

# THE Northwestern

Northwestern Local Schools \* 7571 N. Elyria Rd. \* West Salem, OH 44287  
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January 2019



Spreading Christmas cheer before Christmas break!! Who are all those characters??



Robotics Competition at Kalahari!



Science Fair Projects!!

**Administration**

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Reindeer Day at the elementary school



QR Code



District Twitter Account up and live!

Log onto @ NW\_Schools  
Live broadcast of events  
<http://www.ustream.tv/channel/sportslive14>

**Board of Education**

*Kim Wellert, President*

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**Mr. Jeff Layton  
Northwestern  
Superintendent**

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**Friends, Family, and Members of our Fabulous Northwestern Community,**

I will keep my message brief for this Feb. 2019 newsletter. We have a substantial amount of information enclosed encompassing the May PI Levy, Strategic Plan, and District Finances.

There is more misinformation in the world and in this nation than ever before. There has been a polarization of people across our great nation. Here in our community we must remain collegial and maintain respect. This means speaking with integrity, truth, and face-to-face discussions rather than attacks and innuendos through rumor or social media against individuals or generalized, inflated comments fueled by anger rather than facts. All too often people believe what is read in social media and other places. However, some of this is inaccurate, misleading, and often just plain false. **We as a community and school district have an obligation to maintain our fabulous facilities that we have paid for and that we own collectively! We also have an obligation to effectively and efficiently educate our children! Our Northwestern Board Members, Treasurer Lesa Forbes, and I practice servant leadership and serve the students in our community as well as our community as a whole. We all live here, work here, have had our own children graduate from here, have family and friends throughout our community, and we genuinely care and do what is best. In a nutshell I encourage each and every one of you to TRUST US in our decision-making and recommendations.**

Due to some misinformation and rumors that have come to our attention regarding the upcoming Levy (which was previously on the Nov. ballot) and failed 52% to 48%, I am compelled to share some information in a Fact Vs Fiction format. We cannot allow the cancer of dissention jeopardize our excellent facilities or the education

of our children through misinformation:

**FICTION: Northwestern is going bankrupt because of lawsuits:**

[Northwestern has been involved in two suites and a few grievances over the past two years. These differences of opinion are a fact of life for school districts and most have been frivolous. The district does take-on situations such as these when we believe we are right and to protect students, staff, and district finances. We have far fewer lawsuits than the average school district. We, as is the norm for schools, have liability insurance that covers and thus minimizes legal costs, which **busts this myth**].

**FICTION: Northwestern has excessive Paraprofessional Aides compared to other school districts:**

[Most of Northwestern's Paraprofessional Aides are used for serving students with disabilities and "at risk" students. Many are paid through federal IDEA/Special Education, Title I, and Peterson Scholarship dollars we receive. We, as most districts, try to keep these support positions as minimal as possible. When looking at personnel costs and number of personnel we fly lower than average school districts in costs as well as number of employees, which **busts this myth**].

**FICTION: Northwestern is not doing a good job forging relationships with our kids and educating them:**

[Every decision we make as administrators & board members begins with "what are the needs of our students" and "how does this impact our students?" I add faculty and all staff as well because considering students by all staff is engrained throughout our culture here at Northwestern. We have stronger adult-student interactions and relationships, more opportunities, greater supports in place for our students than anywhere I have seen or experienced anywhere (I hear this from parents, students, and staff who come from other schools to us and those who visit us, and many who have been forced to relocate and attend another school after us as well). School personnel also value the relationships with our parents and community members well beyond the staff-student relationship. Are there some parents who do not agree with decisions affecting their child? Sure. Are there some parents who disagree and even dislike some staff members? Sure.

Please do not give credence to the naysayers. Also, with some shifting of positions, long-term illnesses, deaths, and other challenging situations there has been more tension, time lags, and mistakes in handling these situations than in the past. However, this will pass. We cannot please everybody and with a \$15 million plus operating budget with over 140 employees serving more than 1,436 students we manage very effectively and do a fabulous job with our kids here, thank you. In our Northwestern schools we have stronger relationships, better programs, and more effective supports to prepare our students today for tomorrow's opportunities than any district of which I have been a part or aware. There are a few disgruntled parents who have not agreed with a district decision regarding their child. However, our satisfied customers far, far outweigh the dissatisfied customers. My door is always open and I would much rather discuss issues and concerns in person than read them as attacks on the school district, individual employees, or otherwise sensationalized and blown out of proportion in social media by attention-seeking individuals. In order to gather customer satisfaction information as possible we will put together a survey for MS-HS students and Pre-K-12 parents this May and use this information in our Strategic Plan Discussions in summer 2019. We have done such surveys in the past every few years or so and utilized this data in our planning. It is due time for another survey]. **This myth also is a bust.**

**FICTION: Northwestern did not plan ahead and did not foresee or communicate financial concerns and HVAC issues:**

[I pride myself on transparency, listening skills, and strong communications. I also would like to think that there is a strong level of trust between all employees, community members, and me. I sometimes forget that some see a public school as a bureaucracy and judge us based on the type of organization we are and assume that in my role as superintendent I must be covering things up. The fact is, I do not believe my place or the place of other employees is to share information about individual students or situations. People have the right to privacy and often we cannot share information due to privacy concerns, legal reasons, or because there is an ongoing investigation.

# \*\* NW District \*\*

FICTION, continued ...

Our community needs to trust that Northwestern staff, administration, and board members makes decisions that are in the best interest of our students. The leaders and employees herein are many of the very best people I know who love and care deeply about what is best for our students. There may be times we have to agree to disagree, but always try to make the best decisions possible for our kids while also considering the finances and health of this organization. As far as the fictitious statement above: many communications via website, newsletter, area newspaper articles, and other means support ongoing information the district has shared regarding our school district budget as well as HVAC, Roof, and other facility issues. **This myth also is a bust. BELOW IS MY FEB. 2018 NEWSLETTER ARTICLE WHICH WAS ONE OF MANY OCCASIONS WHERE I PERSONALLY MENTIONED THE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES AND OUR FACILITY NEEDS!**

*“Northwestern continues to be the school district to follow, the district others desire to emulate and partner with. The success of our students is so very evident. Through their accomplishments and feedback the fine education and quality of our students is evident.*

*The accomplishments of our students has been fantastic. The accolades received for our educational excellence and leadership by the educational community has been astounding. The articles within this newsletter provide evidence of our schools doing the great work for our students. Whether it be fine arts, STEM programs, core foundational courses, or extracurricular activities we do prepare our students today for tomorrow’s opportunities. More-so, we have used collaboration, grant writing, and striving for efficiencies to pursue our mission within our financial constraints. We are driven by goals for continuous improvement. Our strategic plan is our road map and promotes a vision that includes suggestions for the future that include:*

- *Expanded, Universal Preschool is our goal. **Our STEM Preschool is EXCELLENT and we are striving to have two STEM Preschool classes for the 2018-2019SY.***
- *Pursuit of the new Ohio STEM Learning Network’s “STEAM Designation” for each of our buildings in recognition of our extraordinary fine arts programs.*
- *Continuing to provide needed supports for our students with disabilities and at-risk students.*
- *Expanding gifted and talented opportunities and extended learning.*
- ***Operating under a balanced budget.***
- *Continue refining and expanding authentic learning through Project-based learning and STEM, as well as our Career Pathways and Career Planning.*
- *Expanded and improved Science and career pathway lab spaces – most especially at the high school.*
- *Updating our current Library-Media Centers to high tech Makerspace Innovation Lab Media Centers (in line with our career and collaborative project-based learning instructional philosophy). Our MS is completed with HS and ES anticipated being converted over the next 1½ years.*
- *Continue and complete the recommissioning and updates of our HVAC systems over the next two years.*
- *Completion of the HS fire suppression system this summer.*
- *Theatre lighting replacement.*
- *Studying flexible hours, days, year scheduling.*
- *Adjacent land acquisition as opportunities arise down the road and funds might allow.*

*As far as our budget: We are currently in “Fiscal Watch” status as are many, many school districts in Ohio - due to inadequate state funding that was reduced significantly, then has essentially been flat-lined for the past 7 years in spite of many additional state and federal mandates. This “Fiscal Watch” means we are projected to spend more than we bring in this year and in ensuing years and that we have sufficient carry-over revenue to remain in the black less than 3 years. We have created a budgeted revision and plan of action to balance our revenue and expenditures. The reasons for the deficit spending stems from the major costs in updating and recommissioning our HVAC systems the past few years and*

*planned for the next two years, the timing of the emergency levy that we just started collecting this past July, major increases in health insurance costs, in addition to inadequate state funding, as well as bleeding from online charter schools (which the state allows to not only take our state funds, but also take local funds from us). We will continue to pursue grants and contributions, as well as consider reductions to live within our means to ensure that these are affordable as we move forward with our mission in preparing our students today for tomorrow’s opportunities, as has been our practice.*

*Our community has so much to be grateful for - our families, friends, and wonderful school system. In our schools we have extraordinary teachers and support staff, wonderful administrators, and wise board members. We also have numerous support organizations which help our mission such as Ruritans, All Sports, PTOs, Music Boosters, Alumni & Friends, FFA Alumni, etc. Without our community of leaders working collaboratively and exhibiting transparency we would not be serving our students to the fantastic degree that we are. This being “School Board Recognition Month” I want to thank our 5 outstanding School Board Members for their leadership and support – Phil Keener, Kim Wellert, Laura Woodring, Chuck Beck, Paula Abrecht. We are blessed with the 5 amazing leaders!*

*I take great pride in sharing the continued accomplishments of our students, community, and schools. The supports and relationships throughout our community are unique. We can take great pride in our schools and together we can continue to strive for even greater heights. With our dedicated administrators, staff, and community we will continue striving for and achieving well-beyond expectations.*

*We are all about excellence and increasing expectations at Northwestern. Within our Northwestern family we will continue to focus on the needs of our students. We will continue to prepare our students today for tomorrow’s opportunities!*

*I am always willing to listen to ideas, questions, and concerns from students, parents, and anyone in our community. It is only by asking, sharing, and participating that we can continue our important work. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any reason and “thank you” for your ongoing support.”*

Jeffrey Layton  
Superintendent

**50th ANNUAL NORTHWESTERN RURITAN  
PANCAKE/SAUSAGE DAY**

**"NORTHWESTERN COMMUNITY SPRING HOMECOMING"**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2019 SERVING FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.**

"ALL YOU CAN EAT" PANCAKES, PURE MAPLE SYRUP, "WHOLE HOG" SAUSAGE, APPLESAUCE, MILK, & COFFEE

AT NORTHWESTERN HIGH SCHOOL, 7473 NORTH ELYRIA RD, WEST SALEM (ON STATE RT 301 ONE MILE NORTH OF LATASBURG OR SIX MILES SOUTH OF WEST SALEM)

ADULTS \$7.00, STUDENTS AND SENIOR CITIZENS (65 & over) \$6.00, CHILDREN 6 TO 10 \$4.00



PURE MAPLE SYRUP AND "WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE" (PRE-FROZEN AND FRESH) WILL BE FOR SALE!

ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARD NORTHWESTERN COMMUNITY PROJECTS. THE RURITAN MISSION IS "TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITY A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE"!

THE 4-H CLUB "NORTHWESTERN NEIGHBORS" WILL BE HAVING A CRAFT SHOW/SALE IN THE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM ON THAT DAY!

HIGH SCHOOL WOODWORKING PROJECTS WILL BE ON DISPLAY IN THE COMMONS AREA!

HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING PROJECTS WILL BE ON DISPLAY IN THE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY!

NORTHWESTERN 6th GRADERS WILL BE HOLDING THEIR ANNUAL AUCTION NEXT DOOR IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL ON THAT DAY ALSO. THEY ARE RAISING FUNDS FOR THEIR TRIP TO WASHINGTON D.C. THIS SPRING. STOP IN AT THE HIGH SCHOOL FOR A MEAL BEFORE OR AFTER THE AUCTION.

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL HAVE A PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT LEVY TABLE WITH INFORMATION AND SCHOOL LEADERS AVAILABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.



Greetings,

We've made it half-way through the school year already, time sure is flying right by. I am honored every day to protect



and guide your children. As an outsider working on the inside of Northwestern Local Schools, we have a fantastic administration and staff working with your children. I see amazing things every day happening at Northwestern Local Schools. The staff is extremely caring and loving about your children more than you know. There are so many services available now for your child at Northwestern Local Schools, more than we ever had when we went through school.

Some safety issues I would like to address, at the high school several students are dropped off at the first door as you come into the drive. Buses get backed up and causes some traffic issues out on 301. The door is soon going to be locked and only teachers will have access to it. So let's get into the habit of dropping your student off at the main door of the high school. Also please remind your students to lock their cars and hide any wallets, cash or valuables. This is a good habit to get into, especially when off school property.

At the elementary school we have changed the afternoon pick up. We are now using two lanes of traffic and not releasing the cars until all vehicles are loaded with students. The vehicles will be then dismissed by a staff member. Please also put your child's name in the windshield and step out of your car so your child can see you. By doing this, we allow the buses to leave and it becomes easier for the loop to enter onto 301. Also by parking this way, all vehicles are off 301.

If you have any questions, concerns, or need advice, please feel free to call me at the high school or email me at [nrws\\_achellis@tccsa.net](mailto:nrws_achellis@tccsa.net).

Stay Safe,  
Deputy Adam Chellis  
Proudly serving as Northwestern Local Schools  
Resource Officer

# STAY INFORMED

## EMERGENCY DELAY OR CANCELLATION DAYS

With the severely cold weather and winter remaining we would like to remind parents about our delay and cancellation procedures. When our school buses travel over 1,436 miles each day in our 94 square mile school district, picking up students it is imperative that the roads are safe to travel. The safety of students and drivers is the primary issue when considering whether to cancel school.

If conditions are questionable regarding student and bus safety, both the Northwestern Transportation Mechanic Jonathon Wellert and Northwestern Superintendent Jeff Layton drive the roads prior to 5:00 a.m. - communicating with each other – in order to make the final decision before 5:30 a.m. At 5:30 many of our dedicated bus drivers have already begun their routes on poor weather days. The Superintendent also listens to weather forecasts and confers with other area school district superintendents - all of who also do assessments of their road conditions. A decision is made to delay or cancel school if it is unsafe for students and/or unsafe for bus travel. Since Northwestern stretches so far north-south we may not always make the same decision as other school districts. This is because we are concerned with Northwestern students first and foremost. However, we also have an obligation to also fulfill our mission of providing an excellent education for our students.

