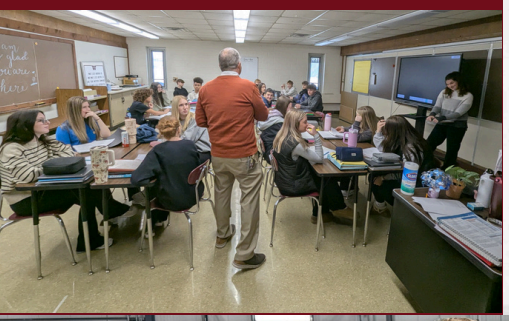


WELLINGTON
EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

JANUARY 2026 I VOLUME 6 ISSUE 5



THIS ISSUE

Curriculum Connections
Nutrition Update
Treasurer Update
Student Services Surveys
Dukes Deep Dive Question
WHS Art Awards
Talent Show
"The Outsiders" Performance dates
Jr. High Basketball & Wrestling

IMPORTANT DATES

Feb. 3: BOE Meeting (work session) @ Westwood

Feb. 4: Builder's Club Presents Talent Show 6 p.m. @ Lindley

Feb. 10: Westwood Parent Co-Op Meeting 6 p.m. @ WW library

February 12: Parent/Teacher Conferences in evening 3:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 13: Professional Development day (no school)

Feb. 16: President's Day (no school)

Feb. 17: K-Kids Meeting 3 p.m. @ Westwood cafeteria

Feb. 17: BOE Meeting (business session) @ WHS

March 2: Westwood Mobile Dentist Visit

March 3: BOE Meeting (work session) @ Westwood

CREATING A VISION

LETTER FROM DR. PELTZ, SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Wellington Families,

We have made it to the halfway point of the 2025-26 school year. I love this time of the year. Our seniors are entering their final semester, our freshmen have figured out what it means to be a high schooler, our eighth graders are prepping for the transition from middle to high school, and our kindergarteners have figured out this whole school-aged thing!

We have more than hit our stride; we are at a full sprint. What I enjoy equally as much as seeing our kids reach their potential in the classroom is seeing them shine on the court, stage, bowling alleys, mats, mock courtrooms, FFA competitions, and in the community.

The winter months in Lorain County have been brutal, but with the rough weather come opportunities to devote time to hone our complementary skills in athletics, performance arts, and competitive spirit. It is wonderful to see so many of you at our performances and athletic events. I love seeing our littlest Dukes cheering at a game and watching in awe as our older Dukes sing, act, and play their instruments at the Lindley Center.

Continued on page 2

LETTER FROM DR. PELTZ, SUPERINTENDENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Attending our events not only supports our athletes and performers, but it also encourages the next generation of Dukes to strive for excellence and envision themselves representing their school and community.

Sports, academic competitions, and performances give our kids the opportunity to apply the skills we learn in our classes while simultaneously reinforcing our Duke PRIDE principles (Positive, Respectful, Integrity, Dedicated, Effort/Empathy).

So over the next few weeks, if you are looking for a cheap and fun night out, consider attending one of our middle school or high school events. If you missed the holiday concerts, there will be performances to enjoy in the spring. Bring the younger kids. Celebrate sportsmanship, effort, and Wellington pride. Wear your Maroon and White and cheer on our kids. As always, thank you for your support and Go Dukes!

-Andy Peltz, Superintendent





Our January awards for Westwood were fantastic! Our WHS Varsity cheerleaders presented the awards and showed off their cheers before youth night at the Varsity basketball game. Learn more on page 19.



MS. GLASURE'S CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS



January Spotlight: Vocabulary

The Strategy Spotlight highlights one effective instructional strategy each month that supports learning across grade levels and subject areas. These strategies reflect strong teaching practices that help students succeed in all classrooms. Focusing on a shared strategy each month promotes consistency, strengthens learning, and supports our district's commitment to high-quality instruction for every student.

Vocabulary is a key determinant of reading comprehension, as students cannot understand text beyond the words they know. The science of reading shows that while decoding enables students to read words accurately, vocabulary knowledge is what allows them to make meaning from text. Vocabulary grows most effectively through explicit instruction, repeated exposure in meaningful contexts, and opportunities to use words through speaking, reading, and writing. Because vocabulary development is cumulative, intentional instruction across all grades and content areas is essential to support comprehension of increasingly complex texts.

Vocabulary Activities at School

All of our teachers have been trained in the Science of Reading, a research-based approach to teaching students how to read. Many of our teachers have also completed LETRS—Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling—a comprehensive professional learning program focused on building strong literacy instruction. Through this training, teachers learn practical, classroom-ready strategies that support students' language and reading development. One such strategy is the Instructional Routine for Introducing a New Vocabulary Word, which helps students understand, use, and remember new words. (Click on the Link to see the routine.)







