



Warren Local School District

220 Sweetapple Rd., Vincent (740) 678-2366

Winter 2025

12th Annual Warrior Hall of Honor

January 24 – The evening began with a social hour followed by a dinner provided by the WLSD food service staff. WHS Principal, Mr. Kyle Scott, welcomed the honorees and guests to the 12th Annual Warrior Hall of Honor ceremony. “As we gather this evening to celebrate and honor the contributions made by this year’s inductees, we would like to say thank you and congratulations to the class of 2024 for paving the way to excellence,” stated Scott. “These individuals, like the previous inductees, have and/or continue to positively impact and represent what makes Warren Local Schools so great.”

Honorees were introduced by the community members that nominated them for the awards.

Janet Chase was nominated by Angie Erb-Gentile for her outstanding service to Warren Local Schools and the community as a teacher. She graduated



in 1974 from Marietta College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in K-12 physical education. Janet was very active playing various sports in high school and while at college

receiving the Outstanding Senior W.A.A. in the Girls Athletic Association in 1974. She began her 34 years of employment with Warren in 1978 teaching physical education and coaching junior varsity basketball, softball and volleyball. In 1996 Career Education was added to the curriculum at WHS and Janet moved to the classroom teaching students about future possibilities.

Janet moved to the Guidance Department in 1996 and remained there as a Guidance Counselor until her retirement in 2012. Janet helped organize the MOV’n Dragon’s philanthropic program, the Felicia M. Buell Thriver program which supports men and women, 18 years and older who have been diagnosed and treated for cancer to participate in an activity of their choice at the programs expense.

Mike Lewis was nominated by Stephanie Lewis Spencer for his outstanding service to Warren Local Schools and the community. Mike is a 1972 graduate of Belpre High School. He has been the owner and operator of Lewis Contracting/Hocking Fence since



1976 partnering with Warren Local School District on multiple construction projects.

Mike has gone above and beyond fencing all current and previous facilities making sure all fields were ready for play. His contributions went above mere labor, donating significant time and materials to maintain and beautify our campuses. Mike has not only provided Warren with his company’s time and support; he has also been a contributor to the surrounding school districts reflecting the dedication and commitment to the betterment of the educational community.

John Mitchem was nominated by Blaine Maddox and Mark Duckworth as a distinguished graduate with exemplary accomplishments. John is a 1966 graduate of WHS.

John was employed with Thermo Fisher Scientific for 39 years as a technician in the research and development department. In 1984, he began volunteering at Warren keeping the scorebooks when his son, David, began playing basketball. John continued for



See Honor pg. 3

Greg Price Honored

Each year, the Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools (CORAS) honors exceptional school staff members from its member districts across the Appalachian region of Ohio. At their February meeting in Zanesville, Mr. Greg Price, head custodian at Warren Elementary School, was among the recipients of the Outstanding Classified Staff Award for the 2024-2025 school year.

Mr. Price was nominated by

Warren Elementary School Principal, Mrs. Ashley Skinner, in recognition of his years of dedicated and outstanding service to the district.

Since joining the Warrior team in

2012, Greg has consistently taken pride in his work and is known for his kindness and unwavering support for both students and staff. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Greg Price and offer our sincere gratitude for everything he does for WLSD. Greg is truly a shining example of Warrior Nation excellence.

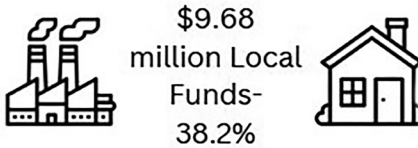
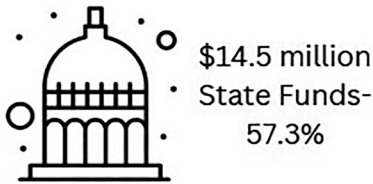
Pictured left to right - Kyle Newton - WLSD Superintendent, Greg Price, Marc Kresher - CORAS President, and Paul LaRue - State Board of Education President.



Warren Local School District's Financial Overview: A Snapshot of Fiscal Responsibility

Warren Local School District remains committed to providing quality education while maintaining a fiscally responsible financial position. Understanding the district's funding and spending patterns is key to ensuring that resources are allocated effectively to meet the needs of our students and community.

How is Warren Funded?



In the 2024 fiscal year, Warren Local's financial framework is built on a balanced combination of state and local funding. A significant portion—57.3%, or approximately \$14.5 million—comes from state funding, helping to support essential educational programs. Meanwhile, 38.2%, or around \$9.68 million, is derived from local funding, reflecting the community's strong investment in local schools.

