

NOVEMBER 2026

The Generals Post

Anthony Wayne Local Schools Stakeholder Newsletter

A Message of Thanks to Our Community

As we enter the month of November, it is a wonderful time to express gratitude. So, on behalf of Anthony Wayne Local Schools, I want to take this opportunity to thank our community for the continued support, pride, and care you show our schools and, most importantly, our students.

There is something special about the Anthony Wayne community. Often, when people are asked where they are from, they respond with “AW” rather than naming their city, village, or township. To me, that speaks volumes. It reflects a sense of belonging that extends beyond geographic boundaries. We are connected by something bigger than where we live. We are part of a community that takes pride in its schools, cares about its children, and shares a commitment to helping the next generation thrive.

I believe the strength of a school district and the strength of its community are inseparable. Our schools are stronger because of the community that supports them, and our community is stronger because of the opportunities, relationships, and experiences our schools provide. That partnership is one of our greatest assets, and it is something we should never take for granted.

As superintendent, I remain committed to honoring the trust this community places in us. That means listening to and building relationships with our students, families, staff, and community members; learning from their perspectives; celebrating what we do well; and recognizing where we can improve. We know that the work of educating students is never finished.

Thank you for being part of what makes AW more than a school district, it makes us a community.

Kevin Herman, Superintendent

Above: Sixth grade students enjoy a day on the water while learning to canoe during Outdoor Education at Camp Michindoh.



Kindergarten Information and Feedback Meeting

All-Day, Every-Day Kindergarten Coming in 2027-2028

Anthony Wayne Local Schools is pleased to announce the expansion of kindergarten to a full-day, every-day program beginning in the 2027–2028 school year. This change reflects our commitment to supporting our youngest learners and providing students with meaningful opportunities to learn, grow, and build a strong foundation for future success.

All-day kindergarten will provide students with additional time for instruction, exploration, and social-emotional development while offering families a consistent, full-day learning experience. We look forward to this next step in serving Anthony Wayne students and families.

Community Feedback and Survey Results

Thank you to everyone who participated in our recent survey regarding all-day, every-day kindergarten. We received 542 responses, providing valuable feedback from parents, prospective parents, staff, grandparents, and community members.

Below is an overview of the survey responses. You may view the full survey results on the Kindergarten page of our website.

Who Participated?

Survey respondents included:

- 385 current parents
- 75 prospective parents
- 25 staff members
- 25 grandparents
- 18 community members
- 15 other respondents

Kindergarten Eligibility

245 have a child eligible for kindergarten during the 2027–2028 school year.

205 have an eligible child within the next 2–3 years.

92 do not have a child eligible for in the next 2–3 years.

Interest in All-Day, Every-Day Kindergarten

The survey results indicated strong interest in an all-day, every-day kindergarten option:

- 433 respondents (80%) said they are very likely to enroll their child.
- 42 respondents (8%) said they are very unlikely to enroll their child.
- 67 respondents (12%) were unsure.



NEW! Walking Wednesdays with Superintendent Herman

Anthony Wayne Local Schools invites parents, staff, and community members to join Superintendent Kevin Herman for a new Walking Wednesdays series, stepping off November 11.

Whether you want to get your daily steps in, tour our facilities, or have questions answered, this informal series offers an open door to connect directly with district leadership.

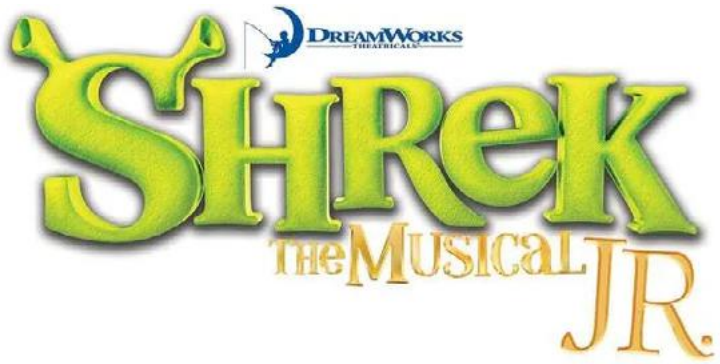
When: Select Wednesdays from 6:00 AM – 7:00 a.m.
Who: Open to all district residents, parents and community members
What to Bring: Comfortable walking shoes and your questions! No reservations required.