Know that our buses do have heaters and they also drop-down chains. We installed the chains for a reason – so we can fulfill transporting our children to and from school safely. Trust our dedicated and experienced bus drivers to do this with the safest equipment.

When the Wayne County Sheriff issues a Level 2 weather warning, telling motorists to drive only if it is an emergency, school is automatically cancelled. However, sometimes these announcements do not come before announcement of school closing has to occur. In addition, often the road conditions change quickly and dramatically – sometimes for the better, sometimes for the worse - between the time of the final decision at 5:30 a.m. and the time MS and HS may begin with a 2-hour delay.

Information on school closing is available and most accurate by registering for communications. Parents, students, and community members can register for text alerts and/or e-mail alerts through our website.

The school text and e-mail alerts systems are the most efficient and immediate as far as information, Please register if you have not. Additionally, district phone recordings, website, twitter, instagram, facebook, as well as radio station WQKT are the quickest to post the information. Also, calling the district or individual school building phone numbers and listening to the recorded message on our automated phone system is an option.

Announcements are also made through local radio stations WQKT and WNCO as well as TV stations WEWS (Channel 5), WKYC (Channel 3), and FOX WJW (Channel 8). Television stations have between a 15-minute and 30-minute lag time before the information is posted an occasionally do post inaccurate messages. Also, a decision to close is announced by 8:00 a.m. at the very latest. Otherwise, we will remain open.

## BE IN THE KNOW - FOLLOW US ON NORTHWESTERN TWITTER!

Please register for our Northwestern “Twitter” account! Registration can be completed on our Northwestern website and by registering at the twitter address on the front page of this newsletter!

We initiated this account four years ago and have sent tens of thousands of tweets since! We generally send 2-10 tweets per building per week during the school year.

There is a significant amount of research that indicates parents and community members are more likely to read brief one or two liners with a picture than lengthy posts, newsletter articles, etc. Northwestern wants to continue sharing the amazing things happening in our classrooms through every avenue possible!

**Follow us on Facebook!**

**Follow us on Instagram!**

Check-out our website – information located there is easily accessible and quickly answers many questions that I hear people ask and read on social media!

Our area newspapers provide coverage for a portion of the many amazing things that our outstanding teachers do each day. However, we need to continue multiple means to be sure as much gets out to the general public as possible. While we do utilize test alerts, The West Salem Messenger, WQKT, Wooster Daily Record, Ashland Times-Gazette, The Post Newspaper, our website, and our own “The Northwestern” newsletter the twitter feed is another means that provides for ongoing and immediate newsbytes.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of our teachers and our students!

## Annual Notice of Student Wellness Meeting

**Northwestern will conduct our Wellness Committee Meeting on Friday, April 6th.**

Northwestern Schools recognize the importance of a healthy child in regard to increased capacity for learning, attendance, and overall health and well-being. Northwestern School District is committed to providing a healthy school environment which cares for the total child academically, socially, emotionally, and physically. In order to support current and lifelong health a wellness committee has been established and meets annually to evaluate various measurements and discussed ideas for continued improvement. Our wellness committee has been instrumental in securing and insuring:

- Healthy meals and snacks
- Expanding our Breakfast program
- Installing defibrillators in each building

# District News

STUDENT WELLNESS, continued .....

- Installing first aid stations at locations throughout the buildings
  - Creating and supplying first aid kits for each teachers' desk
  - Securing an epinephrine (EpiPen) for each building
  - Beginning concussion protocol prior to OHSAA requiring it
  - Coordinating influenza vaccine available for all employees so as to inhibit a flu outbreak
  - Providing hand sanitation stations
- Our Wellness policy #EFG explains our wellness practices. This policy is listed on our website (as are all Northwestern policies) and in this issue of our district newsletter.

**Contacts for additional information and services:**

**Superintendent Jeffrey N. Layton (419-846-3151)**

**High School Principal Mike Burkholder**

**Middle School Principal Rachel Beun**

**Elementary Principal Joey Brightbill**

Other participants on our Wellness committee include:

Curriculum Director, Food Service Supervisor, School Nurse, MS Health teacher, HS Health Teacher, Physical Education Teachers (3-ES, MS, HS), an at large community member.

## **Expand your Knowledge! Higher Education for Older Adults!**

Ohio State University graduate-level Program 60 allows Ohio residents age 60 and older to take Ohio State University classes tuition-free on a non-credit, non-degree basis. In most cases, all they need to do is sign up for Program 60 and get permission from the instructor of each class they want to take. Courses can be taken at the OSU Wooster Campus as well as main campus or any OSU satellite campus.

This semester, Program 60 had 336 students enrolled in courses at Ohio State and 792 registered participants.

What Program 60 provides older adults is not only an opportunity for learning, but also an opportunity for building relationships and emotional satisfaction in life," said Holly Dabelko-Schoeny, professor of social work at Ohio State..

If there is anything that unites people who take Program 60 classes, it is a life-long interest in learning.

Taking classes in art, medieval history, women in cinema, astronomy, renewable energy, technology, or just about any content is available.

Many participants do not take the exams or write the papers assigned in class. But that doesn't mean that students aren't interested in learning the material in their classes. The social work study found that 86 percent of Program 60 students were motivated to participate in order to develop their knowledge.

What Program 60 participants get from taking classes goes beyond the usual advice for older people to keep their mind active. "They are able to pursue areas of interest from a huge catalog of classes at Ohio State," says Dabelko-Schoeny. "It is not just exercising your brain with crossword puzzles or Sudoku. It is about growth and development as a person."

Many participants share how much they enjoyed interacting not only with their instructors, but especially with the younger students in their classes. This inter-generational interaction is a key part of what makes Program 60 successful. In fact, a study found that Program 60 participants thought the program contributed more to expanding their social network with younger generations than with other older participants in the program. What Program 60 does is provide a unique opportunity for cross-generational relationship building.

And it is not only the older students who benefit. Younger students ask for advice about a variety of experiences from participants, including about finding jobs, interviewing, life lessons, and improving their resume.

"Program 60 counters some of our societal stereotypes about how we stop learning and growing and developing intellectually and socially as we get older," Dabelko-Schoeny says. Contact Ohio State University for more information about enrolling in this unique program!

## **Title I & Special Education (IDEA) Annual Notifications**

Northwestern Elementary School is designated as a Title I building and participate in the Title I with "school-wide" service status. Northwestern encourages active, ongoing parent involvement with their child's education, which is a parental right under Title I. Collaboration between student, parents, teachers, paraprofessionals, and administrators are strongly correlated with student achievement and success.

A special Title I and IDEA (Special Education) parental planning and involvement meeting is held annually at the March Board of Education regular meeting. These meetings are held the 3rd Monday in March at 7:00PM in the High School library. This is our annual parent involvement & collaborative planning meeting for our Special Education (IDEA) and Title I programs. We discuss current programs and collaboratively plan for utilization of these funds for the upcoming school year. Last March parents, community members, administrators and the Board of Education discussed and planned for this year's programs. Our Special Education, Title I, as well as Gifted Services were also an important part of our recently completed Strategic Plan Meeting discussions.

**Northwestern  
Schools  
“Home of the  
Huskies”**

**TITLE I, continued ....**

In addition there are ongoing opportunities for parent meetings, open houses, parent-teacher conferences, family nights, in addition to PTO involvement where Title I services can be discussed. Please contact your child’s teacher, building administrator, intervention specialist or special education coordinator with questions, concerns, comments, performance data, suggestions, and/or desire for increased participation in the planning of your child’s education, programs, curriculum, and communications utilizing Title I and IDEA federal funds.

\* Parents are encouraged to request information regarding professional qualifications of their student’s Title I funded teachers – including teacher state qualifications & licensing appropriate to grade level and subject area taught, as well as if the teacher is teaching under a temporary license in which state qualifications or licensing qualifications might be temporarily waived. In addition, parents have a right to request information regarding baccalaureate degree major, graduate school certification, field of discipline, and whether the student is provided services by paraprofessionals, and if so, their qualifications. Our 2018-2019 federal Title I funds pay salaries for the services of 3 full time licensed instructional teachers and two licensed instructional Tutors.

\* Note: 100% of Northwestern District teachers are HQT (Highly Qualified Teachers), and 100% of paraprofessionals are HQ (Highly Qualified). Highly Qualified Paraprofessionals must hold an Associate’s Degree, 2+ years of college, or passed the rigorous state academic assessment.

\* Northwestern school district consistently strives to utilize all federal, state, and local dollars wisely with the optimal impact on student achievement. We encourage parental participation and input into possible improvements of the fund utilization – especially with Title I funds.

\* All current and former migratory, transient, and homeless students enrolling at Northwestern receive the same Title I and Special Education Services as other children in Northwestern Schools as determined by school-wide programs, specialized programs, and IEPs. Northwestern serves all students and does not discriminate services based upon gender, race, or disability.

\* Northwestern participates in the Tri-County ESC Preschool Consortium for both handicapped and traditional preschool children. Title I-A and school district funds are used to support these programs.

\* Northwestern has LEP (Limited English Proficient) support for LEP students. LEP students and their parents are encouraged to discuss additional needs relative to their language barrier and beyond current LEP and Title I support.

\* Northwestern coordinates and integrates federal, state, and local funds that include programs required under NCLB (No Child Left Behind), bullying, violence prevention, nutrition, head start, job training, and vocational & technical education.

\* Northwestern consults with nonpublic and private schools regarding available title I services for schools located within the Northwestern School District and those schools outside on the Northwestern School District having Northwestern school district resident students attending.



**NORTHWESTERN RURITANS**  
**Northwestern Ruritan meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00PM in the Northwestern High School commons.** Each meeting begins with a catered meal, followed by a presentation and meeting. Visitors are welcome and new members are encouraged to participate. Ruritans are about “servant leadership” and about “community”.

**Current President Chuck Beck  
 Past President Dwight Wasson  
 Prior President Kim Wellert**

**The Northwestern Ruritan Club is an organization dedicated to the betterment of our community. Our mission is “to make our community a better place in which to live.”**

The Ruritans raise funds in three primary ways – by manning the gates of the Wayne County Fair, manning Congress recycling, and through the annual Sausage & Pancake Breakfast held in conjunction with the Northwestern Washington, D. C. Auction the second Saturday of March. There are also several additional projects held in order to raise funds.

The Ruritans provide ongoing community service projects that include:

- \* Northwestern Husky Brigade – Distributing donations to active military from our community
- \* Northwestern Husky Brigade Annual Golf Outing
- \* Community Parade of Flags – new this spring, distribution and setting-up United States Flags
- \* Providing numerous Northwestern Scholarships each year
- \* Sponsoring students for various leadership projects and activities
- \* Community Recycling
- \* Roadside clean-up
- \* Donations for families and organizations in need
- \* Buckeye Boys State & Buckeye Girls State Leadership weekend contributions
- \* Recognizing area businesses & volunteer organizations for community and school support
- \* Cemetery clean-up
- \* Support for our Northwestern Schools
- \* Support for the Old School House in West Salem
- \* Support for the West Salem Town & Country Festival
- \* Numerous ongoing and special activities to support our community



# Northwestern Schools

## Northwestern Schools-Ruritan Business Recognition Award Business Award of Merit Nomination Form

Name of Business \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Owner/Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions to school and/or community: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_ (Deadline: March 10th)

**Note: Nomination information may be typed or printed on other paper and attached to this form.**

**Nominator: Please send to the office of any school building to be forward to Mr. Layton.**

### Northwestern Schools-Ruritan Businesses Recognition Award winners over the past 10 years

**include:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Lodi Lumber                                  | Koenig's Korner                        |
| Scot Industries                              | LuK, USA                               |
| Hagans Construction, Inc.                    | New Pittsburgh Fire & Rescue           |
| Central Farm & Garden, Inc.                  | American Legion Post #499              |
| Commodity Blenders                           | Fuhrman's IGA                          |
| West Salem IGA                               | Town & Country Co-op                   |
| Cutter Oil                                   | Hud Wharton Excavating                 |
| Romich Foundation/Prentke Romich             | Heffelfinger Meats, Inc.               |
| Wellerts A.C. Parts (2015) Owner Kim Wellert | Friendly Wholesale Company of Wooster  |
| Ed Marty Studios                             | G & S Titanium                         |
| Wooster Brush                                | HealthPoint/Wooster Community Hospital |
| Schaeffler/LuK, USA                          | Romich Foundation/Prentke Romich       |



### Northwestern FFA Presents Chili & Crockpot Cookoff Dodgeball Tournament

Benefiting Michelle Dudte  
Family

February 22, 2019

Dodgeball \$10 per team (6 to 10  
players)

All ages are welcome!

Unlimited chili & crockpot  
tasting

\$5 per person

Prizes will be awarded to dodge-  
ball winners and cookoff contest

When: 5:30 PM Food in place

6:00 PM First game

Where: Northwestern Middle  
School

*All proceeds go to Michelle  
Dudte Family*

***Strategic Plan  
August 2019***

This updated 5-year Strategic Plan is our roadmap for continued district improvement for the future. It continues to guide us in the direction of preparing our students even better for quality of life and help in preparing each student for tomorrow's opportunities.

This Strategic Plan is the product of much study of data, planning, commitment, and input. The Strategic Planning Steering Committee, comprised of 30 members representing teachers, administrators, board of education members, students, parents and other community members worked diligently and collaboratively to create a five-year plan in Dec. 2015. This is an annual update of that living document by our Board of Education and Administration at a summer retreat together last August and is effective 9/2019-8/2024.

*This particular article is a condensed, highlighted version that includes a progress update as of January, 2019 which could be viewed as a "state of the schools" update as far as our strategic plan. The only two items needing to be discussed, but not addressed in this plan are our current financial concerns, which can be addressed through passage of our PI Levy this May, 2019, and our Safety & Security needs, which will be addressed as we modify (safety & security improvements happen so quickly) via our website and in our district newsletter.*

**GOALS AND RELATED STRATEGIES:**

**I. TEACHING AND LEARNING**

\* Provide and support a comprehensive curriculum & learning environments that develop, ensures and encourages opportunities for all levels of student ability and focuses on individual needs of every student. **Progress:** Simply put "Northwestern Schools have an extraordinary nurturing culture". This is engrained throughout the culture of our organization and schools. It sustains the traditions and culture that has been a part of Northwestern since its inception. "Needs of our Students" is always at the forefront of our discussions from each employee through teacher, administrator, board member. We ensure this through strong leadership, consistent and dedicated administrators, and our efforts to screen, interview, employ the best candidates, as well as invest in the development/human capital of our employees.

