September 1: No School - Labor Day

LEAVE THIS RED SPACE BLANK FOR POSTAL ADDRESS AND PERMIT

THE WRIGHT CITY CONNECTION

Volume 36 | Issue 1 | August 2025 | Wright City, Missouri

WELCOME BACK! UNITED IN PURPOSE: "TOGETHER WE CAN"



Dr. Amy Salvo

Dear Wright City R-II Families,

We are ready to welcome back the bright minds and smiling faces of our students as we kick off the 2025–2026 school year! This summer, our team has been hard at work to make sure everything is in place for a great start—clean classrooms, dedicated staff, and a shared commitment to student success across every corner of our district.

Last year, we shared our "why"—why we show up each day as educators and support staff. We do it to guide, support, and educate every student, every day. That mission hasn't changed. In fact, it's grown stronger. Wright City is a special place, rooted in care and community, and that spirit continues to drive us forward.

As we begin this new year, I truly believe in what we can accomplish—together:

***Together,* we can build a strong foundation for every student's journey.**

***Together*, we can help foster positive character within our Wildcat community.**

***Together,* we can partner to help your child be the best they can be.**

***Together,* we can guide our students to discover their potential and prove what's possible.**

Here's to a new year filled with purpose, growth, and opportunity—for every student, every day.

Together We Can,
Dr. Amy Salvo
Superintendent, Wright City R-II School District

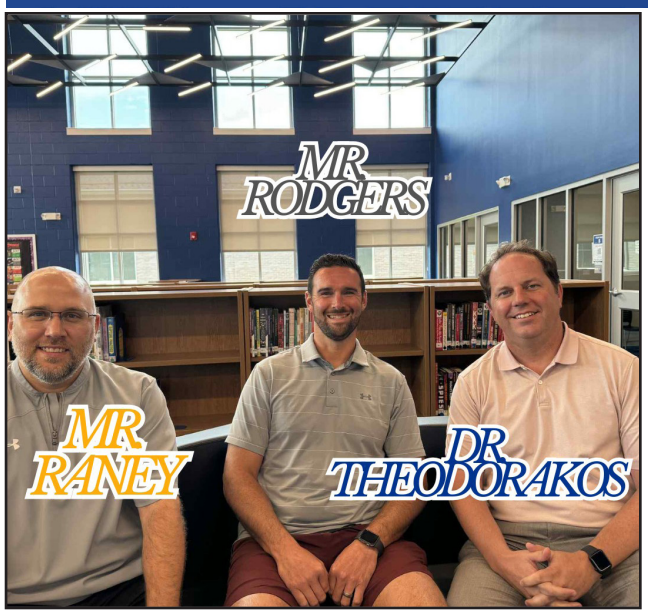
NEW TEACHERS JOIN THE WRIGHT CITY R-II SCHOOL DISTRICT



The Wright City R-II School District welcomed its newest educators during New Teacher Training, held ahead of the 2025-26 school year. The training introduced teachers to district policies, curriculum standards and instructional resources, while providing opportunities to connect with administrators and fellow staff members. The district's newest staff members represent a range of grade levels and subject areas and bring experience, enthusiasm and fresh ideas to the classroom. District leaders said the event reflects Wright City's commitment to supporting educators from day one and ensuring they have the tools and relationships needed to succeed.



WRIGHT CITY HIGH SCHOOL



Dear Wright City Families,

I am humbled and honored to join Wright City High School as Principal. Over the past few months, I've had the chance to meet many students, staff members, parents, and community members. One thing is clear: this community stands behind their kids and I'm incredibly grateful to be a part of it. So let me begin by saying thank you, Wright City, for raising incredible kids and for welcoming me so warmly.

Beyond being an educator, I'm a husband and a dad. My wife, Brooke, also an educator, and I do our best to run a lively household with two energetic daughters who keep us laughing and on the move. I share this because I want you to know that I see our Wildcats as more than just students in the hallways. Every student at Wright City High School is someone's child with dreams, challenges, and a future worth fighting for. In joining the Wright City R-II team, I can't wait to partner with you and champion the success of each student that walks through our doors.

This year at Wright City High School, our team is going to prove what's possible. I believe that no matter where we start, we can grow, overcome, and rise beyond expectations. Our students are capable of incredible things, and together, we're going to prove it.

