

WELLINGTON
EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

OCTOBER 2026 I VOLUME 7 ISSUE 2



THIS ISSUE

Ms. Glasure's Curriculum Connections
Treasurer Bailey Update
Nutrition Update
New Hire Spotlights
FFA National Convention Update
Career Expo Highlights

IMPORTANT DATES

Oct. 30: End of marking period 1

Nov. 2: Professional Day (No School)

Nov. 3: BOE Work Session (WW)

Nov. 4: Women's Leadership Event for WHS students

Nov. 4: National Honor Society Induction Ceremony @ Lindley 6 p.m.

Nov. 10: Effective Leadership Academy

Nov. 12: Parent/Teacher Conferences in the evening (School in session.) Westwood, McCormick and WHS conferences: 3:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Nov. 13: Parent/Teacher Conferences 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (No School at Westwood & McCormick.) WHS has school.

Nov. 17: BOE Business Session (WHS)

Nov. 25 - 27: Thanksgiving Break

Nov. 30: School Resumes

Dec. 1: BOE Work Session (WW)



FACILITIES UPDATE

LETTER FROM DR. PELTZ, SUPERINTENDENT

Hello, Wellington Dukes!

As the superintendent of our schools, one of my responsibilities is to be a good steward of our buildings and grounds so that our students have a safe, inviting, and engaging school to learn in, creative spaces to extend their learning outside of the classroom, and athletic facilities where they can show off their Duke spirit.

Our schools and facilities should also represent our community in a positive light and be a source of pride when we have visitors attend our events. The Wellington School Board and Administration Team recognized that our facilities, while well-maintained and cared for, have some areas that need immediate improvement and some spaces that are not at their fullest potential. That is why, over the past year, we launched a multi-phase Facilities Plan. We are now ready to share the extensive details of our plan, the projected timeline for each phase's completion, and updates on the progress we have made.

Earlier in 2026, we sent out a survey and hosted a community forum to gather information to help us prioritize our district's facility needs.

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LETTER FROM DR. PELTZ, SUPERINTENDENT

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Ultimately, our findings and analysis showed that certain projects were “Needs” and others were “Wants.” The school board and administration decided that we must be creative to finance our needs instead of asking the community for additional funding and to address our most pressing needs as soon as possible.

By the end of March of 2026, the school board committed itself to finding funding and resources to complete four of our top Need priorities:

- Redesign and repurpose spaces at Westwood so we could add additional classrooms to allow for smaller class sizes in grades K-3
- Address aging boilers and install new air conditioning at Westwood Elementary
- Update the primary restrooms at Wellington High School to be ADA-compliant along with improving the outdated aesthetics of our halls/locker
- Refresh our high school gymnasium locker room spaces so male and female athletes would have secured, private spaces and access to separate restroom facilities when hosting visiting teams, as well as maximizing storage spaces for all extracurricular groups

This past summer, we were able to complete the redesign of classroom spaces with our in-house maintenance team. For the other projects, as we are a public school, we must follow strict guidelines on how we spend your dollars.

Because we have three very different types of projects to complete, bidding out each element would be costly, time-consuming, and difficult to complete on time. To control costs and manage multiple projects under one system, we chose Gordian Job Order Contracting (JOC). Gordian offers an Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) construction delivery method that allows many projects to be completed through a competitively awarded contract. This single-solicitation process lets projects start faster and builds partnerships between project owners and awarded contractors, resulting in higher-quality work.

Through the competitive process, Prodigy Building Solutions emerged as the in-house engineering, architecture, and project management team that establishes pre-bid services through cooperative purchasing, so schools, municipalities, and counties get the right scope at a better price. Over several months, Gordian and Prodigy offered complementary services to develop initial designs, secure competitive bids, and propose a finalized work order with an estimated completion date before the start of the 2027-2028 school year.



Mr. Sasack's Physics class with guest speaker Welden Vance from Cleveland State University.

LETTER FROM DR. PELTZ, SUPERINTENDENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2



To fund the three projects, we decided to take out a 15-year loan and stretch our payments so we would not deplete our cash reserves or negatively impact our programs and staffing. We will provide frequent updates and share photos of our progress. The estimated completion date for all three projects is August 15th, 2027.

We are excited that the needed improvements are on the horizon, and we can begin looking ahead to ways to bring our "Wants" to our kids and schools.

Once the "Needs" projects are completed, we will again engage with our community to identify the projects you would like to see and creative ways to finance them. Thank you for your support in making our school facilities the best that we can for our students.

-Andy Peltz

WHS students attended a college visit to Kent State University and Hiram College through our amazing College Now program!





EXPLORE

COLLEGE VISITS



October Focus: Background Knowledge



What is Background Knowledge?

