

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!



January, 2025

From the Desk of Superintendent, Dr. Mark Lenihan

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

As always, the school year is flying by as we are well into the 3rd quarter. One question I often receive as we near spring is, "What day is the last day of school?" Knowing March and April can still bring winter storms, we will announce the final day of school at the April 14, 2025 School

Board meeting. Doing this allows us the flexibility we need to assure we meet our instructional hour requirement, and hopefully provide families enough advance notice as you begin to plan your summer. Tentatively, the last day of school for grades K-11 will be Tuesday, May 20, 2025. Graduation will be on May 17, 2025 at the High School Gym. The seniors will

be let out earlier that week, and that will be decided in April as well. Typically, the last full day for seniors is the Monday before graduation, with a return on Tuesday morning for breakfast, the senior video, and graduation practice.

Construction continues on the new Wayne Community Schools Early Learning Center (ELC), and we are on track for a June 2, 2025 date for substantial completion. This will allow our staff to prepare the ELC for opening in August, 2025! The official name of the building will be the Wayne Early Learning Center (ELC). We are very excited about this new facility, and being able to educate our Preschool – 2nd grade students as we believe the focus on these primary years are key to student success in the future! It has been very enjoyable watching the progress on the ELC, and we will be very excited to

show all of our patrons the facility when it is complete. Look for an open house date sometime next summer before school starts!

As winter ends and spring draws near, we are excited to continue the learning process in the classrooms and at our extra-curricular activities and events. The 4th quarter of the school year is always full of fun and engaging opportunities for students, staff and parents to attend and celebrate the many accomplishments that happen at school. I hope all of you have time to attend our athletic events, concerts, plays, and the many other activities we have during the spring months! We have many talented students, and great teachers who guide and instruct them to achieve their best! Thank you for your continued support of Wayne Community Schools!



CONGRATULATIONS to five of our students who graduated mid-term. We wish you the best! From left to right: Isaiah Yarde, Hudson Silva De Oliveira, Yessenia Alba, Mariana Mejia, Priscilla Solorio Barreto



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.

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.

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!



Each Third-Grade student was given their very own dictionary, thanks to the generosity of the Wayne Rotary Club. After the presentation, they put their new dictionaries to the test by solving "Dictionary Mysteries" —like finding out what type of bird a wren is!



Each year, the Art Club has made blankets to be donated to Haven House to support those in need. Art Club students make it a priority to help others during the holidays, spreading kindness and warmth one blanket at a time!



Mrs. Petersen's WIN class had a blast reading and discussing *Balloons Over Broadway* while learning about the Thanksgiving Day Parade! Afterward, they got creative by designing their own balloons and even paraded them through the office.



Students from Art Club and One World Club enjoyed a Thanksgiving Feast together! It was such a fun night to spend time together and build our school community.

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.



It's up to all of us to keep our schools safe.

Call 833-980-SAFE (7233) to report:

- ☑ School threats
- ☑ Bullying
- ☑ Crime
- ☑ Violence
- ☑ Abuse
- ☑ Sexual exploitation
- ☑ Concerning social media posts
- ☑ Students in distress

SAFE 2 HELP
NEBRASKA

SAFE2HELPNE.ORG

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@waynebluedevels.org



115 elementary kids and FBLA members watched Abominable at the Majestic Theatre in December! Wayne High School FBLA sponsors a Crafts and A Movie event every year. This year they broke their record for students participating!



CONGRATULATIONS to the Unified Bowling Team for winning Districts! The team consisted of: Hannah Davis, Gavin Redden, Sammi Gubbels, Payton Junck, and Graycen Trautman.



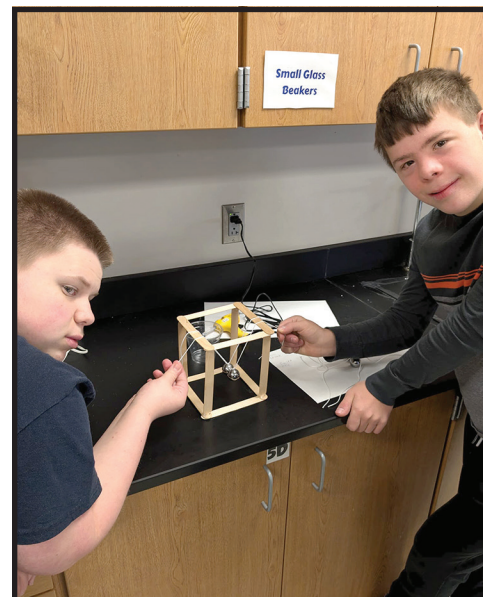
Six students from grades 4-6 had an incredible time at Wayne State College Science Day! Annabelle C., Grant L., Ryker K., Tommy D., Kayleigh S., and Logan M. were chosen for their outstanding Science testing scores. They attended a planetarium show, dug for fossils, and even learned coding to fly drones