To support this mission, we're launching three key initiatives designed to elevate the student experience and help every Wildcat move forward.

Every. Day. Matters! – One of the most important ways we begin to prove what's possible is by showing up. Our schoolwide attendance campaign will remind students and families that showing up daily is a critical step toward long-term success.

I'm In – When students feel connected, they thrive. This culture building movement will encourage all students to plug in, belong, and engage in the Wright City community.

Power Checks - These targeted assessments, given every eight weeks in core subjects, help students and teachers monitor their progress throughout the year. This will keep our learning focused and intentional.

As of this moment, we have 548 students enrolled at Wright City High School. They are my mission. Every decision I make and every ounce of energy I bring to this role is for them.

Let's Prove What's Possible,
Dr. Jason Theodorakos
Principal, Wright City High School



WRIGHT CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL



Dear Wright City Middle School Families,

We hope this message finds you enjoying a restful and fun summer. As we prepare to begin the 2025–2026 school year, the staff at Wright City Middle School is filled with excitement and anticipation. Our building is ready, our team is energized, and we cannot wait to welcome our Wildcats back into the hallways for what promises to be a fun, positive, and enriching school year.

One of the initiatives we're especially excited to continue is the House System, which is being carried over from West Elementary. The House System is designed to promote leadership, mentorship, and a strong sense of community among our students and staff. Each student and staff member belongs to a house, where they will meet weekly to engage in team-building activities, service leadership, social-emotional learning, and school spirit events. We saw incredible engagement and growth through this model at the elementary level, and we are confident that bringing it into grades 5 through 8 will continue to build strong, lasting connections throughout our school.

In addition to the House System, we are looking forward to growing our Parent-Teacher Committee (PTC). Our goal is to continue creating fun, memorable events for both students and staff while deepening the partnership between school and home. Whether it's helping to plan a dance, organize teacher appreciation efforts, or support a family night, the PTC is an important part of what makes Wright City Middle School feel like home. We encourage all families to get involved—you can make a difference in big or small ways, and your voice is always welcome.

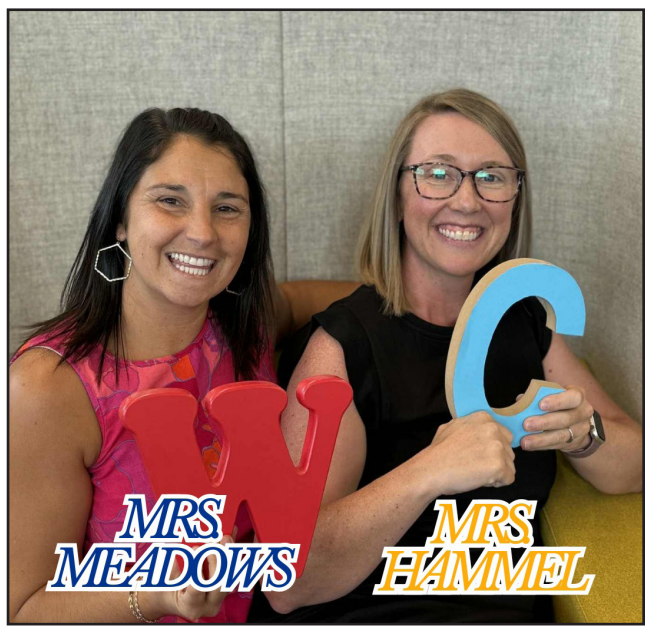
Keep an eye out for more information on upcoming PTC meetings and ways to join in the fun.

As a 5th through 8th grade building, we know that these years are full of transition, growth, and exploration. Our team is dedicated to creating a school environment that is both academically rigorous and emotionally supportive. We value every student who walks through our doors, and we are committed to helping each of them thrive not just in the classroom, but also in life.

The first day of school is right around the corner, and we can't wait to see our halls once again filled with laughter, energy, and the joy of learning. Thank you for trusting us with your student's education and for being part of our school community. Together, we are building something truly special at Wright City Middle School.

Here's to a fantastic 2025–2026 school year!