Background knowledge is essentially the personal "mental library" of information, experiences, and vocabulary your child stores in their brain before they even open a book. In the **Science of Reading**—the gold-standard research on how human brains actually learn to read—background knowledge is recognized as a critical powerhouse for comprehension. While learning to sound out words (decoding) is an essential foundational skill, background knowledge is the glue that turns those sounded-out words into real meaning. For instance, if a child reads a story about a baseball game, knowing what a "home run" or an "out" is allows them to instantly understand the plot, rather than just mechanically reading the words. Without this mental backdrop, reading can feel like translating a foreign language without knowing the culture.

How Are We Building Background Knowledge at School?

Cognitive science has made it clear: **background knowledge is one of the single greatest predictors of reading comprehension.** When students already know a bit about a topic, their brains don't have to work as hard to process the meaning of the text.

To set students up for success, teachers can use strategies split into two main buckets: **building** knowledge (when the topic is brand new) and **activating** knowledge (when students just need to pull what they already know to the forefront).

Here are 5 evidence-based strategies teachers are using in their classrooms to build your child's background knowledge and prepare them to deeply understand what they read.

1. Using Differentiated "Text Sets"

To make sure every student can access a complex topic, teachers use differentiated sets of texts on the same topic. Your child might start by looking at an infographic or listening to a picture book read-aloud about a topic, move on to a simpler informational article, and finally tackle a complex, grade-level text. This approach builds confidence, background knowledge, and vocabulary along the way.



October Focus: Background Knowledge

2. Explicitly Teaching Vocabulary in "Networks"

The Science of Reading warns against having kids just memorize a list of random definitions for a Friday test. Instead, teachers use tools like Semantic Mapping to show how words relate to each other.

What Semantic Mapping looks like: If the class is studying ecosystems, the teacher will map out how words like producer, consumer, predator, and prey physically connect to one another on the board, helping kids see the bigger picture.

3. Embracing Content-Rich Read-Alouds (Even for Older Kids!)

Listening comprehension—the ability to understand and process spoken language—is higher than reading comprehension—the ability to decode and understand written text—for most children well into middle school. Teachers leverage this by reading complex, content-heavy books aloud to the class. This exposes students to high-level concepts, mature sentence structures, and advanced vocabulary that they might not be able to decode on their own yet, bridging the gap while their independent reading skills catch up.

4. Using Content-Driven Writing (The "But, Because, So" Method)

Writing is one of the absolute best ways to cement new knowledge. Following modern research (such as The Writing Revolution framework **that our teachers have studied**), teachers have students expand simple sentences using the specific content they've learned.

- Base sentence: "Plants need sunlight."
- Expanded with because: "Plants need sunlight because it allows them to generate energy through photosynthesis."

5. Shifting Classroom Questioning from Skills to Topics

If you peeked into a modern, research-aligned classroom, you'd notice a change in how teachers ask questions. Instead of asking abstract, generic questions like, "What is the main idea of this passage?" or "Can you find a context clue?", teachers ask topic-centered questions like, "What did we learn about how glaciers form from this passage?" This keeps the focus entirely on extracting meaning and building deep knowledge.



October Focus:

Background Knowledge

What Parents Can Do at Home

By simply talking with your child about the world, exploring new places, and reading aloud together, you are constantly stocking their mental library. Every conversation about how a tractor works, why the leaves change color, or what happened at the grocery store builds this foundation.

Doing this makes it vastly easier for them to connect the dots, understand, and enjoy increasingly complex books as they grow.

McCormick Book Character Pumpkin Challenge

Look at how creative our McCormick Dukes are!
We love seeing all these fabulous book characters!



STUDENT SERVICES

Special Education Rating News



Exciting news from the Student Services Department!

We would love to recognize our Special Education Department, staff, and teachers for an exceptional overall rating from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. The Wellington Exempted Village School District Special Education Department has received a 4.0 out of 4.0 on the States Special Education rating scale. What does this mean for our students, families, and staff?

This rating meets the requirements determined by the state of Ohio. It is the highest rating a school district can earn. This exceptional rating is a reflection of the hard work, collaboration, and commitment of all of our staff to meet the needs of all of our students each and every day. The rating measures the Districts performance in the areas of early childhood transitions, timely evaluations, compliant IEPS, and effective secondary transition planning, among many other factors. This allows for our district to work diligently to set our Dukes up for success! Thank you to all stakeholders who contributed to this success! Thank you to all of our families for your partnership and support! Go Dukes!

Attendance MATTERS

WE'RE HAPPY YOU'RE HERE EVERY DAY!

Everyday Attendance Matters More Than You Think!

