

Wayne Community Schools

Wayne Elementary School | 312 North Douglas Street | 402-375-3854

Wayne Jr./Sr. High School | 611 West 7th Street | 402-375-3150

Early Learning Center | 803 Providence Road | 402-833-1450

www.wayneschools.org



Learning for Life – Every Student, Every Day!



October, 2023

From the Desk of Superintendent, Dr. Mark Lenihan

Dear Parents, Patrons, and Supporters of Wayne Community Schools:

We are in the midst of an outstanding school year and want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support of our school district. Our mission, "Learning for Life, Every Student, Every Day" is embraced by all of us at Wayne Community Schools. We strive to do the best job we can educating our students. Our staff is working very hard to provide an excellent, 21st Century education to our students. The community of Wayne provides wonderful support to our schools, for which we are extremely grateful. It has been a great 1st quarter of the 2023-24 school year, and we are very proud of the hard work our students and staff have shown!

One of the components of our school accreditation process is an external review every five years. During the external review, a team of educators from around the State of Nebraska, and one educator who is from outside of the state, visit our school district to conduct the accreditation review. On January 11th-12th, we will host our five-year external review. This review is a very important part of our continuous improvement cycle. The district holds a "Systems" approval through Cognia, which is a national and international accreditation agency. The benefit of a systems approval, is the time we take to look at our entire district and how we function as a school system. The Continuous Improvement Process allows our entire district staff the opportunity to work together to make determinations on how curriculum, instruction, and programming work together from the early primary grades through high school. The process is intense, the discussions are very productive, and the result is an improved school system that is prepared to continue moving forward to provide the best possible education we can for our students.

Prior to the accreditation visit, our staff will analyze data from assessments and surveys from staff, students, and parents. From this data, we will conduct a self-study to help us review our strengths and weaknesses, and arrive at a continuous improvement goal. The review team will study our information, interview staff, students, and parents,

and help us validate our findings, along with providing us feedback as to how we can improve. As part of the external review, we will also ask parents to be part of interviews taking place during the engagement review in January. If you are interested in taking part in the interviews, please let me or one of the school administrators know, and we will add you to the list. Again, this is another opportunity for parents to help with the school improvement process. We are looking forward to this very important accreditation review, and will share results as they are made available to the district.

As the weather changes, and the late fall and winter season arrives, I want to remind you of our school closing procedure in case of inclement weather. First of all, I want to assure all of you that we factor many considerations when deciding whether or not to close school or release early due to poor weather conditions. We know that when we close school it may create inconveniences for families, especially those with younger children. However, the safety of our students and staff is of the utmost importance, and we want to be certain that buses and vehicles can arrive safely for the beginning of the school day, and are able to reach home if a storm moves in during school. This decision is not taken lightly, as it is important to consider lost

instructional time versus the safety of our students, staff, and parents. Please know that if we are in error, we prefer it be on the side of safety.

We are in the initial phases of the construction process of our new facilities. The design process is complete, and soon crews will begin construction on the new Early Learning Center, the classroom addition at the high school, and the addition to the fitness center for wrestling. For the remainder of this school year, new construction will take place. We will work closely with Hausmann Construction to ensure a safe work environment for the construction crew, and minimal disruptions for our students and staff. All workers will have a background check completed, and there will be designated work areas in which the construction workers will be kept separated from the school day. We will work hard to make sure everyone is safe! This will be a long process for the new construction and the renovation of certain areas of the high school, and we are excited for the final product!

We are off to a great start to the 2023-24 school year! Please feel free to contact me anytime at school with questions or concerns you have, and thank you for your continued support of Wayne Community Schools!

Calendar Web-Site:

The monthly school calendar can be accessed by logging into midstatenebraska.org.

Log-in and click on the Wayne Jr/Sr High link. You can select the monthly calendar for the day, week, or month. You can also print off the calendar to have. Check out the "Notify Me!" option to receive texts or email notifications for any activity you check off. Just follow the instructions on the page. You may also "Subscribe" by following the directions posted on the page. All of the instructions work on your smart phone, too!