When it comes to spending, the district prioritizes the educational experience of students. A notable 54% of all funds—approximately \$16.5 million—go directly toward instruction and curriculum, ensuring that



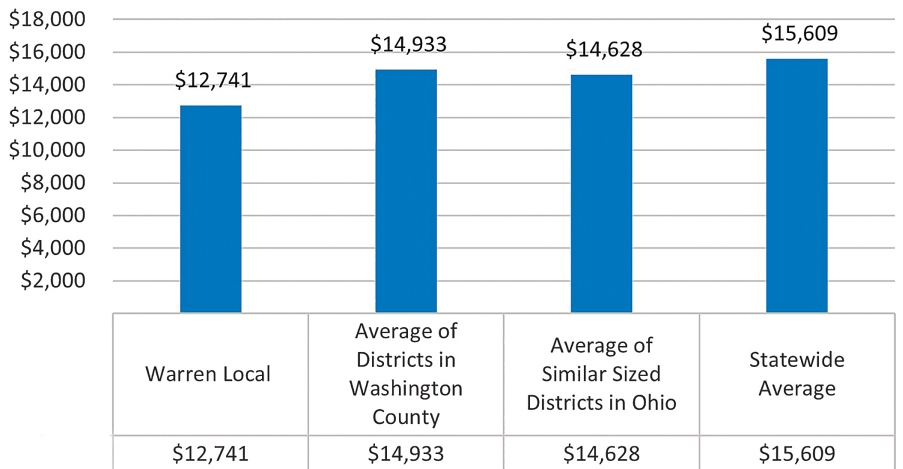
students receive the best possible educational opportunities. Support services, which include student and staff services, receive 19% of the budget, while another 19% is allocated to operations and transportation, ensuring schools run efficiently and students can safely get to and from school. The remaining 8% of funding is used for other expenses, such as administration and district-wide resources.

In terms of per-student spending, Warren Local has managed to keep costs reasonable without sacrificing quality. The district spent \$12,741

per student in the 2024 fiscal year, significantly lower than the average spending in similar districts. By comparison, the average per-student spending in Washington County was \$14,933, while similar-sized districts across Ohio spent an average of \$14,628, and the statewide average was \$15,609. This efficient use of funds allows the district to maximize the value it provides to students and taxpayers. Warren Local School District continues to demonstrate remarkable efficiency by spending only \$12,741 per student, well below the state and regional averages, while still achieving high marks on the Ohio Report Card. This strong performance highlights the district's ability to maximize its resources, delivering top-tier education without overspending.

Warren Local remains focused on fiscal responsibility, ensuring that every dollar spent contributes to a high-quality education for every student. Warren Local's financial stewardship is proof that it is possible to provide an excellent education while being fiscally responsible, benefiting both students and the taxpayers who support the district.

Expenditures Per Pupil Fiscal Year 2024



Above: School District Fiscal Benchmark Report FY2024 – Ohio Department of Education, Office of School Options and Finance 2/11/2025.



Outstanding! Congratulations, Julian!

Mock Trial News

By Jason Johnson

January 17 – The WHS Mock Trial program competed at the Washington County Courthouse for OCLRE’s district-level competition. In the morning, Teams 1 and 2 represented the defendant of the case, Wyatt Latu, in trial. Team 2 swept in the courtroom, coming out on top with both the Outstanding Witness award, presented to Keegen Hendrix, and Outstanding Attorney award, presented to Abby Whited. In the afternoon, both teams represented the plaintiff, Denver Saidi. Once again, Team 2 won the favor of the judges and left the courtroom with both Outstanding Witness, won by Morgan Ramey, and Outstanding Attorney, won by Amanda Raugh.

At the end of the competition, all teams who competed crowded into a courtroom to learn if they advanced to the next round of competition. Among the winners, Warren’s very own Team 2

Welcome to KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten Registration

May 1st & 2nd, 2025

Kindergarten Registration for the 2025-2026 school year is now open. We are excited to welcome the class of 2038!

Who can register? Students who turn 5 on or before August 1st, 2025

How to schedule an appointment:

Visit our website: warrenlocal.org and look for the kindergarten registration link to schedule an appointment; or scan the QR code to schedule your appointment.

Feel free to call if you have any questions; (740-678-2366). We will be happy to help!



advanced to the regional competition, which was held on February 7th at the Washington County Courthouse.