Consistent school attendance is the foundation for student success. Even missing a few days a month can have a lasting impact on learning. Research shows that missing just two days a month can leave kids trailing on foundational learning and social skills.

Why Does Attendance Matter?

Improved attendance has broad based results: engaged learning, mental health, and positive impacts on families and communities.

When schools, families, students and communities come together to address the whole range of issues that impact attendance, we can keep our kids in the game for future success!

We all win when our students stay in the game and succeed!

Ohio will have a stronger talent pool to drive our economy, families can realize the goals they have for their children, and students will be prepared for the future! If you need support regarding your child's attendance, please contact our Student Services Department! Go Dukes!

TREASURER'S OFFICE UPDATE

A MESSAGE FROM MR. BAILEY

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



Hello Duke families,

A quick update from the treasurer's office. We are currently adding new signage to the high school and at Westwood Elementary. The goal of this is to help direct our visitors to locate the correct entrances for McCormick and high school events and locate the entrance to the Board of Education Office at Westwood Elementary.

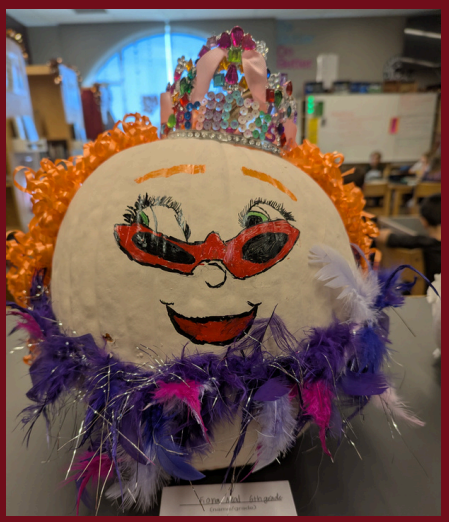
The WHS hallway and locker room renovations and Westwood heating and cooling project preparations are getting underway. These projects are scheduled to be completed by the start of next school year and we are looking forward to our students and staff being more comfortable and enjoying the renovated spaces.

-Pete Bailey









NUTRITION PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Andrea Helton, MS, RDN LD
Director of Nutrition Services

Apple Crunch Season!

The Wellington Nutrition Services Department "Crunched" into local apples on Apple Crunch day, October 8th! When available, our kitchens proudly serve apples from Bauman Orchards in Rittman Ohio.



A Note About Free and Reduced Price Meal Qualification:
Do you see a sudden charge on your child(ren)'s meal account? It's possible you haven't turned in your Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application for this school year!

Meal applications are available online at www.payschoolscentral.com, on our website Nutrition Services, or in the main office of every building.
You can turn in your application anything throughout the school year!

If you received a letter notifying you that you qualified for Free or Reduced-Price Meals via direct certification, please sign and turn in the bottom of the letter to give permission to waive school fees for the 2026/2027 school year.

On Friday, October 30th we are serving "Hallowings" at WHS.

We held a taste test of Zee Zee all chicken meat sticks at WHS on Tuesday September 16th. These sticks are nitrate and dye free, contain 5-6g of protein per serving, and less than 200mg of sodium! The response was positive, and we added them as a Smart Snack a la carte snack option for MMS and WHS for $1.75 per stick.











WELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



Dear Wellington High School Students and Families,

October and November are here, and with it comes one of the busiest and most exciting stretches of the school year. We have settled into our routines, classrooms are fully underway, fall activities are in full swing, and our students continue to show what it means to be part of the Duke Family.

As we move through the month, I encourage students to stay focused on their academics, remain involved in our school community, and continue building positive connections with their teachers and peers. This is also an important time for families to check in on grades, attendance, and progress as we work together to make sure every student is supported and moving forward.

There is a lot happening at Wellington High School this month, and I hope you will take a few minutes to review the updates, reminders, and upcoming events included in this newsletter. Thank you for your continued partnership and for helping make WHS a place where students feel connected, supported, and proud to be a Duke.

Go Dukes!
Shyla Urban
Principal
Wellington High School

Upcoming Events:

- **October 30** (End of first quarter)
- Wednesday, November 4th at 6:00 PM at the Lindley Center (National Honor Society Induction Ceremony for WHS students)
- **November 3** Drama Club Field Trip to Playhouse Square
- **November 4** Women's Leadership Event @ Hoop Tech in North Ridgeville
- **November 6** College Credit Plus spring registration (see Mr. J. Howells)
- **November 6** OMEA Honors Band performs
- **November 9** Picture retake day
- **November 10** Effective Leadership Academy
- **November 12** Parent/Teacher Conferences 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.
- **November 13** State FFA Leadership Night hosted by WHS FFA Chapter
- Click here to see the **WHS FFA** event website!