The current Wayne Community Schools Board Agenda can be found at:

www.wayneschools.org.

It will be posted on Friday before the Board Meetings, which is the second Monday of each month.



2023 Homecoming Court

King Candidates: 2022 King Bo Armstrong, Mason Ley, Alex Frank, Sam Junck, Garrett Schultz, King Jefferson Brizuela. **Queen Candidates:** Queen Liberty Titimi, Kate Hill, Jersi Jensen, Kierah Haase, Faith Powicki, 2022 Queen Laura Hasemann. **Crown Bearers:** Paxton Varley and Willa Surber.

Technology: Tips and Strategies for Parents

In today's world, technology is everywhere. Children are exposed to technology in a multitude of forms throughout each day. They text, e-mail, use social media, surf the web, watch television and movies – the list goes on and on. In fact, for many children, technology is one of the main ways they interact with and learn about the world. Thus, it is important that they have some guidance as they negotiate this increasingly technological world.

Here are tips to help you consider what you can do to help your children remain safe, act responsibly with technology, and learn how to be digital citizens.

Talk early and often with your children about safety when dealing with technology. Inform children that:

- They should never share passwords with anyone other than parents or guardians (even a best friend).
- They should never give out personally identifiable information.
- They should never give anyone their location or agree to meet in person with anyone they met online.

Discuss (in age-appropriate terms) identity theft, sexual and financial predators, and other risks, such as cyberbullying and privacy concerns.

Frequently discuss and review what appropriate and respectful behavior looks and sounds like when communicating through technology.

Use the following guidelines:

- If you wouldn't do or say something in front of a trusted and respected adult, don't do it online or by text.
- Participating in cyberbullying by sharing, reposting, or commenting on negative remarks about someone else makes the problem worse. The only appropriate response is not to respond and to tell a parent or another adult about the cyberbullying immediately.

Snow

With winter starting soon, PLEASE listen to KTCH or watch TV news for postponements and cancellations. If you are not receiving phone calls or texts from the school on these things, please contact the school and we will make sure your phone number is in the system. There will also be NO BREAKFAST served on any 10:00 late starts.



•If you wouldn't want a comment shared or said about you, don't share or say it about another person.

•Think before you post or text, especially if you are upset or angry. Once a photo or message is in the electronic world, it never goes away and can seriously affect your reputation, success, and future.

•NEVER send photos or images that contain nudity or message with sexually explicit content.

Note: Sexting – sending sexually explicit photos or messages by phone or other technology – is a phenomenon that has become increasingly common, especially among teenage girls. It carries serious risks, such as messages being forwarded to others. In addition, those who send or possess sexually explicit photos of a minor can face felony child pornography charges.

Establish procedures and rules regarding technology in your household.

Set appropriate limits on how long and where technology can be used. Consider procedures and rules such as the following:

•Allow no more than 2 hours of nonacademic technology each day on weekends, and less on weekdays.

•Some cell phones and computers can be set to have time limits or to prevent access during specified hours. Create a password for your child and set the device with the desired restrictions.

•Require that all electronic devices be turned off 1 hour before the child's bedtime. Studies have shown that bright lights (such as those from computers, cell phones, and TVs) can interrupt human sleep cycles and delay sleep.

•During dinner, place all cell phones (including parents' phones) in a box away from the dinner table.

•Create the expectation that cell phones are not allowed in children's bedrooms. One possible way to set this expectation is to establish a charging station in the parents' bedroom. At bedtime, place all electronic devices in the parents' room to charge

Note: Cell phones should not be allowed in children's bedrooms for several reasons:

- Electronic devices in bedrooms have been linked to sleep problems in children and teens. Lack of sleep contributes to attention problems, difficulty concentrating and learning, aggressive behavior, increased risk of depression, and a host of other health, behavioral, and emotional issues.
- Access to technology in the privacy of the bedroom can lead to increased risk of sexting and cyberbullying and conflict.
- Supervise and teach your child about technology use

Sprick, J, Sprick, R. (2019). School Leader's Guide to Tackling Attendance Challenges. Ancora Publishing.