January Spotlight: Vocabulary

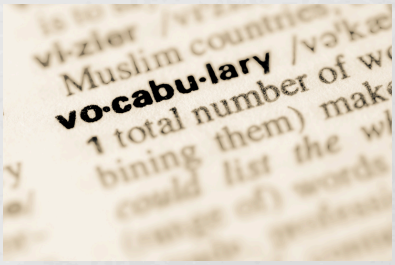
Vocabulary Activities Families Can Do at Home

1. Word-of-the-Day Conversations (All Grades)

Choose one interesting word each day (from a book, school assignment, news article, or conversation).

How to do it:

- Say the word and talk about what it means.
- Use it in a sentence together.
- Ask your child to use the word later in the day.



Grade adjustments:

- K–2: Use pictures, act out the word, or connect it to something familiar.
- 3–5: Discuss synonyms, antonyms, and examples/non-examples.
- 6–12: Ask how the word might be used differently in science, social studies, or math.

2. Read, Stop, and Talk (All Grades)

When reading together or independently, pause to talk about unfamiliar or interesting words.

How to do it:

- Ask, "What do you think this word means?"
- Give a simple, clear definition and restate the sentence using the word.

Grade adjustments:

- K–2: Focus on everyday words and repeated exposure.
- 3–5: Encourage students to explain the word in their own words.

6–12: Discuss how the word contributes to the meaning or tone of the text.

NUTRITION PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Andrea Helton, MS, RDN LD
Director of Nutrition Services

We are grateful for a supportive community.

Wellington Schools Nutrition Services Department received many generous donations towards unpaid meal debt over the past few weeks. We are pleased to announce that, due to a sizable donation from the Wellington Eagles, all current unpaid meal balances have been paid off.

Thank you!

The remaining donations from community members and organizations will be deposited into our "Angel Fund" and will be applied to school meal debt that accrues in the future.

We appreciate the support of the Wellington Community, and we continue to urge families that are able to pay their meal balances to do so, so that donations can reach those who are the most in need. The Nutrition Services Department humbly thanks you.

We are seeking lunch substitutes!



Are you interested in becoming a substitute for the WEVSD Nutrition Services Department?

Do you have kids in the district who you would like to see during the day?
Are you interested in learning about school lunches?
Do you have free time during the day that you wish could be spent with students?
If you answered yes to any of those questions, a substitute position in the kitchen may be the right fit for you!

We have shifts available anywhere from 3 - 5.5 hours, and are happy to provide training on site!

Responsibilities:

- Providing support by serving meals to students during meal times
- Assisting with cleaning and sanitation
- Operating dish machine under the supervision of the Head Cook
- Other duties as assigned and applicable



Click here to apply!

TREASURER'S OFFICE UPDATE

A MESSAGE FROM MR. BAILEY

The district has continued with their initiative to be more energy efficient. Over winter break we replaced the lighting in the McCormick Middle School cafeteria with LED lights. The new LED bulbs not only look great making the space brighter, but will also help reduce the energy costs.

The new legislative bills for property tax reform have passed and were signed by Governor DeWine at the end of December. These legislative bills will not only have an impact on our district but other districts across Ohio. Fortunately, the immediate impact on Wellington is not as large this fiscal year or next fiscal year, which gives us time to plan for the potential larger revenue reductions in fiscal years 2028 through 2030.

Seeing what is coming down the line, we have already begun to look at ways we can reduce costs to be as efficient and fiscally responsible as we can be. The start of the property tax reform started in October, when The Lorain County Commissioners voted to pass a resolution authorizing a permissive "piggyback" exemption for homestead and owner occupancy credit for Tax Year 2025 for real property and Tax Year 2026 for manufactured homes (for taxes payable in CY 2026 and CY 2027 respectively) in Lorain County, Ohio.

The district will see a property tax revenue reduction of $235,164.35 for tax year 2025 payable in calendar year 2026. We will start to see the revenue reduction starting the second half of this fiscal year and the first half of next fiscal year. The larger impact of the property tax reform will be seen in fiscal years 2028 through 2030 resulting in significant reductions to our revenue and cash balances.

Please stay tuned as we continue to analyze the impact of the property tax reform and watch for the February financial forecast to be presented as next month.

Sincerely,
Mr. Bailey

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



Click here to read our monthly Financial Statements!



Bright new LED lights in the McCormick cafeteria!

STUDENT SERVICES UPDATE

Math Education Survey:

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, along with The Ohio State University, is looking for parent and family input on your priorities and challenges regarding math education. Please consider taking this 5-minute survey. Participants are eligible for a gift card drawing. Click here for the survey!

Ohio Attendance Law Update:

Ohio's updated attendance law counts all absences toward a student's total missed school time. When a student reaches 5% of missed school time, schools must notify families and provide support. Reaching 10% of missed school time may result in formal interventions and possible court involvement if attendance does not improve. Regular attendance is essential for student success. We appreciate your support! Please click here for more information!

