



OCTOBER 2026

The Generals Post

Anthony Wayne Local Schools Stakeholder Newsletter

Celebrating Today, Planning for Tomorrow



Thank you to everyone who helped to make our recent Homecoming festivities enjoyable and family-friendly. I received several comments that the atmosphere was safe and positive and I am grateful to everyone who made the celebration possible.

I am also proud of our recent success on the state report cards and the many accomplishments highlighted in our Quality Profile. Again, our successes are not possible without the support of the entire AW Community working together.

As we celebrate these accomplishments, we are also looking ahead. We are considering that opportunities for students should look like in the coming years, and what our students need and deserve to be Future Ready. Our work on a new strategic plan will help guide these conversations and shape our district's priorities for the future. Learn more about our strategic planning process and the possibility of full-day, every-day kindergarten on pages 4-5.

I invite you to take an active part in the strategic planning conversations as they arise. Your feedback is important to the future of our schools.

Sincerely,
Kevin Herman, Superintendent
Anthony Wayne Local Schools



Above: Waterville Primary staff and students enjoy a fall morning on a recent Walk to School Day.



Ohio Report Cards

Spring 2026 Results

Anthony Wayne Local Schools

is among the best districts in the state!



State Report Card

Each year, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Development uses a 1-to-5 star rating system to evaluate public school districts across six key performance components.* These weighted component scores are combined into an overall star rating for schools and districts.

Performance Index Scores

The Performance Index (PI) is the mathematical core of the “Achievement” component on the Ohio school report cards. It is used to rank all public school districts from 1 to 607 because it provides a precise, granular measurement of academic test performance.

Anthony Wayne Local Schools earned an overall 4.5-star rating statewide and proudly remains in the top 5% of all public school districts in Ohio based on its Performance Index score.

Anthony Wayne High School	4.5 Stars	Top 13%
Anthony Wayne Junior High School	4 Stars	Top 7%
Fallen Timbers Middle School	5 Stars	Top 3%
Monclova Primary School	4.5 Stars	Top 1%
Waterville Primary School	5 Stars	Top 2%
Whitehouse Primary School	4 Stars	Top 1%

The 2026 Spring Ohio State Test (OST) results reveal 69% of our students scored in the top three performance levels: Advanced Plus, Advanced, or Accomplished. The District also improved overall proficiency in 15 out of 20 of the tested areas.

These accomplishments are possible thanks to our community’s commitment to high academic achievement. Thank you.

**Achievement, Progress, Gap Closing, Early Literacy, Graduation, and College, Career, Workforce and Military Readiness*



Quality Profile 2025-2026 District Report

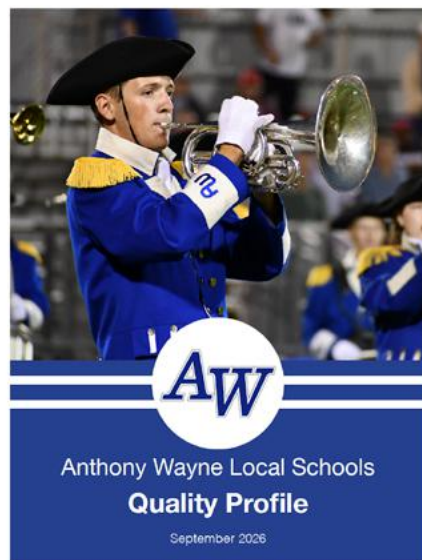
Anthony Wayne Local Schools
empowers our students to be future ready!



Quality Profile: Our Schools, Our Story

As the Ohio School Report Cards demonstrate, our students continue to excel academically, but academic achievement alone doesn't tell the whole story of what makes an Anthony Wayne Local Schools education exceptional.

Across our schools, students are discovering their passions, developing their talents, building leadership skills, and finding meaningful ways to contribute to their school and community. From the fine arts and athletics to leadership, service, and countless opportunities to explore and grow, these experiences help to empower our students to be future ready.