Out of four teams, Warren emerged as one of the top two to advance to the State competition. The team earned two Outstanding Attorney awards, presented to Amanda Rauch and Abby Whited, as well as two Outstanding Witnesses, awarded to Morgan Ramey and Nataleigh Norman. Warren is now one of the top thirty teams in the state. Good luck at State, Warriors!



HONOR

From page 1.

34 years until 2017 to keep the score-books for the boys basketball teams. His dedication and loyalty were recognized by both principals and athletic directors over the years. He was presented with a varsity letter and letterman’s jacket by Dave Foush for his dedicated service that he proudly wore to each game. He was part of the team, part of the family, part of Warren basketball, and he did it all with tremendous class. In 2012, John received the OHSAA Distinguished Service Award.

Following the ceremony, the honorees were introduced to the crowd before the varsity basketball game.

The Warren community has many individuals that have positively contributed to our District’s enduring success or represented our District with great pride and distinction. It is the mission of the Warrior Hall of Honor committee to identify such individuals and recognize them for their lasting impact on our community.

Warrior Hall of Honor bylaws, selection criteria, and the nomination process can be found by visiting: www.warrenlocal.org > Parent/Community Resources > Warrior Hall of Honor. If you would like more information, please contact Warren High School 740-678-2393.

National Merit Finalist ~

Mason O’Donnell

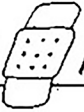
By Amy Buchman



The National Merit Scholarship Program is an annual academic competition among high school students for recognition and college undergraduate scholarships that began in 1955. The program is conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC®), a not-for-profit organization. High school students enter the National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®) which serves as an initial screen of over 1.3 million entrants each year, and by meeting published program entry and participation requirements.

Congratulations, Mason!

More information can be found at: <https://www.nationalmerit.org/s/1758/start.aspx?sid=1758&gid=2&pgid=61&cid=160>.

Nurse  Notes

Healthy Hearing

Being around loud noise for long periods of time can cause Noise Induced Hearing Loss. Once you lose your hearing, you cannot get it back.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

~ Five in 10 young people listen to their music or other audio too loudly.

~ Four in 10 young people are around dangerously loud noises during events like concerts and sports games.

~ In the U.S., 48 million people have trouble hearing with one (or both) of their ears.

March 3 - World Hearing Day is a day to learn how to prevent hearing loss and promote healthy hearing. Some easy tips, if it is too loud and you cannot carry on a conversation, you are in an environment that can damage your hearing. Walk away from the sound, turn down the sound, or use hearing protection to reduce the sound coming into your ears.

Does your child need an eye exam or glasses?

Your school nurses may be able to help connect you with financial resources! Call 740-445-5300 extension 4807 or email melissa.kemper@warrenlocal.org.



Poison Emergencies

Each year, approximately 3 million people, many under age 5, swallow or have contact with a poisonous substance. If you have a **Poison Emergency**, please call **1-800-222-1222**. Save this number in your cell phone for emergencies. This national poison emergency hotline number connects callers to the closest/local poison center. Ohio residents are serviced by one of two regional poison centers located in Columbus and Cincinnati.

Call the Poison Center first! You will get an expert immediately and it may save you a trip to the Emergency room. If a person is unconscious or having breathing difficulty, call 911.

For more information on poison prevention and keeping your family safe, visit the Central Ohio Poison Prevention website at <https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/specialties/central-ohio-poison-center>.



Immunization Reminders for Fall of 2025

Parents of current 6th grade students: Documentation of an updated **tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (Tdap)** booster and a **meningococcal (MCV4)** vaccine must be on file at Warren Middle School before your child can enter the 7th grade in August of 2025.

Parents of current 11th grade students: Documentation of a **meningococcal (MCV4)** vaccine given on or after the student's 16th birthday must be on file at Warren High School before your child can enter the 12th

grade in August of 2025. This also includes Warren students who attend the Washington County Career Center, Washington State Community College, and other colleges.



Parents of incoming kindergarten students: All kindergarten students must have documentation of the following vaccines:

DTap/DT - 5 doses (Dose 5 only required if 4th dose was given prior to the 4th birthday)

Polio - 4 doses (Dose 4 only required if 3rd dose was given prior to the 4th birthday)

Hepatitis B - 3 doses (the final dose must be given after age 6 months)

MMR - 2 doses

Varicella - 2 doses (or documentation of having the disease)

Please review any records that you have to see if your child has received the required immunizations. If your child needs immunizations, please contact your child's healthcare provider, the Washington County Health Department (740-374-2782), or the Marietta-Belpre City Health Department (740-373-0611) to schedule an appointment.