Student Services Feedback Survey:

The Student Services Department is asking for Stakeholder input regarding the ETR, IEP, and 504 process. Please access this link to complete our feedback survey. Thank you!



Dan Rahm
Director of
Student Services
(440) 647-7934



Pattie Roush
Special Education
Coordinator
(440) 647-7934

DUKES DEEP DIVE QUESTION OF THE MONTH:

What is your favorite class at school and why? ???



Grayson Nichols (Second grade): "I like art with Mrs. Jameyson because we painted leaves and it as fun.)"



Macy Butler (Kindergarten): "Miss Gulan is nice and teaches me how to read."



Logan Standen (Third grade): "Math with Mrs. Hamisfar is fun because she explains math well."



Elijah DeLima (Junior): "Mr. Rosekelly's precalculus class because he's a nice teacher, answers questions and helps students succeed."



Brooklynn Odom (Freshman): "Mr. Ginley's English class because he teaches us a lot and makes class interesting."



Summer Wisecup (Junior): "Mrs. Souhrada's Algebra 2, she's a chill teacher."



Joshua Beat (Eighth Grade): "Mr. Walters class! We build things and learning is fun in his class."



Preston Lasch (Eighth Grade): "Miss Beck's class. She's nice and we learn how to do mental math."

DUKES DEEP DIVE QUESTION OF THE MONTH:

What is your favorite class at school and why?



Shelby Riddick (Eighth grade):
"Mrs. Farr's art class is great, she introduces creativity and spreads positivity. I like the color wheel."



Blake Pilgrim (Sixth grade):
"Mr. Walter is the greatest of all time (GOAT!) I like learning about plants and animals."



Bella Gutierrez (Sixth grade):
"My favorite is Mr. Laposky's Duke time. He has fun activities for us and is very nice."



Wyatt Palmer (Sixth grade):
"I like social studies and history with Mr. Laposky because we learn about pyramids, Eygpt, Babylonians and the Aztecs."



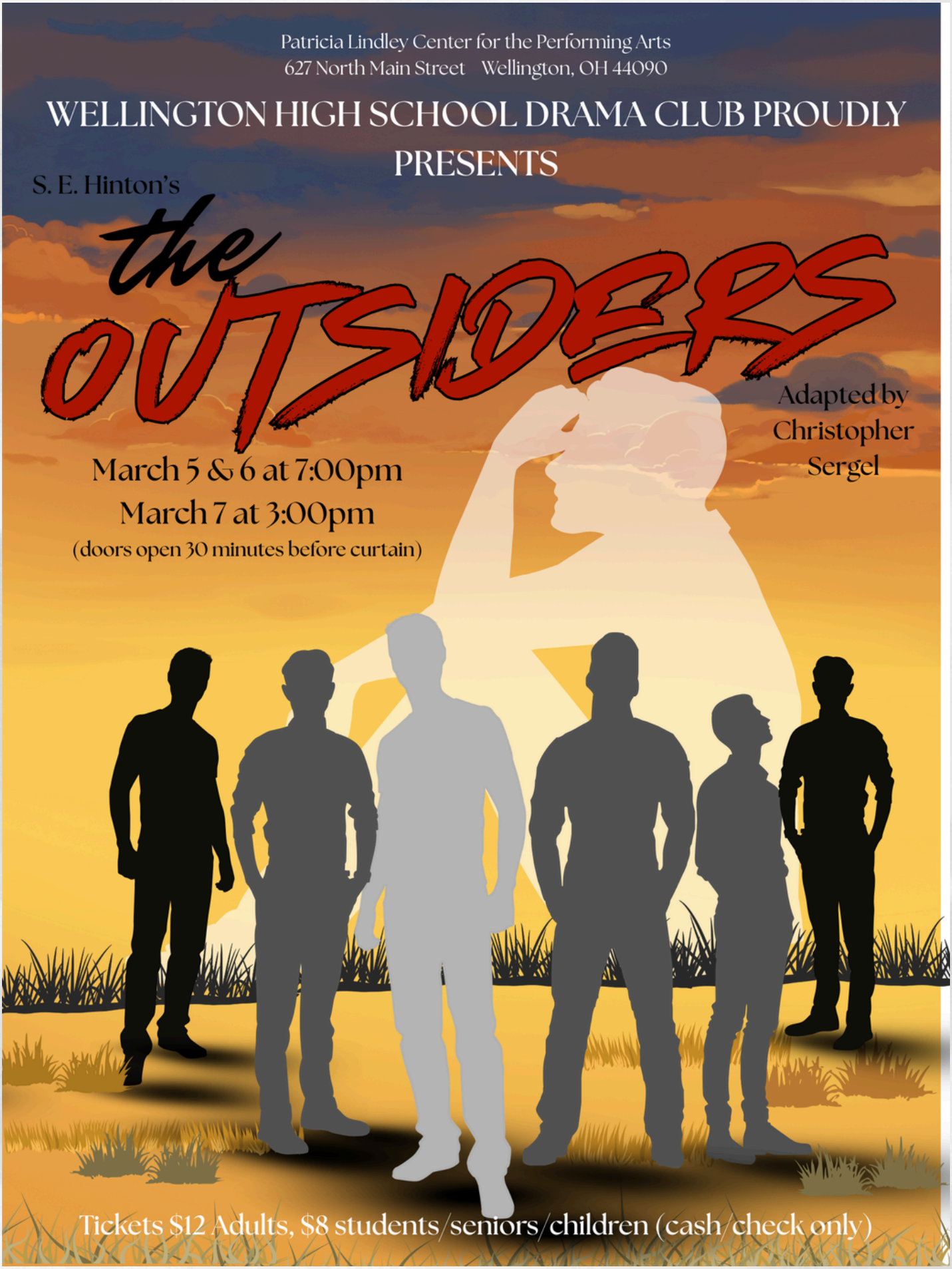
Annabelle Pais (Sixth grade):
"I love social studies with Mr. Laposky because he's kind and I like learning about history."