MARCHING BAND NEWS





Our Dukes Marching Band took the field in their last competition of the season in New Philadelphia last week!

Band Director Mr. Pope shares that “it's been fun watching their program come together this year and we're excited to cheer them on.”



Westwood IMPORTANT DATES

NOVEMBER

3-17: Nothing Bundt Cakes Co-op Fundraiser
2: Professional Development Day - No School
10: Parent Co-op Meeting @ 6pm (WWE Library)
12: Parent/Teacher Conferences (3:30-7:30pm)
13 No School-Parent/Teacher Conferences (8am-2:45pm)
24: Nothing Bundt Cakes Delivery
25: No School - Teacher Comp Day
26-27: No School-Thanksgiving Vacation
30: School Resumes

DECEMBER

8: Parent Co-op Meeting @ 6pm (WWE Library)
11: Cookies with Santa & Santa Shop @ 5:00-7:30 (WWE Cafe)
12: Co-op Craft Show & Santa Shop @ 10am-2pm (WWE Gym)
15: K & 1st Winter Concert @ 5:30 (Lindley)
16: 2nd & 3rd Winter Concert @ 5:30 (Lindley)
18: Polar Express Assembly
23-31: No School - Winter Break

JANUARY

1: No School
4: School Resumes
4-15: Winter Benchmark Testing
12: Parent Co-op Meeting
18: No School - MLK Day
21: End 2nd Quarter
22: No School - Records Day

GRATITUDE SPIRIT WEEK

NOVEMBER 9-13

Monday - Pattern Day
Tuesday - Pink, Red, Hearts Day
Wednesday - Red, White, and Blue Day
Thursday - Duke Day
Friday - Orange Day
More info coming soon!



BUILDERS CLUB AT MCCORMICK

October 2026 I VOL 7 ISSUE 2

Builders Club Advisor: Mrs. Strait
tstrait@wellingtonvillageschools.org



REMINDERS



STAY INFORMED!

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.

INTRODUCING, NEW STAFF MEMBERS!

Welcome to Westwood!

WELLINGTON
EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Dukes

KINDERGARTEN TEACHER



Cassidy Zacharyasz

What is your position title at Wellington?
Kindergarten teacher at Westwood.

What excites you the most about the job you will be doing?
Il have always dreamed of teaching Kindergarten and now I finally get to with one of my best friends on my teaching team! I can't wait to help our future leaders learn for possibly the first time in a school setting!

What was your favorite subject as a student?
My favorite subject as a student was English Language Arts (specifically writing.)

What are you most looking forward to this school year?
Seeing the progress that my students will be making throughout the year. Being able to help students achieve new goals is so exciting!

What would students be surprised to learn about you?
I got married less than a month ago and I used to raise animals on my farm!

What made you want to work in Wellington Schools?
Wellington Schools feel like a home because everyone is so welcoming and friendly!

What inspires you?
My family and my students!

What wisdom would you share with your future students?
Make the most out of your time while you are in school! Join any club you possibly can and become involved!

What hobbies and activities do you enjoy?
Spending time with my family (my husband, my corgi and two cats), watching movies, and doing crafts!

What is one thing you learned recently or something you are learning now?
As long as you are trying your best, you are succeeding!

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INTRODUCING, NEW STAFF MEMBERS!

Welcome to Westwood!

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Dukes

SECOND GRADE TEACHER



Corissa Neura

What is your position title at Wellington?
Second grade teacher at Westwood.

What excites you the most about the job you will be doing?
The ability I have to make learning a fun and enjoyable experience to students and facilitate their love for learning within my classroom!

What was your favorite subject as a student?
Language Arts and Art.

What are you most looking forward to this school year?
I am looking forward to beginning my first year as a teacher rather than as a student teacher and creating connections and building relationships with each student in my classroom!

What sort of activities or hobbies do you have outside of your career?
Outside of my career I enjoy traveling internationally and have been to 8 countries so far. I like listening to live music, going to concerts and collecting vinyl records!

What are three things on your bucket list that you want to achieve?
1.Visit Greece 2. Visit all 50 states 3. Live at the beach.

What made you want to work in Wellington Schools?
I completed part of my student teaching while getting my bachelor's degree at Ashland University here and while student teaching I felt accepted and truly apart of the Westwood team. Each and every staff member was so kind and caring and willing to answer my many questions. Once I graduated I jumped at the chance to apply for this position truly because of the amazing staff and students here. I always felt that once a Duke, always a Duke and I am so grateful to continue my journey as a Duke in this amazing district!

What would students be surprised to learn about you?
I have 5 horses and I was a cheerleader in college!

What inspires you?
My past teachers and coaches. Mr.Khoury, Mrs.Krueger, and Coach Camp inspire me every day to help instill a love for learning each day for my students but not only instill a love for learning but also create relationships and bonds with each of my students.