# HUSKY PRIDE & TRADITION

Collaboration as well as trust and respect with our employees as well as with outside agencies and support organizations further supports this goal and strategy.

**\* Evaluate & continue current curriculum/course/career pathway options including College Credit Plus, STEA2M, Special Education, Gifted Education and at-risk education program to meet individual student needs in the least restrictive environment continuum.**

**Progress:** We are studying CCP and the rigor of our programs and courses in an ongoing manner. We have expanded campus CCP College Courses for the 18-19SY. In a collaborative agreement with the Northwestern Board of Education, Administration, Ashland University, and interested Teachers we have had two cohorts of teachers complete their Gifted and Talented Teacher Program. We have also had many opportunities that include state credentialing and professional development, our own professional development, group work book studies, and have excelled in challenging and individualizing instruction for our gifted and talented students. We are the envy of most school district in this regard. We are applying for the new STEAM Designation this spring. We are one of the few schools implementing the new Ohio Dept. of Education requirements and documentation for the "Work Ready Credential" for our graduates this year. We continue efforts to further individualize instruction for each student. This means students with disabilities, low wealth at-risk students, and gifted and talented students – all of our students. Our educational excellence with students having disabilities has been well documented as well. We have averaged more than 16 students with disabilities (as high as 19 students) choosing to attend Northwestern via Open Enrollment through Ohio's Peterson Scholarship since Peterson Scholarship inception. Likewise, our incoming open enrolled students have risen to an all-time high at 263 students. They know a great thing when they see it!

**\* Identify and provide supports and/or services to establish & maintain a strong general education, Agricultural Science, Wood Tech.**

**Progress:** Our Agri Science has expanded curriculum opportunities, advanced the Greenhouse Management and Environmental Curriculum. We have also increased the rigor of our Wood Tech Curriculum and will be better preparing students through the enhanced Wood Construction Tech CTE pathway beginning in fall, 2019. This will be our 9th and likely final 4-year CTE Pathway Program at our High School, although the programs may change and evolve over time based upon student needs and requests. Note that these programs are self-funded due to our creative and efficient staffing, dedicated teachers, and by embedding required state academic courses within these courses they run very efficiently and effectively. Additionally, because we receive additional weighted funding provided by the Ohio Dept. of Education through federal Perkins funding.

**\* Improved Lab Spaces labs HS Science, Agricultural Science, Engineering, Clean Energy, Computer Science (open labs, greenhouse, barn, possible land acquisition).**

**Progress:** We did complete the Greenhouse – Clean Energy Lab through grant dollars and community donations two years ago. We also now have an ES STEM Classroom/Lab, the MS Inspiration Station STEM Lab (in which the classroom was moved into the attached prior Ag. Classroom this past fall through grant dollars), and the HS STEM Lab (used mostly by Clean Energy and Robotics classes) that was converted two years ago from the prior SH Classroom. These are sufficient for current needs. However, in the distant future we would love the opportunity to have expanded lab spaces for all Science classrooms at the HS and at the MS, as well as a barn and/or working farm for our Agri-Science Program.

**\* Update HS HVAC over next 2 years.**

**Progress:** We have been working on these systems for the past 4 years – ES and MS completed and are 2/3 of way through these district HVAC updates by fall, 2019. 4 years ago this was expected to be completed by this date, but surprise failures with ES chillers, other systems had doubled original cost estimate and these failures as well as the lack of funds has slowed progress – which has spread this project to over 6 years. The district will spend more than \$700,000 this summer alone toward an urgent portion of the HS HVAC system and for replacement of a section of the MS Roof.

**\* Expand and improve preschool programs to prepare all students to enter school "Kindergarten ready".**

**Progress:** We have 2 classes of 38 total students combined in our STEM Preschool, we also have students in our Handicapped Preschool, Head Start, Panda, and other area preschools – progress toward 100% goal. Parents pay the cost to run this preschool, in addition to Romich Foundation support, Weltmer Foundation support, PNC Bank support, and memorial contributions.

# NEWS AND UPDATES

## STRATEGIC PLAN, continued .....

### **\* Continually align curriculum, instruction and assessments to meet individual student needs.**

Progress: Continued focused staff professional development. Also, teachers updating curriculum maps this school year. An ongoing emphasis on individually aligning instruction to individual student needs and differentiated instruction are important foci as well.

### **\* Continuously explore diverse methods to structure the delivery of instruction to meet the needs of all students.**

Progress: Ongoing professional development and item analysis of standardized assessment and other indicators of student success. Problem-based learning, student projects, teamwork, and competitions all inspire and engage students. These and utilization of technology to further improve instruction, retention, and effectiveness & efficiency of classroom instruction are necessary.

### **\* Evaluate school calendar, school day and scheduling structures and designs in their cost and effectiveness in order to expand curriculum, improve student learning and enhance student retention of knowledge (blended learning, job credit/release, all year school, four-day school week, flex a.m./p.m. periods, special sessions, various sessions such as lectures through small groups)**

Progress: Currently studying research and case studies relevant to varied school instruction and structures as well as the student success data and outcomes, service to students and parents, as well as potential cost savings. More discussion regarding large group learning settings incorporated with alternating small groups, early bird and after school late classes, alternative school year possibilities are being studied.

### **\* Develop and support a professional learning culture which will provide common planning time, time to discuss data, curriculum and instruction addition to promote collaboration.**

Progress: Have been implementing improved common planning times, including the late arrival professional development, which seem more effective.

### **\* Evolve to a college-style environment in 11-12 grade. Create HS distance learning environments – Media Center, Technology Lab, auditorium/lecture environments**

Progress: This is an ongoing process that we improve upon each year. Purchased new high resolution laser projectors for MS and HS theaters through grant funds and media center is partially completed. Funding issues have delayed implementation of many items with this initiative. The distance learning environments can work on occasion or with certain maturity of students. Also, alternate college type class times and structures would be needed to incorporate most options effectively.

## **II. TECHNOLOGY**

### **\* Utilize existing and emerging technology in all areas of the school district**

Update: The district has managed to continue being on the cutting edge as far as technology. Whether it be drones, laser engravers, 3-D Printers, ChromeBooks, Laptops, Projectors, Mimios, CNC Routers, coding, robotics, etc. we have been diligent in providing the tools our teachers need to be the most effective in teaching our children. These have proven effective tools in educating our children and preparing them today for tomorrow's opportunities.

### **\* Develop and regularly maintain a district website that accurately represents the mission of the district and to communicate timely and pertinent district information and community resources at the local, regional and state level.**

Update: Our website is regularly updated with pertinent information that is easily accessible. Further, our social media accounts – facebook, twitter, Instagram – are used by hundreds of community members and followed by many students, parents, graduates, community members, and educational institutions across the state and nation. Incredible job!

### **\* Expand and enhance availability of digital course materials and learning environments such as classroom, library and lab facilities for blended learning, distance learning.**

Not a lot of progress beyond the high resolution laser projectors in MS and HS auditoriums and some of the HS Media Center updates. Have slowed progress due to budget constraints.

## **III. STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

### **\* Continue providing a comprehensive professional growth and development program.**

Update: Continuous. Individual training by request within reason, building and district-wide planned training, state training (incl. self-defense, restraint, intruder & stop the bleed trainings), and individually and regionally focused training by content area, dept. or needs.

### **\* Attract and retain a quality teaching force while encouraging involvement and active engagement.**

Update: We continue to hire and retain the best, empower our employees, train our employees, and collaborate! We continue to utilize a comprehensive and rigorous interview and hiring process and are diligent in incorporating reference checks and record reviews.

### **\* Continue providing a comprehensive professional growth and development program.**

Update: Continued opportunities as part of planning and evaluations. Subject to budgetary constraints

### **\* Attract and retain a quality teaching force while encouraging involvement and active engagement.**

Update: We do not operate as top-down management or bottom-up management. Trust, relationships, collegiality, and collaborative professional working environment is how we continue to do business together as an organization. Ideas can come from anywhere at any level.

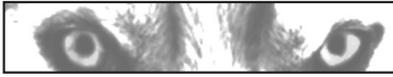
### **\* Continue to cultivate collegiality, climate and culture in each building and the district through continued collaboration, trust and positive relationships among all employees.**

Update: We at Northwestern provide opportunities for staff input and for their professional and social-emotional growth. 2018-19 has been challenging thus far due to some poor individuals' choices, multiple long-term illnesses, and very difficult family situations in which we have shared together. Our staff and administration are like family who truly care about one another and one individual's struggle is all of our struggle. With our caring environment and strong relationships we are enduring several very challenging situations this year. However, we will endure this together, with the love and support of one another, our faith, as well as the support and prayers of our larger community.

## **IV. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

### **\* Encourage partnerships with community groups, school support organizations and area businesses.**

Update: Many business partners throughout our district and greater Wayne and Ashland Counties. Business Partnership recognition is in its 11th year!



STRATEGIC PLAN, continued

Our 5th grade, 8th grade, and senior student career requirements, Future Fridays, guest speakers, internships, job shadowing, and Pre-Apprenticeship programs are all most excellent! As have been our Science Fair, Solar Sprint, e-Cybermission, and HOSA competitions and partnerships. We went through a difficult transition with All Sports last year, but all is well with All Sports and Ruritans, PTO, Alumni & Friends, Music boosters, and other support organizations continue to be strong collaborations!

**\* Expand opportunities for the engagement of all students and families.**

Engaging students and their parents is essential to student success. After School program expansion through United Way funds has been extraordinary! Parent engagement activities through this, other programs and activities, field trips, volunteerism, outdoor education, Title I, and extracurriculars has continued to be amazing here at Northwestern! We always strive to reach out to families in need and at-risk with community resources, our 4 counseling and case management support organizations we have in our schools.

**\* Welcome and orient new students and families to the school and community.**

As the number of transient students has increased in recent years we have struggled with this one with our limited time and resources trying to keep up with the higher number of new students coming and going. This has been limited to tours and meeting with new students and parents, and directing them to our social media, support organizations, and website.

**V. STUDENT DEVELOPMENT**

**\* Continue to enhance a positive learning climate and culture.**

Update: Continued Husky Huddle, strong relationships between students and staff are positive. Some damage occurred due to the situation this past fall. However, our staff and administration continue the positive relationships with students. Employment and realignment of student support personnel in 2018-19 has proven very good. While strong extracurriculars, adding Art Clubs, Art events, and other student activities to past activities are positive as well

**\* Continue promoting career exploration programs.**

ES Career Projects, 8th and Senior Seminar and Capstone projects are essential as are student organizations and their related competitions, Students earning Career Credentials, our 9 Career Pathways, Job Shadowing, Internships, Mentor Partnerships, Internships, Pre-Apprenticeships, and Future Fridays are some methods.

**Northwestern  
Schools  
“Home of the  
Huskies”**

**\* Develop mentor programs to connect older students, staff and/or community members with younger students.**

Update: in 17-18 a strong program partnering HS student mentors to ES students proved positive. In addition, more visits from 5th-6th grade and Preschool-5th grade, as well as Kindergarten and 8th grade students proved positive. We are making progress in this area and wish to continue doing so.

**\* Continue to enhance a coordinated, district-wide character education program.**

Update: Husky Huddle Program and Career Education programs are strong. However, have not received much regarding progress in this area.

**\* Build on existing student recognition and/or other programs to facilitate student connectivity.**

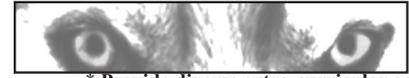
Update: Student and staff recognition promoted more through the Daily Record and Times Gazette programs. The district has bene promoting new staff info over the past three years, which is popular. Much of this has been on hold due to multiple administrative transfers and learning new roles this year. Anticipate increasing these opportunities in 2019-2020 SY.

**\* Continue providing curriculum that is relevant, rigorous and connected to possible career development and interests for all students.**

Update: This is a strength. We continue expansion of problem-based learning throughout all content areas – not just in our career pathways and STEM areas. The student organizations, expanded competitions, projects, and problem-solving opportunities are more engaging and relevant each day as our teachers embrace these improved methods of instruction and experiment with new instructional strategies.

**\* Coordinate opportunities for all students to explore and research a variety of occupations, careers and to identify student interests.**

Update: Continued focus on career development, experimentation and exploration in careers and students learning what they like to do, what interests, them, and their career of choice hopefully utilizing their God-given talents in their chosen field is incredibly gratifying. We hear stories confirming that we do a great job supporting students and helping them make career choices.



**\* Provide diverse extra-curricular activities at all grade levels that may include clubs in areas such as drama, art, environmental, math, science, reading and cultural experiences.**

Update: Athletic Programs and traditional extracurriculars have continue to be strong. Northwestern won the HS WCAL Championship 2 of the past 3 years. While strong extracurriculars, adding Art Clubs, Art events, and other student activities to past activities are positive as well.

**We believe . . .**

**\* students are our primary consideration and all decisions must reflect optimum opportunity for the educational development of all students**

**\* each student makes meaningful contribution in the classroom**

**\* student engagement is paramount and that individualized and differentiation of instruction is necessary to educate each student**

**\* students are the priority and responsibility of the school district AND the whole community in establishing a sense of student ownership for learning and behavior belonging**

**\* schools are an integral part of our community and our community is an integral part of our schools**

**\* every student is an individual deserving of opportunities promoting student choice, providing challenges to reach their potential, and supporting the desire to be better learners**

**\* children learn best when their physical and emotional needs are met**

**\* we value each student within the district for the talents and attributes that makes them unique**

**\* students of various abilities have equal opportunities to foster their talents and have opportunities to make their dreams come true**

**\* we can and must establish measurable and attainable goals that will prepare all students to be successful in a global society through a partnership of parents, educators, community and students**

**\* staff should be provided and should actively seek professional development that is data-driven and research-based to promote the development of collaboration and teamwork for improving achievement of all students**

**\* we must provide cutting-edge technology, modern and safe classroom environments, quality and engaging instruction and extracurricular opportunities for our students to achieve their highest academic potential and to maximize their learning experience**



# Northwestern Local Schools

## HOME OF THE HUSKIES



### **Bus Drivers & Van Drivers Needed!**

**We have sub drivers, but several have limited availability – we can always train and use more!**

**We can put you to work! Starting salary is \$16.63 per hour!**

We can use you regularly or intermittently – for regular bus route coverage or for field trips - around your current job!

**Contact Northwestern Transportation Dept. if you have an interest in the paid training, a very good salary, excellent benefits, and opportunity for future employment as a van or bus driver!**

**419-846-3151 (Jamie Imhoff)**

### **We pay for training!**

We normally hire permanent positions from our substitute driver pool.