WEST ELEMENTARY



We are so excited to welcome everyone back for a new school year! Our hallways are shiny, our classrooms are set, and now we're just waiting for the laughter, curiosity, and inquisitive minds of our Wildcats to fill the building. We can't wait to see our students on the first day full of joy, enthusiasm, and ready to connect with one another. While summer is fun, learning is always better together. Mrs. Hammel and I, along with the rest of our West Elementary staff are ready to see Every Student.....Every Day....starting on August 18th!



Wright City R-II

Facebook Page

Stay connected with the Wright City R-II School District on Facebook!

Join our community online to celebrate student achievements, share important reminders, and stay informed. Like us at facebook.com/WrightCityr2 to stay in the loop!

EAST ELEMENTARY



Dear East Elementary Families,

My name is Dawn Hickman, and I have had the privilege of serving as the Principal at East Elementary for the past eight years. This is my 11th year in Wright City and my 29th year in the educational field. Each year, I feel incredibly grateful to be part of such a dedicated school community. As the East Elementary principal, I am here to support all students socially and emotionally, and most importantly, ensure each child receives a strong educational foundation that can be built upon year after year.

It is also my pleasure to introduce our new Assistant Principal, Dr. Kate Marchetto! Dr. Marchetto brings a wealth of knowledge, passion for student success, and a heart for school communities.

My name is Dr. Kate Marchetto, and I am beyond excited to be joining the amazing team at East! I've spent the past 16 years in education, teaching 1st through 5th grade before stepping into the role of Assistant Principal at Fairmount Elementary in the Francis Howell School District for the last two years.I am passionate about creating a positive and supportive environment for all students, and I truly believe that strong relationships are at the heart of a successful school. I'm looking forward to partnering with staff and families to support student growth, celebrate successes, and work through challenges as a team.

We would like to extend a big, warm welcome to all the students and families joining us for the 2025-2026 school year! Whether you are returning to East Elementary or joining us for the first time, we want you to know that you are now part of our East family. We deeply value the partnership between home and school, recognizing that working together is essential to the success of each child. Your support, encouragement, and involvement play a crucial role in your child's growth and achievement.

On the first day of school, students will be greeted by our staff and several community members who will come together to kick off this new school year adventure. We know that the first day can bring both excitement and nervousness, and our team will be ready to welcome students with warm smiles and helpful hands. It is essential that each student feels seen, valued, and connected from the moment they walk through our doors.

In true East fashion, we will have a school theme this year to keep our learning connected and fun. Our 2025-2026 theme is "Farm-tastic: Rooted in Learning for a Farm-tastic Year!" Throughout the year, you will see our hallways and classrooms transformed to reflect this theme, creating a sense of wonder and excitement for our students. We will weave this theme into our lessons, activities, and school events to inspire creativity, curiosity, and a love of learning.

We are incredibly proud of our teaching staff at East Elementary. They are dedicated, caring professionals who work hard each day to create engaging lessons, build positive classroom communities, and support the individual needs of every child. We are also fortunate to have a fantastic team of support staff who contribute to making our school a safe, welcoming, and nurturing place for all.

As a school, we are committed to creating an environment that fosters students' academic, social, and emotional growth. We emphasize the importance of kindness, respect, responsibility, and perseverance in all that we do. Our goal is to help each student develop the skills and confidence they need to become successful learners and compassionate individuals.

We look forward to growing together and creating meaningful learning experiences throughout the year. We encourage families to stay connected with us by checking school newsletters, visiting our website, volunteering with the Wright City Elementary PTO, and following us on social media to celebrate our students' success!

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions, concerns, or ideas you may have. We are here to support your family and make this year a positive and memorable one for your child. Together, we can make this a truly Farm-tastic year!