Atreyu DeLima (Eighth grade):
"Mrs. Farr's art class is great because she is the best teacher and I want to be an artist in the future."



Katryna Hill (Freshman):
"World history with Mr. Laposky is amazing. He's a great teacher and make all of the assignments fun."

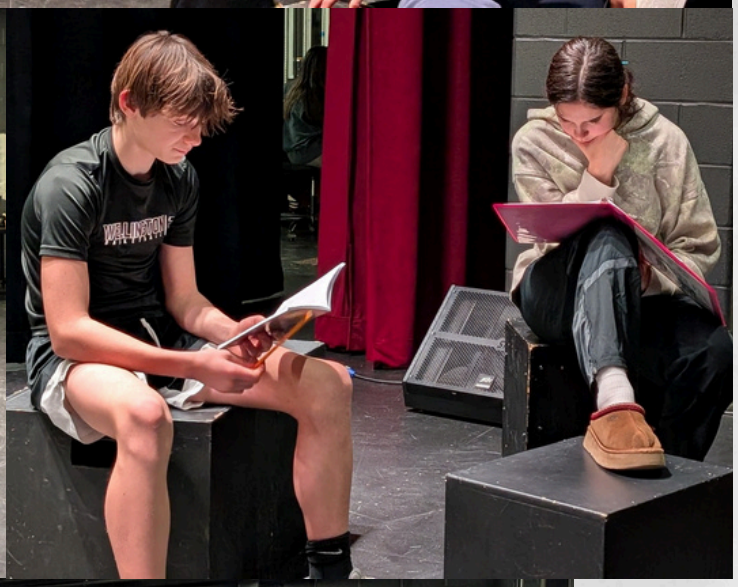

Patricia Lindley Center for the Performing Arts
627 North Main Street Wellington, OH 44090
WELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB PROUDLY
PRESENTS
S. E. Hinton's
the OUTSIDERS
Adapted by
Christopher
Sergel
March 5 & 6 at 7:00pm
March 7 at 3:00pm
(doors open 30 minutes before curtain)
Tickets $12 Adults, $8 students/seniors/children (cash/check only)

Cast and crew prepares for the March 5, 6 and 7th production of "The Outsiders."

Follow "Wellington Friends of Theater" on Facebook for all the behind the scenes looks!









Westwood Elementary
IMPORTANT DATES

JANUARY

5: School Resumes
5-23: MAPS and ACADIENCE Benchmarks
13: K-Kids Meeting @ 3PM (WWE Cafe)
13: Parent Co-Op Meeting @ 6PM (WWE Library)
16: End of 2nd Quarter
19: NO SCHOOL - MLK Day

FEBRUARY

4: Builder's Club Sponsored Talent Show @ 6PM (Lindley Center)
10: Parent Co-Op Meeting @ 6PM (WWE Library)
12: Parent/Teacher Conferences (3:30PM-7:30PM)
13: NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day
16: NO SCHOOL - President's Day
17: K-Kids Meeting @ 3PM (WWE Cafe)

MARCH

2: Mobile Dentist Visit
10: Parent Co-Op Meeting @ 6PM (WWE Library)
17: K-Kids Meeting @ 3PM (WWE Cafe)
20: End of 3rd Quarter
23: NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day





Mrs. Krajcik shares:
We have some students that entered the Scholastic Art Show and did very well! Congratulations to:

Sophia Beck (Grade 12): One Gold Key and one Honorable Mention

Jayden Donahue (Grade 12): One Silver Key and one Honorable Mention

Lillian Mull (Grade 12): Two Honorable Mentions... Mixed Media Collage and Digital Painting

Atreyu De Lima (Grade 8): Honorable Mention for Drawing

Important Upcoming Dates:
Exhibition Jan. 12 - Feb. 10,
Artists Reception - Jan. 18- 1-3pm



Sophia Beck's Gold Key in Photography Isolation.