Below is interesting annual information regarding our Northwestern Transportation Department:

\* Transporting students to and from school as well as events costs nearly \$1 million annually of our approximate \$15 million annual budget. This is a huge responsibility and a huge cost, with many state requirements, but very minimal financial support from the state.

\* We have 11 route buses and several spare buses.

\* We have 2 newer vans & 3 older vans. We use two vans regularly on a daily basis transporting students to and from special needs programs and often utilize three vans on a given day. We have held onto the three older 14-16 year-old vans in order to keep the one with the hitch dedicated to pulling the band trailer, one with a lift for potential wheelchair limited handicapped student if needed, and the other is used regularly for other transportation needs.

\* We employ 11 contracted regular bus route drivers (this was reduced by one route last year to reduce costs.

\* We use 10 different sub drivers (several have limited availability and several are shared with other school districts – so we can always train and use more and keep you as busy as you want!)

\* We have 7 total licensed van drivers – some as back-up for when emergency situations or coverage may be necessary

\* 239,919 total miles driven last year (22,329 field trip miles and 217,590 route miles)

\* 374 annual field trips (down from an average of 419 driven in prior years on average). We should have even fewer trips this year, although the athletic trips make-up the bulk of these, which could not be reduced by many to save costs.

\* All van drivers are required to undergo training, pass a written test, and pass a background check.

\* All bus drivers are required to pass a CDL test, air brake test, extensive training, complete a written bus test, driving bus test, and required to drive specified number of routes before driving alone with students, and they must pass a background check, annual drug test, and are included in the employee pool for random selection drug testing at a local medical facility.

\* Bus/Van Drivers are required to recertify every 6 years

### **Key Transportation Personnel:**

Supervisor: Associate Superintendent Julie McCumber

Administrative Secretary: Jamie Imhoff

Mechanic: Jonathon Wellert

Bus Drivers: Our many fabulous bus drivers!

### **NORTHWESTERN LOCAL SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION TREE**

OFFICE

419-846-1154

CELL

330-317-8229

GARAGE

419-846-1152

EMERGENCIES

419-846-3151 (District Office)

330-317-5175 (Superintendent Cell Phone)

### **District Finances – Inconsistency is the New Normal in State Fund- ing**

Over my 29 years in education, 24 years as a school administrator, and 14 years here at the helm of Northwestern I have never observed the lack of predictability in regard to school revenue as being so difficult as we have seen over the past two years. By reading below you can get a glimpse of some of these numerous variants. In addition, we are often blind-sided by mid-year requirements and financial changes in rules by the Ohio Dept. of Education that are unanticipated.

As has been the norm over the past 8 years, the only consistency in public school finances has been our local tax dollar revenue. We have observed that the state of Ohio has been increasingly creative in the way they have quietly reduced funding to public schools over the past 8 years – most especially rural school districts such as our own. **We have watched neighboring school districts present to their taxpayers and pass new money multiple times. Yet, we have asked for new money only once – two years ago – and even with that the burden to our taxpayers through our school district levy millage has decreased over the past 14 years.**

# More District NEWS!!

District Finances, continued .....

Northwestern is the ONLY district in the area that can state this! We continue due diligence in spending and do so under the watchful eyes of our experienced Board of Education, Treasurer Lesa Forbes, and myself as your Superintendent.

\* State funding has waned and been, in essence, flat-lined over the past 8 years (yet inflation and personnel costs continue to escalate).

\* Ohio has reduced transportation funding for rural schools through their funding mechanism – yes, the rural schools, which drive the most miles per student.

\* Ohio has decreased their funds for support-related costs (such as ESC supports, Pre-school funds, etc.) which has resulted in school district having to pay these costs (thus an end-all reduction in funding).

\* CCP (College Credit Plus) cost burden shift onto the backs of local school districts. This has essentially now become a “cash cow” for participating colleges and our costs have increased dramatically over the past two years through huge increased costs to local school districts such as ours who have relatively close proximity to colleges. We are proud of the successes of our students participating in CCP and support the financial savings this can provide for parents, we have more students than ever participating in full-time CCP courses at colleges, which costs the district huge financial dollars. However, often we have students taking courses on college campuses that we offer for college credit here in our building at substantially lower costs to the district. The state does not allow us to direct enrollment to our classes in these cases. Also, the state requires the schools to pay for high textbook costs as well as the tuition, which should not be the case. We have countered by increasing the number of CCP courses we offer here on our campus in which our teachers provide much greater support than do the area colleges.

\* The Ohio Department of Education has continued promoting private entities to take local dollars with little restriction through special

“scholarships” where the entities are not even required to educate the students – costing our district \$10,000 - \$30,000 annually per student. The numbers have increased as a result of the Department’s lack of oversight of these organizations, thus allowing them to bleed school districts.

\* Over the past several years the lower home valuations has hurt our tax collections while at the same time increased CAUV agricultural value calculations has not helped our tax collections due to the state’s shell game with the school funding formula and CAUV. Our district lost substantial tax dollars with the state change in formula regarding CAUV agricultural value calculations.

\* Ever-increasing Charter-Community Schools deductions costs us hundreds of thousands of dollars annually – that the state deducts – whether we agree with services or not (often partial attendance to low-performing online schools, as an example).

\* Increasing Special Education services and personnel costs due to state requirements and mandates, federal mandates and MRDD freezing Ida Sue services for new students have resulted in our needing to employ several additional intervention specialist teachers and aides over the past few years to meet state and federal laws.

\* Employee costs (most notably health care cost increases, in which premiums increased 11.4% this past summer) always go up. We are working on ways to control health care costs as best we can. Thanks to the understanding of our employees and the common sense fiscal management of the district administration and Board of Education, the district has been averaging 1% annual raises the past decade – even the past few years, while we have all seen other area schools and cities the past few years increasing salaries between 2%-3%. This is yet another example of being fiscally responsible.

**What has helped Northwestern sustain adequate funding:**

\* Consistently strong incoming open enrollment students and the related revenue. We had a record incoming open enrollment of 263 students at the start of this school year.

We balance this with caps on class sizes so we continue with balanced, small class sizes, while accepting these students and improving our cost efficiency.

\* Grant Funding – We received @ \$1,000,000 of grant funding in 2016, over \$200,000 in 2017, and already more than \$550,000 this school year. However, the grant funding is inconsistent and not a reliable source of revenue. Also, most grant dollars are aligned to specific program goals and improvements, so normally do not equate to much in the area of cost savings for the district (grants and community donations did build our Greenhouse-Clean Energy lab, however!)

\* We have strategically and painstakingly planned our STEM and Career Pathway Programs as well as provided necessary faculty training in order to obtain substantial additional federal Career & Technical Education weighted funding to ensure adequate funds for the sustainability of these programs. Note that our STEM programs are and have been self-funded through initial grants for start-ups, ongoing additional weighted funding from the state, and very creative scheduling and programming. I encourage anyone who wished to discuss how we have kept these at zero additional cost for the district to attend a Board of Education meeting, stop in our district office, or even request to come on one of our tours we schedule 6 or more times each year through our programs to schools, legislators, and other public officials. We will be happy to share this and any information about finances, programs, and our operations.

In the end, due to these numerous factors all calculated and coming into play above and high costs of HVAC upgrades and roof work over the past few years we were in the red as far as expenditures exceeding revenue the past two school years. We are anticipating additional major flooring, roofing, and HVAC replacement needs over the next few years as well. There are also many additional factors that play into our state and federal revenue, such as the possibility of major federal funding reductions for Title I (low wealth) and IDEA (special education) funding for public schools. We are deficit spending in spite of significant budget reductions and grant-writing efforts.

DISTRICT FINANCES, continued ...

The latest 5-year forecast predicts our carryover balance to run-out in less than 3 years. We continue to walk the tightrope with district finances while also balancing the best personnel, best programs, and continued educational excellence and opportunities for each of our students!

In the end, we will manage our operational costs. However, the general district operating budget can no longer support inadequate PI Permanent Improvement costs – especially with well over \$845,198 for additional HS HVAC and MS Roof repair and replacement for two projects alone that must occur this summer. Remember, the levy dollars from the PI Levy can **ONLY** be used for PI – tangible items with a life of more than 5 years or more. These are the reasons we **NEED** this 2.8 mill renewal with the 1.2 mill additional PI Property Tax Levy this May. We would not ask for this additional amount if it were not necessary.

**AS A MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY AND AS THE LEADER OF ONE THE MOST RECOGNIZED, RESPECTED, & EFFECTIVE SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN OHIO I ASK YOU TO SUPPORT OUR PI LEVY BY VOTING THIS MAY! PASS IT FOR OUR COMMUNITY! PASS IT FOR OUR KIDS! PASS IT FOR OUR FUTURE!**

**Community PI Levy Information**

**Discussion:**

- High School Library 6:00PM on April 15th
- This is immediately prior to the Board of Education Meeting.
- Superintendent, Treasurer, Administrators, Board of Education Members will be present to discuss the PI Levy, District Needs, and answer any questions.

**Election Day is Tuesday May 7th, 2019**

**Polls are open 6:30 a.m. - 7:30PM**

# SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS!

## NORTHWESTERN SCHOOL PI LEVY INFORMATION

**Please Support Our Schools!**

**(2.8 mill renewal with 1.2 mill additional PI Levy)**

**Northwestern School District is asking voters to consider passage of a 4.0 mill**

**Permanent Improvement levy over 5 years (2.8 mill renewal & 1.2 mill additional)**

**Why should I vote for this Levy?**

\* Passing this 4.0 Mill Levy (2.8 mill renewal & 1.2 mill new) will provide the necessary funds to maintain, repair, and/or replace our HVAC systems, security systems, aging roofs, systems, facilities, and equipment.

\* PI (Permanent Improvement) Funds can only be used for tangible items with a life expectancy of 5+ years. • The current PI Levy ends Dec. 2019 and has not been increased since 1989, yet PI items have continued to increase over these past 30 years.

\* The district will spend more than \$845,198 for two projects alone this summer (\$582,181 for a major HVAC Project at the HS this summer as well as \$263,017 replacing a major section of the MS Roof that has been leaking). These are in addition to other system and maintenance needs. The district simply cannot keep up with the facility needs without this additional PI funding.

\* Our community has a long history of supporting our schools and our schools have a long history of providing our children with the best education & opportunities in a frugal & efficient manner. Your support of this levy will continue this legacy.

\* The original millage of the current PI tax voted on in 1989 was 2.8 mills. It is currently at a much lower effective millage of only 1.47 mills for residential & agriculture - half the original effective millage! This PI levy has generated roughly \$240,000 annually. The additional millage will increase this by an est. \$160,000 annually.

**Tax Impact Information:**

The additional 1.2 mills on a \$100,000 home:

\* \$100,000 X .35 X .0012/12 = \$3.50 per month

\* For a \$200,000 home: \$7.00 per month

Taxpayers can access how this levy will impact your home by going to the Wayne County Auditor's Website. Go to the tax tab, then levy tab and it will provide information about what you are currently paying for this PI Levy and all levies, as well as what you will pay for this 1.2 mill increase.

**History of our Permanent Improvement Levy**

\* 1974 initial 2.0 mill levy

\* 1979 renewal 1.9 mill levy

\* 1984 renewal 1.9 mill levy

\* 1989 renewal 1.9 mill plus additional .9 mill levy = (2.8 mills total)

\* 1994 renewal 2.8 mill levy

\* 1999 renewal 2.8 mill levy

\* 2004 renewal 2.8 mill levy

\* 2009 renewal 2.8 mill levy

\* 2014 renewal 2.8 mill levy

\* 2019 renewal of 2.8 mills with additional 1.2 mills = (4.0 mills total)

# STEM Innovation Leadership

## Northwestern School District – 14 years of Excellence & Innovation!

Northwestern Schools are very appreciative of our many collaborations. The success of Northwestern programs is well documented. We are emulated by many school districts across the state and followed closely by numerous Ohio businesses and post-secondary partners. We continue progressing in our PBL (Project-Based Learning) for growth and continued excellence K-16 & in Pre-School - including foundational reading & math throughout STEM areas, core subjects, electives, and fine arts.

We are especially proud of our innovative project-based learning environment, required 12th, 8th, 5th Gr. Career Capstone Courses, our Agri-Science Programs, STEM programs, Husky Huddle Advisor-Advisee, Pre-Apprenticeship, Internship, 7-12 Career Pathways, 3,000Sq. Ft. Greenhouse & Clean Energy Lab, as well as our STEM Preschool classes and our "Innovation Station" and STEM Labs in each building.

### Summary of Northwestern, Innovation, Initiatives & Student Opportunities:

- 2005 implemented all-day, every-day Kindergarten
- 2005 membership in SREB (Southern Regional Education Board), HSTW (High Schools that Work), and MMGW (Making Middle Grades Work)
- 2005 introduction of High School "Husky Huddle" student-teacher mentor program
- 2006 Strategic Plan and Planning year for incorporating STEM and project-based learning
- 2006 Introduction of Senior Seminar Graduation Capstone course requirement
- 2007 4-course Biomedical PLTW STEM program initiated
- 2007 4-course Engineering PLTW STEM program initiated
- 2007 Middle School Gateway to Technology PLTW STEM courses added
- Attainment of 50+ credit hours of dual college coursework available on Northwestern campus
- 2008 Memberships in Northeast Ohio BioScience Consortium & BioOhio Network
- 2006 introduction of Middle School "Husky Huddle" student-teacher mentor program
- 2009 Awarded K-8 "Program of Excellence" STEM Grant
- 2010 Goal Benchmark: 1st year greater than 67% of 8th Gr. students completing Algebra I
- 2010 Competitive after school Robotics Club formed
- 2010 High School 4-year Biomedical program earns initial national PLTW accreditation
- \* 2010 High School 4-year Engineering program earns initial national PLTW accreditation
- 2011 Pilot year of our Middle School Medical Detectives Biomedical course
- 2012 Introduction of 8th Grade Career Capstone and job shadow requirement
- 2013 Inclusion of smart phone "Application Design" within computer networking class
- 2013-2015 Transitioned our Tech I course from high school to middle school
- 2014 (spring) Northwestern Middle School named by OSLN (Ohio STEM Learning Network) "Ohio STEM Designated School" (1 of only 25 schools in Ohio at the time)
- 2014 (spring) Northwestern High School named OSLN (Ohio STEM Learning Network) "Ohio STEM Designated School" (1 of 25 schools in Ohio at the time)
- 2014 Wayne County Economic Development WIN (Regional Workforce Innovations Network) Committee. Active with Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce.
- 2014 Martha Holden Jennings Ohio Superintendent Outstanding performance & \$10,000 Award
- 2014 "Inspiration Station District/Community STEM Lab" dedication (included 3 helicopter drones, 4 3-D printers, more than \$20,000 in robotics equipment, laser engraver, 2 ShopBot CNC routers & industrial CNC machine, desktops, laptops, action cameras, etc.)
- 2014 (fall) Robotics transforms from a club to a high school course.
- 2014 (fall) Full-Time Middle School STEM Teacher employed (quadrupled STEM courses – offering 15+ MS STEM courses including: Design & Modeling, Environmental Design, Smart Historians & Architecture, Science in Technology, Electricity, Scientific Inventions, Agricultural Science, Green architecture, Agri-STEM, Automation, & Robotics). We offer 30+ electives for students to explore and pursue potential careers!

