

THE Northwestern

Northwestern Local Schools * 7571 N. Elyria Rd. * West Salem, OH 44287
419-846-3151 * Fax: 419-846-3361 * www.northwestern-wayne.k12.oh.us

January 2021



Northwestern “Super Heroes” and “Christmas Characters” welcome students on the last day before break!

Northwestern High School’s theater department perform “Tracks” at the Tri County One Act Competition in January. Read more about it on page 8.



NES students made Christmas cards for area nursing homes.



QR
Code



District Twitter Account
up and live!
Log onto @NW_Schools
Live broadcast of events
<http://www.ustream.tv/channel/sportslive14>



Administration

Jeffrey Layton, Superintendent
419-846-3151

nrws_layton@tccsa.net
Lesa Forbes, Treasurer
419-846-3400

nrws_lforbes@tccsa.net

Randal Hafner, High School Principal
419-846-3833

nrws_hafner@tccsa.net

Rachel Beun, Middle School Principal
419-846-3974

nrws_beun@tccsa.net

Joey Brightbill, Elementary Principal
419-846-3519

nrws_jbrightbill@tccsa.net

*Julie McCumber, Assoc. Supt., Curriculum
& Personnel*

nrws_mccumbe@tccsa.net

Board of Education

Charles Beck, President
330-464-8614

nrws_cbeck@tccsa.net

John Smith, Vice-president
330-701-8955

nrws_jsmith@tccsa.net

Laura Woodring

330-263-5042

ZTPLG22@gmail.com

Brad Stull

330-464-3559

nrws_bstull@tccsa.net

Paula Abrecht

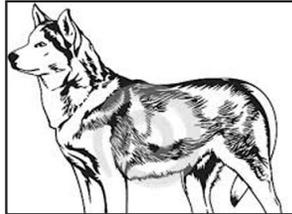
330-464-3204

Paula.abrecht@gmail.com



Mrs. Lesa Forbes
Northwestern
Treasurer

Husky Pride & Tradition



Our Northwestern Schools Paid-off!

Here is some **FANTASTIC NEWS!**
Is everyone ready for a mortgage burning party?!

Through fiscal responsibility & excellent planning we are able to pay-off our school buildings by this April, 2021 - more than 3 years early!

Taxpayers will see an immediate "bond property tax reduction" this year (2021)!

Important Details:

- * Northwestern is in a position to pay-off our buildings by April, 2021
- * Our final payment was originally expected to be in Dec., 2024
- * We are providing an immediate "bond property tax reduction" that will provide some tax relief to our community! This means we are collecting a reduced .4 millage rather than the bond's 1.2 mil effective millage this year!
- * By refinancing our bond at a lower interest rate with the balloon payment terms we put in place in 2011 the district saved our taxpayers over \$266,000 in interest over the last 13 years of the loan!
- * By retiring the bond early we will save taxpayers more than \$21,000 in interest!
- * Now we all benefit!!

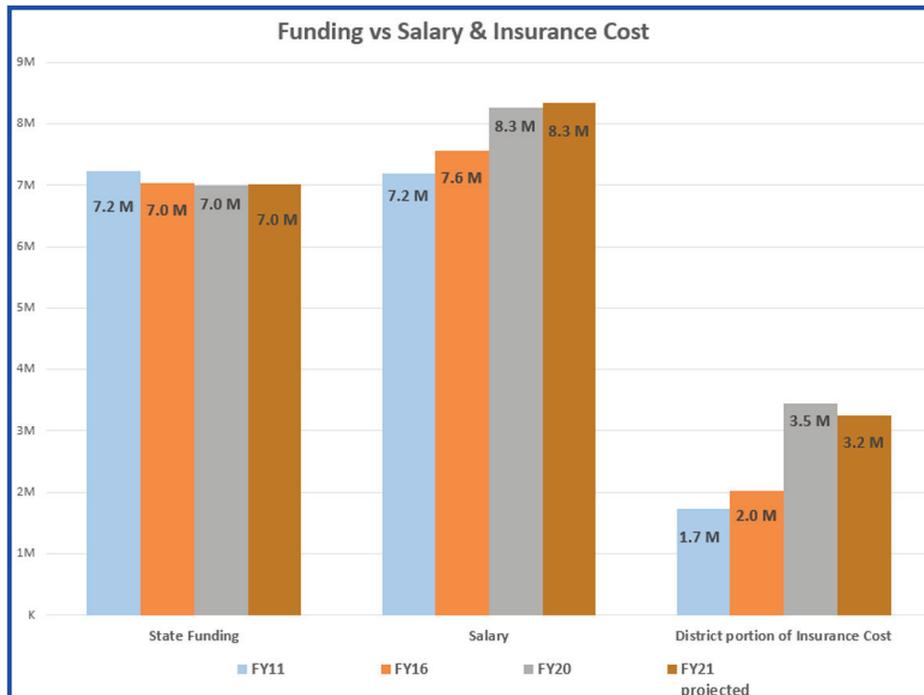
Facts:

- * We have been conservative in our expenditures
- * We have proactively worked to reduce this bond debt
- * The district refinanced our bonds at a lower interest in 2011
- * We elected a balloon payment schedule when refinancing in 2011. The balloon refinance and amortization with increasingly larger payments, followed by smaller payments the last years of the bond
- * Our Emergency Levy will also be reduced - from the original 2.8 mils to an effective 2.5 mils this year (2021)!

For additional information please see the full article later in this newsletter or go to the district website under "Treasurer" at: <https://www.northwestern-wayne.k12.oh.us/Treasurer.aspx>

Revenue & Expenses and State Funding

District is projected to receive \$212,161 less in FY2021 than in FY2011 - 10 YEARS PRIOR; while Salary and District Insurance will have increased \$2-million.



This graph is a snapshot of the last decade – 2011, 2016, 2020 and projected 2021 of State Funding and Salary and Insurance Cost to the district. State Funding (approximately 50% of the district's revenue) has decreased over the past decade, while Salaries (over 50% of the district's expenses) have increased; therefore, exceeding the amount of State Funding for the same year. The district's portion of insurance premium (formerly at 92% of total premium cost and makes up 30+% of district's expenses) is now 85% beginning November 2020.

[NOTE: Insurance annual premium increases at an average of 8% each year].

Revenues	July 2019 - Dec 2019	July 2020 - Dec 2020
General Property Tax (Real Estate)	1,222,617	1,237,954
Income Tax	1,332,508	1,390,095
Unrestricted Grants-in-Aid (Foundations)	3,629,458	3,538,246
Restricted Grants-in-Aid (Stud Wellness)	107,576	195,239
Property Tax Allocation (Homestead)	213,263	214,605
All Other Revenues (+Emergency)	1,340,552	1,173,045
Total Revenues	7,845,975	7,749,183
Expenditures		
Personnel Services (Wages/Salary)	4,050,779	3,864,801
Employees' Retirement/Insurance Benefits	2,165,408	2,064,078
Purchased Services/Prof Dev	1,164,313	932,276
Supplies and Materials	304,065	232,798
Capital Outlay/Equipment	118,956	668
Other Objects	29,299	1,838
Total Expenditures	7,832,819	7,096,459

This chart is to communicate the comparison of FY20 actual dollars and FY21 actual dollars for the 1st half of the represented year. A few observations are:

- * Revenues are about the same as last year, but thankfully more than projected
- * Expenditures are under extremely tight control and much lower than last year
- * The past 10 years of inadequate funding has not kept up with salaries and health insurance costs, let alone other inflationary costs
- * Exhibiting fiscal responsibility in wages and benefits; vacant positions (5) removed via attrition
- * Reduction in spending – utilized PI funds for additional Supplies and Equipment than the norm.
- * Included a negotiated 1% salary increase for all district employees.
- * Displaying fiscal responsibility through budgetary reductions and frugal practices.
- * Staffing reductions last summer and hiring freeze this school year have had a positive budgetary impact.
- * In discussions with Wayne County Auditor Jarra Underwood we were advised to conservatively project a 15% reduction in property and income tax revenue. In reality, there was only 4% reduction in revenue experienced thus far.
- * Contributions from several donations as well as Perry Township and Congress Township of nearly \$60,000 for COVID.
- * Negotiated necessary Insurance reduction in premium and plan changes, which have had a major positive impact to the budget.
- * Reduction in the substitutes utilized in the district.

State Funding is currently under review on the fairness of the distribution of funds to districts. Bob Cupp and John Patterson are two legislators who have, for years, have been attempting to narrow the gap of inequality of funding to schools; i.e., House Bill 305 was born. There is more to consider than the enrollment numbers of the students in the district when the state funds a district. These gentlemen's plan is intended to overhaul the funding formula that distributes state dollars to all Ohio schools. HB 305 will calculate the district's individual local share by considering a combination of property values and family household income (60% and 40% respectively). The residential income is an imperative piece of all considered for the fairness of the property owners/taxpayers.