EARLY CHILDHOOD



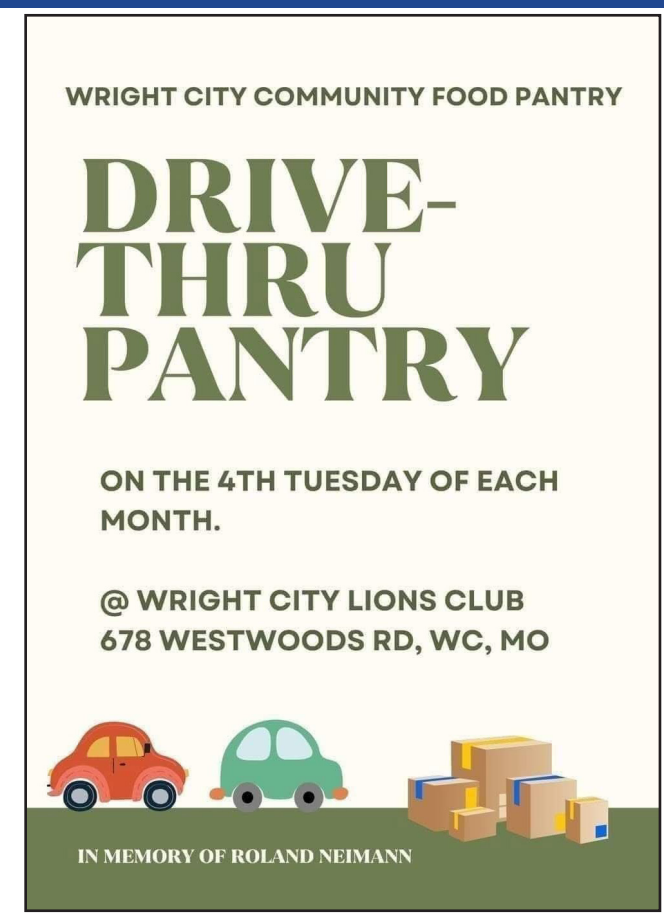
Welcome to a brand-new school year at Wright City Early Childhood! We are so excited to open our doors once again and begin a joyful year of learning, discovery, and growth. Whether you are returning or joining us for the first time, we are thrilled to have your family as part of our school community!

Our Early Childhood Team of experienced educators, paraprofessionals, therapists, and office staff have been hard at work preparing classrooms, planning engaging activities, and ensuring that your child's experience is safe, nurturing, and full of wonder. Preschool is a time of enormous social, emotional, and cognitive development—and we are honored to be part of this important journey.

Our theme this year is "WCEC, The Preschool Tour" and we'll be exploring the world through stories, hands-on experiences, music, and play. We encourage open communication and look forward to working closely with you to support your child's development.

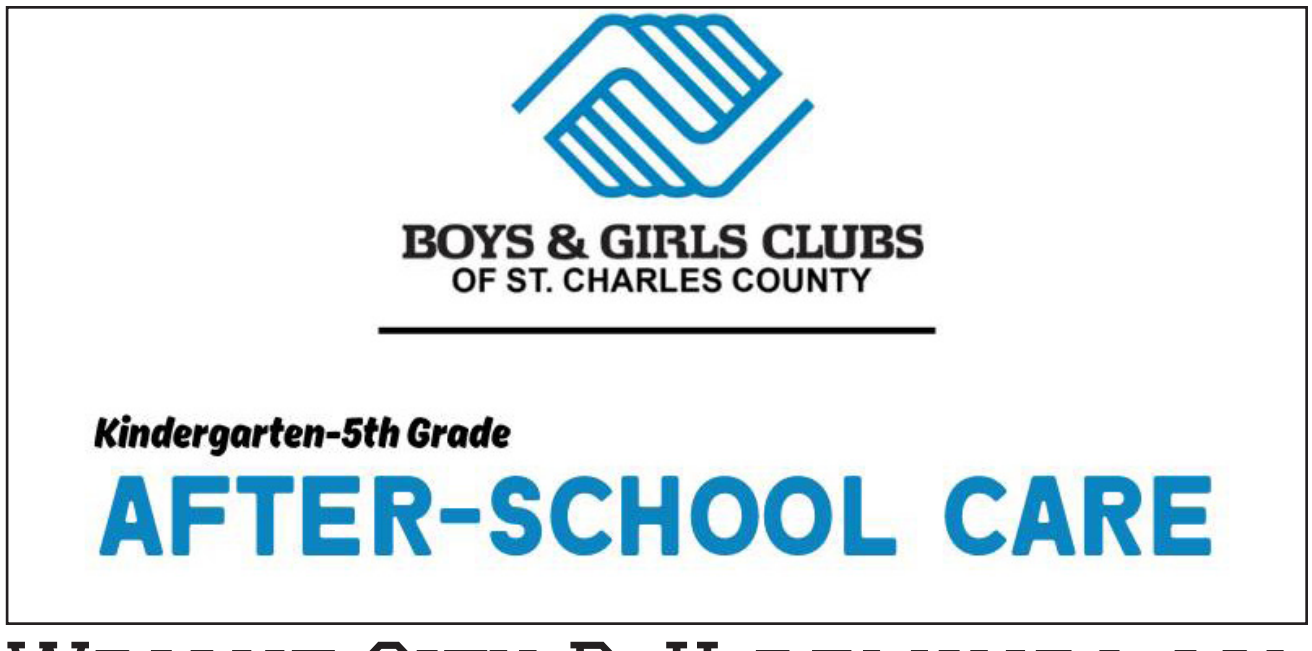
Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions before the first day. You can contact us at 636-791-2150. See you all very soon!