Please send a copy of the above required immunizations to school as soon as possible. Records can also be faxed to 740-445-5301 or emailed to melissa.kemper@warrenlocal.org.



Introducing our new WHS Salad Bar featuring lettuce grown in the Agriscience/FFA Hydroponic Garden

February 10, 2025 – Warren High School’s new salad bar was introduced as part of the food service department’s ongoing efforts to offer variety, wellness and balanced nutrition to both students and staff. The new salad bar offers a wide range of fresh vegetables, toppings, and dressings, allowing individuals to create their



own personalized, balanced meals.

From leafy greens, cucumbers, tomatoes, and peppers, to fruits and

cottage cheese, there is something for everyone to build a healthy salad. Additionally, the salad bar features options such as grilled chicken, hard-boiled eggs, chickpeas, and sunflower seeds, so there’s something for everyone.

The salad bar is more than just a convenient meal option—it’s a way to build awareness about healthy eating and nutrition. Research has

shown that incorporating more fruits and vegetables into meals can help improve concentration, boost energy levels, and enhance overall well-being. For students, this means they are likely to experience better focus in class, and for staff, the salad bar provides a nourishing option to stay energized throughout the workday.

Food service collaborates with Agriscience/FFA

About a year ago, food service staff, along with members of the Agriscience/FFA program, attended a demonstration at Meadowbrook Schools of their Fork Farms hydroponic gardens. The goal was to introduce hydroponic gardening to Warren Local Schools. As anticipated, the FFA hydroponics system is up and running. The Agriscience/FFA program has partnered with our food service department to provide in-house grown greens for the new salad bar at WHS.

“All of the lettuce grown will be used for our high school salad bar, along with the annual FFA Banquet,” said Blake Campbell, WHS Agriscience/FFA teacher. “This is a part of the SAE project within the Animal/

Plant Science class.”

According to the National Council for Agriculture Education: *A Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) is a project-based learning opportunity that allows students to apply their classroom knowledge to real-world agricultural situations. SAEs are a required component of agricultural education programs.*

To read more about Fork Farms and hydroponic gardening, visit: forkfarms.com.

Pictured below: Warren FFA member, Jamie Wunder, working on the hydroponics system. Well done, Warriors!



Elementary School Lunch Celebrates Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is a time of joy and celebration. This year, our elementary students enjoyed some delicious food to celebrate the event. The school cafeteria prepared a special Chinese-inspired menu for the occasion. Students were treated to a variety of dishes that highlighted the flavors and traditions of Chinese cuisine.

Rice, eggrolls, and orange chicken (popcorn chicken with orange dipping sauce) were served, introducing the students to a wide array of tastes they may not typically

encounter in their everyday meals. In addition to these traditional Chinese treats, each meal included a real fortune cookie and a pair of chopsticks! School lunch is so much fun!



Contact Charlene Fronko, Food Service Supervisor, if you have any questions. 740-678-2366 ext. 3810

NEW! Travel Tracker and Bus Quest

By Alicia Jaramillo

Travel Tracker, our new transportation system is up and running. We sent registration links to all routed students with primary email addresses assigned. If you did not receive one, please see the Transportation announcement on our website, www.warrenocal.org.

Bus Quest will be the new app to track from your phone. We do not have the phone feature when signing up for Bus Quest; you must enter an email address. You will need to create

a username and password on the parent portal first. Then, download the parent app and use the same username and password to log on.

If you need to make adjustments to your child's transportation needs in the future, the Parent Portal link is also under Parent/Community Resources on the website. Please contact our office at 740-678-2368 if you have additional questions.

*Thank you,
Warren Transportation*



Full-Time and Sub School Bus Drivers Vacancies

As the 2024-2025 school year ends, there will be multiple, full-time bus routes and sub vacancies in our transportation department. We offer paid training, and have our own on-bus instructors to help you through the process. To ensure that you are ready to drive for the upcoming school year, please reach out to Alicia Jaramillo, transportation supervisor, at 740-678-2368 or alicia.jaramillo@warrenlocal.org.

Whether you are looking for full-time employment, or becoming a substitute, there is always a great demand for school bus drivers. Sub bus drivers gain valuable experience, giving them a jump-start when a vacancy occurs. If you are interested in becoming a substitute for Warren Local Schools, you may fill out an electronic application located on our website, www.warrenlocal.org under Quick Links > Employment > WLSL Classified Application.