Northwestern Schools Health Insurance Committee

Are you knowledgeable or experienced in the area of health insurance? If you are and are interested in serving your local school district and meeting 4-6 times per year please **contact Northwestern Treasurer Lesa Forbes.**

Northwestern is establishing a Health Insurance Committee in order to:

- * Control health insurance costs for employees as well as the school district
- * Educate employees regarding cost-effective health care practices & choices

This committee will include the school treasurer, superintendent, one or two board of education members, an invited union representative, as well as interested community members.

Our initial meeting will be scheduled in late February, 2021.



Northwestern Schools Finance Committee

In addition, we have had a standing School Finance Committee, which has been meeting since spring, 2019. This committee is also interested in one or two community members with finance and/or organizational CFO or Treasurer experience.

If you are and are interested in serving your local school district and meeting 4-6 times per year please contact Northwestern Treasurer Lesa Forbes.



Mr. Jeff Layton
Northwestern
Superintendent

Work: 419-846-3151
Cell: 330-317-5175
email:
nrws_layton@tccsa.net

WE ARE GOING TO MAKE THIS WORK – TOGETHER!

OUR MISSION: “We prepare our students today for tomorrow’s opportunities!”

OUR VISION: “We collaboratively create learning and leadership opportunities in a safe environment through experiential, hands-on, real-world, authentic, meaningful learning which engage and prepare our students in attainment of their optimum potential so as to be successful in life and career.”

Friends, Family, and Members of our FABULOUS Northwestern Community, there is more to our anxiety than inadequate state funding, state overemphasis on high stakes testing, the craziness of our school world – and home world, and the frustrations of COVID restrictions and quarantines. Relationships, our families, our community, our faith, and the education and socialization of our children and their mental health - as well as the stress and mental health of us all – are of even greater importance. Let’s pledge to continue working together and supporting one another through these challenging times.

These are difficult times, but together we will overcome and continue our traditions and serve our students to the best of our ability. We have been working hard to ensure the safety of our students and employees while working to provide the best learning possible in this COVID environment.

We have also been hard at work trying to balance our budget. The state funding and COVID have not helped our financial situation. However, we are working hard in righting the ship financially.

As you all know I have striven to remain a servant leader throughout my career and my time here leading Northwestern. It is also the way in which I try to live my life. In addition, I have reflected on my leadership craft through wisdom through my 31 years of experiences in education, my Doctorate in Leadership Studies, the many organizations on which I have and continue to serve on as a Board Member myself, as well as the wisdom of successful leaders who have proven integrity of whom I strive to emulate.

In recent times it seems we have been in the midst of a perfect storm in which the waves have battered us; currents pulled us in different directions - all the while the sea threatening to drag us under, into the dark depths. We are about to re-state and clarify our vision and direction as school district as we move forward toward calmer waters - towards our unified direction - leaving the threatening and treacherous financial breakers behind us with the rage of these terrible storms. It is exciting that we are able to pay off our schools. Incredible news! We are now in a position to actually own our buildings, provide some tax relief to our community members this year, and potentially pursue a bit of operating revenue that is sorely needed without an increase of taxes.

These all bring me hope because I have led this school district for 16 years through blood, sweat, tears, and joy. The past 11 years have been a struggle because over this time span – 11 years – Northwestern has received less funding from the state while other district costs – especially the health insurance – increased immensely. That was unsustainable, as supported by evidence, which we have been sharing over the past five years.

Now that difficult hurdle may be improving and we, Northwestern, continues to be the school district to follow - other schools desire to emulate us while businesses, colleges, and community support organizations desire to partner with us. Area businesses want to hire our graduates because our graduates are more mature, are better prepared, and have experiences and 21st Century skills beyond the norm. The success of our students is observable all around us. Through the accomplishments of our students and feedback the fine education and quality of our students is very evident. The articles within this newsletter provide evidence of our schools doing ongoing great work with our students. Whether it be fine arts, STEM programs, core foundational courses, counseling and family supports, or extracurricular activities we do take very good care of our students as well as develop and prepare our students today for tomorrow’s opportunities – and how they thrive!

There are many stories about families who have moved into our community or built homes in our district or open enrolled into our schools because of the quality of our staff, administrators, and programs. The 255 incoming open enrolled students’ families are not wrong. The fact is we ALL do a remarkable job here and the school culture has been remarkably positive and collaborative. While never perfect, we work on our issues and imperfections to continuously improve. 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. We have numerous Wayne County support organizations such as Catholic Charities, ANAZAO, United Way, Family Life Counseling, Family & Children First, Mental Health & Recovery Board, Jobs & Family Services, Goodwill, etc. along with college, business, and education partnership beyond what other districts partnerships. Without our community of leaders working collaboratively and exhibiting transparency we would not be serving our students to the fantastic degree that we are.

I take great pride in sharing the continued accomplishments of our students, community, and schools. The supports and relationships throughout our schools and community are unique. We must continue supporting our schools together to continue striving for even greater heights and improving issues we believe need improved. With our dedicated board, administrators, staff, and community we will continue striving for and achieving well-beyond expectations.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT NEWS

Stay Informed!

Superintendent's article, continued

We have so many good, caring people here – we must continue working together in continuing to do what is right for our children. I love our kids, our staff, our schools, and our community – as do we all.

Stay warm and safe through the remaining winter months as we all look forward to spring and warm weather! As always, I am 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 N. Layton

Superintendent

OUR Northwestern Local Schools

Office: 419-846-3151

Cell: 330-317-5175

e-mail: nrws_Layton@tccsa.net

Annual Notice of Student Wellness Meeting

Northwestern will conduct our annual Wellness Committee Discussions by Friday, April 10th.

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
- 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 Randall Hafner

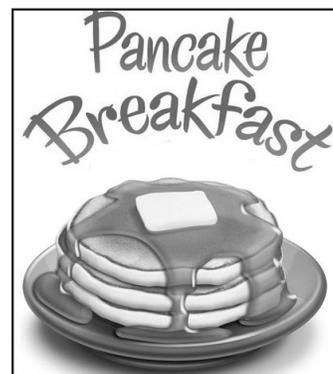
Middle School Principal Rachel Beun

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.

Finally, the district completed a Pre-K-12 district “prevention needs assessment” and “environmental scan” regarding substance abuse, mental health, resiliency, and trauma informed care in January, 2020. This self-assessment has led to the district earning \$25,000 in grant funds in a partnership with the Mental Health & Recovery Board in best meeting the needs of our students, families, and employees.



Ruritan Sausage-Pancake

Breakfast

The annual Ruritan Sausage-Pancake Breakfast

will be Saturday, March 13, 2021 at Northwestern High School. serving from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. This year will be drive-up meals due to COVID.

As is the norm:

- It will run all day
- It coincides with the Washington, D.C. auction (which will be held online this year)
- We will have fresh sausage, thick pancakes, and real 100% maple syrup!
- Money raised funds student Ruritan scholarships!

** NW District **

Northwestern Schools-Ruritan Business Recognition Award

Business Award of Merit Nomination Form (our 12th year!)

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 or to the district office to be forward to Superintendent Jeffrey Layton. Nominations can also be e-mailed to Mr. Layton.



Open Enrollment applications are due June 1, 2021 for all returning applicants and new students. Applications are on our website www.northwestern-wayne.k12.oh.us under enrollment. No tuition cost. New applicants must also send a current grade card with open enrollment application. Contact the Superintendent's office if you have any questions, 419-846-3151 x. 1.

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 Kim Wellert

Past President Chuck Beck

Prior President Dwight Wasson

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 Rice Farms Milk Cartage, 300 Tire & Auto, American Augers, George's Alignment

About Northwestern Ruritans:

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



NORTHWESTERN AREA PARADE OF FLAGS 2021
Northwestern Ruritan Club

Help create a community of red, white and blue!! Join others in your area to honor our country with a parade of flags on five special holidays through out the year. With your \$30 subscription, the Northwestern Ruritan Club will place a 3' x 5' flag in the front yard of your home or business for five holidays per year. The flags are removed to be stored properly and respectfully between holidays. Proceeds from the Parade of Flags goes to support community projects. Flags will be installed for the following holidays: Memorial Day (May); Flag Day (June); Independence Day (July); Patriots Day (Sept.); and Veterans Day (Nov.)

The flag and staff will remain the property of the Northwestern Ruritans. If your flag has not been installed two days before the holidays, please call 330-464-3204 or 330-988-3127.

2021 Northwestern Area Parade of Flags Applications
 (Please Print)

NAME _____ Phone _____
 Address _____
 (For flag placement, please do not list PO Box)
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Email address _____
 Check only one: Residence _____ of Business? _____ Business Name _____
 # of flags x \$30 _____ # of flags x \$25 _____ (if 4 or more are ordered)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NORTHWESTERN RURITAN CLUB
Send application to: Northwestern Ruritans c/o Paula Abrecht, 5300 Lehr Rd., Wooster, Ohio 44691

Multiple flags may be ordered for the same residence or business. Four or more flags will be at \$25 per flag. If you have any questions, call Paula Abrecht 330-464-3204, or Jamie Bowman 330-988-3127

Northwestern Ruritans, continued

- 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 Choir and Drama Program support

The Superintendent Tidbits articles are intended to share bites of information to support our community awareness. These bits of information are by no means comprehensive – they are but samples and snippets of information.