What wisdom would you share with your future students?
Wisdom I would share with my future students would be to be kind to EVERYONE no matter what and it's cool to be kind!

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INTRODUCING, NEW STAFF MEMBERS!

Welcome to Westwood!

WELLINGTON
EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

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SECOND GRADE TEACHER



Amanda Sikora

What is your position title at Wellington?

Second Grade Teacher- Long Term Substitute at Westwood.

What excites you the most about the job you will be doing?

Getting back into the classroom! My family and I traveled the country for the past three years so it's been a blast diving back into building classroom culture and connecting my travels to the curriculum.

What was your favorite subject as a student?

My favorite subject in school was English language arts and writing.

What are you most looking forward to this school year?

To see the growth my students show. There is no better feeling than seeing them head into the next grade at their full potential and with total confidence!

What sort of activities or hobbies do you have outside of your career?

I love coaching, gardening, and keeping up with my kids and all their extra-curriculars.

What inspires you?

Nature and music.

What would students be surprised to learn about you?

I'm a Duke and this community is amazing! The positive and successful movement happening right now in our village and schools is such an honor to be a part of.

What wisdom would you share with your future students?

Remember that you belong in any room that you enter.

What are three things on your bucket list that you want to achieve?

Visit every National Park, drive the Pacific Coast Highway, and explore Patagonia.

INTRODUCING, NEW STAFF MEMBERS!

Welcome to WHS & MMS!

WELLINGTON
EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Dukes

SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER



Scarlett Oliver

What is your position title at Wellington?

Social studies teacher at McCormick & WHS.

What excites you the most about the job you will be doing?

I am most excited to interact with the students! I absolutely love getting to know them and their interests and doing fun things in class with them, so I look forward to getting to do that with a whole new batch of kids!

What was your favorite subject as a student?

My favorite subject in school was History (shocker!) specifically government class! But close seconds would be Choir or English

What are you most looking forward to this school year?

I am most looking forward to making inside jokes with my classes and laughing with them. There were so many moments in previous classes where my students and I would crack up at jokes or silly things that happen in class, and those are some of my favorite moments looking back!

What made you want to work in Wellington Schools?

Growing up in Vermilion, I visited Wellington when coming to the fair and it has always been a very welcoming environment. During the interview process and in the first few days of school, that welcoming presence has remained consistent and makes all the difference in joining a new team!

What wisdom would you share with your future students?

My wisdom would be to have as much fun as you can in your classes this year and all the years after! Make memories with your friends, laugh with your teachers, join activities that interest you, and go to school events with your friends!

What would be your superpower and why?

If I could have any superpower, I would choose to teleport. I travel often and would love to travel further throughout the United States and around the globe. Teleporting would make this so easy: Imagine a day trip to Italy? My dream!

What are three things on your bucket list that you want to achieve?

1. I've always wanted to go to Paris 2. I want to see a show on Broadway 3. One day I WILL snorkel in Hawaii.

INTRODUCING, NEW STAFF MEMBERS!

Welcome to WHS & MMS!

WELLINGTON
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SCIENCE TEACHER



Darby Warren

What is your position title at Wellington?

Science Teacher (6th, 7th, and 9th grades.)

What excites you the most about the job you will be doing?

I am excited to share my passion for learning and for science with my students, and to lead some awesome experiments! When students understand science, they understand the world they live in and how it works. That is what inspires me to teach.

What was your favorite subject as a student?

I have always loved science and English class.

What are you most looking forward to this school year?

I am most looking forward to getting to know my students this year and seeing their improvement.

What made you want to work in Wellington Schools?

I grew up in Ashland, so places like Wellington feel like home to me. Wellington is so special because you can really take the time to get to know your students and their families and see them grow.

What sort of activities or hobbies do you have outside of your career?

Outside of the classroom, I love to visit the Cleveland Metroparks, play with my cats Linus and Leo, and go on bike rides. I also have also been learning to cook and bake this year! Most recently I have been experimenting with banana bread recipes.

What would students be surprised to learn about you?

I think some students may be surprised to learn that I am a twin! I have a sister, so there is another Miss Warren walking around.

What is one thing you learned recently or something you are learning now?

I have been learning a lot about botany in my free time. I have been learning how to identify different native trees and plants on my hikes in the Cleveland Metroparks with the help of trail guides and reference materials.

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INTRODUCING, NEW STAFF MEMBERS!

Welcome to our District!

WELLINGTON
EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Dukes



MUSIC TEACHER

Matt Dietrich

What is your position title at Wellington?
Music Teacher.

What excites you the most about the job you will be doing?
I am excited to work with the students and explore music in multiple fun ways!