Here's to a wonderful year ahead!
Mrs. Kelly Brooks



WRIGHT CITY R-II SCHOOL DISTRICT

WRIGHT CITY R-II OFFERS AFTER-SCHOOL CARE THROUGH BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB PARTNERSHIP



The Wright City R-II School District is continuing its partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of St. Charles County to provide affordable after-school care for kindergarten through fifth grade families.

The program, based at West Elementary, offers a safe and engaging environment for students after the regular school day ends. Activities include homework help, recreational opportunities and enrichment programs designed to support academic and social development.

The district provides transportation for participating students to the after-school site.

Registration for the 2025-26 school year is now open. Families can register online at bgcstc.org/register.

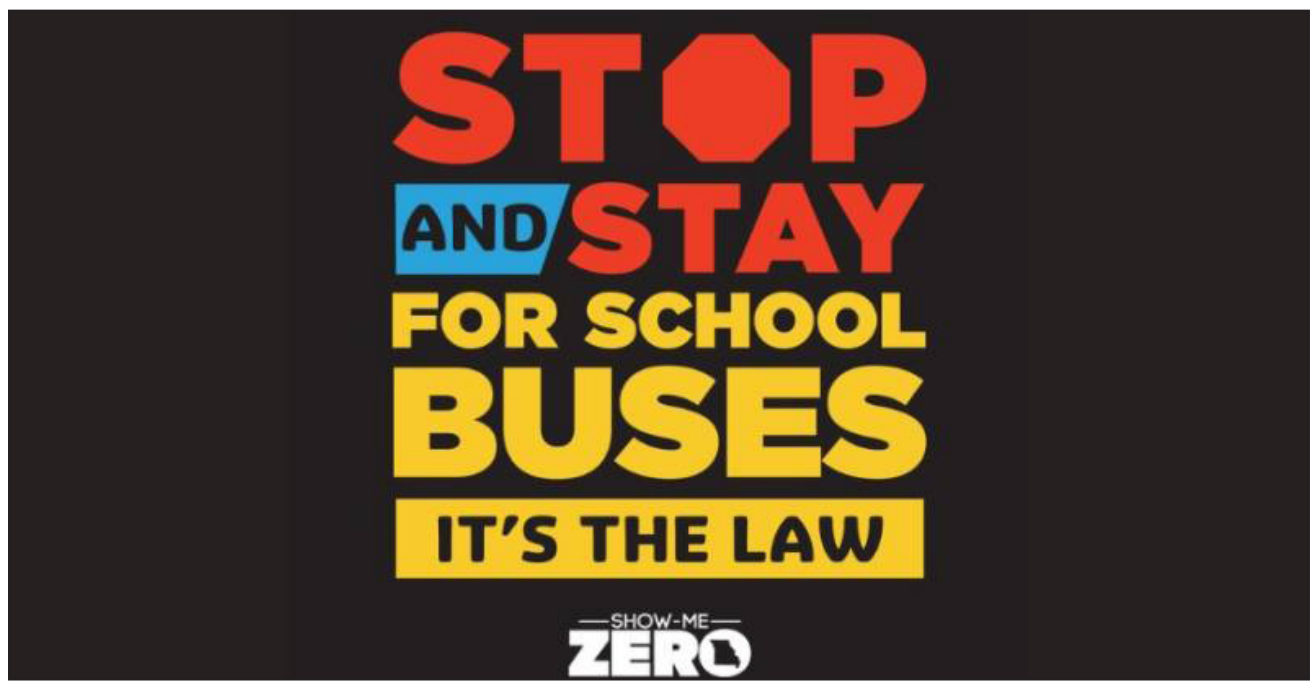
Wright City R-II reminds community of school bus safety as classes resume

As the new school year begins, the Wright City R-II School District reminds students, parents and drivers to review school bus safety guidelines to help protect #EveryStudentEveryDay.