TIDBIT

I was pleased to have an opportunity to watch our HS Drama One Act Play production Tracks, recently. Thank you to Director Wes Martin, Co-Director Anna Martin, and congratulations to an excellent production to the cast and crew! Cast: Skyler Hines, Kylie Wellert, Nate Jackson, Faith Jackson, Ariel Smith, Nathan Stoltz, Cassidy Brown, Steven LaGoy, Addie Nixon, Gavin Hines! Crew: Autumn Duncan, Paul Gendron, Margret McColough, Taylor Nixon, Cierra Phillips, Jaren Sheehan, and Steven Widdows! Thanks as well to the many other involved and who helped & supported this production! Mike Burkholder, I, Elizabeth Crabtree, Stan Bosler, and others worked hard to bring back our drama program for our students.



**Northwestern High School
One Act Competition**

NORTHWESTERN HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

2nd Quarter

1ST HONORS (4.010-OVER)

Seniors: Samantha Barnette, Eleanore Bond, Gabriel Buchholz, Colston Cutter, Zane Fast, Elizabeth Howman, Valerie Imhoff, Katherine Linder, Morgan McCoy, Tanner Meininger, Halie O’Loughlin, Dakota Rainsberger, Caleb Seabolt, Lariah Severs, Allison Spencer, Riley Stull, Liam Sykes, Megan Tomechko, Briana Troyan, Tamar Walton, Jacob Westover, Emma Zemancik

Juniors: Shayna Allshouse, Arianna Borton, Deanna Devore, Avery Garver, Emily Gilman, Dominic Guidetti, Taylor Haley, Ariel Hughes, Riley James, Kara McKay, Sarah Miller, Kaylyn Smith, Rachel Smithberger, Cooper Stephens, Clara Zemancik

Sophomores: Marina Aulger, Brailee Beun, Florida Blake, Addie Bodager, Gabriel Chupp, Jesse Evans, Madelyn Fricke, Madison Gray, Karissa Groves, Nolan Hartsel, Charlie Herman, Steven LaGoy, Caitlyn Leighty, Lindsey Luther, Louisa Morris, Gabriel Noble, Ava O’Loughlin, Gavin Phillips, Kylee Purdy, Ava Stoller, Isabella Vacco, Jacob Wakefield, Paige Walter, Danielle Wilkes, Hanna Wilson, Samantha Yates

Freshmen: Emma Adkison, Grant Bond, Kirsten Boreman, Kara Burgan, Jacob Farner, Quinn Fast, Alyssah Fisher, Logan Garman, Josiah Gilman, Ellie Hanshaw, Madalyne Hunt, Mikalah Jones, Sophia Linder, Ethan Mausolf, Tristan Miller, Zoey Oldaker, Jennie Riffle, Ella Saal, Hattie Sciortino, Hunter Sciortino, Kierstin Skelly, Cade St. Clair, Lillian Wakefield, Luke Walton, Jacob Ward

2ND HONORS (3.75-4.00)

Seniors: James Cooke, Cole McClure, Desiree Smith, Robert Soueid, Hayden Stoller

Juniors: Alexandra Burkett-Hostetler, Grant Dever, Gavon Edgell, Laurissa Fulton, Jameson Holtz, Emma Nicholson, Emily Reed, Skylar Scott, Ryan Walter, Steven Widdows

Sophomores: Carissa Brinker, Audrey Franks, Melanie Imhoff, Julia Ours, Trenton Sigler

Freshmen: Haley Caldwell, Drake Crumley, Virginia Hamers, Kade Tegtmeier, Keturah Weaver, Jonathon Widdows

3RD HONORS (3.000-3.740)

Seniors: Maxwell Albright, Wyatt Arthur, Max Carlson, Braden Colter, Tyler Farnier, Mitchell Gray, Haldon Huber, Ryan Leasure, Jason Markley, Benjamin Nichols, Taylor Nixon, Craig Wellert, Kylie Wellert, Cole Wharton, Brooklyn Woodruff

Juniors: Weston Arthur, Rylee Dawson, Zoey Dudte, Stefanie Ecker, Hayley Franks, Ethan Gibbs, Mariah Hill, Chase Himes, Faith Jackson, Dugan McLaughlin, Jackalynn Mosher, Gunnar Mullet, Cierra Phillips, Antonio Ramos, Aubree Reed, Tori Rogers, Andrew Sims, Brennen Topp, Dominic Wallace

Sophomores: Brett Alberts, Jozielynn Brenner, Joseph Buchholz, Brooklyn Buzzard, Arianna Firebaugh, Anna Gendron, Collin Good, Kelly Harper, David Hiner, Nathaniel Hunt, Mark Ingraham, Madison Jester, Keegan Johns, Charleigh McMillan, Ethan Reed, Ethan Siders, Joshua Spencer, Samuel Terwilliger, Shelby Thorpe, Thomas Tomechko, Andrew Tope, Lauren Vaughan

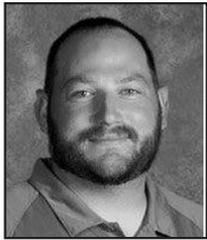
Freshmen: Kaleb Badger, Brandon Barnette, Hayden Cline, Cayden Fiala, Caleb Frontz, Faith Maiher, Caydence Scale, Brooke Stinemetz, Anthony Welch, Josie Wright

The Northwestern High School presented their Tri-County One Act Competition piece on Friday, January 22, 2021 and Saturday, January 23, 2021 in the high school auditorium.

The theater department performed Tracks by Peter Tarsi, a play about the afterlife and humanity’s tendency to be hard of itself. Eleven strangers find themselves on a subway platform, unable to determine which way the train goes: heaven or hell. Throughout the thirty-five minute drama each character relays his/her life to the audience as they look to determine the subway’s destination based on the goodness or badness of their lives.. There is a lawyer played by Kylie Wellert; a Homeless Girl played by Skyler Hines; a Professor played by Nate Jackson; a Nun played by Faith Jackson; a Business Woman played by Ariel Smith; a Businessman played by Nathan Stoltz; an Old Woman played by Cassidy Brown; a High School Boy played by Steven LaGoy; a High School Girl played by Addie DeSanto; a Waitress played by Mary Nixon; and a Sales Associate played by Gavin Hines. These characters finally decide that they can no longer torture themselves by reliving all the bad they’ve done and just accept the fate of the train’s direction and have faith. The stage crew for the performance included Autumn Duncan, Paul Gendron, Margret McCoullough, Taylor Nixon, Cierra Phillips, Jaren Sheehan, and Steven Widdows. The play was directed by Wes Martin and Anna Martin with assistance from Stan Bosler, Aaron Eicher, Elizabeth Crabtree, and Hunter Miller.

The Tri-County competition will be performed virtually this year due to Coronavirus concerns and will take place on Friday, February 26, 2021. Students will watch taped productions of area schools Chippewa, Dalton, Smithville, Norwayne, Orrville, Rittman, and Wooster that Friday and have live judges’ critiques via Zoom!





**Mr. Randal
Hafner
Northwestern
High School
Principal**



Greetings from Northwestern High School,

The school year has been progressing at a rapid rate. An unprecedented first semester is already in the books. Among the chaotic start to the school year, Northwestern High School has seen a variety of successes while overcoming the adversity that has been in front of us. I cannot sing the praises of our students and staff enough during these trying times. Our learning community has focused greatly on upholding the district's high standards of academic success. In the first semester, 70% of the grades earned at the high school were A's and B's, and our high school students earned a total of 561 college credits through the College Credit Plus Program. These are amazing feats for our Huskies!

With the school year progressing as quickly as it has, it makes it hard to believe that the spring state testing is right around the corner. Testing will begin on April 8th and run through May 7th. During the testing window, the high school will test on Thursdays and Fridays. This year's tested subjects are: English 10, Algebra I, Geometry, Biology, American History and Government. If a student misses taking a test, then retest days are available on Monday through Wednesday. On Thursdays and Fridays of state testing, the high school will operate on a 2-hour delay bell schedule. Students will take these assessments and need to accumulate at least 18 points across these tests, as a graduation requirement. There will be future retest opportunities, where necessary.

Scheduling for next school year will begin in February. Over the next two months, a lot of Husky Huddle time will be spent on discussing scheduling and prepping for next school year. Students are encouraged to stop by student services to discuss their future plans. Stay informed by checking the Student Services tab on the high school webpage.