\* 2014 (winter) Ohio ILN Membership (Innovation Lab Network) 1 of only 16 member districts.

\* 2014-2015 SY Project-Based Learning teacher professional development throughout year.

\* 2015 (winter) K-5 elementary PLTW Launch STEM programs pilot – one teacher per grade.

\* 2015 (fall) Full implementation of K-5 PLTW Launch (Engineering, Robotics, Biology/Science).

\* 2015 (fall) Established high school Clean/Renewable Energy SREB (Southern Regional Education Board) 4-course STEM program/career pathway.

\* 2015 (fall) Our 1st Associates Degree articulation. HS BiScience Diploma - NC State College.

\* 2015-2016 SY Intensive Project-Based Learning teacher professional development.

\* 2016-2017 SY Initiated high school Computer Science PLTW STEM program (4-year phase-in)

\* 2016 1-1 ratio of student-device achieved (Chrome Books, iPads, laptops, desktops)

\* 2016-2017 SY Collaborator in 5-district Battelle-led \$1,000,000 "Straight 'A' Grant" for professional development & STEM Problem-Based Learning/Blended Learning Lesson creation.

\* 2016 (fall) Purchase of Lincoln Electric "Virtual Welder" to enhance student welding skills.

\* 2016 (fall) Begin Construction of 30 X 100 Ft. Greenhouse-Clean Energy Lab & Hydroponics.

\* 2016-2017 SY Northwestern is Lead of 5-district \$680,000 PBL/LDC "Straight 'A' Grant" for professional development Northwestern and 4 adjacent low wealth, rural districts reaching 6 counties. Included conversion of 30X100Ft Greenhouse to include Clean Energy Lab infrastructure: Geothermal, Solar array, Biodiesel plant, wind turbine, monitoring equipment.

\* March, 2017 Earned Northwestern Elementary STEM School Designation! First ES in Ohio!

\* March, 2017 Northwestern is first in Ohio with K-12 District OSLN STEM Designation!

\* April 27th, 2017 3,000 Sq. Ft. Greenhouse-Clean Energy Lab dedication!

\* 2017 (summer) Northwestern ES approved as HSTW NE member (Helping Elementary Schools Work). First Pre-K-12 SREB (Southern Regional Education Board is HSTW parent org.) site!

\* 2017 (summer) 1-1 ratio of student-mobile device Gr. 3-12 and 1-2 current ratio Gr. K-2.

\* 2017 (summer) Began 3-year Library "Multi-Media Makerspace Innovation Centers" conversion

# STEM



- \* 2017 (summer) Became a "Future Ready" School District.
- \* 2017 (Aug.) Inception of the first STEM Preschool
- \* 2017-2018 SY added 5th Gr. Career Exploration Research Projects to 8th & 12th Gr. Required.
- \* 2017-2018 SY Pre-Apprenticeship program approval through Ohio State Apprenticeship
- \* 2018-2019 SY Second year grant funding (year 2) of AEOP Army Outreach Grant (Solar Sprint & e-Cybermission) in partnership with HSTW and with an expanded 5-district collaborative
- \* 2018-2019 SY Expanded STEM preschool to two classes with 38 total participating students!
- \* 2018-2019 SY Awarded 3-year "Expanding Opportunity Grant" of \$350,000 1st objective to expand 7-12 grade Pre-Apprenticeship, Internship, STEM CTE, CCP programs with the 2nd major objective that all students 7-12 to be enrolled in a minimum of one STEM course each year!
- \* 2018-2019 SY Added MS and HS Photography Classes!
- \* 2018-2019 4th course of Clean-Renewable Energy Program attained – 4-year full program!
- \* 2018-2019 providing the new Ohio Dept. of Education "Readiness Seal" to qualifying graduates.
- \* 2019-2020 SY 4-year HS Career Pathway program introduced – Wood Construction Technology
- \* We have 9 distinct 4-year CTE Career Pathways available for our High School students:
  - \* Agricultural Business & Production
  - \* Engineering
  - \* Biomedical
  - \* Business Finance & Entrepreneurship
  - \* Family & Consumer Science
  - \* Teacher-Education
  - \* Clean Energy
  - \* Computer Science
  - \* Wood Construction Technology



## Current Initiatives:

- \* Conversion of Libraries to Multi-Media Makerspace Innovation Centers:
  - \* MS completion March, 2018
  - \* HS completion July, 2020 (currently in process - equipment, supplies purchased)
  - \* ES completion Aug., 2021 (currently in process - equipment, supplies purchased)
- \* Applying for new Dept. of Education OSLN STEAM School Designation (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) for all buildings.
- \* Pre-Apprenticeship and Internship program expansions.
- \* Expansion of our current student earned industry credentials.
- \* Expansion of student professional organizations from current 4 pathways to all 8 pathways.
- \* Pursue matching funds from the state for adding additional project lab additions for high school
- \* Expand Agri-Business & Production to additional Agri. Science pathways (i.e. Environmental)
- \* Pursue construction or relocation of a barn and adjacent farm for Agri. Science programs and experimentation.

## Accomplishments:

- \* 2015 Southern Regional Education Board National "Outstanding School District Award"!
- \* Northwestern MS, Northwestern HS, Northwestern ES each approved as "OSLN Ohio STEM Schools".
- \* We are the only OSLN K-12 STEM School District in Ohio! Now PreK-12 STEM!
- \* Over 8.5 million in scholarships over the past six graduating classes (doubling prior six years)!
- \* Consistent "Excellent" Ohio Dept. of Education Academic rating.
- \* HS – State Superintendent "School of Honor"
- \* HS – National SREB "Gold High School Award"
- \* HS – State Superintendent "School of Promise"
- \* MS – SREB National Math Rigor and Improvement Award
- \* Ongoing National STEM Program Attainment.
- \* SREB National Depth of Implementation Award

\* Lighthouse District: innovative administrators, teachers, as well as students present regionally, state-wide, nationally on a continuous basis, in numerous venues, for more than a decade.

\* Prestigious Thomas Edison Science Award.  
 \* Incoming Open enrollment has surpassed 220 students each of the past 6 consecutive years – increasing from 54 over the past 14 years **to the current 263 incoming open enrolled students at this 18-19 SY**. This represents more than 18% of our 1432 students enrolled.

\* Northwestern was the first Public School District to become a Special Needs Peterson Scholarship Provider for incoming students with special needs beginning in 2012.

\* Northwestern received over \$1,000,000 in grants & contributions for various programs in 2016 and is over \$550,000 in grants in 2018.

\* NWHS and NWMS have been repeatedly recognized as High Schools that Work (HSTW) and Making Middle Grades Work (MMGW) sites for exceeding all high performing HSTW/MMGW sites nationally. This data indicates that Northwestern students are having deep, meaningful, authentic experiences aligning with research-based proven best practices, which result in higher student achievement, engagement, collaboration that prepare students for high school, college, and career with a higher level of motivation, maturity, and communicative skills than the norm.

\* Northwestern Teachers & Administrators welcome visitors – school representatives, community members, public officials, legislators, business representatives, and post-secondary institutions.



Mr. Woodring's 8th grade Historically Speaking class dressed up in their favorite historical character.



**Mr. Mike  
Burkholder  
Northwestern  
High School  
Principal**

Hello from Northwestern High School,

As time rolls on, we can be assured that winter will give way to spring – bringing with it the Spring Assessment season. Our students will be taking End of Course tests if they are enrolled in any of the following classes: English 9, English 10, Algebra I, Geometry, Biology, American History and Government. The end of course tests will be in April and May. Students will take these assessments and need to accumulate at least 18 points across these tests, as a graduation requirement. There will be retest opportunities, where necessary. We are looking at our options and we will release a test schedule once we have finalized the plans. We will meet the requirements, but keep our focus on educating our children to the very best of our ability rather than focus on the assessment.

We are very proud of the body of work completed by our students in senior seminar, internships and capstone classes. Thank you to all community members who took the time to serve as mentors or to sit on the panel during presentations. It is a huge endeavor, but is very worthwhile.

We have many students who are participating in the College Credit Plus program. For the 2018-19 school year we had an increase in the number of students that are taking their CCP course as part of their curriculum on the Northwestern campus. We have shifted to allow the majority of our CCP classes to mimic the college offerings and format. We will continue to have offerings in English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Business, Music and Agricultural Science. Please contact me or our Student Services Office to learn more about these opportunities. While we have a small population of students who take all of their CCP classes on a college campus, we are trying to

# Northwestern High School News

create a scenario where our students can have the best of both worlds and not have to sacrifice time and money traveling to the campuses or sacrifice the social experience of the final years in high school. We will be holding a meeting to discuss CCP classes offered at Northwestern in the near future. We will announce the date and time once that has been established.

It is the time of year that we begin planning for the coming year and will be starting the scheduling process for returning students. We have scheduled a meeting to help with this process on Tuesday March 5th at 6:00 p.m. The 2018 – 2019 course selection books will be available on-line. Please contact us with any questions you may have, relative to your child’s academic selections.

One new course offering that you want to be aware of is a course called Ready for College: Literacy Ready. The intent of the course is to help students in Grade 11 or 12 who have not scored well on the English portion of their ACT test and prepare students for interacting with college level literature and textbooks. If your child is looking to increase their ACT test score and prepare for college, I would encourage that you have them consider this course.

We have had many exciting things going on at the High School. The music and visual arts programs have continued to perform well. Many community members have had the pleasure of listening to their concert performances and seeing their displayed work. We have participated in the One Act Play Festival. Our winter sports teams have worked hard and have given their best efforts.

A reminder to all community members; Thanks to the generosity of the Northwestern All-Sports Association and Northwestern High School Physical Education classes now has a well-equipped fitness room. The fitness room is equipped with 2 treadmills, 2 ellipticals, upright bikes & recumbent bikes. The fitness room is located on the Northwest Corner of the High School in Room 400. The room is available to members of the Northwestern Community from 4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on days that the high school is in session. Northwestern Middle School students may use the equipment if accompanied by an adult. For safety reasons, we cannot allow children 11 or younger to use the equipment. Access to the fitness room may vary with the season, and the school calendar.

Community members have access to the track during daylight hours. Please restrict your use to the outside four lanes to reduce the wear on the inner lanes, which have more use during athletic events. The free weight facility in the community building is also available to community members, with restrictions. During the school day it can be accessed by signing in and getting a key from the board office. If we have a physical education class using the facility, they have priority. These classes are typically scheduled from 7:20 to 9:32. After school hours the weight room is generally utilized by athletic teams, making the facility unavailable. If the board office is closed and the athletic teams have finished their practices, access to the weight room may be achieved through a coach or Northwestern staff member who has a key, but they must be on the premises with you as a supervisor. These tightened restrictions are a result of trying to be good members of the community while balancing issues related to safety and liability.

We have so many people that invest so much for our students and children. Thank you for your continued support as we continue the work of “Preparing our Students Today for Tomorrow’s Opportunities”.



Northwestern High School  
Honor and Merit Roll  
2nd Nine Weeks  
2018-19



**Once Upon a Prom Resale Extravaganza Invitation**  
February 23, 2019 from 9am-3pm @ Wayne Presbyterian Church 7152 Burbank Rd., Wooster. You may purchase or resell your prom gown. (Cash only sale) Questions, please contact Jodi Harmon at 216-440-6646 or 330-317-5057 texts are preferred.

**Seniors:** Scholarships are starting to become available, and are being uploaded to Naviance as we receive them. Be sure to check there for any that might be suitable for you!

**Roy S. Bates Scholarship** applications are now available in the front office. You must be a senior student-athlete that plays basketball and/or baseball/softball. These applications are due to The Daily Record by March 15, 2019.