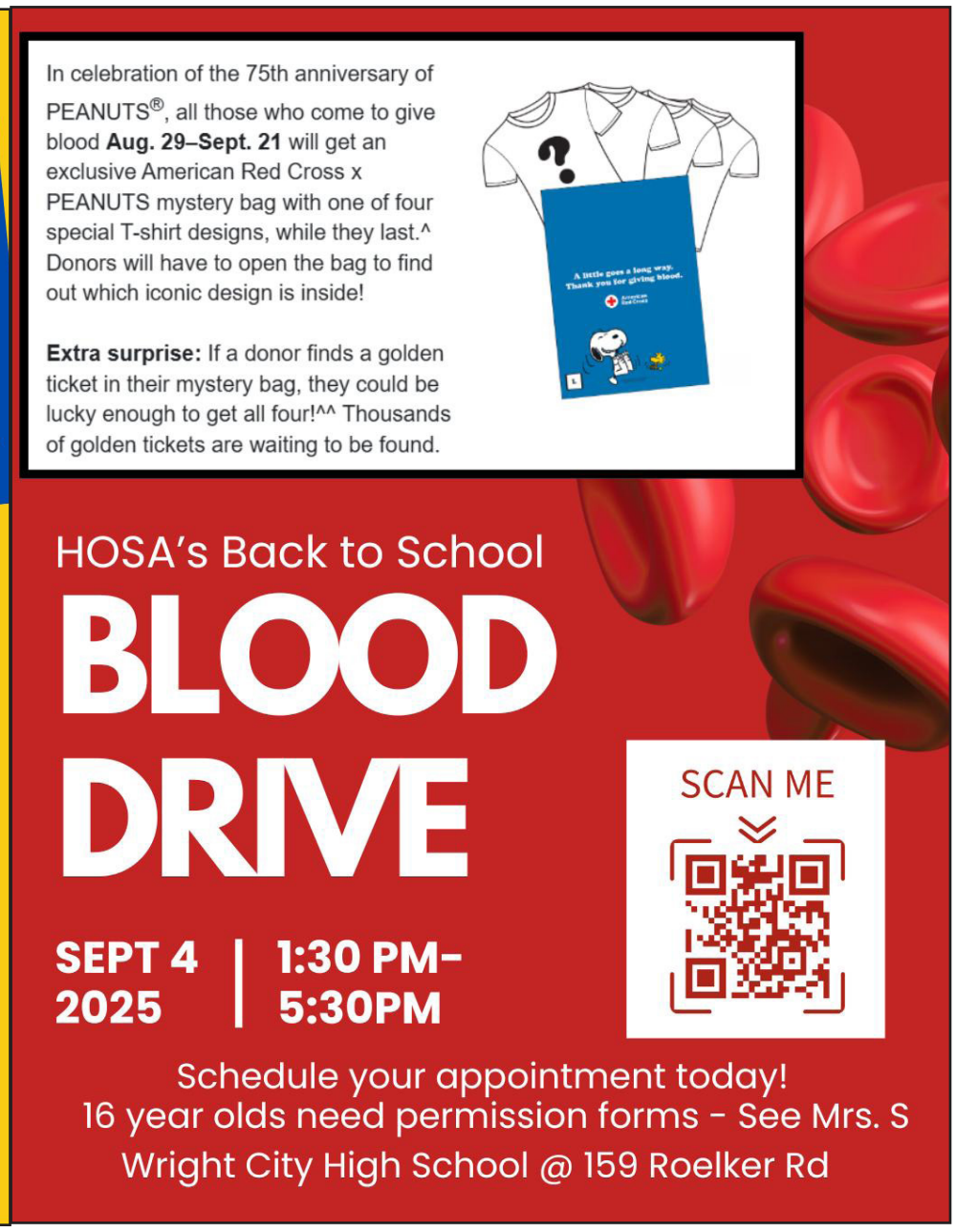
District officials say students should arrive at their bus stop five minutes early, use sidewalks or walk facing traffic and never run to or from the bus. Students should wait for the driver's signal before approaching.