The graduating class of 2021 has been working hard to uphold the tradition of academic success at Northwestern High School. We are committed to making the senior year meaningful and a cornerstone in the preparation for all of our students' future successes. Each senior has the opportunity to work on open-ended, real-world application projects and present their work through our Senior Seminar Program, Internship Program, and Capstone classes (available in Biomed, Clean Energy, Computer Science, Engineering, and Construction pathways). It is always exciting to see the projects that our senior students produce in their senior year. I want to extend a thank you to all of the community members serving as mentors and/or sitting on the panel of judges for these seniors. The stress may be a real struggle for many of our seniors; however, they always rise to the occasion and take their developed skills with them to the next phase of their journey.

In a year where unpredictable circumstances have changed the way we go about daily life, our Northwestern learning community has found a way to continually progress the educational needs of our students. A special thank you goes out to our wonderful staff for making this possible.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at nrws_hafner@tccsa.net.

Student Service Announcements:

It has been an interesting year, but Northwestern has and will continue to prepare our students today for tomorrow's opportunities! Below we have included some friendly reminders/updates. If you have questions/comments, please do not hesitate to reach out to Mr. Hughes-nrws_rhughes@tccsa.net/419-846-3151.

- **Graduation Requirements:** State law introduced new, permanent graduation requirements that are available for the classes of 2021 and beyond. Information regarding graduation requirements for the classes of 2021 & beyond can be found on Northwestern HS Student Services web-page.
- **Ohio State Diploma Seals:** Ohio law created 12 seals for students to demonstrate academics, technical and professional readiness for careers, college, the military or self-sustaining professions. Each seal allows students to demonstrate knowledge and skills essential for future success. Students will demonstrate readiness by earning at least two diploma seals, one of which must be state defined.
 - * **OhioMeans Jobs Readiness Seal (State)-** Meet the requirements and criteria established for the readiness seal, including demonstration of work-readiness and professional competencies.
 - * **Industry-Recognized Credential Seal (State)-** Earn an approved industry-recognized credential that is aligned to a job considered in demand in Ohio and its regions.
 - * **College-Ready Seal (State)-** Earn remediation-free scores on the ACT or SAT
 - * **Military Enlistment Seal (State)-** Provide evidence of enlistment in a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces; or participate in an approved JROTC program.
 - * **Citizenship Seal (State)-** A student can: 1. Earn a score of proficient or higher on both the American History and American Government end-of-course exams; 2. Earn a final course grade that is equivalent to "B" or higher in appropriate classes taken through the College Credit Plus program.

NHS NEWS!!

NHS Student Services, continued

* **Science Seal (State)**- A student can: 1. Earn a score of proficient or higher on the Biology end-of-course exam; 2. Earn a final course grade that is equivalent to “B” or higher in appropriate classes taken through the College Credit Plus program.

* **Honors Diploma Seal (State)**- Earn one of six honors Diplomas outlined below: 1. Academic Honors 2. International Baccalaureate Honors 3. Career-Tech Honors 4. STEM Honors 5. Arts Honors 6. Social Science and Civic Engagement Honors.

* **Seal of Biliteracy (State)**- Meet the requirements and criteria, including proficiency requirements on assessments in a world language and English.

* **Technology Seal (State)**- A student can 1. Earn a final course grade that is equivalent to “B” or higher in appropriate classes taken through the College Credit Plus program 2. Complete a course offered through the district or school that meets guidelines developed by department.

* **Community Service Seal (Local)**- Complete a community service project aligned with guidelines adopted by the student’s local board of education

* **Fine and performing Arts Seal (Local)**- Demonstrate skill in the fine or performing arts according to an evaluation aligned with guidelines adopted by student’s local board of education.

* **Student Engagement Seal (Local)**- Participate in extracurricular activities such as athletics, clubs or student government to a meaningful extent, as determined by guidelines adopted by student’s local board of education.

• **College Credit Plus (CCP):** A reminder that Northwestern High School offers students the opportunity to engage in more than 27 college courses; earning college transcript credit. College Credit Plus is Ohio’s dual enrollment program that provides students in grades 7-12 the opportunity to earn college and high school credits at the same time by taking courses from Ohio colleges or universities. The purpose of this program is to enhance students’ career readiness and postsecondary success, while providing a wide variety of options to college-ready students, at no or limited costs to students and families.

• **Guidance/Clinical Counseling:** Northwestern Local Schools offer many support services for our students. Students are presented opportunities in college/career guidance, intervention based supports, mentoring programs and much more. Northwestern is proud to be affiliated with three external mental health agencies (Catholic Charities, Anazao, Family Life Counseling), offering services such as individual/family counseling, asset building, mentoring, discussion groups, life skills, and drug/alcohol awareness.

If you are interested in any of these services, or have questions; please reach out to Mr. Hughes-nrws_rhughes@tccsa.net/419-846-3151.

STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC LETTERS

Northwestern Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors received their academic letters at a program recently. In order to receive their academic letters, students had to have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.75. This year, thirty-three sophomores, five juniors, and three seniors were eligible to receive their first year academic letter.

These students also received a lamp of knowledge pin. Seventeen juniors and twenty-eight seniors received gold bars for continuing the outstanding average.



Letter/Lamp

Sophomores: Jacob Wakefield, Nolan Hartsel, Brooke McNeil, Gavin Phillips, Caitlyn Leighty, Brailee Beun, Danielle Wilkes, Jesse Evans, Paige Walter, Addison Bodager, Steven LaGoy, Marina Augler, Florida Blake, Gabriel Chupp, Karissa Groves, Louisa Morris, Madelyn Fricke, Ava O’Loughlin, Samantha Yates, Braiden Barthalow, Ava Stoller, Hanna Wilson, Kylee Purdy, Melanie Imhoff, Julia Ours, Madison Gray, Charlie Herman, Carissa Brinker, Joshua Spencer, Andrew Tope, Thomas Tomechko, Kayla Hummel, Isabella Vacco

Juniors: Jake Newcombe, Laurissa Fulton, Taylor Haley, Kayla Weaver, Margaret McCullough

Seniors: Dakota Rainsberger, Robert Soueid, Desiree Smith

Gold Bar

Juniors: Shayna Allshouse, Sarah Miller, Deanna Devore, Arianna Borton, Clara Zemancik, Avery Garver, Dominic Guidetti, Emily Gilman, Ariel Hughes, Stefanie Ecker, Jacqueline Barrington, Nathaniel Jackson, Gabe Hendricks, Skyler Hines, Steven Widdows, Ryan Walter, Riley James

Seniors: Morgan McCoy, Jacob Westover, Jillian Beun, Cierra Hershey, Valerie Imhoff, Liam Sykes, Gabriel Buchholz, Halie O’Loughlin, Allison Spencer, Katherine Linder, Haley Wilson, Lariah Severs, Emma Zemancik, Eleanore Bond, Samantha Barnette, Briana Troyan, Elizabeth Howman, Riley Stull, Zane Fast, Tamar Walton, Brooklyn Woodruff, Mitchell Gray, Megan Tomechko, Hayden Stoller, Mary Nixon, Betty Stevens, Halie Tomsik, Brandon Casto

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

Seniors: Samantha Barnette, Jillian Beun, Eleanore Bond, Zane Fast, Cierra Hershey, Elizabeth Howman, Valerie Imhoff, Katherine Linder, Morgan McCoy, Mary Nixon, Halie O’Loughlin, Dakota Rainsberger, Lariah Severs, Allison Spencer, Betty Stevens, Riley Stull, Liam Sykes, Megan Tomechko, Briana Troyan, Tamar Walton, Jacob Westover, Brooklyn Woodruff, Emma Zemancik

Juniors: Shayna Allshouse, Arianna Borton, Deanna Devore, Stefanie Ecker, Avery Garver, Emily Gilman, Skyler Hines, Ariel Hughes, Sarah Miller, Steven Widdows, Clara Zemancik

NHS College Credit Plus

ATTENTION STUDENTS/PARENTS:

It is that time of the year when students will be soon receiving communication in regards to scheduling courses for 2021-22 school year. It is important that parents are informed and involved during this process. Northwestern offers many unique programs and advanced curriculum, including College level courses via College Credit Plus (CCP). Northwestern High School offers just shy of 30 college level courses, and all of which are taught at NHS.

Below are some frequently asked questions regarding College Credit Plus (CCP). For more information/resources, please visit NHS student services webpage at <https://www.northwestern-wayne.k12.oh.us/Guidance.aspx>.

WHAT IS CCP?

College Credit Plus is Ohio's dual enrollment program that provides students in grades 7-12 the opportunity to earn college and high school credits at the same time by taking courses from Ohio colleges or universities. The purpose of this program is to enhance students' career readiness and postsecondary success, while providing a wide variety of options to college-ready students, at no or limited costs to students and families.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Complete/submit CCP letter of intent form to Student Services. DEADLINE 3/26/21 Fill out and submit the college's CCP application on their website by the correct deadline.

Request transcripts be sent to the corresponding college.

Wait for an admissions decision.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN CCP?

If you are an Ohio student in grades 7-12 you can apply for College Credit Plus admission to any Ohio public or participating private college. The college will determine your eligibility and admit you based on your college-readiness in one or more subject areas. Your school counselor can help you understand your options, deadlines, and how to proceed. You may not participate in the College Credit Plus program beyond your anticipated high school graduation date.