What was your favorite subject as a student?
Science / Biology.

What are you most looking forward to this school year?
I am most looking forward to the elementary school concert in mid December!

What made you want to work in Wellington Schools?
I know of the band program and the marching band from competitions! They have a good reputation.

What sort of activities or hobbies do you have outside of your career?
I enjoy hiking nature trails, playing DnD, and I am a part of a professional Saxophone Quartet (The Novus Saxophone Quartet).

What animal do you believe most closely represents your personality?
The Octopus.

What wisdom would you share with your future students?
Be a good, kind, nice and thoughtful human. 90% of life will be easier with these qualities.

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INTRODUCING, NEW STAFF MEMBERS!

Welcome to WHS!

WELLINGTON
EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Dukes

PARAPROFESSIONAL



Ashley Bockmore

What is your position title at Wellington?
Paraprofessional at WHS.

What excites you the most about the job you will be doing?
I am so excited to help students achieve their tasks and goals here at the school and to work alongside teachers and administration to help shape the students and encourage them to be the best version of themselves.

What was your favorite subject as a student?
My favorite subject in school was Language Arts.

What are you most looking forward to this school year?
Getting to know and build a good rapport with the students and teachers and be more involved in the Duke community.

What made you want to work in Wellington Schools?
As a former graduate of Wellington Schools, I was very eager to now work at the schools that I attended and helped shape me into who I am today. I am looking forward to helping the students have a positive and effective experience here at Wellington just as I did!

What sort of activities or hobbies do you have outside of your career?
Outside of work I am a Mom of three, ages 6, 3 and 9 months. This consumes the majority of my time but I wouldn't have it any other way!

What would students be surprised to learn about you?
My husband and I both grew up on a farm and were active in the 4-H community showing animals at the Lorain County Fair. We currently live on a farm now and are looking forward to raising our children around agriculture and the 4-H community just as we were!

What wisdom would you share with your future students?
Always be yourself and be kind. Staying true to who you are will always land you where you are meant to be in the future.

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INTRODUCING, NEW STAFF MEMBERS!

Welcome to WHS!

WELLINGTON
EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Dukes

CAFETERIA MONITOR &
BUS DRIVER



Sherry Johnson

What is your position title at Wellington?

Bus driver / Cafeteria monitor.

What excites you the most about the job you will be doing?

I enjoy working with kids.

What was your favorite subject as a student?

Math.

What are you most looking forward to this school year?

Meeting the faculty and students and becoming part of the school community.

What made you want to work in Wellington Schools?

I enjoy the small town atmosphere.

What wisdom would you share with your future students?

Don't grow up too fast.

What sort of activities or hobbies do you have outside of your career?

Camping and going out on the motorcycle.

What are three things on your bucket list that you want to achieve?

Be a snowbird and visit Arizona.

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INTRODUCING, NEW STAFF MEMBERS!

Welcome to McCormick!

WELLINGTON
EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS
Dukes

5TH GRADE
INTERVENTION SPECIALIST



Abby Varela

What is your position title at Wellington?
Fifth grade Intervention Specialist at McCormick.

What excites you the most about the job you will be doing?
What excites me the most about being the fifth grade Intervention Specialist is building relationships with my students!

What was your favorite subject as a student?
My favorite subject as a student was English Language Arts. I love reading!

What are you most looking forward to this school year?
I am most looking forward to being a member of the McCormick family and getting to know, learn from, and work with the students and staff.

What inspires you?
I am inspired by my students. They are the reason I get out of bed in the morning and are the reason I remain in education.

What are three things on your bucket list that you want to achieve?
See all 30 active MLB stadiums, write a children's book and travel to Germany.

What made you want to work in Wellington Schools?
Wellington is my dream position! It is in a small town and students are at the core of everything Wellington does. I am honored to be a Duke!

What activities/hobbies do you have outside of your career?
I absolutely love Cleveland Guardians baseball and Diet Coke! I also enjoy thrifting and antiquing.

What would students be surprised to learn about you?
Students would be surprised to know that I am a "Stadium Chaser" and it is my Bucket List to attend a baseball game in all 30 active MLB stadiums. I have seen 22 so far!

What wisdom would you share with your future students?
My wisdom would be to have as much fun as you can in your classes this year and all the years after! Make memories with your friends, laugh with your teachers, join activities that interest you, and go to school events with your friends!

What would be your superpower and why?
If I could have a superpower, I would choose time manipulation so that I could get more accomplished in one "day."

wellingtonvillageschools.org

JR. HIGH CAREER EXPO

Career fair video click here!

