

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!



November, 2024

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 2024-25 school year, and we are very proud of the hard work our students and staff have shown!

Communication is a very important component of any organization. It seems as though it is a never-ending cycle that can always be improved upon in one way or another. At Wayne Community Schools, communication with staff, students, parents, and the community is very important, and we want to continue to find ways to improve. Recently, we have re-branded our District Facebook page, and added a Wayne Community Schools

Instagram page. These two social media websites are very popular among our students and staff, and we hope those of you who are active on Facebook and Instagram follow us! We have been working with a company named #SocialSchool4EDU who specializes in social media communication to help us coordinate our activity on our social media channels. For those of you not on social media, that is no problem, we will continue communication efforts through newsletter, local media, and our phone messaging system.

Adding on to the conversation about social media and communication, I do want to make sure you are all aware of our communication process in the case of an emergency. If there is an emergency at school and we need to communicate with all parents and community members, we will not use our social media channels for this communication. We know not everyone is on social media, and during an emergency we need to make sure that everyone has the same message from the school. In the case of an emergency, we will use our phone messaging system that communicates with all families in the district, and the local media outlets including the radio station and newspaper. We know during emergencies that communication needs to be clear, concise, and consistent, and we want to make sure everyone is contacted and the same message is sent out. We have a communications team as part of our safety plan, and during an event that is an emergency or crisis, this team will work hard to make sure we communicate effectively with all of our patrons.

Another important part of communication at Wayne Community Schools is our "Chain of Communication", otherwise known as a chain of command. (I prefer using the word communication instead of command.) As most of you are aware, when a situation arises in which parents or community members have a concern, we encourage them to call the staff person involved directly. Most of the time,

when a parent calls a teacher or coach with a concern, it can be addressed by discussing the issue and arriving at a good plan. If a positive outcome does not occur, parents or community members should contact the school administrator, followed by the superintendent. It is our hope that when an issue or concern arises, we can work with the families and the students to arrive at a positive conclusion to the situation. My door is always open, and I have a personal rule of responding to parents or community members within 24-48 hours of a message. Always feel free to email me or call with questions or concerns. I may not be able to answer your question, or resolve the issue, but I will direct you to the staff members that can help!

And finally, on the communication topic, and as the weather changes to win-

ter, 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. We will always attempt to contact everyone in a timely manner when a decision to close school, delay the start of school, or dismiss early. I would encourage all of you to begin discussions

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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.

Calendar Website:

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!



Congratulations to Head Softball Coach Rob Sweetland on his 600th career coaching victory! What an incredible achievement!

Snow

With winter upon us, **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.

Coat Closet

Please remember that the Coat Closet has coats, hats, mittens, and boots available for the whole family at no cost. The Coat Closet is located at the First Presbyterian Church in Wayne. You can reach them at 402-375-2669.



The Wayne Community Schools Foundation received a donation from the Sherry Murray Family. The \$17,000.00 donation were proceeds from this year Kevin J Murray Memorial Fishing Tournament held last August 24th. The total amount of donations over the last 20 years is \$212,000.00, which go to fund scholarships and leadership awards in memory of Kevin Murray. This year \$5000 was designated toward new Playground Equipment for the new Early Learning Center. Thank You once again to Sherry Murray and her entire family for your generous donation!



Lynn Junck Seeds and Wayne Community Schools Foundation were selected by Bayer Ag to receive a \$5000 Channeling GOOD donation for the new Early Learning Center Playground Equipment Project. Lynn also donated proceeds from the Free Will Hamburger Tailgate that Junck Farms and Seeds sponsored at a recent WHS football game. Thank You Lynn and Shelly!!!



Our kindergarteners recently took a fun-filled field trip to The Little Red Hen Theater to watch Little Red Riding Hood! For some, it was also their first ride on a school bus! So many smiles and laughs all around!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WAYNE HIGH 2024 ALL-STATE MUSICIANS!