WHERE CAN I TAKE CCP CLASSES?

Majority of our CCP students here at NHS take their CCP courses through institutions such as University of Findlay, Stark State University, North Central State College, and Ashland university. However, all Ohio public colleges and universities, as well as many independent colleges in Ohio, offer College Credit Plus courses

WILL CCP GRADES APPEAR ON MY HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT?

Yes. High school credit awarded for courses successfully completed under College Credit Plus will appear on your high school transcript. Courses successfully completed under College Credit Plus must be listed by course title on the high school transcript. All College Credit Plus courses will be computed into the GPA using the same scale as Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or honors courses in your district, based on the common subject area - not curriculum - of the weighted advanced standing class/course.

HOW MANY CCP CREDIT HOURS CAN I TAKE IN 1 YEAR?

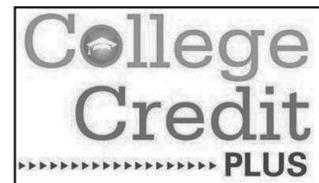
Each CCP "year" begins summer semester. For summer, fall, and spring semesters, students cannot take more than 30 college credits.

WHAT IF I FAIL A CLASS?

Classes failed or withdrawn with an "F" (or equivalent failing grade) will receive an "F" on the high school and college transcripts and will be computed into the high school and college GPA. If you do not receive a passing grade, the district may, in some instances, seek reimbursement from you for the amount of state funds paid to the college on your behalf for that college course. The school district may withhold grades and credits received for high school courses taken until reimbursement has been made.

HOW MANY HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS DOES A CCP CLASS EQUAL?

Successful completion of a 3 or more credit-hour college course will result in 1.0 credit earned at the high school. A 2 credit-hour college course will earn students 2/3 of a high school credit and a one credit-hour college course will convert to 1/3 of a high school credit.



QUESTIONS?

Please see the link below for more information regarding College Credit Plus.

<https://www.ohiohighered.org/ccp/faqs>

For questions and guidance, please reach out to

Mr. Hughes

Email: nrws_rhughes@tccsa.net

Phone: 419-846-3833

TIDBITS

* Treasurer Lesa Forbes had forecasted a shortage of \$158,293 this June, 2021. To curb this possibility, we have been redoubling our effort to reduce expenditures and increase revenue. We have been able to operate in the black to end this school year!

* The major factors helping us financially include: cost reduction efforts such as reducing positions last summer, not filling most vacant positions that occurred during the school year, the changes to our health insurance premium sharing and insurance plan to align with the costs of other area schools. We have also sought-out additional grant revenue, sought contributions, income tax revenue came-in slightly higher than anticipated, and some COVID funding have been major factors. The district additionally received a Bureau of Workers Compensation refund, which has helped





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



We have made it halfway into the school-year! As always, thanks to our amazing staff, students, and parents for your hard work and support to keep our schools moving forward so we can continue to educate students. What an interesting year we have had learning together and supporting one another. It is definitely a reminder how we are **stronger together!!!**

Although this year has presented multiple challenges, we are still focused on the academic performance and progress of our students. We encourage students and parents to be mindful of student grades, work completion, and the effort they are putting forth in their classes. We have opportunities, such as Wednesday catch-up days, for students to receive additional support on homework and work completion. If you want information or would like to schedule your student for some “catch-up time,” please contact the school office at 419-846-3974. Please note that students must pass at least 3 of their core academic subjects in order to move onto the next grade-level. Certainly, we would like this to be the case for ALL of our middle school students.

We are happy that our student-athletes have had the opportunity to continue with their seasons. Winter sports are now wrapping up for our wrestling program, girls’ and boys’ basketball programs, and cheerleaders. We are so happy that our students had the chance to compete and stay involved in school athletic programs.

We are also looking forward to having some of our students to have more active roles in clubs and activities in the upcoming months. Our Robotics team will be travelling to Brunswick to compete in a competition, which is the first competition we have been able to attend for the year! Our Drama Club is also busy practicing for a spring performance, which we are very excited to see! We are thankful to be able to bring some of these opportunities back for students, as we love to see them involved and showing off their talents in various ways!

Please watch for communication from the school regarding our PTO’s upcoming “We Love Our School” drive. Our PTO helps to support many of our student activities and programs, so please consider donating to this drive as all proceeds support our students and staff. What a wonderful year to share some love to our school and students!

The middle school will have quite a few of spirit days in February. During the week of February 8, we will show our love to our school with the PTO’s fundraiser and drive. We will then have fun with FFA week from February 16-19. We will complete the month with a week to celebrate different cultures. These spirit days will be shared with the students in the upcoming weeks. We enjoy the student and staff participation on these days, celebrating so many wonderful aspects of our school, our community, and our world!

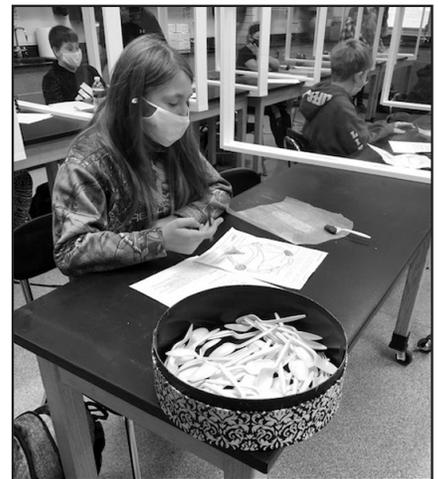
In the next few months we will begin discussing scheduling for the 2021-2022 school-year. Students will have the opportunity to learn about the classes available to them in the future. More information will be sent home through parent emails regarding the exact timeframe of these meetings and discussions. Starting in April our students will be taking the Ohio Spring Tests. Students in grades 6 and 7 will be taking English Language Arts and Math. Students in grade 8 will be taking English Language Arts, Math, and Science. These tests are very important for our students, showcasing their learning for the school-year. Students tend to test best when they can take the test with their peers at the same date and time. Parents are encouraged to try to avoid scheduling any appointments in the mornings on these particular days, if at all possible.

As of right now, the scheduled dates for these tests are as follows:

- **ELA (all grades)- April 15 and April 16**
- **Science (8th grade only)- April 22 and April 23**
- **Math (all grades)- April 29 and April 30**

Thank you for your continued support as we move forward with the 2020-2021 school-year. Please contact the middle school with any questions. We are truly enjoying our students this year and are excited to see what they will do and accomplish second semester.

Mrs. Raber's 6th Grade Science students learned about the Rock Cycle processes and types of rock through an editable lab.



NMS Highlights

6th grade art class making Vincent van Gogh Starry Night inspired coil pots!



Math 8 students practicing graphing lines to make stained glass.



6th grade Science and 8th grade Art



TIDBITS

- At the half-way point Northwestern has written & received over \$208,000 in grant and contributions thus far this school year!

- These grants are helping with costs such as purchasing equipment and supplies, professional development, sanitizing and cleaning supplies & equipment, teacher supports, student tutoring, learning software, pre-school, student wellness, prevention, and much more!

- Northwestern is also in a position to pay-off our buildings this April! Please read the enclosed articles regarding this wonderful news! So very EXCITING! Hopefully 2021 will be a far better year than 2020!

- The Wayne County Health Dept. completed a recent health inspection of our Elementary School Cafeteria and lauded the safety protocol and partitions we have in place. He took pictures and commented that we have the best he has seen and asked to use pictures and share with other schools how theirs should look. This was very confirming of our collective efforts and a testament as to the safety of our staff and students in our buildings!



Northwestern Middle School Honor Roll 2021

2nd Nine weeks

6th Grade

Emma Altman, Emma Fricke, Reed Hamey, Brooke Hershey, Cara McKay, Brookelyn Nolletti, Clara Saal, Taryn Stoller, Kezia Weaver

7th Grade

James Cassady, Kaylee Cherry, Addyson Connelly, Emmalee Connelly, Makenna Connelly, Christian Deffendall, Savannah McConahay, Evan McKay, Roger Moser, Hayden Sigler

8th Grade

Kayla Cutter, Mallory Gilbert, Elaine Groves, Kelli Kearney, McKensie McCoy, Gabriel Nicholson, Alexandra Stoltz, Alysa Troyan

Merit Roll

2nd Nine weeks

6th Grade

Cameron Beck, Shayla Dudte, Ryleigh Farner, Chloe Heater, Sierrah Knight, Daniel Lee, Aiden Mausolf, Sophia Morris, Bryce Nussbaum, Alexia Ridenbaugh, Daniel Shakan, Nichole Troyan, Michael Weygandt, Luke Wilkinson, Alexandra Yoder

7th Grade

Sophia Ahrendt, Alivia Aicone, Claire Buchholz, Adelynn Cassidy, Lorelai Garman, Mason Gray, Samantha Herman, Kace Hixson, Kate Johnson, Sebastian Lewis, Kolten McKinley, Ashton Moser, Gabriella Riedel, Josey Thomas, Payton White, Holly Widdows

8th Grade

Isaac Beun, Karizma Brinker, Morgan Ervin, Haylie Fisher, Ashton Good, Blake Good, Will Hamey, Ella Hartsel, Danyel Hyatt, Jaidyn Kelly, Cole Loy, Colton Mark, Sydney McConahay, Morgan Murphy, Katherine Orosz, Tyler Perry, Miranda Smith, Braydan Springer, Jule Stoller, Heidi Topp, Kelsey Walkuski, Taylor Wurst, Madalyn Yasch

2020 - 2021 Yearbooks are now on sale!
Order forms are in the information rack
and on line at ybpay.lifetouch.com using
yearbook code 2089221.