Schedule & Locations

November 11:	AWHS, AW Junior High, & Fallen Timbers Middle School Meet at AWHS Main Office
December 2:	Monclova Primary School
December 16:	Waterville Primary School
January 6:	Whitehouse Primary School
January 20:	Anthony Wayne High School
February 3:	AW Junior High & Fallen Timbers Middle School
February 17:	Monclova Primary School
March 3:	Waterville Primary School
March 17:	Whitehouse Primary School

Important Notice

There will be no Winter Walking hours on scheduled winter breaks and holidays, or on delay or school closure days due to inclement weather.



AW Junior High Presents Fall Musical

Your favorite fairy tale characters, laugh-out-loud moments and a heartwarming message take center stage as AW Junior High presents *Shrek the Musical, Jr.* on November 13 and 14.

This fun-filled production brings the beloved fairy tale to life with humor, memorable characters, and a heartwarming message about acceptance.

Performances begin at 7 p.m. each night in the AWHS Auditorium. Presale tickets are available on the District website.

Generals Tech Tips Lunch & Learn YouTube Basics Free Community Workshop

Learn how to use YouTube to solve everyday problems, discover new skills, and find entertainment at this free Lunch and Learn presented by the Anthony Wayne Technology Department on Wednesday, November 18, at noon at the AW Central Administrative Offices. Bring your lunch; snacks and drinks are provided. To reserve your spot, call 419-877-5377 or email Chris Hamady at CHamady@AnthonyWayneneSchools.org.

Districtwide Food Drive for Local Families

We are partnering with Neighborhood Bridges to host a districtwide food drive supporting local families in need.

Donations will be collected at all schools November 16 - 20. Help make a difference by donating items from the list of current needs.

Please join us in making a difference right here in our community!

November District Events

November 2
Evening Conferences

November 3
No School - Conferences
Election Day

November 9
Board of Education
Regular Meeting

November 12
Superintendent Walk & Talk

November 13-14
AW Junior High Musical

November 16-20
Districtwide Food Drive

November 18
Free Lunch & Learn
Workshop

November 23
No School - Staff PD

November 24 - 27
Closed - Fall Break

View the October Events Calendar

View the Performing Arts Calendar

View the Generals Athletics Calendar on DragonFly



The Board recognized the recent accomplishments of several AWHS Fine Arts students who took part in the Black Swamp Arts Festival, FOCUS Art Show and Middleton Township America250 Art Contest.

AWLS Board of Education Meeting Notes

At its October 12 meeting, the Board accepted Superintendent Kevin Herman's intent to retire effective August 9, 2027, and approved a contract with the Ohio School Boards Association to begin searching for the district's next leader this fall.

Highlights included celebrating student achievements in the fine arts, reviewing 2027–2028 school calendar options, celebrating strong State Report Card star ratings, and examining declining primary enrollment trends. Also approved were modifications to Board policy as recommended by NEOLA, supplemental learning materials and curricular updates, and a contract with the Ohio School Council to seek bids for school vehicles on behalf of the District.

A livestream recording of the meeting is available on YouTube, and you can review the presentation materials and full details on the district website. The Board will meet next on Monday, Nov. 9 at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Administrative Offices.

Superintendent Search Timeline

The Board of Education is partnering with the Ohio School Boards Association to conduct a search for the district's next superintendent. With a goal of naming the selected candidate in early spring, the Board intends to open the application window later this month.