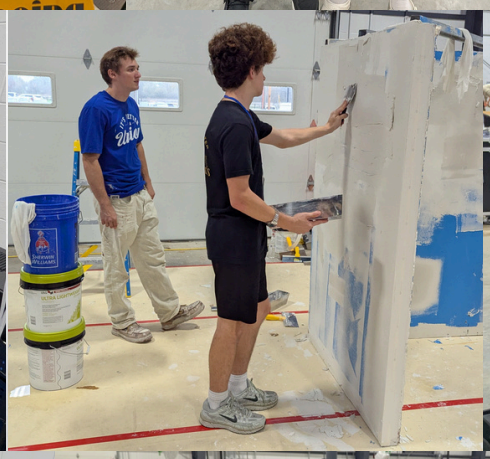


WHS STUDENTS ATTEND CAREER EXPO

Career fair video click here!














PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

October 2026 I VOL 7 ISSUE 2

Wellington High School
at table reads for the
December performance of
Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon.





Save the Date!
WHS Performing Arts
Proudly Presents:
Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon



Synopsis: Two madcap narrators and an ensemble cast attempt to combine and perform all 209 of the original fairy tales by the Brothers Grimm into a single, chaotic, and hilarious mega-story.



December 3rd, 4th, & 5th @ 7:30 p.m.
at the beautiful Patricia Lindley Center

Tickets: Adult: $15 Students/Seniors: $10

FFA NEWS - NATIONAL CONVENTION IN INDIANAPOLIS

Representing Ohio on the national stage!

Two teams of students represented Ohio by competing at the National level at National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana the week of October 19.



Our Ag Technology and Mechanical Systems team of Tyler Burns, Max Hook, Wyatt Norton, and Nicholas Sword placed 7th in the nation and received a Gold rating.

Individually Nicholas placed 10th and received a Gold rating, Max Hook received a Gold rating and placed 1st in the Machinery and Equipment area, Wyatt Norton received a Gold rating, and Tyler Burns received a Silver rating.

These FFA members have done an amazing job at representing Wellington and Ohio!
Way to go!

Our Farm Business Management team of David Beekman, Ryann Lola Deidrick, Morgan Denes, and Kelsey Urig received a Bronze rating. Individually, David and Kelsey received bronze ratings and Ryann Lola and Morgan received silver ratings.

Way to represent Ohio!





Our students shared a bus with Firelands FFA and toured Exotic Feline Rescue Center, the Indianapolis Zoo, the Dayton Airforce Museum and Ozark Fisheries Tour. They also enjoyed bowling and Top Golf.

FFA NEWS - NATIONAL CONVENTION IN INDIANAPOLIS













FFA NEWS - AMERICAN DEGREE WINNERS

On October 24, Wellington FFA wrapped up their 2026 National FFA Convention experience by celebrating the hard work and dedication of two of our graduate members. Carlee Covington and Amandolin Williams both had the honor to walk across the National Stage wearing their official dress one last time and receive their American degree. Congratulations, we are so proud of you both!

Less than 1% of total members achieve this distinction annually. To earn this, students must hold an active FFA membership for the past three years, have received a State FFA Degree, have completed secondary instruction in an agricultural education program, and operate and maintain an outstanding SAE program with accurate records. They must also record productive financial investments and specified earnings and maintain a strong high school academic record and demonstrate high standards of leadership and community service.







FFA NEWS - JR. HIGH ATTENDS CAMP MUSKINGHAM

Click here for the video!

SMART Goals

Specific, Measureable, Attainable, Relevant & Time based











25 of our Junior High FFA members spent three days in September at the Happiest Place on Dirt: Ohio FFA Greenhand Camp at Camp Muskingham in Carrollton, Ohio. Camp was full of experiencing new things, making memories, meeting new friends and planning for a successful FFA journey.

State FFA Officers taught leadership, teamwork skills and how to set and work towards SMART goals.

A huge thank you to the Wellington FFA Alumni group & Wellington Schools Endowment for providing funding to support camp costs!

SPORTS NEWS

Follow the Duke logo to find our Duke runners!



LC-8 Conference Meet Race Results:

Junior Nicholas Sword, Sophomore Fynlee Morris and
Freshman Sophia McCloskey earned 2nd team honors for the Varsity teams.



SPORTS NEWS

Follow the Duke logo to find our Duke runners!

LC-8 Conference Meet Race Results:

Our McCormick girls team captured 2nd Place and our McCormick boys earned 4th.

From our girls team we had Korie Goble (4th overall) and Chloe Axford (6th overall) make first team LC-8 and Emilia Thompson (10th overall) and Kennedy Saunders (13th overall) earn second team all LC-8.

On the boys team, we had Henry Sword (3rd overall) earn first team LC-8 and Ezra Eastman (11th overall) earn second team LC-8.

Congratulations!