Parents review bus safety rules with their children and stay aware of Missouri's laws regarding stopping for school buses.

Drivers stay alert in school zones and neighborhoods and never pass a stopped bus.







NEW RULES FOR PHONES AND SMART DEVICES

We want to make you aware of a significant statewide change that will impact all Missouri public schools, including ours, starting with the 2025–2026 school year.

Please familiarize yourself with the upcoming change to District policy regarding student use of personal electronic communication devices (EPCDs). The policy, which reflects new requirements under Missouri Senate Bill 68, will take effect on the first day of school for the 2025–2026 academic year. This change is aimed at creating learning environments with fewer distractions and more opportunities for focus, engagement, and connection.

Under the new policy, students will not be permitted to use or display EPCDs—including cell phones, tablets, laptops, smartwatches, and smart glasses—during the school day, beginning August 18, 2025. Students will be expected to keep their cell phones on silent and out of sight from the official start and end times designated by each school building. This also applies to smartwatches, wireless earbuds, and similar devices if they can be used to communicate or access content like a phone.

The law does allow for limited exceptions, and our district policy will reflect those:

Medical Needs: Students with documented medical conditions (such as diabetes) who require a device for health monitoring will be permitted to carry and use it with proper documentation and approval from the student's designated case manager. This also includes students with an IEP or 504 plan that outlines a need for access to a personal communication device not provided by the District.

Emergencies: Students may use their phones in a school-wide or personal emergency under staff supervision. As always, parents can contact their child through the school office when needed.

If you believe your student qualifies for one of the exceptions outlined above, please contact your student's principal or case manager.

To support a consistent and respectful learning space, clear and age-appropriate consequences will be in place for students who don't follow the policy.

We encourage families to review these updates and discuss expectations with their students in advance of the school year.

Thank you for your continued support as we follow the new state legislation outlined in Senate Bill 68. As we comply with the law, we truly appreciate your partnership as we work together to provide the best possible experience for our Wildcats.

OPERATION BACKPACK CONTINUES TO FIGHT WEEKEND HUNGER FOR WRIGHT CITY STUDENTS

Since 2012, Operation Backpack has been helping Wright City R-II School District students access nutritious meals over the weekend when school breakfasts and lunches are not available.

Many local families rely on the free or reduced-price meal program during the school week, but some struggle to provide the same nutritious options on Saturdays and Sundays. Operation Backpack helps fill the gap by sending backpacks filled with kid-friendly, nonperishable meals home with students each Friday.

The program is run with the help of community and employee volunteers who pack bags each week. Community members can support the effort by organizing a "Backpack" food drive at their church, school or business to collect items for the program.

Participation in Operation Backpack is confidential. Only the school nurse and counselor are aware of which students receive the weekend meals. Families interested in participating should contact their school counselor for a request form.

For information on how to donate or volunteer, contact Glen Oberle at 636-745-7300, ext. 11932; district Operation Food Search liaison Allison Conn at AllisonLConn@gmail.com; or Carrie Biggs at Carrie.Biggs@wrightcity.k12.mo.us. Online contributions can also be made through the district's School Store.

WC R-II OFFERS FREE PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN SCREENINGS

The Wright City R-II School District is offering free developmental screenings for children ages 3 to 5 who are not yet in kindergarten.

Screenings include vision, hearing and developmental skills, and are conducted by district educators. The goal is to help families identify any needs early and connect them with resources to support school readiness.

Upcoming screening dates are:

Sept. 25, 2025, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.
Oct. 23, 2025, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.
Nov. 20, 2025, 9 a.m.–noon
Jan. 22, 2026, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.
Feb. 26, 2026, noon–3:30 p.m.
April 23, 2026, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

All screenings will take place in the Parents as Teachers (PAT) classroom at West Elementary.