Many thanks to the Quilt Shop Quilters, from Wakefield, for presenting the handmade "Quilts of Valor" to Wayne area Veterans at the WCS Veteran's Day Program on November 11. Listed below are the military veterans who received a Quilt of Valor. THANKYOU FORYOURSERVICE!! Front row: James Wiebelhaus, Jesse Titiml, Matt Poehlman, William Blecke, Jim Fernau. Back row: John York, Brian Loberg, Kory Leseberg, Jessi Hochstein, Mark Hill.



National Honor Society members handed out candy canes to the Elementary students on the last day of school before Christmas break.



Mrs. Smithed Newton

— Wayne Elementary News —

I want to take the time to thank all of our stakeholders for an excellent first semester.

It is a lot of fun to work in a school district with such great students, parents, staff, and community members. We have an excellent school community that has supported the mission of our school district!

I wanted to let you know that the registration process will be starting ear-

School Nutrition

The Nebraska School Nutrition Association's Theme this school year is "BALANCING SCHOOL NUTRITION"

Our school meal program is a balance of what we can afford to serve, what 1000 students want to eat, and what fits into the rules and regulations. We have to follow the rules to receive our government funding. I believe the kitchen crew at Wayne schools, does a wonderful job of balancing all of these. Our fresh breads, great entrees and wonderful fruit and vegetable bars and cold milk, offer a balanced meal experience

We try to make many items from scratch or speed scratch cooking. This takes time and staffing. I have always enjoyed working with the school lunch program. It gave me the opportunity to BALANCE home and my sons being in school. I worked while they were in school, I had summers off to be full time mom, snow days, holidays we had the same schedule. If this sounds right for you please come talk to us, we are always looking for subs or part time help.

This new year remember to find a healthy balance in your families. Thank you for letting us serve your students. We enjoy having them in our serving lines.

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

ly second semester. In January we will have core teachers make recommendations for classes next year. In addition, we will have Freshman Orientation Night in February. We will also have a Curriculum Night for 9th-11th grade after that session is complete. The Curriculum Night for 9th-11th grade will go



Congratulations to Gavin Reddin, a Senior at Wayne Community Schools, for being nominated as a Believer and Achiever for the 2024-25 school year!

Currency and the Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) are proud to announce the 2024-25 Believers & Achievers. Believers & Achievers is a statewide program designed to give recognition to Nebraska's future leaders. 48 students will be recognized at NSAA State Championships throughout the 2024-25 activities year and on a poster sent to all NSAA member schools. All of the students nominated for the Believers & Achievers awards program represent the very best of Nebraska's high schools and are considered local school winners. A complete list of the local school winners for the 2024-25 activities year is available on the NSAA website.

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! If your number has changed, please make sure you contact the school with your new information.



more in depth on the course catalog, dual credit courses, FAFSA completion, and how scholarships are communicated. This night will be followed by a registration fair at school for students. They will have the opportunity to meet with their past and future teachers to build an effective schedule. I will continue to send out information on this process through the Friday Blast as it gets closer.

Finally, I wanted to let you know that we have been working hard to restructure our advisory period. We have matched our students up with an adult advocate, assessed our students using the DESSA assessment, and we have been delivering lessons to help build our students' relationship skills. This focus on social-emotional learning will be a continued focus in the future.

Thank you for all of your support, and feel free to reach out if I can help you in any way!

Sincerely, Mr. Plager



Wayne Elementary students and staff loved The NED Show assembly!

NED, a lovable cartoon character whose name stands for Never give up, Encourage others, and Do your best, inspired everyone with important lessons on resilience. Through humor, storytelling, audience participation, yo-yo tricks, and magic, students learned how to be champions in school and life.



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