The 2025–26 Quality Profile brings that bigger picture to life.

Inside, you'll find a closer look at the accomplishments of our students and staff, the opportunities available throughout the district, and the people and programs that make those opportunities possible. This year's profile also shines a light on the important work happening behind the scenes, with highlights from each of our district departments.

Together, these stories reflect the full value of an Anthony Wayne education and the strong partnership among our students, families, staff, and community that makes it possible.

We invite you to explore the 2025–26 Quality Profile and celebrate the many ways our students and staff are learning, growing, leading, and making a difference.



Help Shape What Comes Next: Strategic Planning, 2027-2032

Anthony Wayne Local Schools is excited to begin the strategic planning process to guide the decision making for the district for the next five years and beyond.

Over the next several months, district administrators and directors will lead committees focused on reviewing our current strategic plan goals, identifying priorities, and developing strategies that will help us accomplish our mission of empowering students to be future ready and our vision of being among the top school districts in the state.

As we look ahead, we are asking important questions:

What should the future look like for Anthony Wayne Local Schools?

What do our students need to be future ready?

What strategies will have the greatest impact on student learning and success?

What actions do we need to take to ensure we are meeting our goals?

A Plan Built Together

A successful strategic plan reflects the voices and perspectives of the entire school community. Our plan will be drafted by district administration, shaped by staff, students, families, community members, and partners, and approved by the Board of Education.

Throughout the process, we will provide opportunities for stakeholders to share feedback, ideas, and priorities for the future of our schools.

We Need Your Help

Watch for updates and opportunities to participate throughout the strategic planning process. Your voice matters, and together we can build a plan that reflects our shared values and empowers every student to be future ready.





Strategic Planning: Kindergarten Information & Feedback Sessions

As part of the District's Strategic Planning process, we are exploring the potential expansion of our kindergarten program to an all-day, every day model.

Before moving forward, we want to hear from you. Community input will help us better understand the benefits, questions, and considerations surrounding a potential expansion.

Join us for Information & Feedback Sessions
Monday, October 19
1:00 p.m. or 6:00 p.m.
Central Administrative Offices

Parents of young children, grandparents, community members, students and staff members are encouraged to attend to learn more, ask questions, and give feedback.

Following the sessions, families will be invited to complete a brief survey about their interest in a full-day kindergarten program.

Please join us! We hope you will participate in this opportunity to inform the strategic planning process at Anthony Wayne Local Schools.

2026-2027 District Calendar

October 12

Board of Education
Regular Meeting

October 16

End of the First Quarter

October 19

No School Staff PD
& Work Day

Strategic Planning
Kindergarten Sessions

November 2

Evening Conferences

November 3

No School - Conferences

November 9

Board of Education
Regular Meeting

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](#)



Strategic Planning: Understanding Enrollment Trends

Across Ohio, public schools are serving fewer students than they did a decade and a half ago. Statewide public-school enrollment has declined by about 9% since 2009-10, or more than 156,000 students, according to enrollment data from the [Thomas B. Fordham Institute](#).

Contributing Factors

There is no single reason for declining enrollment in Ohio. One important factor is demographics. [Declining birth rates](#) mean there are simply fewer school-age children entering Ohio’s schools.

Enrollment is also affected by families relocating out of state and by families choosing different educational options, including community schools, private schools and homeschooling.

Anthony Wayne by the Numbers

Looking at our enrollment data provides an opportunity to understand where the district stands today and what these trends could mean for the future.

Since reaching a peak of 4,631 students in 2008–09, district enrollment has fallen by nearly 13% (599 students) to 4,032 in 2026–27, reflecting a long-term shift toward a smaller student population.

Reviewing and adapting to this shift is an important part of strategic planning, providing context as the district considers the future of its schools, programs, facilities and resources.