**1ST HONORS 4.010-OVER**

**Seniors:** Danielle Ballinger, Mikayla Beegle, Trenton Boatner, Nicholas Burns, Grace Chupp, Skylar Dawson, Kaylie Dye, Peyton Edwards, Isabella Flickinger, Isaac Franks, Hannah Fricke, Alexis Hall, Raini Hershey, Cortney Hoff, Elizabeth Kanzeg, Nikolas King, Elise Krajcik, James McLaurin, Jessica Moats, Cassandra Nutter, Benjamin Pollizi, Cael Rowland, Kailey Schwartz, Kaitlyn Secrist, Jadah Smith, Shane Smith, Claire Vaughan, Olivia Wakefield

**Juniors:** Colin Agnes, Jordan Allshouse, Claire Bond, Alexander Borton, Joshua Cline, Travis Cochran, Elliot Coffman, James Evans, Zaine Garver, Taylor Howman, Natalie Mareno, Grace McCullough, Jordan Melegari, Karlie Mowrer, Makenzie Nowell, Cal Rhamy, Leeanna Ruegg, Katherine Shambaugh, Lindsey Sykes, Brock Tegtmeier, Rachel Winkler

**Sophomores:** Samantha Barnette, Jillian Beun, Eleanore Bond, Gabriel Buchholz, Zane Fast, Mitchell Gray, Cierra Hershey, Elizabeth Howman, Valerie Linder, Morgan McCoy, Mary Nixon, Halie O'Loughlin, Dakota Rainsberger, Lariah Severs, Allison Spencer, Riley Stull, Liam Sykes, Megan Tomechko, Hailie Tomsik, Briana Troyan, Tamar Walton, Kylie Wellert, Jacob Westover, Haley Wilson, Brooklyn Woodruff, Emma Zemancik

**Freshmen:** : Shayna Allshouse, Jacqueline Barrington, Arianna Borton, Deanna Devore, Avery Garver, Dominic Guidetti, Taylor Haley, Gabe Hendricks, Skyler Hines, Ariel Hughes, Kathleen Kindall, Sarah Miller, Alexis Sandy, Clara Zemancik

**2ND HONORS (3.75-4.00)**

**Seniors:** Weslea Arthur, Tanner Carlson, Nicholas Howman, Tori McConnell, Cody Morrow, Sydney Pollizi, Alexandra Rowe, Jalen Severs, Mason Taylor

**Juniors:** Jordyn Ference, Logan Haven, Treyton Jester, Sasha McConahay, Hunter Miller, Kaitlyn Praisler, Lydia Smith, Aidan Spittler

**Sophomores:** Wyatt Arthur, Brandon Casto, Colton Hixson, Tanner Meininger, Betty Stevens

**Freshmen:** Grant Dever, Stefanie Ecker, Laurissa Fulton, Mariah Hill, Jameson Holtz, Nathaniel Jackson, Riley James, James Rowe, Ryan Walter, Steven Widdows

**3RD HONORS (3.000-3.740)**

**Seniors:** Alexis Arnette, James Blake, Aubrey Bodager, London Chaffee, Lindsay Ciolek, Avery Crumley, Jeffrey Guidetti, Susan Hartman, Malibu Hess, Jake Hjerpe, Kolton Kliner, Christopher Kovacs, Erica Leiby, Cole Marley, Carter Melicant, Joren Rickard, Pedro Rosales, Bethanie Schaefer, Joseph Shaw, Silas Smith, Nathan Smithberger, Kamy Tope, Hailey Yarbour

**Juniors:** Austin Beegle, Lindsay Boak, Jordan Deming, Skylar Edington, Phillip Howman, Savannah Hunt, Isabella Ingraham, Allison Kandel, Matthew Kobak, Riley Massengill, Tia Miles, Sarah Roder, Mehli Rogers, Brock Rush, Gabriel Sarno, Ceili Smith, Montana Stidham, Kenneth Strait

**Sophomores:** Maxwell Albright, Rilee Ammon, Lillian Bower, Cassidy Brown, Macey Carlson, Max Carlson, Braden Colter, James Cooke, Colston Cutter, Tyler Farner, Gerald Fricke, Chase Fr'y, Brooke Frybarger, Juan Gendron-Olalde, Haldon Huber, Rosa Ixcoy-Sica, Ryan Kuhn, Jason Markley, Cole McClure, Taylor Nixon, Janna Ours, Noah Pack, Breanna Slanczka, Desiree Smith, Robert Soueid, Hayden Stoller, Nathan Stoltz, Cole Wharton

**Freshmen:** Weston Arthur, Alexandra Burkett-Hostetler, Alexander Ciolek, Rylee Dawson, Addison DeSanto, Zoey Dute, Gavon Edgell, Ethan Gibbs, Kyle Hinton, Peyton Hostetler, Kendra Hummel, Faith Jackson, Olivia Keener, Margaret McCullough, Kara McKay, Dugan McLaughlin, Abigail Miller, Jackalynn Mosher, Gunnar Mullet, Jake Newcombe, Emma Nicholson, Cierra Phillips, Emily Reed, Grant Rhamy, Shayna Roder, Tori Rogers, Allison Rowland, Skylar Scott, Zander Shepherd, Andrew Sims, Kaylyn Smith, Rachel Smithberger, Thomas Stawicki, Cooper Stephens, Edward Stevens, Brennen Topp, Dominic Wallace, Tyler Ward



**Mrs. Rachel  
Beun  
Northwestern  
Middle School  
Principal**

## MIDDLE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

How is it we are already half-way done with the 2018-2019 school-year?!? With each school-year, I am always amazed at how quickly it progresses. Of course, with the ending of the second semester, I love reflecting on the great things our students and staff are doing at NMS, while also anticipating what is yet to come.

From our Talent Show to Career Day to Science Fair to Robotics competitions, our students continue to showcase their strengths and skills in a variety of amazing ways! In addition to these great opportunities, our winter athletes have also represented our "Husky nation" well, as many of their seasons wrap up soon. As always, we continue to be proud of the work and the efforts of our students as they further develop their academic and athletic abilities, as well as, their character and soft skills. We are confident that these wonderful experiences will serve them well as they continue to explore what the future holds.

With the winter months upon us, we continue to encourage parents to engage in conversations with your students about school, as well as, some of the social pressures they face as tweens and teens. With students stuck inside, they often turn to their devices (i.e.: phones and video games) to occupy their time. Although there are several positive aspects with these devices, there is also a lot of decision-making and potential dangers that come with using them.

Be sure to discuss what your expectations are at home, as well as, what they should do if they encounter a situation online, through social media, or when online gaming. With this technology, students need to know and be able to demonstrate social responsibility, as well as, consider their own safety. With temptations around every corner, online predators, and the ability to network with a variety of different people, we want to do our best at keeping our kids safe, both at home and

at school. Consider looking for online resources that can help in these discussions through websites such as: KidsHealth, ConnectSafely, NetSmartz, and WebMD.

As we enter the second semester, we will soon begin the merger between finishing this year and planning for next. Students will begin learning about their 2019-2020 course options as scheduling begins somewhere between late February and early March. We will also begin spring state testing in April, which will lead into the second week of May. Students will continue to have opportunities participate, and even compete, in a variety of other activities, including Academic Challenge, HOSA, and Drama Club productions. As always, we can't wait to see what they will achieve!

I also wanted to take this time to recognize the wonderful support we have from our parents and community. From fundraising efforts to volunteering your time at concession stands, we are so fortunate to have a community of people so willing to help our students and schools in a variety of ways. Please know that your help and support is very appreciated. Thank you for all you do for NMS!

We are certainly looking forward to a very busy and fun second semester. As always, we appreciate working together with our families and with our community. Please feel free to contact us anytime!

### CAREER DAY

In December, our eighth-grade students participated in Career Day as part of their Job Shadow project. As part of the day, students presented to area professionals and their peers about their career choices and experiences with their job shadow. In addition, they participated in multiple mock interviews, learning what it takes to participate in a job interview. We are so proud of the maturity and professionalism our students showed throughout the day! Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers that helped and provided their insight and experience with our students, as well!



### My School My Pride

School is a place to learn and play  
Make friends, have fun and memories to stay  
With lessons of life which will never be effaced  
Shaping character of students for the world to face  
My school Northwestern is the best of all  
A model of virtues standing high and tall  
It stands for values, though strict I know  
But school is the place to learn them so!  
Hardworking teachers are the pillars of a school  
And I am lucky to have them too  
We are made physically and mentally tough  
We know helping others is never enough  
I am proud to be a Husky and will be  
My school my pride, I am grateful to thee.



**Mr. Douglas Hopkins**  
**Northwestern Middle School**  
**Assistant Principal**

Welcome to the third quarter. As I settled in with my first semester at Northwestern I saw many wonderful events like our choir and band concerts. Our students did an absolutely phenomenal job. I could really tell the growth that our entire middle school is making in our fine art programs. So proud of our students and their hard work.

I also attended many extra curricular events over our winter season. You may have heard me cheering at the events. I am very pleased with the hard work our athletes and coaches are putting into some really fantastic seasons. I am looking forward to the WCAL tournaments. Go Huskies!!

I was part of my first career day for our eighth graders. What a wonderful event for not only our students but the community too. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to interview our students. I think this day will help our students tremendously when they decide to enter the working field.

I also just finished attending the robotics competition, which was an amazing site to see at Kalahari. Our middle and high school had teams that competed. Our middle school had two teams out of the thirty that were there. This competition had schools from three different states. I was completely blown away at the engineering and design by our students. The middle school was represented by Audrey Franks, Kylee Purdy, Nolan Hartsel, and Braiden Barthalow. I witnessed Audrey and Kylee win an alliance competition. This is a unique battle where you team up with another school to battle two other teams. It was so fun to see our students working together with other teams and being able to collaborate so quickly. This skill will definitely help in the future.

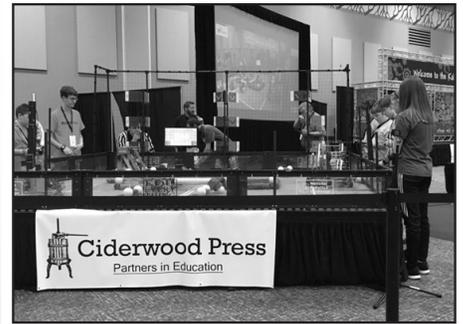
Finally, I hope everyone had a blessed Christmas and New Year. I was so honored to be apart of the annual administration in Christmas wear photo for our elementary students. I had so much fun being "Buddy the Elf." Again, I feel so blessed to be part of this district and community.



ABOVE: Middle School Career Day Pictures



ABOVE: Middle School at the Kalahari robotics competition.

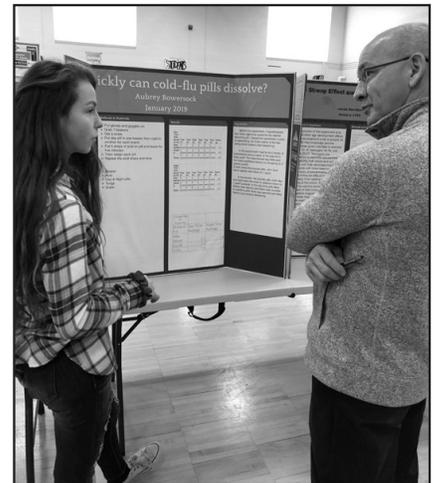


### Middle School SCIENCE FAIR PROJECTS

On Tuesday, January 15th, 40 6th-8th grade students presented their Science Fair Projects to School Board and Community Members.

The following students earned a Superior rating on their projects and have the opportunity to advance to the Mohican District Science Day on March 23rd: Emma Adkinson, Kirsten Boreman, Aubrey Bowersock, Isaac Beun, Leona Buettner, Haley Caldwell, Sara Corn, Quinn Fast, Gino Guidetti, Virginia Hammers, Ellie Hanshaw, Noah Lee, Sofi Linder, Charleigh McMillian, McKensie McCoy, Morgan Murphy, Katherine Orosz, Kierstin Skelly, Alexa Riffel, Ben Spencer, Brayden Springer, and Alysa Troyan.

Congratulations to all students who participated on a job well done!



# MS Honor/Merit Roll

## Academic Honor Roll 2nd Nine Weeks 2018-19

### All "A" Honor Roll

8TH GRADE: Brett Alberts, Brailee Beun, Florida Blake, Addie Bodager, Audrey Franks, Madison Fricke, Caitlyn Leighty, Brooke McNeil, Ava O'Loughlin, Gavin Phillips, Jacob Wakefield, Paige Walter, Samantha Yates

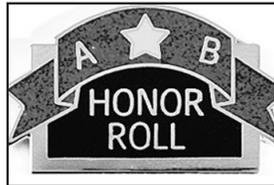
7TH GRADE: Emma Adkison, Quinn Fast, Alyssah Fisher, Tristan Miller, Julia Norby, Jennie Riffle, Ella Saal, Hattie Sciortino, Hunter Sciortino, Kade Tegmeier, Lillian Wakefield, Jacob Ward, Keturah Weaver

6TH GRADE: Isaac Beun, Harmony Blake, Sara Corn, Kayla Cutter, Mallory Gilbert, Elaine Groves, Gino Guidetti, Ella Hartsel, Taya Kaufman, Kelli Kearney, Noah Lee, McKensie McCoy, Gabriel Nicholson, Katherine Orosz, Braydan Springer, Chloe Starcher, Jule Stoller, Alexandra Stoltz

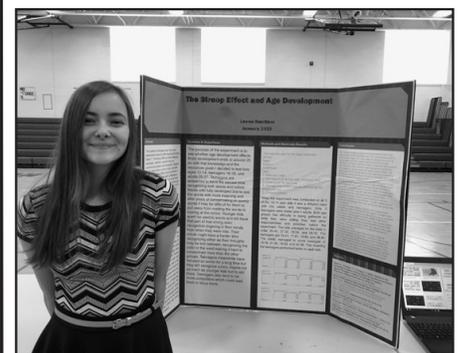
### All "A" and "B" Merit Roll

8TH GRADE: Marina Aulger, Carissa Brinker, Joseph Buchholz, Brooklyn Buzzard, Gabriel Chupp, Alyssa Cogar, Phoenix Cuthrell, Jesse Evans, Arianna Firebaugh, Anna Gendron, Madison Gray, Karissa Groves, A'Kia Hardin, Nolan Hartsel, Charlie Herman, Cole Hoffer, Landen Horst, Kayla Hummel, Nathaniel Hunt, Melanie Imhoff, Mark Ingraham, Brent Mann, Jacquelyn McLaurin, Charleigh McMillan, Louisa Morris, Gabriel Pelfrey, Paige Pellschaw, Kylee Purdy, Daylie Rickard, Ethan Siders, Joshua Spencer, Ava Stoller, Shelby Thorpe, Thomas Tomechko, Isabella Vacco, Lauren Vaughan, Danielle Wilkes, Hanna Wilson

7TH GRADE: Brandon Barnette, Kara Burgan, Haley Caldwell, Reece Chanay, Hayden Cline, Drake Crumley, Jacob Farner, Owen Ferriman, Cayden Fiala, Logan Garman, Virginia Hamers, Ellie Hanshaw, Madalyne Hunt, Mikalah Jones, Sophia Linder, Jocelyn Lucas, Caleb Mackey, Faith Maiher, Ethan Mausolf, Alexzander Maxwell, Gabriella Ream, Caydence Scale, Kierstin Skelly, Cade St. Clair, Luke Walton, Paige Webb, Anthony Welch, Carissa Whisman, Preston Wilcox, Benjamin Williamson



6TH GRADE: Keira Beard, Kristanna Bradford, Brooklyn Brinker, Karizma Brinker, Gabriela Cubur, Mateo Dague, Natalie Dobbins, Morgan Ervin, Braiden Franks, Bladen Friend, Nathaniel Fulton, Jamison Gilbert, Ashton Good, Kaylie Gregory, Will Hamey, Danyel Hyatt, Jaidyn Kelly, Cole Loy, Colton Mark, Danina McClure, Mason Meininger, Josiah Moats, Paige Muetzel, Avery Mullet, Morgan Murphy, Mason Myers, Emilie Ott, Tyler Perry, Cheyenne Sadler, Emma Salem, Logan Shriver, Miranda Smith, Bella Stutz, Heidi Topp, Alysya Troyan, Taylor Wurst



**Bad Dog Board & Ski Club didn't find a pot of gold on the first night. However, we found "A GREAT FIRST NIGHT ON THE SLOPES" at Snow Trails**



# NW ELEMENTARY



**Mr. Joey  
Brightbill  
Northwestern  
Elementary  
Principal**

We are very proud of our staff and students and excited for the changes heading in to the New Year.