Jayden Donahue's Silver Key in Illustration

2026 Lorain County Regional Scholastic Art Awards *Fast Facts*

2026 Season Calendar

- *Online Submission Deadline* - Dec. 15, 2025 - 11:59 pm
- *Judging* - Dec. 16-17, 2025 - online judging
- *Notification* of accepted work - by Dec. 18-19, 2025
- *Installation* - Jan. 10, 20226
- *Exhibition* Jan. 12 - Feb. 10,
- Artists Reception - Jan. 18- 1-3pm
- *Gold Key Ceremony* - Feb. 1 - 1-3 pm - Hoke Theater!
- *Tear Down/ Pick Up* - Feb. 10

About National Scholastic Art Program

since 1923
http://www.artandwriting.org/

About Lorain County Region

- 58th Season
- public, parochial and private middle and high schools from **Lorain, Erie** and **Huron** counties (grades 7-12)
- *voluntarily* coordinated and operated by participating art teachers
- critical support from **Beth Bryan**, Stocker Arts Center Operations Coordinator
- Facebook @lcrscholasticart

Nordson

Sponsor & Supporting Donors

- The **Nordson Corporation**
- Lorain County Community College
- The Stocker Foundation

Categories

Architecture & Industrial
Ceramics & Glass
Comic Art
Design
Digital
Drawing & illustration
Editorial Cartoon
Expanded Projects
Fashion
Film & Animation
Jewelry
Mixed Media
Painting
Photography
Printmaking
Sculpture
Senior Art Portfolio

Scoring Criteria

blind judging from digital uploads

- **Originality** – Work that breaks from convention, blurs the boundaries between genres, and challenges notions of how a particular concept or emotion can be expressed.
- **Technical Skill** – Work that uses technique to advance an original perspective or a personal vision or voice, and show skills being utilized to create something unique, powerful, and innovative.
- **Emergence of a Personal Vision or Voice** – Work with an authentic and unique point of view and style.

Students

- grades 7-8 - division I
- grades 9-12 - division II
- over 1600 works entered

Skills for Judges

- speed-judging/ snap decisions/ receptive to strong first impressions
- ability to *focus* on the work *presented*/ evidence
- professional experience in art-making preferred
- experience working with *teen* art students preferred

Judging Groups

- teams of 3 judges per category
- dot rating system

Award Levels -

- *Gold Key* (highest level)
- *Silver Key* (2nd place level)
- *Honorable Mention*
- *5 American Vision* (best in show selection from Gold Key pool)
- 550 works selected for region exhibition
- Gold Key works advance to national jurying in New York City

Judge's Compensation

- passes for Stocker Arts Center shows
- exhibition program credit
- letter of appreciation for volunteer community service
- appreciation from grateful art teachers

Contact

Affiliate Chair, Christen Schneid christenschneid@gmail.com
Secretary, Laura Tawil artteacherlt@cox.net
Judges Chair, Rachel Kidd rkidd@vermilionschools.org
Moderator Chair, Heather Burns hburns@midviewk12.org
Gallery Chair, Mel Rainey raineymel@elyriaschools.org
UH Show, Kaitlin Krajcik kkrajcik@wellingtonvillageschools.org

TALENT SHOW!


ON AIR
BUILDERS CLUB
TALENT SHOW
GRADES K-12
Unleash your inner star!
February 4
6 PM
Patricia Lindley Center
EVENT RULES
• Open to all students in grades K – 12
• Performances can include singing, dancing or any unique talent.
• Each performance should not exceed 5 minutes and participants must provide their own music or props.
• All performances must abide by WEVSD District rules. Performances must not incur damages to stage, set, or equipment.
PRIZES
1st PLACE
Trophy
2nd PLACE
Trophy
3rd PLACE
Trophy
All Parciptants
Medal
How to Register?
SCAN QR CODE TO SIGN UP
NO LATER THAN
FRIDAY JANUARY 9TH, 2026
Contact: Mrs. Strait for more information
tstrait@wellingtonvillageschools.org


LORAIN COUNTY EARLY LEARNING CENTER
12079 LaGrange Road
LaGrange Ohio 44050
Preschool Enrollment
A Bright Beginning for Your Child!
Tuition $200.00 Monthly
AM Session 8:30-11:30
PM Session 12:30-3:30
Monday through Friday
Financial Assistance available through the ECE Grant.
To apply visit
childernandyouth.ohio.gov/for-familiies/early-care-education
Why Choose Us
• All classroom teachers have a minimum of a 4 year degree.
• Ohio approved curriculum aligned with the Early Learning Standards.
• Gold Rated through SUTQ
• Conscious Discipline curriculum for social-emotional development
We still have spots available for the 2025-2026 School Year!
For more information visit our website or call (440)324-3178
www.loraincountyesc.org/theearlylearningcenter

WELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



Important Dates:

- **2/12:** Parent-Teacher Conferences @ WHS (3:00-7:00)
- **2/13: Staff Professional Development Day (No School)**
- **2/16: President's Day (No School)**
- **3/4:** PSAT Testing (10th graders)
- **3/11:** SAT Test (11th graders)
- **3/12-14:** Washington DC Field Trip for Government Students
- **3/20:** End of the 3rd Quarter
- **3/23: Staff Professional Development Day (No School)**
- **4/3-10: Spring Break (No School)**
- **4/15:** College Visit to Toledo and Bowling Green

Get guidance on ACT prep with College Now!