Spring Softball sign-ups for
grades 7 and 8 are in the middle
school office. This is just for
grade 7 and 8!

TIDBITS

* The Mike Burkholder Memorial and Athletic Wall of Fame is completed but for the central monument itself. We expect the initial inductions to occur in spring or fall of 2021. We have an active community now planning the induction process, selections, and program. Another very positive thing to recognize Mike's incredible leadership and legacy as well as our strong traditions of Husky Athletic Success!

* Northwestern employees will have the opportunity to receive the initial COVID vaccine during the month of February. The data has yet to be announced. I was fortunate to have been selected to serve on a School COVID Vaccine Roll-out Advisory Committee at the state level to vaccinate school personnel across Ohio. This will help schools reduce need to quarantine employees, remain open, and secure substitutes as we move forward with our defeat of COVID.

* Our 3rd grade students performed exceptionally well on the state assessment this past fall! Considering the online spring last year, blended educational approach this school year, and the stress of COVID in general this was an incredible accomplishment! A tribute to our students, their teachers, support staff, administrators, and parents. Together we share in their success!



Washington D.C. class trip auction!!

Please keep March 6th-12th, 2021 clear for the class of 2027's D.C. Auction. This year will be different as we are utilizing an online format, with the auction running for a week (3/6-3/12) and Saturday (3-13) available for pick up of your auction items. We will be auctioning off excursions and experiences in multiple different states. More information will be released as we get closer to the auction. Items for auction will be available to see on the middle school's website. These items will be posted by February 12th but will be updated constantly as items become available. Please contact the middle school if your business has any items to donate for the auction. We are focusing primarily on gift certificates or admission passes. Help us provide a memorable trip for the class of 2027 by participating!



NW ELEMENTARY



**Mr. Joey
Brightbill
Northwestern
Elementary
Principal**

Message from Mr. Brightbill:

Happy New Year and welcome back to the start of the second semester! With the many challenges we have faced this academic year, we are very proud of our staff and students.

I want to congratulate and recognize the hard work and effort by our third grade students. Our 3rd grade students have taken the fall AIR Assessment and received their results. 58% of our students have already met the proficient score (700) to pass the test. If you have a student in 3rd grade, this is a great time to sit down and speak with them about their results. For more information on this assessment, visit the Ohio Department of Education website and look up Third Grade Reading Guarantee.

State testing for the spring is right around the corner for grades 3-5. State testing will begin in the middle of April 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 we get closer to testing dates, more testing information will be communicated with students and parents.

If you have son or daughter that is ready for Kindergarten for the 21-22 school year, it's time to start thinking about getting them registered for screening. Kindergarten Screening will be held at Northwestern Elementary on March 10th and March 10th. More information about Kindergarten Screening can be found in this newsletter, on the website as well as receiving letters from the classroom teachers.

We are excited to announce that next school year (21-22), Northwestern Elementary will be moving towards trimesters for each grading period. We have been studying this as a team for the past few years and we feel it's the right time for the change. More information about trimesters will be communicated prior to next school year.

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!

Northwestern STEM Preschool

We are having such a great school year here in STEM Preschool! We have recently started our Tubes and Tunnels unit. We are learning all about what a tube is and what objects can travel through tunnels. Our students brought in tubes they were able to find around their homes. Then we turned them into tunnels by exploring what could travel through our tubes. We also were able to crawl through our own tunnel!



STEM Preschool Pictures:



ELEMENTARY HIGHLIGHTS!

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten Registration for the 2021-22 school year kindergarten class will be held March 10th & March 17th at Northwestern Elementary School. If you have a child who will be five years old on or before August 1st, 2021, please call the school to schedule an appointment for the screening on or after Feb. 3rd. Please do not call prior to Feb. 3rd.

Appointment times will be available starting Feb. 3rd

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

Registration Day

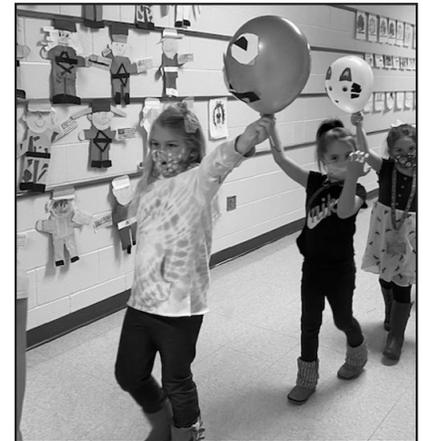
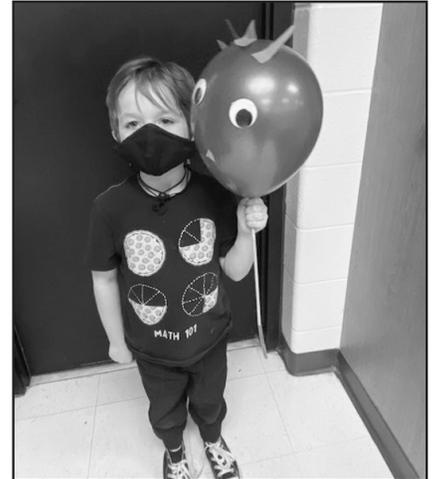
Please bring your child, birth certificate, immunization records, social security card, any custody papers that may apply, driver's license (w current address), and proof of residency (it can be a utility bill or phone bill, with your name and address on it).



Grinch Day and Hawaiian Day



Mrs. Tianos kindergarteners designed and created their own balloon for our very own Macy's Day Parade.



Order your 20-21 yearbook!

ybpay.lifetouch.com

Use ID code: 2304721

Order deadline - Feb. 12

STEM Pre School information

Northwestern's STEM PK is a 5-Star Step Up to Quality rated program. If you are interested in enrolling your student(s) for the 21-22 academic school year, please contact the elementary school. Spots may be available or request to be put on a waiting list. Cost is \$200 per month for 10-month commitment (Aug.1-May 1).

Northwestern Elementary

STEM FACTS

Northwestern is a K-12 STEM School District in Ohio—as Designated by Ohio Stem Learning Network (OSLN)



Everything you **IMAGINE**, you can do...

NORTHWESTERN STEM PRESCHOOL

Simply **THE BEST START** for your child!



A Wise Investment & Value For Your Child's Future!

-  Earning Ohio Dept. of Education **5-Star Rating**, the highest rating possible!
-  Meeting the needs of young learners through creative thinking and problem solving as well as using their critical thinking skills in all curricular areas
-  Classroom environment stimulates self-motivated learning along with fostering responsibility, self-discipline, and confidence



Northwestern STEM Preschool
An Inquiry-Based/STEM Approach to Early Learning



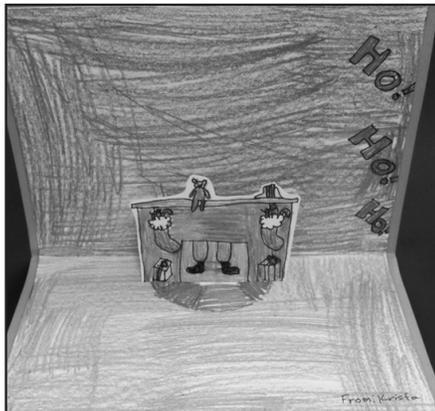

If you would like to check out library books
Call to set up a scheduled time with Mrs. Kardoheley @ 419-846-3519 ext. 3110 or email nrws_kardohe@tccsa.net
Looking for specific book(s), go to our website, click on Library on the left side, click on Catalogs (left side), click on Elementary School Library,

"Northwestern's STEM preschool is a phenomenal program like no other! After attending for 2 years, my child is more than prepared for Kindergarten. The STEM topics that were explored allowed my son to design and build various projects that he not only enjoyed, but also satisfied his curious mind. This program has created a love for learning that I know will last a lifetime. I couldn't be more impressed!"

"The STEM preschool provided an amazing opportunity for my daughter for the past two years. Not only has my daughter flourished academically, but socially and emotionally as well. Any child that is enrolled in the stem preschool will have the tools needed to be successful in kindergarten."

LEARNING IS FUN!

Northwestern Elementary students made 411 Christmas cards which were sent to area nursing homes in hopes of brightening their day.