2023 Missouri River Expo

The Wayne 5th grade class attended the 2023 Missouri River Expo at Ponca State Park outside of Ponca, NE. The kids had opportunities to participate in archery, rifles, camp life, native birds, tomahawks, fishing, kayaking, etc... The day was filled with adventure and lots of hiking. Thank you to all the parents that assisted in this adventurous trip. It was truly a wonderful day experiencing Nebraska at its finest.



The ELC got to meet our new SRO. He brought us stickers. We got to look inside the police vehicles after he told us about his position at school.

POWERSCHOOL

If you are having trouble setting up a Parent PowerSchool account, please contact Deb at the Jr/ Sr High School and she will get it set up. Due to PowerSchool updates, it is easier to have it set up through a PowerSchool administrator.

402-375-3150 — dedaum1@waynebluedevels

Phone messages

If you are not receiving phone messages or texts from the school, please contact the school. We will get your number on the list!



Band invitation

The Wayne High School "Pride of the Blue Devil's" Marching Band would like to invite everyone to attend our marching competitions this fall. The first event was in Pierce on September 27th. The band will march in the Wayne State College Band Day/ Homecoming Parade on Saturday, October 7th. On October 14th the band will head down to Ashland for the Oxbow Marching Band Invitational. We will host our own marching festival on Wednesday, October 18th. We would love to see everyone come and cheer on all the bands that day starting around 12:30 that afternoon. The band will end their season in Kearney for the Nebraska State Bandmasters Association State Marching Festival on Saturday, October 21st. We hope to see you at our contests!

Information

IF YOUR HOME ADDRESS AND/OR PHONE NUMBER HAS CHANGED, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL AND GIVE THEM YOUR NEW INFORMATION. THANK YOU!



From the Desk of the School Counselor . . .

As a school counselor I will spend a lot of time getting to know the students at school and assisting them with many different things. I will be available for:

Individual Counseling - meeting with students in a one-on-one setting to help them work through any problems affecting them at school; helping students make plans after graduation including college searches, scholarships, job shadowing, career information etc.

Small Group Counseling - meeting with small groups of students who may be having difficulty or need support with a similar issue.

Consultation - collaborating with teachers and parents on behalf of the student. This may include providing resources or other supports to help the student be more successful.

Other important things you should know:

My mission as a School Counselor is to help students with their social, emotional, academic, and career goals. I am available and look forward to working with EVERY student in the Jr./Sr. High School.

Communication is SO important. Please watch for newsletters and emails with information that will help you and your student. If you feel that you are not receiving communication about events or things from

the School Counseling office, please reach out to me directly.

Confidentiality - As your child's school counselor I take confidentiality very seriously. You and your child have the right to privacy and I will be respectful of that, although there are a few limits to that confidentiality (if a student reports abuse/neglect, thoughts or actions of self-harm or hurting others, etc.)

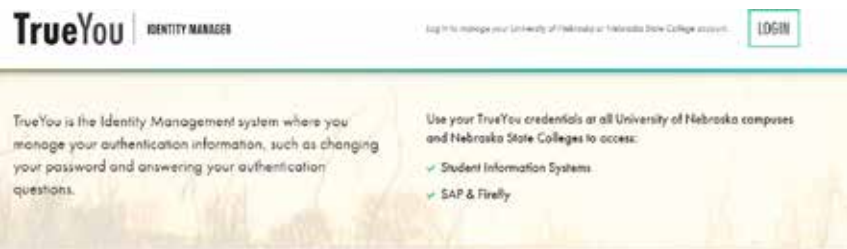
School Counseling is not a replacement for outside therapy services. I can assist with referrals to outside counseling agencies as needed.

Instructions for Logging into Wildcats Online



WildcatsOnline

1. Click trueyou.nebraska.edu it will take you to our account management site.



Claim Your Identity

You must claim your TrueYou Identity and establish a password before accessing student, staff or faculty services. The claim process will verify your account with personally identifying information and set up your authentication questions.

[Claim Your ID](#)

Manage Your Accounts

Use our Self Service feature to manage your account information simply and easily.