See our guidance counselor Mrs. Frantz, College Now advisor Mrs. Faust or Mrs. Szmania for details on signing up!

HFaust@collegenowgc.org cfrantz@wellingtonvillageschools.org sszmania@collegenowgc.org

2025-2026 YEARBOOKS!

- *Order your 2025-2026 Wellington HS Yearbook today!*
- *Yearbooks are $75. Click here to order online.*

Bowling Green & University of Toledo College Visit!

Students in grades 10-12 are invited to attend our College Visit on 4/16 from 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

- WHERE: The University of Toledo and Bowling Green State University.
- DETAILS: It's completely free and lunch will be provided.
- WHY: This is a great opportunity to check out these schools to see if they may be a future fit for you!
- Spots are limited so listen for the announcement that it is time to sign up. You can pick up a permission slip in the office.

Helping our community.



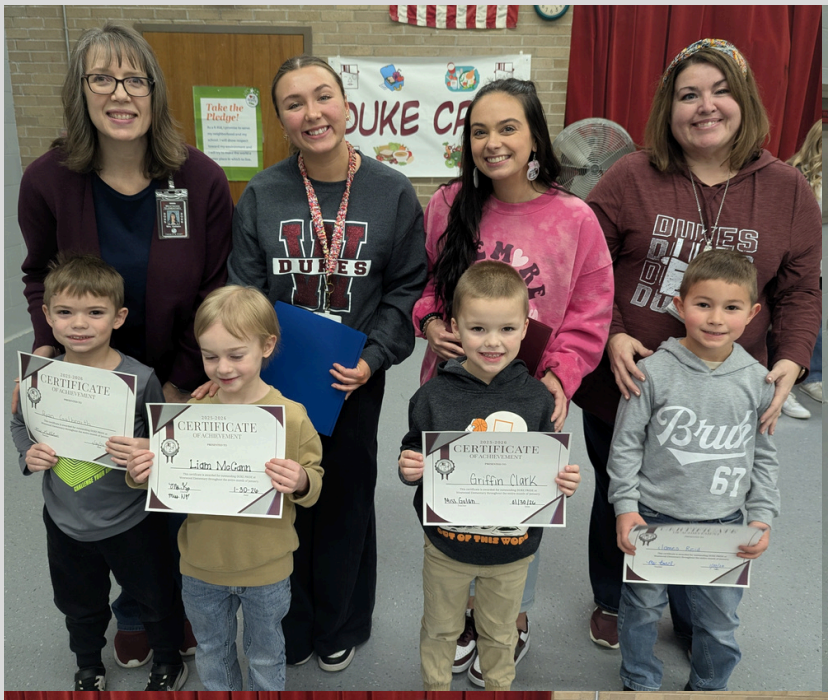
FFA worked together in December on cutting and making quilts for Veterans at the Valor house as donations.

Thank you Dukes, for your time and generosity!