Northwestern KINDERGARTEN

To help maintain Christmas Spirit during online learning, the kindergarteners had dress up zoom meetings. During these meetings we read Christmas stories, dressed festive, completed direct draw activities, had show and tell, and did so much more!

In typical years one of the "highlights" of Christmas time in the kindergarten world is building gingerbread houses. The kindergarten teachers did not want the students to miss out on this opportunity this year, so they created take home bags with all the ingredients needed to build a gingerbread house. Even though we couldn't be together this year to create our gingerbread houses, we did the next best thing... we joined a zoom meeting and all built our houses at the same time. It was fun to see all the families working together to build the houses and the kindergarteners could still interact with their friends. It was one of the best zoom meetings that we have had so far!



NO SCHOOL
Friday,
February 12 &
Monday,
February 15

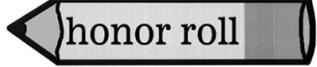
SCHOOL HOURS
 8:55 AM - 3:30 PM
STEM PreSchool Hours: (Mon-Thurs)
 4-5 yr olds-8:50-11:50
 3 yr olds-12:50-3:30
 Drop-off students may enter the building at 8:30, go directly to classroom.
 Students eating breakfast may enter the building at 8:30, go directly to cafeteria



Students in K-5 participated in Mrs. Kardohely's annual coloring contest in the library. There were 3 winners per grade level. Mr. Brightbill and Mrs. McQuate had a tough time choosing the winners again this year. The winning pictures are being displayed in the library windows.

Northwestern Elementary

2nd Nine Weeks
2020-21



3rd GRADE HONOR ROLL

Kelsey Badger, Kade Hamey, Emily Jackson, Harper Keener, Natalie Koch, Dylan McQuate, Jett Miller, Maleah Miller, Krista Orr, Lily Reser, Kaden Roberts, Katie Saal, Peter Spencer, Ruger White, Cash Workman, Myracle Wurm-West, J.D. Yarwood

4th GRADE HONOR ROLL

Austin Dudte, Aubreigh Flack, Grace Hawkins, Avere Karazsia, Madeline Morris, Keegan Schaefer, Isabella Virgili, Nora Wakefield

5th GRADE HONOR ROLL

Jared Allhouse, Jordan Cline, Mckenzie Cutter, Grady Ellerbrock, Cara Graham, Afton Karazsia, Case Keener, Grant Koch, Keagan Kostohryz, Alexa Perry, Madilyn Smith, Brayden Swank

3rd GRADE MERIT ROLL

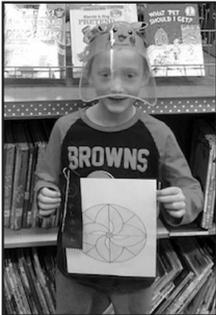
Alex Babbs, Violet Bechtel, Bryer Bejcek, Gunner Burkey, Journey Carter, Allison Chaney, Zella Cradlebaugh, Keegan Duong, Kamryn Evans, Brennan Flinn, Westin Frazier, Ryleigh Fuson, Lyla Geitgey, Charles Gortner, Carmen Guidetti, Luke Hamey, Adley Harbaugh, Maddox Harper, Blake Harris, Sophia Johnson, Kyle Kimmich, Lacey Lemon, Savanna Lemon, Brody Lindeman, Callen Metrick, Annalise Metzger, Donnie Michalak, Connor Mickolick, Arianna Miller, Emma Morris, Amelia Nagel, Jaylynn Nixon, Brittney Nolletti, Maverick Pedersen, Tori Porter, Emily Posta, Pierce Reynolds, Daniel Russell, Ethan Shakan, Emily Smith, Michael Smith, Madison Snow, William Sword, Zach Vizzo, Keston Weaver, Emily West, Madelyn Weygandt, Tayah Wilson, Brendan Woosnam, Ethan Yoder

4th GRADE MERIT ROLL

Leah Altman, Porter Boreman, McKenna Boyd, Tessa Buzzard, Jacelyn Cherry, Rowan Cottrell, Landon Ellerbrock, Olivia Ellis, Lily Farnsworth, Brant Hershey, Bailey Howman, Kole Kinsley, Karsten Kline, Cash Lindeman, Mercedes Lorenz, Miya Loy, Mason Mobley, Jacob Morris, Dominic Nolletti, Lyric Ogden, Jenny Perez Sica, Ava Santos, Hannah Shriver, Annabella Smith, Marissa Smith, Skylar Stark, Miles Terwilliger, Vinny Vizzo, Stephanie Widdows, Jenny Workman, Marlie Workman, Leonora Zemancik

5th GRADE MERIT ROLL

Nathaniel Baker, Emily Beeghley, Deacon Boreman, Taylor Carpenter, Courtney Cline, Callie Dugay, Justin Ebert, Hayden Erf, Briella Fiala, Bruce Grier, Taryn Hall-Cravens, Jesse Hanshaw, Kendra Houghton-Smith, Elcey Imhoff, Michael Ivan, Wyatt James, Bella Justus, Colton Morris, Addison Moser, Natalie Posta, Kathrine Scarbrough, Gracey Wigal



TIDBIT

* Northwestern graduates are pursuing a large number of an expanding number of available readiness seals. Northwestern has taken the lead on this and are the exemplar of student seals. See those who have earned already by the midpoint of the year! These seals are evidence of rigorous requirements and effort, help with scholarship selections, help with employment/jobs because they set our students apart and above other applicants. Last year's graduates earned more than 1,000 college credits while in high school! An outstanding accomplishment! Also, our problem-based learning, project-based learning, and our hands-on, concrete real world experiences and STEM educational opportunities also prepare our students for opportunities!

Ohio Means Jobs Seal-41, College Ready Seal- 17, Citizenship Seal-74, Science Seal- 85, Honors Diploma Seal- 14 (many more to come), Technology Seal- 5, Community Service Seal- 3, Fine/Performing Arts- Still calculating, Student Engagement- 7

HUSKY HAPPENINGS!

High School acrylic painting by Jade Marcum! Awesome details!



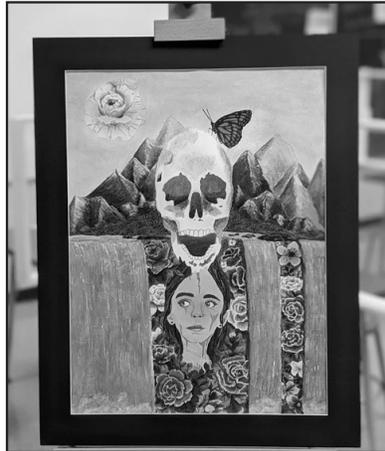
High School An impressionist landscape by Stefanie Ecker!



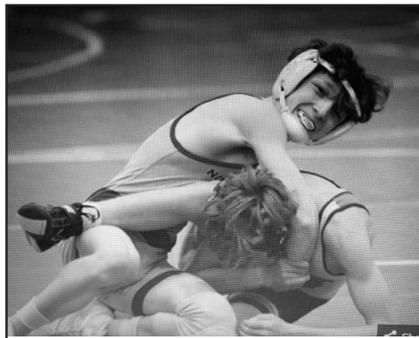
“Children are apt to live up to what you believe of them”.

Lady Bird Johnson

High School This is a surrealist acrylic painting by Emily Gilman, titled “The World is Slipping Away”. This painting represents overcoming hardships that occurred over the last year. The mountains represent problems that occurred, the bright butterfly to represent the shock, the screaming skull depicts frustration, the girl looks to the sun for hope, and the flowers show hope is growing even as the rushing river threatens to pull the girl under.



WCAL Champion TRENT SIGLER at 113 weight class! Congratulations!!



PROUD of all our winter husky athletes and coaches for persevering through the season with sickness, schedule changes, conflicts, etc.



NORTHWESTERN SCHOOLS "HOME OF THE HUSKIES"

Facilities Bond Retirement – Buildings Paid-off!

Through fiscal responsibility & excellent planning we are able to pay-off our buildings by this April!

Taxpayers will see an immediate "bond property tax reduction" this year (2021)!

Important Details:

- * Northwestern is in a position to pay-off our buildings by April, 2021
- * Our final payment was originally expected to be in Dec., 2024
- * We are providing an immediate "bond property tax reduction" that will provide some tax relief to our community! This means we are collecting a reduced .4 millage rather than the bond's 1.2 mil anticipated effective millage this year. The original millage was 2.8 mils, which has gone down due to new construction and increased valuation
- * The collection of this bond will be ZERO dollars after 2021!
- * Continuing to collect the .4 millage for the remainder of this year is as a safeguard to have in an account to protect against the Rover appeal of a tax challenge to reduce their taxes – in case they would be successful in their appeal
- * By refinancing our bond at a lower interest rate with the balloon payment terms we put in place in 2011 the district saved our taxpayers over \$266,000 in interest over the last 13 years of the loan!
- * By retiring the bond early we will save taxpayers more than \$21,000 in interest!
- * The district will have an est. \$340,000 remaining in the bond account at the time of pay-off, which the district will request the Wayne County Budget Commission transfer into Permanent Improvement in order to support the ongoing maintenance of our buildings and grounds
- * We have been conservative in our expenditures
- * We have proactively reduced this bond
- * Now we all benefit!