Opportunities will be provided for staff, families and community members to share their perspectives on the qualities they hope to see in the next superintendent and their vision for the district's future.

Watch for more information and updates to be shared in future issues of *The Generals Post* and on the District website.



FTMS Purple Star Lunch & Board Games

PURPLE STAR
Supporting Military Families

PURPLE PAGES

November is Military Family Appreciaton Month

OHIO VETERANS & MILITARY SPIRIT WEEK: NOVEMBER 9 - 13

Ohio Veterans and Military Family Spirit Week is a statewide initiative organized by the Ohio Department of Veterans Services to honor the service and sacrifice of military families and the state's nearly 700,000 to 800,000 veterans.

Built around Ohio's Purple Star School program, the recognition program highlights the critical role military-connected children play and provides schools a structured opportunity to show gratitude to service members, reservists, National Guard personnel, and local veterans.

Each of our schools will participate with its own customized acknowledgments, such as themed spirit dress-up days, veteran recognition assemblies, classroom discussions, and student-led tributes.

Toledo Walleye Hockey Game
Wear your AW or Purple Star Generals gear and help us cheer on the Toledo Walleye on Military Appreciation Night, Saturday, Nov. 21. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

The first 1,500 fans in the door will receive a free camo cowbell. Tickets are available for purchase online at www.ToledoWalleye.com.

Holiday Family Movie
Reconnect over winter break! AW Purple Star families are invited to watch *The Grinch* at the Maumee Indoor Theatre on Sunday, Dec. 27 at 3:00 p.m.









A special thank-you to Wheeler Farms, the 180th Family Readiness Office and the American Red Cross of Northern Ohio for partnering with the Purple Star Generals for an evening filled with trunk-or-treating, pizza, face painting, hot cocoa, s'mores, bonfires and the corn maze. We're grateful for these community partnerships and the opportunity to bring military-connected families together.

Visit the Anthony Wayne Free Press on Facebook for more photos.



Volunteers from Monclova, Waterville and Whitehouse primaries packed care packages to send to service members. Many thanks to those who donated supplies to share some comfort and encouragement from home.



Activity Spotlight: AWHS Interact Club

Leading with Empathy: How Collaboration Shapes Future-Ready Generals

A longstanding partnership between AWHS and the Anthony Wayne Area Rotary Club empowers students to develop hands-on leadership skills through service. Working alongside Rotarian mentors, Interact Club members lead projects that make a tangible difference locally, nationally, and internationally. Read the full article to learn more.



Staff Spotlight: Collaboration

Taylor Nickeson & Megan Woodrum

Musical Co-Directors
AW Junior High School

Behind every great show is an amazing team. Co-directors Taylor Nickeson and Megan Woodrum combine their talents in music, acting, and set design, supported by high school mentors, parent volunteers, and Broadway guest coaches, to bring *Shrek the Musical Jr.* to life. Read the full spotlight on their collaborative effort.



Staff Spotlight: Lifelong Learning

Lisa Pietras

At-Risk Teacher
Anthony Wayne High School

Lisa models lifelong learning by bringing an innovative aproach to a future planning course at AWHS. Drawing on her own unique career pathway, and embracing adaptability and flexibility, she helps students build resilience and uncover their unique strengths. Keep reading to see how she helps them plan for their post-secondary pathways.



Field of Fear Fundraiser for Neighborhood Bridges

AWHS Community Engagement Classes Host Projects

Students are turning learning into action by researching local needs, developing projects, and coordinating each step from planning to implementation. Through these hands-on experiences, they strengthen Portrait of a General qualities and Future Ready skills, including communication and collaboration, critical thinking, a learner's mindset, adaptability and flexibility, and empathy, all while making a positive impact in their community.

Pickleball for a Purpose Tournament for Catching Up with Jack
November 15 // 1:30 p.m. // Anthony Wayne High School
Grab your paddles and pick up a few games in this tournament that supports pediatric brain research.