BAND
AIDAN BOHNERT - 3RD YEAR

ORCHESTRA
CEILUS IBARRA - 1ST YEAR

CHORUS
ADRIENNE ANDERSON - 2ND YEAR
GAVIN ANDERSON - 2ND YEAR
*GABRIEL ARMSTRONG - 2ND YEAR
NOBAH ARMSTRONG - 4TH YEAR
-LANDEN CLAUSSEN - 1ST YEAR
JORDYN CLINCHARD - 2ND YEAR
*OLIVIA HANSON - 4TH YEAR
SIENNA KLINETOBE - 1ST YEAR
COLBY RAULSTON - 3RD YEAR



What's Cooking in the Kitchen

If you have been to the elementary to eat; you have noticed our new logo for ALL the cafeterias and even our delivery truck! We have also had some painting done in the elementary building and have plans to work on the high school next summer.



We have added a few new staff to our crew this year and want to welcome . . . Melissa, Tina, Stephanie and Haley. We have a great group though we still would like a few more part-time employees that we would happily work around your schedule. If interested, stop in the school office and pick up an application!

October is Crunch Off Month which is multi-state competition to celebrate Farm to School Month. We proudly support Farm to School as much as we can with local vendors for our fresh fruits, veggies and beef: Clinch Farms and Wolff Farms both out of Norfolk, NE, Deck Apple Orchard by Winside, NE, Graff Honey in Emerson, NE, Wayne County Beef and our local FFA group!

National School Lunch Week is October 14th-18th. 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!

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 students tray as they scan their finger or your account will be charged accordingly. Questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your continuous support of our Blue Devil Café!

Sincerely,
The Kitchen Staff

5th Grade enjoyed their trip to the Missouri River Outdoor Expo in Ponca.



CONGRATULATIONS to Gavin Redden and Yama Kantai on being crowned Homecoming King and Queen. This year's Queen candidates were: Olivia Mrsny, Rylin Hall, Amelia Legler, Nyamalo Kantai, Taytem Ellis King candidates were: Colson Nelsen, Gavin Redden, Kaden Keller, Calvin Ankeny, Will Leseberg



The Wayne Boys' Cross-Country Team just raced their way to victory and are officially the Mid-States Conference & District CHAMPIONS! Congratulations to the whole team and coaches for an unforgettable season!



CONGRATULATIONS to the Wayne High Girls golf team for winning the Class C State Tournament! The girls were also Class C3 District Champs! Way to go ladies!!



Annual Clean-Up Day! A roadside in Wayne is free of trash thanks to FCCLA club members!



24 fifth and sixth grade students attended training at State Nebraska Bank for the Blue Devil Branch at the Elementary. The students will be working as bank tellers to help other students open savings accounts and with weekly deposits. State Nebraska Bank Blue Devil Branch is at the Elementary every Thursday morning before school.

Desk

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with your families about a school closing plan in the event we have a weather-related closing. Planning what the kids will do on these days now will make for a much smoother transition for your families when a weather-related closing occurs. 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 off to a great start to the 2024-25 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!

POWERSCHOOL

If you are having trouble setting up a Parent PowerSchool account, please contact Deb at the 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@waynebluedevils.org

Contact Info

If your home address and/or phone number has changed, please contact the school and give them your new information. Thank you!



The TeamMates National Office has partnered with READ Nebraska to provide grant funding and materials to elementary TeamMates chapters. Students earn tokens to be used at the book vending machine. 300 books were provided by TeamMates to fill the unique vending machine.

Instagram

Hey Blue Devils! We're excited to connect with you on Instagram! Follow us @waynecommunityschools for the latest updates, behind-the-scenes moments, and all things Blue Devil pride. Let's celebrate everything that makes our district great! #WeAreWayneNE



Be sure and "LIKE" our school's FaceBook page!
www.facebook.com/Wayne-Community-Schools



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.

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!