Northwestern Elementary School conducted a Site Review Process (SRP), a requirement of High Schools That Work/Making Middle Grades Work site in the first few years of adopting HSTW and then every three years thereafter.

As part of the SRP, NES will be hosted a one-day On-Site Review on December 11, 2018. An SRP Team participated in classroom observations and interviews of administrators, teachers and students. The SRP focused on the following HSTW/MMGW Key Practices:

- Engaging Classroom Practices in Math
- Literacy Across All Contents

The Building Leadership team met on January 9, 2019 to review the feedbacks and begin implementation of the recommendations from the team. Our goal is to continue to build on strengths and identify weaknesses to improve in order to continue to grow and set high expectations.

Testing is right around the corner. State testing will begin at the end of March and finish early May. You can view and help prepare your son or daughter for the tests at <http://oh.portal.airast.org/ocba/students-and-families/>. As the dates get closer, more testing information will be communicated with students and parents.

NES values community input, support and communication with our staff and administrators about education.

We want to continue to challenge and set high expectations for our students in order to keep preparing them for the future. NES prides itself on a “team” approach to provide the best opportunity for our students to be successful.  
Best Wishes

*Mr. Joey Brightbill  
NES Principal*

### Pre School Information:

We have seats available in our (3-4 years old) STEM pre-school this school year (2019). Scholarships available upon request – half or full tuition - for those who qualify. Please contact the elementary school if you are interested in enrolling your student.

**Kindergarten** made snow volcanoes on January 14th.



**Book Fair is March 4-8  
Book Fair Family Night/Lit-  
eracy Night - March 6  
SIGN UP ON THE  
ELEMENTARY WEBSITE**

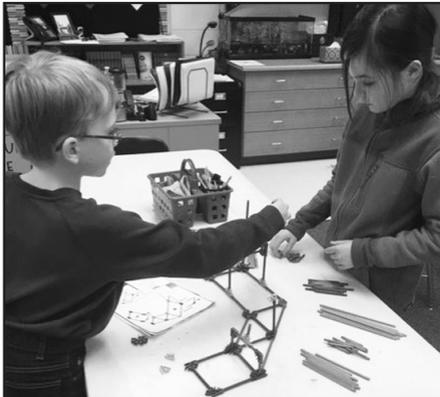
**Fifth grade students** building roller coasters out of tubing - learning about potential and kinetic energy.



**Order your  
Northwestern  
elementary yearbook  
online!  
Yearbook cost - \$15.00  
[ybpay.lifetouch.com](http://ybpay.lifetouch.com)  
ID Code - 2304719**

# Northwestern Elementary

Fifth graders building a roller coaster learning about Newton's Laws of motion.



Kindergarten students want to thank all of our veterans for their service!



Mrs. Steiner's class listening to Christmas music while having fun with the coloring contest.



The elementary food drive was incredible. We stocked the local pantries for the holidays. Thanks to all the families that sent in items.



Kindergarten students made a retelling bracelet from the story of The First Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Tiano's pilgrims ready for a fun day of Thanksgiving learning and celebration.



**Information for 5th Grade Girls interested in Volleyball!**  
**5th/6th grade Volleyball League**  
 Go to the elementary website

Thanksgiving activities at the elementary school



# Elementary Highlights

Stem worked with 5th grade designing their final bug project. Preschool had to design the three parts of a lightning bug, the head thorax and abdomen. They also had to add in the details of the insect including: six legs, three body parts, and two antennas. Fifth grade was challenged to create a circuit in order to make the lightning bug actually light up. We tried, we failed, we tried, we failed again, we tried it again, and we succeeded. #persistence



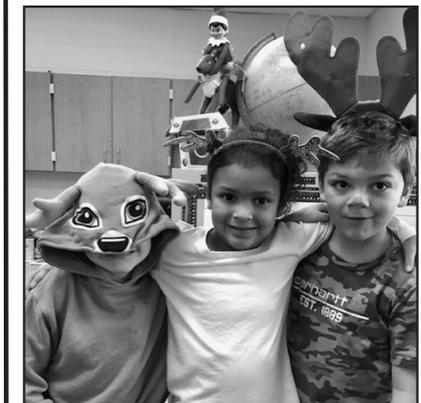
A country Christmas in 2nd Grade, Mrs. Steiner's class



Winners of the Elementary coloring contest.



REINDEER DAY at the elementary school



# NEWS The Place To Be!

## ELF DAY!!



## Northwestern Elementary

### KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten Registration for the 2019-20 school year kindergarten class will be held March 19th & March 20th at the Mochican Church of the Brethren. The church is located at 7759 North Elyria Road, West Salem. If you have a child who will be five years old on or before August 1st, 2019, please call the school to schedule an appointment for the screening.

**Appointment times will be available starting Feb. 1st**

**Please call 419-846-3519, ext. 3101 to schedule your child's screening time.**

### Registration Day

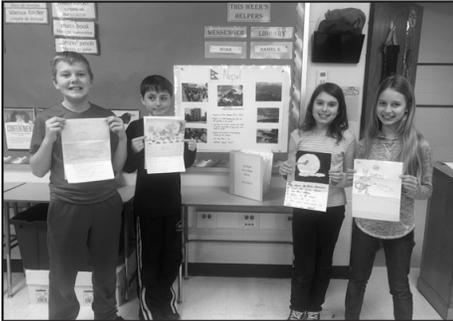
Please bring your child, birth certificate, immunization records, any custody papers that may apply, driver's license (w current address), and proof of residency (it can be a utility bill or phone bill, with your name and address on it). You will also need to know your child's social security number for some of the paperwork.



## MORE NES Highlights!!

### Pen Pals from Nepal

We have become pen pals with students from Nepal! One of Mrs. Creasap's and one of Mrs. Austin's writing classes are exchanging letters with students from Nepal this year. These Nepali students want to learn English, and were excited to write letters to American students to help them do this. Our students were "over the moon" so to speak, to receive letters last month, and found they have many things in common with their Asian fourth and fifth grade counterparts. Both are familiar with and enjoy Pokémon and Disney movies as was evident by the wonderful colored pictures the Nepali students drew to accompany their letters. After a short introduction to Nepal's culture and the country, our students eagerly wrote back, adding their own outstanding drawings and are now awaiting another set of letters. We are so excited to help our new friends on the other side of the world learn English in this fun way!



**2 Hour Delays for 18-19 School Year:**

**Thursday, February 7  
Thursday, March 7  
Thursday, April 4**

## STAFF APPRECIATION NIGHT!

On January 24th, the Lady Husky basketball team held a "staff appreciation night" in between the JV and Varsity games against Dalton. The players chose a teacher or a staff person from Northwestern who they felt had made a positive impact in their life growing up in this community. This person was invited to the game and then introduced and recognized. The following are the teachers and staff that were honored:



Rich Kline selected by Carley Lemaster, Chris Carrabine selected by Deanna Devore, Carol Wright selected by Kaylee Reed, Julie Ulrich selected by Lynzi Smith, Brett Imhoff selected by Shayna Allshouse, Tammy McClure selected by Taylor Haley, Rachel Beum selected by Karlie Mowrer, xxxxxx selected by Lindsey Boak, Mike Burkholder selected by Beth Schaefer, and Judy Reed selected by Allison Spencer.



Northwestern Alumni & Friends Association

The Northwestern Alumni & Friends Association has been on hiatus since October. Not to say that we have allowed grass to grow under our feet. The committee encourages alumni and community members to nominate individuals to the Hall of Fame and Hall of Honor. Nomination forms can be downloaded on the Northwestern High School website. Current members of the respective Hall of Fames have individuals in sports, medicine, jewelry, agriculture, educators, etc.

The Scholarship Committee is a subcommittee of the NWFA. This committee collects and analyzes scholarship applications of student graduates continuing their studies. Recipients of a scholarship are required to be at least a sophomore in college. Currently, the NWFA has been able to award two scholarships per year based on the interest earned on the principal June.

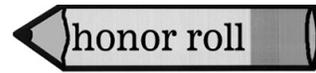
The Northwestern Alumni & Friends Association consists of a small group of alumni representing all alumni of Northwestern High School. This group welcomes and encourages other alumni and friends to join the group, to assist with the banquet planning process, and becoming involved in one of the subcommittees.

*Written and submitted by Anne Funk-Chance*



# Northwestern Elementary

2nd Nine Weeks  
2018-19



### 3rd GRADE HONOR ROLL

Jared Allshouse, Nathaniel Baker, Lillian Boreman, Deacon Boreman, Kenzie Cutter, Briella Fiala, Cara Graham, Colt Hall, Wyatt James, Case Keener, Keagan Kostohryz, Hailee Smith, Madilyn Smith, Brayden Swank

### 4th GRADE HONOR ROLL

Emma Altman, Reed Hamey, Aiden Mausolf, Brooke Nolletti, Clara Saal, Taryn Stoller

### 5th GRADE HONOR ROLL

Camryn Boak, Corbin Chanay, Kaylee Cherry, Kate Conley, Emmalee Connelly, Addy Connelly, Makenna Connelly, Jackson Evans, Pippy Garman, Mason Rogers, Hayden Sigler, Josey Thomas, Cyrus Witmer

### 3rd GRADE MERIT ROLL

Aspen Baker, Emily Beeghley, Alexis Black, Taylor Carpenter, Mette Clark, Jordan Cline, Courtney Cline, Justin Ebert, Hayden Erf, Gracie Gibbs, Adalynn Gray, Braden Gump, Logan Hankins, Jesse Hanshaw, Keaton Harris, Cole Herrmann, Elcey Imhoff, Michael Ivan, Afton Karazsia, Austin Kelley, Kellen Kimble, Grant Koch, Joseph Larson, Tristin Malcomb, Finn Massengill, Luke Matacale, Colton Morris, Emma Olson, Alexa Perry, Natalie Posta, Vanessa Rinkes, Bronson Rogers, Katie Scarbrough, Korbyn Sims, Kael Vallowe, Brynley Weirick

### 4th GRADE MERIT ROLL

Jacob Cerklefskie, Chiron Cuthrell, Riley Damon, Garret Diehl, Elaina Donnelly, Shayla Dudte, Madi Frazier, Emma Fricke, Riley Grier, Kenzie Hastings, Jake Howman, Olivia Humphrey, Zareyah Martin, Tristan McQuerry, Sophia Morris, Owen Murphy, Mallory Novak, Bryce Nussbaum, Charlotte Radcliff, Jace Rickard, Alexia Ridenbaugh, Bricen Snow, Tim Spencer, Makenna Stansfield, Nikki Troyan, Kenzie Weaver, Alivia Welch, Allison Wellert, Michael Weygandt, Audrey Wilcox, Luke Wilkinson, Elijah Wilson, Noah Wilson, Grace Wilson, Carter Wulff, Alex Yoder

### 5th GRADE MERIT ROLL

Sophia Ahrendt, Kierah Bailey, Claire Buchholz, James Cassidy, Addie Cassidy, Evan Crank, Christian Deffendall, Riellie DeSanto, Jason Diehl, Jacob Ebert, Asher Erf, Logan Fiala, Cheyenne Friend, C.J. Frybarger, Mason Gray, Coralyn Hall, Timmy Hatfield, Sami Herman, Kace Hixson, Jenna Hjerpe, Chad Houck, Austin Johnson, Kate Johnson, Gabi Klinect, Brayden Knapp, Anna Lizarraga, Savannah McConahay, David McLe, Kolten McKinley, Jesse McLaurin, Chet McNeil, Kaiden Pack, Lexie Palker, Zander Pauley-Farber, Mia Rosales, Collin Rouse, Olivia Scarbrough, Audrina Smith, Kelsee Smith, Wesley Stoltz, Dylan Tomsik, Alaric Trimble, Elliot Vanni, Jay Velez, Claire Walker, Sarah Wellert, Holly Widdows, Audri Yeagley, Mackenzie Zahradnicek

### Northwestern Elementary Husky Happenings

Friday, Feb. 15 – NO SCHOOL

Monday, Feb. 18 – NO SCHOOL, Happy President's Day!

Tuesday, Feb. 19 – Science Fair

Wednesday, Feb. 20 – Science Fair Family Night

Grandparents Day for 4th grade



# Northwestern FFA



## FFA Members Help at Chicken Barns

Several members of the Northwestern FFA chapter traveled to Brian Reed's poultry farm in New Pittsburg, Oh on September 19th, 20th, 22nd as well as October 30th, November 1st, and November 3rd. During the visit, members helped set up the barns by installing dividers, feeders, and waterers. They also put paper under the feeders to keep them clean. The day after set up, Joey Ballinger, Savannah Hunt, Valarie Imhoff, Max Madrill, Abby Ramseyer, Leeanna Ruegg, Bethanie Schaefer, Desiree Smith, Riley Stull, Brock Tegtmeier, Kade Tegtmeier, Kaitlyn Praisler, Craig Wellert, Noah White, and Haley Wilson helped by placing over 55,000 chicks in each of the three barns measuring 652 foot long and 60 foot wide. The members look forward to helping at the farm every 43 to 45 days.



Joey Ballinger and Max Madrill waiting after the work was done



## Northwestern FFA Participates in District Food Science Contest

On November 7th, the Northwestern FFA traveled to Norwayne to participate in the District Food Science Career Development Event. The Food Science CDE is where participants identify aromas and flavors in food, complete a triangle test which is a sample of three of the same food products with two of the products being the same and one of them being different and identifying the different one, sanitation violations, and customer inquiries dealing in the food industry. Members competing were Valaire Imhoff, Leeanna Ruegg, Clair Vaughan, and Haley Wilson. The team was 2nd in the contest, and will be participating at the state contest.



## Northwestern FFA Members Competes in State Food Science & Technology Contest

On Saturday, December 1st, members of the Food Science and Technology Career Development Event competed at the Parker Food Science Building at the Ohio State University Campus. **Members of the team were Valaire Imhoff, Leeanna Ruegg, Clair Vaughan, and Haley Wilson.** The team placed 15th overall with Imhoff placing 27th, Ruegg placing 55th, Vaughan placing 73rd, and Wilson placing 66th overall individually. This career development event is designed to give FFA members the opportunity to learn about the Food Science Industry.