SOCCER UPDATES

Congratulations to our Varsity girls soccer team!
They won an impressive 10 games this year and earned the right to host a play off game versus Lake Center Christian, which they were victorious in.
They finished their season competing in the OHSAA District tournament. ***Congratulations!***





SOCCER & GOLF UPDATES

Congratulations to our Varsity boys soccer team!
Dukes pull the upset on Firelands and won 3-2 to hand the Falcons their first league loss in 7 years! ***Congratulations!***





Congratulations to Junior Zach Kehl for advancing to the District Golf Tournament after shooting an 86!

POWDERPUFF, GOLF & VOLLEYBALL FUN!





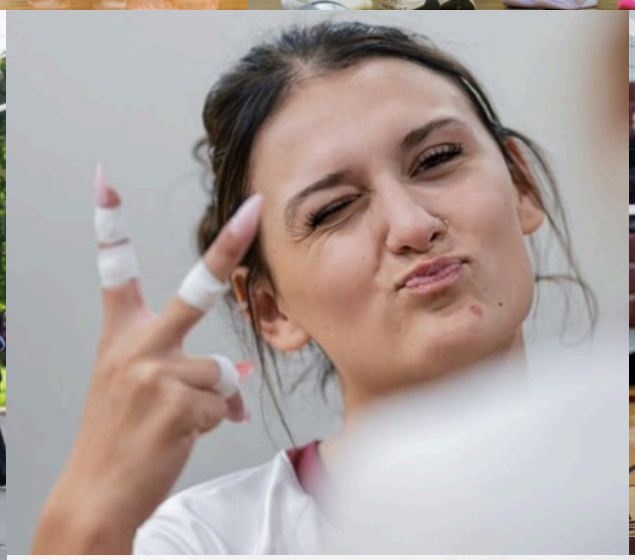












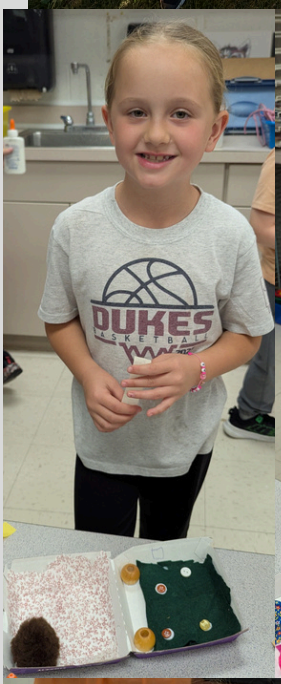


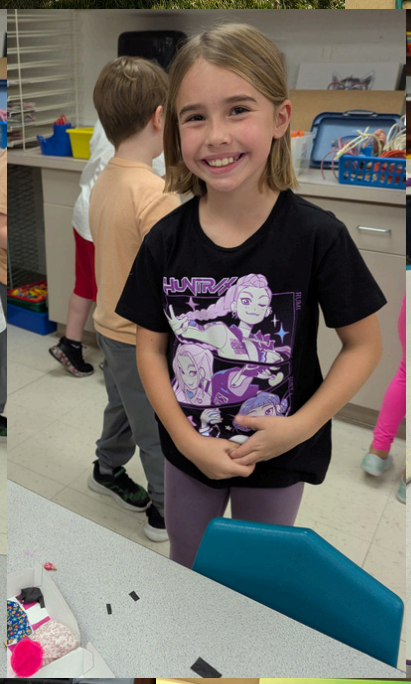
AROUND OUR DISTRICT



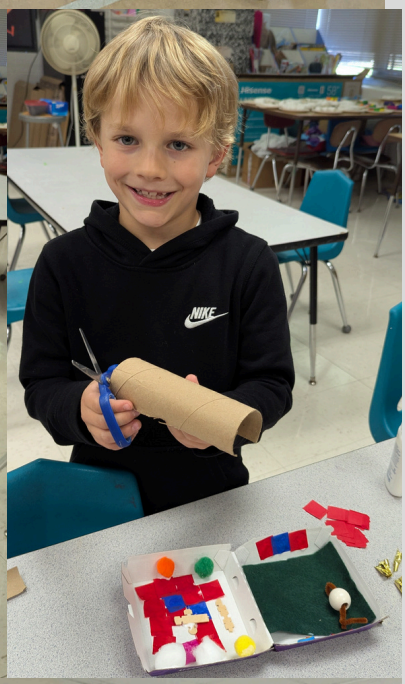


















AROUND OUR DISTRICT

Click here to watch the video about Seniors Andrew Raven and Amelia Overstreet and their teacher's exploration program.

Click here to watch the video about FFA's "Food For America" day. High school students teach 3rd and 4th grade students about agriculture.