[Change Password](#)

[Lookup NUID or Username](#)

[Forgot Password](#)

1. If you have not yet set up your WSC account, click on the **Claim Your ID** button.
2. If you do not know your NUID or Username click on the link **Lookup NUID or Username**. You will need to answer the questions and then your NUID/username will be provided to you.
3. Click the **Forgot Password** link. Enter your NUID and confirm your identity. After confirming you will be able to set a new password.

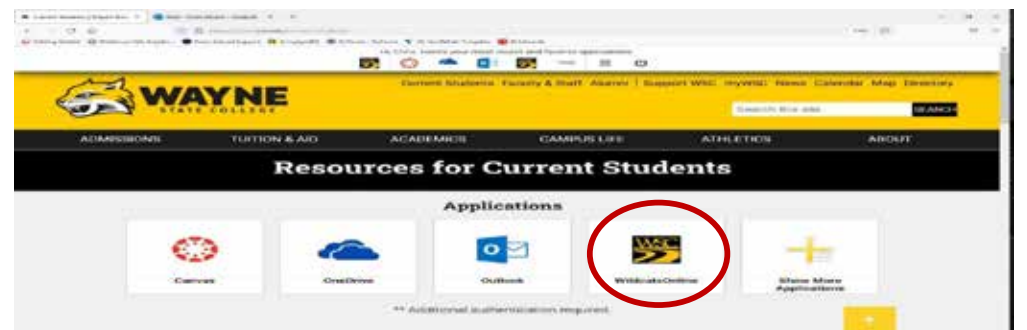


If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out by giving the **Service Center** a call at **402-375-7107**.

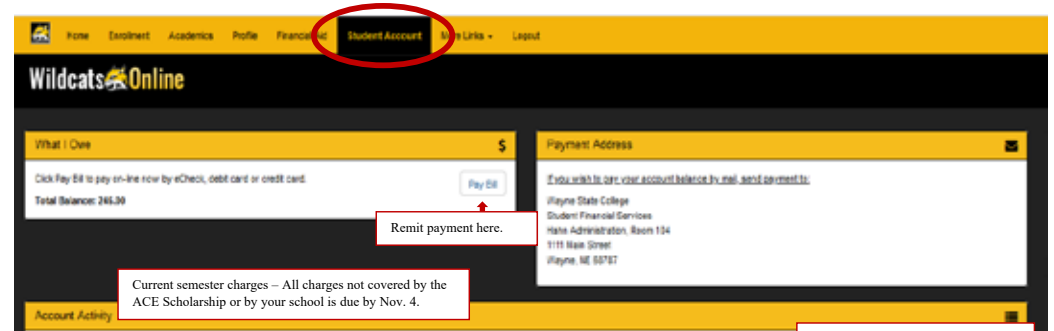
WSC Payment Instructions-Appendix B

DUAL CREDIT ACCOUNTS PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

GO TO www.wsc.edu to log into "MyWSC"
Once you are logged in – your Homepage will show multiple applications. Select WildCats Online from the application choices.



PLEASE SELECT THE STUDENT ACCOUNT TAB – Here you will see the charges for your tuition and fees for the current term.



Please complete Parent/Guest Access so Student Financial Services may visit with your parents concerning your account. Click [here](#) or scan the QR code below to view a video on how to sign up!



Contact Student Financial Services at 402-375-7229 if you have any questions.

— Wayne Elementary News —

The week of Parent-Teacher Conferences was again a big success! Thank you for attending conferences so that we could collaborate to make the school year great for our students, parents, and staff. We had great attendance as always!

We will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week the week of October 23rd at Wayne Elementary. This will include five dress up days for our students. Here are the themes for the week.

Monday: Wear Red (Be Kind To Yourself)

Tuesday: Wear A Hat (Be Kind To Your Mind)

Wednesday: Wear Your PJ's (Put Drugs To Sleep)

Thursday: Wear Your Favorite Sports Team (Team Up

Against Drugs)

Friday: Wear Blue Devil Apparel (Wayne Is Proud To Be Drug Free)

In addition, we will be having a Breakfast With A Buddy event on November 6th and 7th. Our K-2 students will have the event on the 6th and the 3-6 students will have it on the 7th. We love to see families in our building and we encourage you to attend with our students. We will be sending home slips for our families to sign up.