To schedule an appointment, call 636-791-2150.



Wright City R-II to offer before care on late-start Mondays

The Wright City R-II School District will provide before care for kindergarten through sixth grade students on late-start Mondays when school is in session.

The program will begin at 7:15 a.m. in each student's respective school building and is designed to help meet the needs of district families.

Families who wish to have their child participate must complete the registration form to ensure adequate staffing for supervision. The form is available at www.wrightcity.k12.mo.us/parents/monday-k-6-before-care.

Wright City R-II School District

WE ARE HIRING

Custodians

LEARN MORE & APPLY NOW

$15.71 - $30.19 per Hour

If you have any questions, please contact our Central Office.
(636) 745-7200

Wright City R-II School District

WE ARE HIRING

Maintenance HVAC Technician

LEARN MORE & APPLY NOW

- Great Benefits Package
- Keep Schools Running
- Skilled, Hands-On Work

Requirements:
HVAC Certification +
EPA 608 Certification

If you have any questions, please contact our Central Office.
(636) 745-7200

ecco ride

Join Our Team Today!

Become a School Bus Driver



Requirements

- Be 21 years old or older
- Have a clean Motor Vehicle Report
- Pass a Criminal Background Check

WRIGHT CITY R-II ADDS ONLINE MEAL BENEFIT APPLICATION TO PARENT PORTAL

The Wright City R-II School District has added the free and reduced-price meal application to the district's online parent portal, making it easier for families to apply for meal benefits.

To access the application, parents should log in to their parent portal account. In the top right corner of the screen, select User Account and go to Account Settings to set up an e-signature PIN if one has not already been created. Next, under More, select Meal Benefits and click the link provided to complete the application.

Families with questions may contact Glen Oberle at 636-745-7200, ext. 14946, or by email at glen.oberle@wrightcity.k12.mo.us.



FIND DISTRICT MENUS BY SCANNING

WRIGHT CITY R-II SCHOOL DISTRICT
2025-2026 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

LEGEND:
[Beginning of School/Semester
] End of School/Semester
Holiday - District Closed
No Student Attendance
Half Day Student Attendance

AUGUST 2025

M	T	W	R	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
[18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

7-8: New Teachers
11-14: Staff Development
18: Students Begin (full day)

SEPTEMBER 2025

M	T	W	R	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

1: NO SCHOOL- Labor Day
19: Staff Workday
22: NO SCHOOL: Staff Development
29: PTC for East and MS 4-7 pm
30: PTC for West and EC 4-7 pm

OCTOBER 2025

M	T	W	R	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24]
27	28	29	30	31

1: PTC for HS 4-7 pm
2: Early Release for 4 hours of PTC
3: NO SCHOOL
24: End of 1st Quarter
31: NO SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2025

M	T	W	R	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

3: NO SCHOOL- Staff Development
26-28: NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving

DECEMBER 2025

M	T	W	R	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19]
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

19: 1st Semester Ends
22-31: NO SCHOOL- Winter Break

JANUARY 2026

M	T	W	R	F
			1	2
5	[6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

1-2: NO SCHOOL- Winter Break
5: NO SCHOOL- Staff Development
6: 2nd Semester Begins
19: NO SCHOOL- MLK Day
possible makeup day

FEBRUARY 2026

M	T	W	R	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27

9-12 Parent Teacher Conferences
13: NO SCHOOL- Staff Development
16: NO SCHOOL- Presidents Day
possible makeup day
27: Staff Workday

MARCH 2026

M	T	W	R	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13]
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

13: End of 3rd Quarter
23-27: NO SCHOOL- Spring Break

APRIL 2026

M	T	W	R	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

3-6: NO SCHOOL- Easter Break
possible makeup day April 3

MAY 2026

M	T	W	R	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22]
25	26	27	28	29

22: Last Day of Semester/Year
if no additional snow days
(half day)

MAKE-UP/INCLEMENT WEATHER DAYS:

1-2: Traditional snow days may be made up on January 19, February 16 or April 3, depending on if there are at least 10 school days before the makeup day.

3-7: 5 days of AMI (Alternative Methods of Instruction)

Any additional days will be added to the end of the school year if needed.

WRIGHT CITY R-II SCHOOL DISTRICT