The Games AWHS Student Tournaments for Food for Thought
November 20 // AWHS students participation and community donations
AWHS students will square off in friendly competition during an assembly to raise money for individuals facing food scarcity. Community contributions are accepted.

Raffle Basket Fundraiser for the Black Swamp Ice Frogs
November 21 // 2:00-5:30 p.m. // Tam-O-Shanter Sylvania
Don't miss your chance to win Toledo Mud Hens and Walleye raffle items while supporting the Black Swamp Ice Frogs, a no-contact hockey team for students with disabilities.

Project Play it Forward for Neighborhood Bridges
November 30 - December 11 // Any AWLS School
Drop off a new toy to spread cheer to Anthony Wayne area families in need this holiday season.

Paws & Peppermints Donation Drive for Toledo Animal Rescue
December 5 // 3:00 p.m. // Whitehouse Village Park
Dress up your pet for the costume contest, drop off wish list items or make a donation to support shelter pets for a chance to win a gift card.



After finishing second in the NLL, the girls cross country team went on to claim second place in the district.



Generals volleyball is on a roll! Claiming the district title on October 28, they move on to the post-season sweet 16.





AW Junior High cross country runners advanced to run at the OHSAA State Invitational. Abby Brose earned a spot on the podium by finishing 24th with the fastest AW time in the past three years.



The Varsity Girls Soccer team celebrates earning the program's 14th NLL Championship and the 2026 Buckeye Division title.





Congratulations to the 8th Grade Girls Volleyball team and the Anthony Wayne Junior High Boys Cross Country team for bringing home the NLL League Championships.



Senior Cora Langenderfer made her fourth trip to the state tennis finals, qualifying for the first time in singles play.



Junior Ana Rodebaugh won the high school division of the Middleton Township America250 art contest.



AWHS students in Global Business, Ag Business, and Family and Consumer Sciences put their financial skills to the test through the Real Money, Real World program. Students explored real-life budgeting and the impact of financial decisions.

Watch the video to see our students' learning in action.





Waterville Primary students got to test drive some adaptive and assisted bicycles during their PE class thanks to Maumee Valley Adventurers and Cycling Without Age. See the full story in the AW Free Press.



AWHS junior, Julia Gurcsik was recognized by 13abc as a Rising Star for her volunteer efforts with Hospice of NW Ohio.

Generals in the News

DECA students earn top honors at regional Fall Frenzy

Local teen goes viral in drumline video

Anthony Wayne superintendent retiring; board begins search for successor

AW eyes all-day kindergarten for 2027-28

Ohio has new top-ranked elementary and middle schools, U.S. News says

Photo Gallery: Waterville Primary Generals March fundraiser

Anthony Wayne remains perfect in league play with 3-1 victory over Perrysburg

From division final to state: Anthony Wayne's Langenderfer, Southview's Vens motivated

Which Ohio girls soccer teams can make 2026 state title runs?

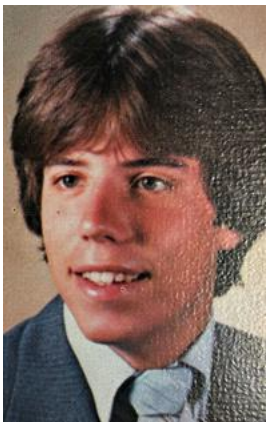
Which Ohio girls volleyball teams are 2026 state championship contenders?





AW True Blue Couple celebrates 40th wedding anniversary with lunch at Fallen Timbers Middle School

In celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary, Anthony Wayne True Blue high school sweethearts Rhonda (Schalow, '84) and Matt Simpson ('83) returned to where their love story began: the Fallen Timbers Middle School cafeteria. At Rhonda's request, the district welcomed them back for a nostalgic lunch featuring old photos, cafeteria cheeseburgers, and a special anniversary cake.





Read more about their story in coverage from 13abc, WTOL, and the Anthony Wayne Free Press.

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