Finally, we will have our annual Family Math and Science Night on November 14th from 6:00-8:00 pm. Our Title team has collaborated with the edu-

cation college at Wayne State College to have fun math and science activities ready for our students. Please come and enjoy this fun evening! Thank you for all you do and we look forward to seeing all of our families in the building!

Sincerely,
Mr. Plager

What's Cooking in the Kitchen . . .

We are proud to provide Farm to School from local farms. Thank you to Clinch Farms, Norfolk, NE for our cantaloupe and watermelon and Joy Farms, Carroll, NE for the squash, zucchini, tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers. We are looking into work with Wolfe Farms, Norfolk, NE to provide onions, winter squash and radishes.

Reminder to students and parents: As many of your students already take at least 3 items (1 item MUST be a fruit or veggie) at breakfast and lunch; some of them do not. NOTE: if you don't take at least 3 items with 1 item being a fruit or veggie they are being charged for just the few items they are taking; which means those of you who are free and reduce are NOT qualifying for the reimbursable meal. We know these rules are not always ideal but for the meal program to be funded you NEED 3 items (1 item MUST be a fruit or veggie) for breakfast and lunch so don't be surprised if we add a fruit or veggie to your student's tray as they scan their finger or your account will be charged accordingly. Questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

Like always we encourage you to eat lunch with your student just call the school office by 9am to be part of the lunch count!

Elks award received

Leah Perry, nominated by Mrs. Toni Rasmussen, has been selected for the Norfolk Elk Lodge Teen/Student of the month! This is such a great accomplishment, and is now in the running for the Teen/Student of the Year. She was chosen from a pool of 16 other student nominations from different schools in Northeast Nebraska! Congratulations Leah!

If you have a senior student who you feel has already accomplished much in their life as a student, as well as serving their community that you would like to nominate, please email me a senior student's name and a letter of recommendation for that student to jekneif1@waynebluedevils.org

The Norfolk Elks Lodge Teen/Student of the month program, which runs September through April, honors area high school seniors deserving of special recognition. Each month the lodge selects the most outstanding boy and girl from the nominations received. The Norfolk Elks Lodge then chooses a male and a female Teen/Student of the Year from the monthly honorees; these two students are each awarded for their exemplary efforts, the awards are presented at the Elks youth awards banquet in May. The 2023-2024 honorees will then be featured on the Daily News' Youth page that month. The monthly student honorees and their parents will be invited to the May banquet where the Teens/Students of the Year will be announced.



THE WAYNE COAT CLOSET

Winter coats, hats, gloves & mittens available for those in need in Wayne County.

We accept donations of winter coats, snow pants, hats, mittens, scarves and snow boots.

These items may be either used (clean) or new.

fpcwayne@gmail.com

find us on Facebook:

Wayne Coat Closet - First Presbyterian Church

SERVING WAYNE COUNTY RESIDENTS

THREE VISITS ALLOWED PER YEAR

CHILDRENS & ADULT SIZES

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

OPEN: TUESDAY - FRIDAY
9:00AM - 12:00 NOON

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

216 W. Third Street
Wayne, NE 68787
(402)375-2669

fpcwayne.org

Tuesday - Friday
9:00am - 12:00pm

ANNOUNCEMENT

Seniors and senior parents: Senior photos are due to Mrs. Davis by March 15. They should be a vertical pose and sent to her at didavis1@waynebluedevils.org. If you want a quote included, it is also due by March 15.

2023-24 Yearbooks are available for \$40 until December 22. Contact Mrs. Davis if interested.

Wayne Community Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age, genetic information, citizenship status or economic status in its programs, activities, and employment.



Be sure and "LIKE" our school's Facebook page!

www.facebook.com/Wayne-Community-Schools

Wayne-Community-Schools

You can also follow us on

Twitter!

Wayne Blue Devils @WayneSchools.

Upcoming events, current happenings,

fun things can be found there!