Members competing in the contest had to identify aromas and flavors of food, complete a triangle test which is a sample of three food products with two of the products being the same and one of them being different and the students must identify the different one, sanitation violations, and customer inquiries that affect dealing in the food industry. As a team they also had to do a product development which consisted of the creation of a nutrition label and its calculations, marketing and packaging of the product, and answer questions analyzing the demographics and consumer needs. The chapter would like to congratulate the team on a job well done and for representing the chapter at the state level.

## Northwestern FFA Competes at the District Parliamentary Procedure Contest

On Monday, December 3rd, 2018 members of the Northwestern FFA Chapter competed in the District 3 parliamentary procedure contest held at Northwestern High School. Parliamentary Procedure is an assessment of students' abilities to participate effectively in a business meeting or other group decision making situation. The team conducts a mock meeting and a written test based on Robert's Rules of Order and are evaluated by FFA Advisors from other districts.

The varsity team consisted of, Austin Beegle, Valerie Imhoff (Secretary), Cody Morrow, Riley Stull, Brock Tegtmeier (Chair), and Haley Wilson. Alex Borton, Jordan Melegari, Craig Wellert, and Cole Wharton were the team's alternates. The novice team consisted of, Jayden Berry, Ari Borton, Avery Garver (Chair), Jameson Holtz, Dugan McLaughlin (Chair), Kade Tegtmeier, Hanna Wilson and Carissa Winland. The varsity team placed 4th in the District 3 contest with the novice team placing 1st. The Novice team will advance to the state contest that will be held on December 15th at The Ohio State University in Columbus.

# FFA News!!!

## Northwestern FFA Members Ring Bells for the Salvation Army

On December 20th, members of the Northwestern FFA Chapter participated in bell ringing at Walmart in Wooster. The Chapter volunteered to ring bells from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. to help the Salvation Army raise money for those in need. Members signed up in 1 hour shifts with one or 2 other people. Austin Beegle, Jadeyn Berry, Jayla Berry, Lindsay Boak, Alex Borton, Cassidy Brown, Maddy Cherry, Rylee Dawson, Zoey Dudte, Avery Garver, Gerrett Franks, Jeffery Guidetti, Jameson Holtz, Lizzy Howman, Savannah Hunt, Kara McKay, Max Madrill, Dugan McLaughlin, Jordan Melegari, Carter Melicant, Cody Morrow, Janna Ours, Kaitlyn Praisler, Abby Ramseyer, Tori Rogers, Leeanna Ruegg, Desiree Smith, Riley Stull, Brock Tegtmeier, Brianna Troyan, Clair Vaughan, Cole Wharton, Noah White, Haley Wilson and Hanna Wilson all volunteered their time to ring bells. The Northwestern FFA Chapter is thankful for the opportunity to ring bells and is looking forward to participating in this project in future years.

## Northwestern FFA Holds Winter Meeting and Gift Exchange

On Monday, December 15th, members of the Northwestern FFA Chapter gathered in the library at Northwestern High School for their winter meeting and annual White Elephant Gift Exchange.

The meeting was called to order by the President Claire Vaughan at 7 pm. The officers then performed opening ceremonies and minutes of the previous meeting were read by the secretary, Leeanna Ruegg. Committee reports were given by 8 committees. Haley Wilson reported on the Ag in the Classroom committee. They have visited Northwestern Elementary School one time since the October meeting, and will visit the elementary school each month for the rest of the year. Dugan McLaughlin reported on the Safety committee.

Jameson Holtz reported on the Earnings and Savings committee, which has held one meeting since October where they discussed the success of the fruit sale and the beginning of the sausage sales. Jadeyn Berry reported on the Community Service committee. They held a meeting in November and discussed the upcoming dodge ball tournament, Salvation Army bell ringing, and Christmas tree pickup. Jeffery Guidetti reported on the Public Relations committee. The committee met and talked about the upcoming deadline.

Tori McConnel reported on the Leadership committee. They have held one meeting since October and discussed upcoming Spring Career Development Events.

Next members gave reports on different activities the Chapter has been involved in. Austin Beegle reported on fruit sales. This year, the Northwestern FFA sold 423 cases of fruit. She also stated that fruit money should be paid by Christmas break. Austin Beegle reported on the county and district parliamentary procedure contest for the advanced team. The varsity team placed 1st at sub-districts and 4th at districts. Arianna Borton reported on the Novice Parliamentary team. The team placed first at both sub-district and districts and placed 2nd in their room at state on December 15th. Leeanna Ruegg reported on the Job Interview CDE, in which she placed 2nd in her division at the district contest. Alex Borton reported on dues, which will be increased to \$20 starting the end of November. Riley Stull reported on bell ringing. The chapter will be ringing bells at the Wooster Walmart on December 21st. Elizabeth Howman reported on the annual carry-in to be held on December 20th.

Austin Beegle moved to participate in the annual sausage sales again this year. Brock Tegtmeier moved to participate in the Ag Sales CDE. Leeanna Ruegg moved to participate in the public speaking contest. Cole Wharton moved to participate in the spring CDE invitationals. Lizzy Howman moved to participate in the Agri-Science fair. Haley Wilson moved to participate in FFA Week held in February. All of these motions were voted on and passed by the Chapter members. The meeting was then adjourned and officers performed closing ceremonies.

After the meeting, members enjoyed refreshments in the Ag shop and participated in the annual Christmas White Elephant Gift Exchange.

## Northwestern FFA Participates in Trap Shoot

The Northwestern FFA participated in a trap shoot hosted by the New Pittsburg Sportsmans Club on Saturday, December 8th. Club members Rod and Mary Lou Hart, helped teach the students and FFA advisors about range safety and shooting techniques. At the trap shoot, there were eight members of the FFA present, Joey Ballinger, Austin Beegle, Cole Marley, Cody Morrow, Brock Tegtmeier, Kade Tegtmeier, Craig Wellert, and Cole Wharton. Advisor Heather Tegtmeier joined the members as well.

At the trap shoot, the members and advisors shot clay pigeons, played games and had small competitions to see who was the sharpest shooter. Members got to shoot real competition guns, and had a fun time mingling while enjoying a friendly pastime. Additionally, the members got the feel for shooting regulation distances for clay shooting.



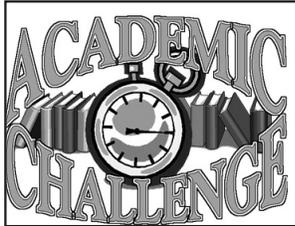
# NORTHWESTERN FFA

## Northwestern FFA Parliamentary Procedure Teams Compete at State

On Saturday, December 5th, members of the Northwestern FFA Chapter traveled to The Ohio State University for the state parliamentary procedure contest. The novice team qualified to compete at the state contest by placing 1st at the district level.

The novice parliamentary procedure team consisted of Avery Garner (chair), Dugan McLaughlin (chair), Jamison Holtz, Kade Tegtmeier, Hanna Wilson, Carissa Brinker, Jadeyn Berry, and Arianna Borton. The team placed 2nd in their room.

Teams were scored on running a business meeting using correct abilities of parliamentary procedure, effectiveness of debate, overall professionalism, the secretary's minutes, correct responses to a set of oral questions, and a written test taken beforehand. The Northwestern FFA Chapter would like to congratulate these members for their success throughout this contest as a result of their hard work and dedication.



Congratulations to the HIGH SCHOOL academic challenge team consisting of Nik King, Olivia Wakefield and Morgan McCoy for getting 2nd place in the Tri County Academic Challenge tournament held on Saturday, January 26!!

## NORTHWESTERN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC LETTERS

Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors received their academic letters at a program on Tuesday, November 27. In order to receive their academic letters, students had to have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.75. This year, twenty-six sophomores, three juniors and two seniors were eligible to receive their first year academic letter. These students also received a lamp of knowledge pin. Twenty-four juniors and thirty-four seniors received gold bars for continuing the outstanding average. The students who received academic letters include:

### Letter/Lamp

**Sophomores:** Morgan McCoy, Jacob Westover, Jillian Beun, Cierra Hershey, Allison Spencer, Lariah Severs, Gabriel Buchholz, Katherine Linder, Halie O'Loughlin, Liam Sykes, Emma Zemancik, Haley Wilson, Valerie Imhoff, Eleanor Bond, Mitchell Gray, Briana Troyan, Elizabeth Howman, Hayden Stoller, Samantha Barnette, Zane Fast, Riley Stull, Megan Tomechko, Tamar Walton, Brooklyn Woodruff, Hailie Tomsik, Robert Soueid

**Juniors:** Aidan Spittle, Haerang Park, Brianna Teal

**Seniors:** Maria Chellis, Peyton Edwards

### Gold Bar

**Juniors:** Jordan Allshouse, Taylor Howman, Katherine Shambaugh, Karlie Mowrer, Rachel Winkler, Joshua Cline, Claire Bond, Brock Tegtmeier, Colin Agnes, Mehli Rogers, Jordan Melegari, Leeanna Ruegg, Zaine Garver, Alexander Borton, Travis Cochran, Lindsey Sykes, Austin Beegle, Hunter Miller, James Evans, Jordyn Ference, Cal Rhamy, Elliot Coffman, Makenzie Nowell, Logan Haven

**Seniors:** Olivia Wakefield, Katherine Koontz, Carrie Boak, Benjamin Pollizi, Allison St. Clair, Mikayla Beegle, Hannah Fricke, Cassandra Nutter, Brianna Shearer, Jordan Dettwiler, Cortney Hoff, Annabelle Martin, Kaitlyn Secrist, Trevor Ferriman, Nikolas King, Kailey Schwartz, Mackenzi Gray, Jadah Smith, Grace Chupp, Elise Krajcik, Isaac Franks, Skylar Dawson, Elizabeth Kanzeg, Jaimie Critzer, Tyler Carlson, Kaylie Dye, Emily Cromer, Weslea Arthur, Tanner Carlson, James McLaurin, Kaylee Reed, Cael Rowland, Raini Hershey, Caleb Purdy

### The following students are members of the Northwestern High School National Honor Society:

**Seniors:** Weslea Arthur, Mikayla Beegle, Carrie Boak, Grace Chupp, Kaylie Dye, Trevor Ferriman, Hannah Fricke, Mackenzi Gray, Raini Hershey, Cortney Hoff, Elizabeth Kanzeg, Nikolas King, Katherine Koontz, Elise Krajcik, Annabelle Martin, James McLaurin, Cassandra Nutter, Benjamin Pollizi, Kailey Schwartz, Kaitlyn Secrist, Brianna Shearer, Allison St. Clair, Olivia Wakefield  
**Juniors:** Jordan Allshouse, Austin Beegle, Claire Bond, Alexander Borton, Joshua Cline, Travis Cochran, Zaine Garver, Logan Haven, Taylor Howman, Jordan Melegari, Hunter Miller, Karlie Mowrer, Cal Rhamy, Mehli Rogers, Leeanna Ruegg, Katherine Shambaugh, Aidan Spittle, Lindsey Sykes, Rachel Winkler

**Northwestern Local Schools  
Calendar 2019-2020**

**2019**

Monday, August 19	Convocation Day
Tuesday, August 20	First Day for Students
Monday, September 2	NO SCHOOL - Labor Day
Monday, September 9	NO SCHOOL - Fair Day
Tuesday, September 10	NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day
Wedn., September 11	NO SCHOOL - Waiver Day
Friday, October 18	End of First Nine Weeks (41 Pupil Days)

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Thursday, October 24	Parent/Teacher Conferences: H.S. and M.S.
Mon./Thurs., Oct. 28 & 31	Parent/Teacher Conferences: Elementary
Thursday, November 28 thru	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Vacation
Monday, Dec. 2	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Vacation
Friday, Dec. 20	End of Second Nine Weeks (42 days)

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Monday, Dec. 23	NO SCHOOL - Christmas Vacation
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**2020**

Wednesday, January 6, 2020	School Reconvenes
Thursday, January 9	Parent/Teacher Conferences: H.S. and M.S.
Monday, January 20	NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Day
Tues./Thurs. Jan.28 & 30	Parent/Teacher Conferences: Elementary
Friday, February 14	NO SCHOOL - Compensatory Time
Monday, February 17	NO SCHOOL - President's Day
Friday, March 13	End of Third Nine Weeks (47 Pupil Days)

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Thursday, March 19	Parent/Teacher Conferences; H.S. and M.S.
Monday, April 6-10	NO SCHOOL - Easter Vacation
Monday, May 25	NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
Thursday, May 28	Student's Last Day (48Pupil Days)

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Friday, May 29	Teacher's Last Day
Sunday, May 31	Graduation

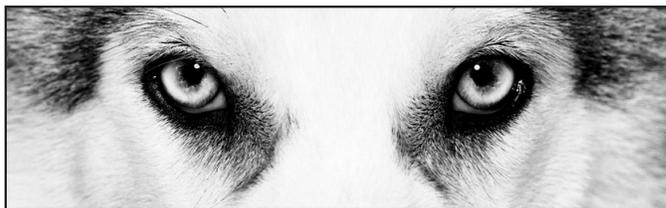
\*\* Student contact days 178 ( PD Waiver 2 student contact)

P-T Conference & Open House days 2

Professional Development day 1; Convocation and Work days 3 ( 1 day between Aug. 1 & 18)

**MAKE UP DAYS**

May 29, June 1,2,3,4 in order



**DON'T MISS OUT !!**

**Board of Education Meeting**

Board President Laura Woodring  
3rd Monday each month 7:00 p.m.  
HS Library

**All Sports Association**

President Janet Alberts  
1st Monday each month 7:30 p.m.  
HS Commons

**Music Boosters**

President Audrey Pollizi  
3rd Tuesday each month 7:00 p.m.  
( Do not meet June, July, December)  
HS Band room

**Ruritans**

President Chuck Beck  
2nd Monday each month 7:00 p.m.  
HS Commons

**Football Club**

President Craig Wellert  
3rd Monday each month 7:00 p.m.  
HS Commons

**Soccer Club**

President Steve Wellert  
1st Tuesday each month 6:00 p.m.  
Elementary Cafeteria

**Elementary PTO**

President Kim Witucki  
Meetings 3:45 ES Library - TBA



The elementary school had a “turkey” hiding out during the Thanksgiving season.



CANDY CANE day at the elementary school!!

**“The Northwestern”  
newsletter deadlines for 2018-  
2019 will be: March 27,  
June 5**

**\*\*\*\*\* THE Northwestern \*\*\*\*\***  
Editor, Diane J. Hannah  
If you have information that you would like in this newsletter, please contact Diane Hannah by calling the high school at 419-846-3833 ext. 1137 or through email: [nrws\\_editor@tccsa.net](mailto:nrws_editor@tccsa.net)



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