Reasons why carryover had grown:

There are three main factors our carryover has grown and we are able to retire our bond early.

1. Refinancing our bonds at a lower interest in 2011
2. We elected a balloon payment schedule when refinancing in 2011. The balloon refinance and amortization with increasingly larger payments, followed by smaller payments the last years of the bond
3. Our increasing district overall valuation over time

Facts:

- * Current bond carryover balance exceeds \$1,139,000
- * Current bond indebtedness (principle and interest) is @ \$788,000
- * Additional Good News: Our Emergency Levy will also be reduced - from the original 2.8 mils to an effective 2.5 mils this year (2021)!

The Process and Next Steps:

- * We have already met with Wayne County Auditor Jarra Underwood and Bond Counsel regarding collecting only the reduced .4 millage instead of the full millage this year
- * Feb. 15: The Northwestern Board of education is anticipated to approve a resolution to call-in and pay-off the bonds

* March 15: The Northwestern Board of Education is anticipated to request the Wayne County Budget Commission to transfer the remaining balance from our Bond Retirement account into our Permanent Improvement account

In the future:

* The district has been the victim of major funding reductions from the state for more than a decade, which has resulted in the district receiving less state revenue (which accounts for nearly 50% of our district budget) last year (FY 2020) and again this year (FY 2021) than we had in 2011. This has occurred during the same time period where insurance rates grew dramatically, salaries were steadily increased to remain competitive, and significant building facility HVAC, roof, and other systems needs we had to address as a district.

* Due to the reduced state funding, COVID, and increasing costs the district had forecasted a deficit this school year. We have made significant cost reductions to overcome the deficit as well as successfully sought additional grant funds and contributions. However, the district will likely need additional operating revenue to compensate for the lack of funding from the state.

* We are discussing the possibility of putting an emergency operating levy on the ballot Nov., 2021 for collection beginning in 2022. This would theoretically be replacing the bond revenue that was eliminated and would be essential for Northwestern to remain at the top of our game and maintain the excellent programming that we provide our students. It is a discussion for later, but an important part of this equation.

* The .5 mil required bond to maintain our buildings that was also passed in 2001 cannot expire prior to its final collection in Dec., 2023 according to state law. However, if we are sound financially at that time it expires the district would consider allowing that .5 mils to expire and not consider renewal of it.

For additional information please refer to the district website under "Treasurer" at: <https://www.northwestern-wayne.k12.oh.us/Treasurer.aspx>

You can also contact Northwestern Treasurer Lesa Forbes or Wayne County Auditor Jarra Underwood.

Northwestern FFA

The Food Science CDE contest was held virtually, like many of our other contests this year. Instead of an in-person contest, participants completed the contest through an online test. Participants were asked general knowledge questions about food science. They were also asked to identify food science equipment, identify safety and quality issues of foods, and complete a math practicum. This year Desiree Smith, Val Imhoff, Jadeyn Berry, Ava Stoller, Melanie Imhoff, and Hanna Wilson competed in the Food Science CDE contest. At the district contest, the top 4 from the team were Val Imhoff, Desiree Smith, Ava Stoller, and Melanie Imhoff. Val Imhoff earned 4th place, Desiree Smith earned 7th place, Ava Stoller earned 11th place, and Melanie Imhoff earned 17th place. The team went on to compete at the state contest on December 8th where they placed 29th out of 61 teams. Great job everyone!

Northwestern FFA's Novice Parliamentary Procedures Team Places High at the State Contest

The Parliamentary Procedure career development event is structured to teach members how to properly run a formal business meeting. This year Northwestern FFA's Novice Parliamentary Procedures team consists of the following members, Kade Tegmeier as President, Kirsten Boreman as Vice President, Mallory Gilbert as Secretary, Preston Wilcox as Treasurer, Kaylee Cherry as Reporter, Hayden Cline as Student Advisor, Kayla Cutter as Sentinel, and Will Hamey as the member. The novice team competed at districts hosted by Northwestern FFA virtually and placed 1st in the district. Due to circumstances, this year looked a lot different for the Parliamentary Procedure Contest than in years past with many rules changing to accommodate the current situation. The team then qualified for state and placed 4th overall. Congratulations to all our members who worked so hard to do so well at state this year.

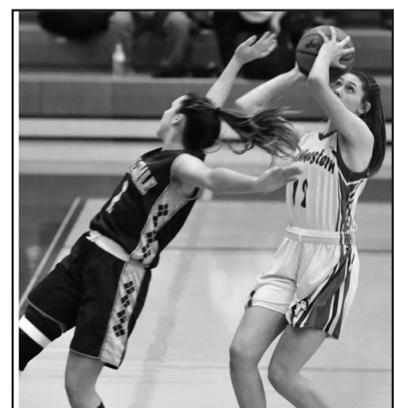


FFA Articles submitted by:
Jadeyn Berry
Reporter
Northwestern-Wayne FFA Chapter
Northwestern High School
7473 North Elyria Road
West Salem, Ohio 44287
(419) 846-3833

Northwestern FFA members Job Interview CDE

The Job Interview CDE Contest this year was different than in years past; however, participants were still able to gain valuable skills about formal job interviews and the follow up process. This year, a virtual contest was held over a Zoom meeting. Participants filled out an application, completed a mock job interview, and wrote a follow up letter via Zoom and Google. This year Val Imhoff, Jadeyn Berry, Ava Stoller, and Ella Saal participated in the Job Interview CDE Contest. At the district contest, Val Imhoff competed in Division 4 and earned 2nd place, Jadeyn Berry competed in Division 3 and earned 2nd place, Ava Stoller competed in Division 2 and earned 2nd place, and Ella Saal competed in Division 1 and earned 1st place. Ella Saal went on to compete at the state level on December 5th. She competed in Division 1 and earned 5th place overall in the state of Ohio. Great job to all our Job Interview CDE participants!

Lady Husky Basketball 2020-21



**Northwestern Local Schools
Calendar 2020-21**

2020

Monday, August 17	Staff PD Day
Tuesday, August 18	Convocation Day
Wednesday, August 19-28	Staff Planning and PD Days
Monday, August 31	First day for Students
Monday, September 7	NO SCHOOL - Labor Day
Monday, September 14	NO SCHOOL - Fair Day
Tuesday, September 15	NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day
Thursday, October 22	Parent Teacher Conferences MS and HS
Friday, October 23	End of First Nine Weeks (38 Days)

Mon./Wedn., Oct. 26 & 28	Parent/Teacher Conferences: Elementary
Thursday, November 26 thru	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Vacation
Monday, Nov. 30	Compensatory Day
Friday, Dec. 18	End of Second Nine Weeks (37 days)

Monday, Dec. 21 thru Jan. 1	NO SCHOOL - Christmas Vacation
-----------------------------	--------------------------------

2021

Monday, January 4,	School Reconvenes
Thursday, January 7	Parent/Teacher Conferences: H.S. and M.S.
Tues./Thurs. Jan. 12 & 14	Parent/Teacher Conferences: Elementary
Monday, January 18	NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Day
Friday, February 12	NO SCHOOL - Compensatory Time
Monday, February 15	NO SCHOOL - President's Day
Friday, March 12	End of Third Nine Weeks (47 Pupil Days)

Thursday, March 18	Parent/Teacher Conferences; H.S. and M.S.
Monday, March 29 to April 2	NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
Wednesday, May 26	Student's Last Day (48 Pupil Days)

Thursday, May 27	Teacher's Last Day
Sunday, May 30	Graduation

No School cancellation make up days. Use of "Blizzard bags" online lessons instead for any cancelled school days.

Student Contact days 170 (State crediting by hours 1,014)

PT conferences and Open House 2 days

Professional Development Days 3

Work days include convocation Aug. 18,

Work day May 27

** Approved 8/3/20 **

DON'T MISS OUT !!

Board of Education Meeting

Board President Charles Beck
3rd Monday each month 6:30 p.m.
HS Library

All Sports Association

President Bill Arthur
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 Kim Wellert
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 Alison Fiala
Meetings 3:45 ES Library - TBA

FOP, Northwestern and Wayne County Highway team up to bring Christmas to several Northwestern students. Merry Christmas to all.



NES Coloring Contest held by Mrs. Kardohely. (See page 19 for more information and pictures.)



***** THE Northwestern *****
Editor, Diane J. Hannah
If you have information that you would like in this newsletter, please contact Diane Hannah through email: nrws_editor@tccsa.net OR djleehannah52@gmail.com



“The Northwestern”
newsletter deadlines for
2020-21
March 17, June 2



Northwestern Local Schools
7571 North Elyria Rd.
West Salem, OH 44287-9707

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
West Salem, OH
Permit No. 115

CAR-RT SORT BOXHOLDER