Year	Enrollment
2005 - 2006	4,249
2006 - 2007	4,396
2007 - 2008	4,433
2008 - 2009	4,631
2009 - 2010	4,479
2010 - 2011	4,486
2011 - 2012	4,422
2012 - 2013	4,301
2013 - 2014	4,261
2014 - 2015	4,017
2015 - 2016	3,967
2016 - 2017	3,900
2017 - 2018	4,000
2018 - 2019	4,010
2019 - 2020	4,162
2020 - 2021	4,204
2021 - 2022	4,229
2022 - 2023	4,248
2023 - 2024	4,128
2024 - 2025	4,127
2025 - 2026	4,123
2026 - 2027	4,032

Building-by-Building Breakdown

Building	Enrollment
Monclova Primary School*	483
Waterville Primary School	430
Whitehouse Primary School	413
Fallen Timbers Middle School	635
AW Junior High School	698
Anthony Wayne High School	1,212
Penta Career Center **	158
Total Enrollment	4,032

Students in Other Locations

Full-time College Credit
Plus Program

9

Home School Students
13

Open Enrolled to Other
89

Other Special
Circumstances
38

*Monclova is the site host for a preschool program presented by the ESC of Lake Erie West. There are currently 77 students enrolled that are not included in the official count for AWLS.

**While full-time Penta Career Center students are also not included in the official count for AWLS, we have included them here for clarity since they are included in the year-over-year count provided on the previous page.

Enrollment Trends and Strategic Planning

Enrollment is just one of many factors that can help guide a school district's long-term planning. Changes in student numbers can inform decisions about finances, staffing, programs, facilities and the use of district resources.

Monitoring enrollment trends provides an opportunity for AWLS to look ahead and consider how the district's needs may evolve over time. This does not mean that changes need to happen immediately.

Rather, understanding the direction of enrollment helps the district plan thoughtfully, remain flexible and make informed decisions that support students and the community.





The Board of Education celebrated the accomplishments of the 2026 Staff Members of the Year and the national recognition earned by the Penta-Anthony Wayne Chapters of FCCLA.

Board of Education Meeting Notes

The AWLS Board of Education held its regular meeting on September 14 where it approved a resolution to award a bid to Earl Mechanical Services for the AW Junior High UV Replacement Project, accepted more than \$10,000 in donations, and celebrated recent accomplishments of students and staff. A [meeting overview is available on the District website](#), or you may wish to [view the live stream recording](#).

The next meeting is Monday, October 12 at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Administrative Offices. [Contact the Board](#).

Improving School Safety

AW Junior High School has added a new stair chair to support safe and efficient evacuations in the event of an emergency. The equipment will assist staff in helping individuals who may need help navigating the stairs due to injury or disability.

Recent graduate, Jordan Rinker '26 knows firsthand why equipment like this matters. [In a story we shared last year](#), Jordan spoke about her advocacy for accessible emergency evacuation options and why having the right resources in place can make a meaningful difference.

At right: Principal Jordan LeFevre is transported down a flight of stairs by Whitehouse Fire Department Personnel during a training demonstration.

Photo courtesy: Whitehouse Fire Department





Teachers Prepare for Prairie Study

The new native prairie located south of Fallen Timbers Middle School saw incredible growth over the summer and is nearly ready for students to begin learning in the new space. Science teachers from AW Junior High partnered with the Toledo Zoo for hands-on professional learning focused on using a variety of scientific instruments to guide students through authentic, citizen science research in the outdoor learning space. [See highlights from the workshop.](#)

AWHS Hosts Showcase of Bands

On Saturday, October 3 talented marching bands from schools across the region will take over Schaller Stadium for an exciting evening of music. Gates will open at 5:00 p.m. with the first band stepping off at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, and \$5 for students and seniors. You may [purchase tickets in advance online](#), or at the gate. Generals Pride Pass holders receive free admission. See below for details.