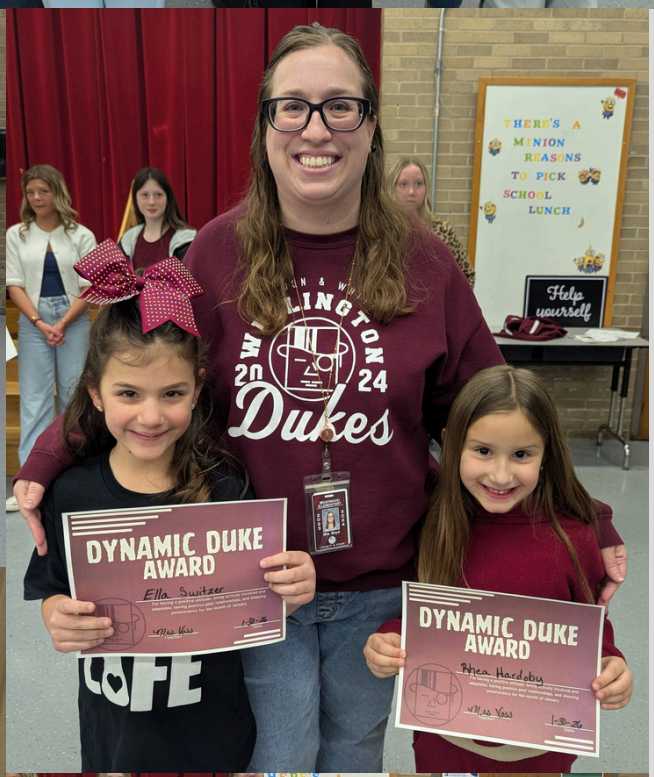


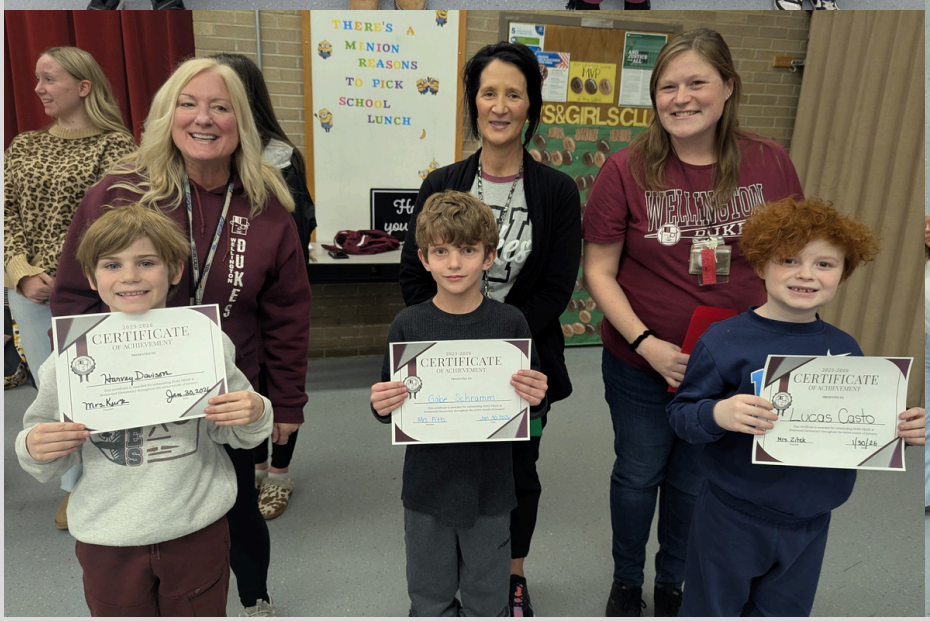
JANUARY WESTWOOD PBIS ASSEMBLY















MCCORMICK'S ACADEMIC AWARDS CEREMONY

FOURTH GRADE!



Fourth Grade
High Honor Roll
Congratulations!



Fourth Grade
Honor Roll
Congratulations!



Fourth Grade
Merit Roll Award
Congratulations!



Fourth Grade
Bringing Up Grades Award
Congratulations!

MCCORMICK'S ACADEMIC AWARDS CEREMONY

FIFTH GRADE!



Fifth Grade
High Honor Roll
Congratulations!



Fifth Grade
Honor Roll
Congratulations!



Fifth Grade
Merit Roll
Congratulations!



Fifth Grade
Bringing Up Grades Award
Congratulations!

MCCORMICK'S ACADEMIC AWARDS CEREMONY

SIXTH GRADE!



Sixth Grade
High Honor Roll

Congratulations!



Sixth Grade
Honor Roll

Congratulations!



Sixth Grade
Merit Roll

Congratulations!



Sixth Grade
Perfect Attendance Award

Congratulations!

MCCORMICK'S ACADEMIC AWARDS CEREMONY

SEVENTH GRADE!



Seventh Grade
High Honor Roll

Congratulations!



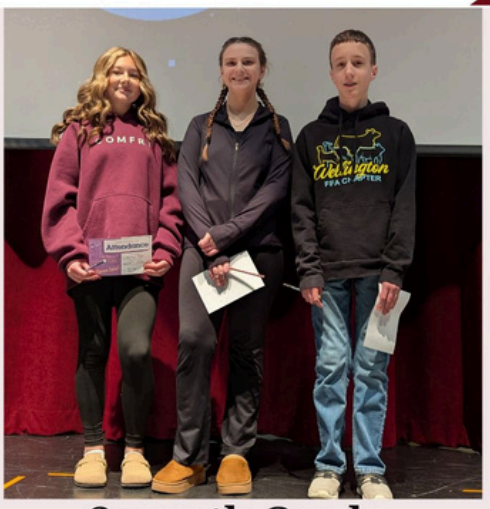
Seventh Grade
Honor Roll

Congratulations!



Seventh Grade
Merit Roll

Congratulations!



Seventh Grade
Perfect Attendance Award

Congratulations!

MCCORMICK'S ACADEMIC AWARDS CEREMONY

EIGHTH GRADE!



Eighth Grade
High Honor Roll
Congratulations!



Eighth Grade
Honor Roll
Congratulations!



