info 🎓



Parent Teacher Conferences-Upper School

December 3rd from 4-7pm

Get your Yearbooks!

Wickliffe Upper School 2025–2026 Yearbook – Pre-Order Now!

The 2025–2026 yearbook for Wickliffe Upper School is now available for pre-order exclusively through Jostens. This is a pre-order only sale, so be sure to reserve your copy today! Order Here:

https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/productBrowse/1048094/Wickliffe-Upper-School/2026-Yearbook/2025072504291880051/CATALOG_SHOP

By ordering now, you ensure your spot in the yearbook and help the school plan for the appropriate number of copies. Don't miss out on this opportunity to commemorate the 2025–2026 school year!

Have questions? Reach out to Mrs. Sharp (gayle.sharp@wickliffecsd.org) the Upper School Yearbook Advisor.



Dr. Balduff and Ms. McNulty once again partnered with many businesses, colleges, and the military who donated their time for the High School Career Fair on November 25th. The event took place from 9:20 in the morning to 11:20 in the morning in the Blue Gymnasium, and lunch was donated by Chick fil A. The goal was to bring in a wide range of organizations to speak with students about their careers, pathways, and

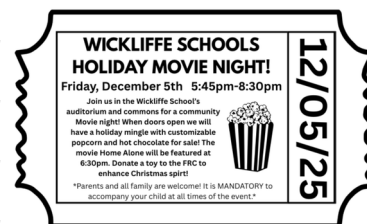


the everyday skills they use. The event was a strong success. Students made valuable connections and explored many different careers, companies, and opportunities. As always, the purpose was to give students as much exposure as possible to career, school, and life options so they can learn, lead, and serve.

Highlights From Our Campus

Happy Holidays Families!

Holiday Family Movie Night, which is sponsored by our Learn, Lead, and Serve Students! All are welcome! They are so excited to see everyone there! If you have any questions, please contact the Learn, Lead, and Serve advisors!



Please NOTE: All students PS - 6 must be accompanied and monitored by an adult/parent/guardian. Thank you and Happy Holidays!

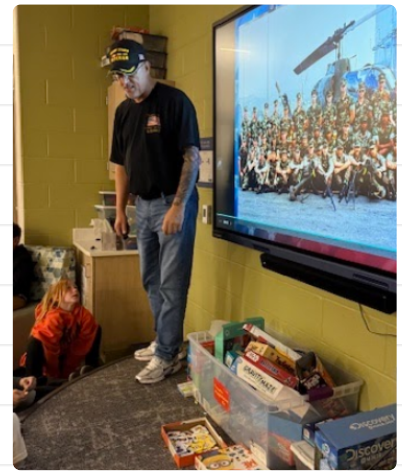
6th Grade Camp Fitch

The 6th graders visited Camp Fitch for the annual outdoor education week. The weather cooperated and all students had a wonderful week. Thanks to our dedicated parents who volunteered to come along and chaperone this event.



Veteran's Day in Third Grade

Mrs. Dugan's brother Michael Hughes visited the third grade on Friday, November 7th. He shared his experience as a Marine in the Persian Gulf War of 1991, including his time at boot camp and Camp Lejeune. He even brought in American flags for each student, and the third graders wrote heartfelt letters to local veterans.



WCS Winter Concert 🎵

The Winter Band Concert will be on Thursday, December 11. All bands, grades 5 through 12, will be performing this evening!

Band 5 and Band 6 will be performing beginning at 6:30 PM. Once their performance is done, there will be a break as we prepare for Band 7-8 and Band 9-12. The second half of the evening will begin at 7:30 PM. There are a wide variety of musical selections for the bands, including *Jingle Bells* (Band 5), *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* (Band 6), *Let it Go* (Band 7-8), and *Selections from The Nutcracker* (Band 9-12).

All students have been hard at work to prepare the music for this evening! We hope you are able to join us for part (or even all) of the concert as you will be able to see how the students learn and grow throughout the band program!

Mrs. Hotchkiss' CCP Intro to Poetry

2025 Wickliffe graduate John Colacarro has just published his 2nd book of poetry entitled *i am a sunset*! The book will be available for purchase from Amazon on November 25.

[i am a sunset](#)



Wick Parents ~ We appreciate YOU!



Ms. McNulty's Life Skills Class would like to thank Mr. Mark Latkovic for spending his time with us. He spoke to two classes about the importance of being a Firefighter and an EMT. There were so many new aspects to these careers that were learned by all!

Miles Latkovic may or may not walk in the footsteps of his dad. The game of basketball is Miles' passion, and so, pursuing the NBA is his first career choice. I do know that whatever Miles chooses, he will soar and succeed!

Thank you again to the 20 parent guest speakers who have shared their careers, career paths, and the life skills that they use daily! I truly appreciate you taking the time to help plant seeds of possibilities for the future in our students and for encouraging them all to BELIEVE in themselves!!!!

Congratulations to Our Wickliffe Vocal Music Students!



Our talented Wickliffe Vocal Music students recently completed an incredible performance at Waetjen Auditorium at Cleveland State University for the OMEA District 4 & 7

Choral Honors Festival. After a full day of intense rehearsals, following hours of practice the night before, they delivered a show that showcased their dedication, skill, and passion for music.

We are so proud of our students and their director, Ms. Jones, for their hard work and commitment. Music has a unique way of bringing people together and filling the air with beauty, and this performance was a perfect example.

You can watch their amazing performance [here](#)

Congratulations again to all of our performers — your hard work truly shone on stage!

NEWSLETTERS



Access the Family Resource Center newsletter [here](#)! Stay in the know about things like Primary Care and Dental services through Signature Health, Community Laundry events, county services such as HEAP/PIPP, and so much more!

Click here for the FRC Newsletter!



Tiara Durrah

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