Generals Pride Pass

Anthony Wayne Local Schools residents who are 60+ are eligible for free admission to athletics and musical arts events with a Generals Pride Pass. Simply show your photo ID at the Central Administrative Offices to claim your card.



Household Items Support Contest

As you transition your home to a new season, please set aside any unwanted clothing and household goods for the 2026 Pass it On Challenge. AWHS will face off with Clay High School in a contest to collect the most donations (by weight) with a \$500 scholarship up for grabs.

Donations Accepted

October 12-15

2:00 - 6:00 p.m.

AWHS Stadium





Student Artists Selected for Regional Juried Art Show

Four AWHHS student artworks were selected for inclusion in the 55th Annual FOCUS Art Show held at Bowling Green State University. Charlotte Keating ('26) received the Principal's Award for *Royal Portrait* and junior Gavin Mossbarger received the Superintendent's Award for *Simplest Element*. Also represented in the exhibition were Cate Malohn ('26), with *Freddie May*, and senior Mia Hockin, with *Tennis*.



AW Junior High Choir Sings at Mud Hens Game

The seventh and eighth grade choirs at AW Junior High braved a rainy evening to perform the National Anthem at a Toledo Mud Hens game on September 3. (Submitted photo)



Event Puts the Fun in Fundraising

Adaptability and flexibility were the name of the game when rain forced the Monclova March indoors. Thanks to students, parents and event sponsors, Monclova Area Parents (MAPS) raised over \$31,000 toward enrichment programs, technology and improvements to the playground, making it more inclusive to all students.



Student Spotlight: Eden Yates & Gracelyn Vance

Arts & Sciences: Creativity, Collaboration and Making Connections

From creating colorful chalk murals at the Black Swamp Arts Festival to connecting art with future careers in science and medicine, Gracelyn and Eden are making the most of their final year at AWHS. [See how their creativity, curiosity and willingness to get involved are shaping the way they think about their future careers in the sciences.](#)



Staff Spotlight: Learner's Mindset
Lauren Schwieterman
3rd Grade Teacher
Waterville Primary School

Lauren, a former BGSU gymnast and two-time MAC champion, is applying the learner's mindset and flexibility she developed as a student-athlete into her classroom. Recently honored through Extra Yards for Teachers and the College Football Playoff Foundation, Lauren received \$1,000 to be used in her classroom. [Read more.](#)



Staff Spotlight: Adaptability
Janel Eichenlaub
Media Center Aide
AW Junior High School

While Janel remains committed to helping students with research projects and finding their next great read, her eagerness to learn new skills has also led her to learn how to repair Chromebooks. Her learner's mindset and adaptability are valuable assets to the Technology Department, helping get devices quickly back into students' hands. [Read the full story.](#)



Waterville Primary School Purple Star Meeting



Supporting Military Families

PURPLE PAGES

Special Section for Our Military-Connected Families

The Purple Star Generals have begun meeting across the district, bringing together students who have a loved one who has served, or is currently serving, in the military. These meetings provide an opportunity for students to connect with peers who share similar experiences, build a sense of community, and help strengthen support for our military-connected community.



AW
Anthony Wayne Local Schools
Community Resource Guide

Please know that we are here for you! If your child or family needs additional support or resources, please reach out to your school counselor or Purple Star Liaison.

We also encourage you to [explore our AWLS Community Resource Guide](#) for a list of local agencies and services that you may find helpful.

FALL FAMILY FUN EVENT FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

We've teamed up with the 180th Airman & Family Readiness Office and the Red Cross for an extra-special October Family Fun Event! Join us at the Corn Maze at the Butterfly House on Tuesday, October 27, from 5:00–7:30 p.m.

Enjoy free corn maze admission, the 180th Fighter Wing's annual Trunk-or-Treat, a campfire with s'mores, hot cocoa, and face painting. Costumes are encouraged, and food trucks will be available for additional purchases.