Eighth Grade
Merit Roll

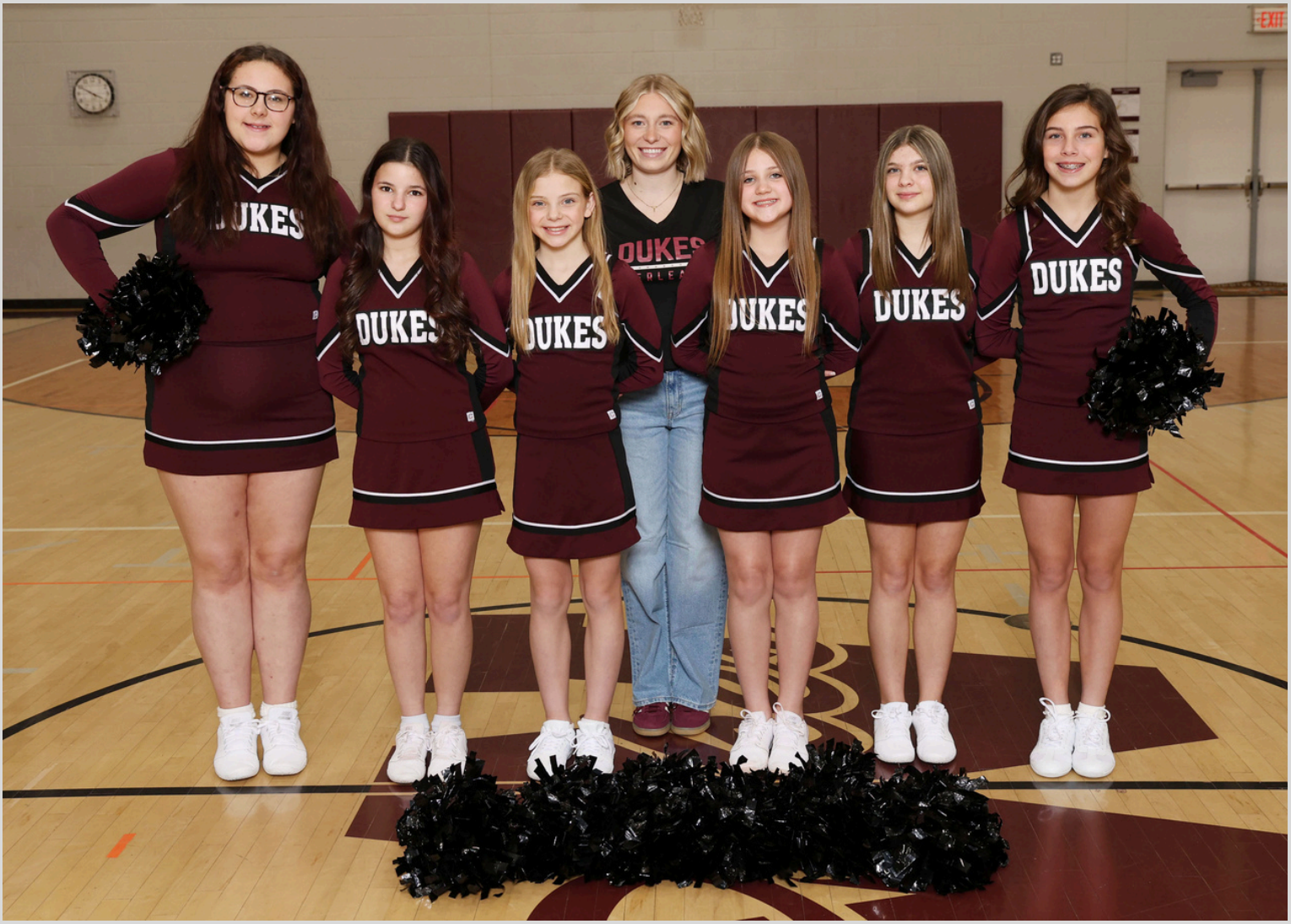
Congratulations!

JR HIGH BOYS BASKETBALL

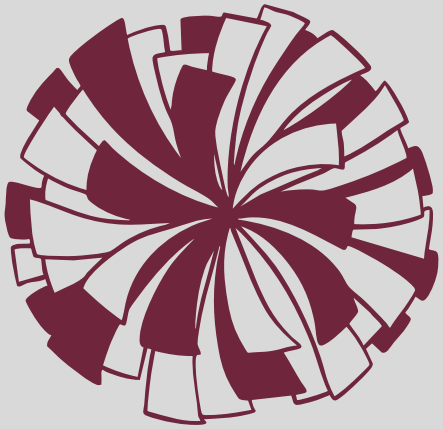




JR HIGH CHEER



Led by Coach Chloe Black





CHEER

WRESTLING TEAM



Led by boys coach Dan McNeely & girls coach Jason Robinette



WRESTLING TEAM







Go Dukes!

WRESTLING ACTION















WRESTLING ACTION