No sign-up required! Just bring your military ID and mention Christine Young at the entrance. This event is open to AW Purple Star Generals and 180th families.





Anthony Wayne Purple Star students were honored as special guests to kickoff on Military Appreciation Night on September 4. They had the opportunity to run through the tunnel onto the field for the playing of the National Anthem. Active duty and veteran service members enjoyed free admission to the game and a t-shirt sale raised over \$2,300 to support the activities and programs for AW Purple Star Generals.



Purple Star students and cousins, Reid Crots and Easton Welch served as honorary captains for the coin toss at Homecoming. They were honored for their family's commitment to our country, with several family members currently serving in the military.



The Purple Star Generals proudly took part in the Homecoming Parade. We loved celebrating school spirit, connecting with our community, and being part of such a special tradition. Thank you to everyone who turned out to march and distribute candy.



Families enjoyed an evening of fun together at the Whitehouse Primary School Back to School Bash. The inflatables, games, food trucks and raffles gave students and families the chance to get to know each other while raising \$4,200 for the Whitehouse Parents Club. [View a photo album of the event](#) by Karen Gerhardinger for the AW Free Press.



Girls Varsity Soccer Coach Lori Williams celebrated her 300th career win on September 13 as the Generals defeated Notre Dame, 4-0. [BCSN has the story.](#)



Five AWHs student-athletes took part in the NLL's 10th Annual Sportsmanship Workshop. [See what they learned.](#)

Generals in the News

[Ohio report cards: How Northwest Ohio school districts rated in 2025-26](#)

[Anthony Wayne Junior High teachers train in new prairie](#)

[Anthony Wayne district asks students and parents to step up game day manners](#)

[AW recognizes staff, FCCLA students](#)

[NBA Official Andy Nagy visits AWHs Sports Officiating Class](#)

[Simon's hat trick, set-piece prowess propels Anthony Wayne boys soccer](#)

[AW remains undefeated in NLL Buckeye Division play with 3-0 win over Perrysburg](#)



Seniors Braiden Scicere and Jorie Keener react to being named Homecoming 2026 King and Queen during the pre-game festivities.



Members of the Junior Generals Football program march in the Homecoming parade, distributing candy to eager onlookers. [View more Homecoming highlights.](#)



The girls varsity tennis team [claimed their third-in-a-row NLL Championship](#) on September 23.

Stay Connected

General Information

www.AnthonyWayneSchools.org

District Directory

www.AnthonyWayneSchools.org/Contact

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www.AnthonyWayneSchools.org/News

Download the AWLS Mobile App

Available for free



Follow Us on Social Media



Suggest a Story

If you have a topic you would like to see covered in the Generals Post, or an individual you would like to recognize with a Spotlight interview [send us an email.](#)



The AWHs Class of 1976 gathered on Saturday, September 19 at Fallen Timbers Fairway to reconnect, reminisce and celebrate the special bonds that have lasted over the last 50 years. *Photo: Charles Russell, AWHs Yearbook Staff Member*

Sally Whitbeck ('75) Shares Sailing Adventures in Book

Since graduating from AWHs in 1975, Sally Whitbeck has spent much of her life embracing adventure. In 1993, Sally and her husband, Jon, set out aboard their 37-foot sailboat, for a four-year circumnavigation of the globe. Her book, *Pass the Kava*, captures the challenges, discoveries and friendships experienced during the first year of their journey. Reporter Karen Gerhardinger talked with Sally about her experiences, her book and the journey that began long before she set sail. [Read her article in the AW Free Press.](#)



BCSN Sports: Former Anthony Wayne General Winn Sharp Scores Only Touchdown For the BGSU Falcons Football Team at Iowa State



AWHS Alumni and their families gathered before the Homecoming game to reconnect, share stories, and reminisce about their time on Campus while enjoying refreshments and networking. Thank you to Dental Excellence for generously providing the food and helping make this gathering a success!