Star Warrior Bus Riders - Well Done!



MUSIC News

Lots to Share

By Jimmy Sundquist

The Warren High School Choral Department has been busy the last few months, despite the snow and school cancellations! In December, we went out into the community and performed for the Marietta Kiwanis and the Washington County Retired Teachers. These performances were graciously received, as were our annual Holiday Concert and A Cappella Christmas Concert.

Also in December, Bass Chorus travelled to Cleveland and sang the national anthem at a Cleveland Cavaliers basketball game - this was an exciting experience for us, as always! In January, fifteen choral department students attended OMEA Solo and Ensemble festival in Byesville - they each prepared to sing a solo for adjudica-

tion and represented Warren well. We are now preparing for two concerts in early March.

On March 3, we will present the Winter Bell Pops concert at 7pm in the high school commons - there will be popcorn for everyone! We will perform with the Symphonic Band for the Music in Our Schools Month concert, March 4, at 7pm in the high school auditorium. We hope to see you there!

Finally, we are raffling an iPad during the month of February! The winner will be drawn at the concert on March 4. See a choral department student to purchase tickets!

We are Warriors!

OMEA All-State

Warren High School was once again well-represented in the Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) All-State ensembles. We had 5 students selected for All-State Choir - more than any school in the state except for Miami East High School and the Stivers School for the Arts in Dayton! Owen Bookman, Sophie Boothby, Luke Johnson, Mason O'Donnell, and Holly Swaney represented us well.



Also, for the first time in school history, we had a student selected to the All-State Jazz Ensemble. Competition is fierce for spots in this small group! Congratulations to Berrett Wilcox for this honor!



Elementary school students performed for standing room only crowds throughout the holiday season. Thanks to all for coming out to enjoy the concerts. Lots of hard work goes into their performances, and students love to see familiar faces in the crowd. Nice work, Warriors!



Headed to DC

In late October, Warren High School students took the American Legion Americanism and Government Test. Each year, thousands of students across the state of Ohio take this test. It asks questions about general government knowledge, as well as specific topics covering the federal, state, and local levels of government. This year, approximately 80,000 Ohio students took the test.



Suzanna Whipkey, a sophomore at WHS, scored high enough to be one of eighteen students from the entire state selected for a trip to Washington, D.C. Very few Warriors have ever earned this honor.

The entire Social Studies Department is extremely proud of Suzanna and her amazing accomplishment. Congratulations, Suzanna!

New Pipeline Partner

Pioneer Pipeline students now have the opportunity to intern with Patterson K9 Academy; a veteran-operated, dog training facility based in Marietta. Interns will assist in maintaining the quality of the kennels and equipment. They will also have the chance to support trainers in working with the dogs. We are very excited about this new partnership!



Manufacturing Operations Class Visits Miba

By Chris Carpenter
WHS Industrial Technologies

Located in McConnelsville, Miba Bearings and Miba Sinter, operate next door to one another. Miba bearings produces large engine bearings for locomotives, ships, and agricultural machinery. Miba Sinter produces parts from metal powder such as gears and bearings. The Sinter side uses heavily automated processes.

Students in the manufacturing operations classes recently visited both facilities. They observed the different work cells throughout the process



plant.

The students were able to see the machines in action and observe the manufacturing processes they had been learning about. They were able to see the automation of processes and integration of robotic arms in work cells.

At Miba Sinter, students witnessed the raw stock (metal powder) at the beginning and through several steps and into its final shape.

Presenters covered topics including safety, production processes, machine operation, as well as measurement and quality control. Several students inquired about the hiring process and skills and education requirements.

Youth Leadership Summit

A group of student council members from various high schools gathered at Shenandoah High School for an inspiring overnight youth leadership summit. The event brought together passionate student leaders to collaborate, share ideas, and devel-

op skills that would help them make a positive impact in their communities.

With workshops, team-building activities, and motivational speakers, the summit encouraged the students to embrace their roles as future leaders. They left with new perspectives, stronger bonds, and a renewed commitment to fostering leadership in their schools.



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Senior Citizen Luncheon

By Emmy Stormes

The high school student council organized a heartwarming Senior Citizen Luncheon to foster intergenerational connections within the community. The event, held at the high school, featured a delicious meal prepared by the high school cooks and served by students! Senior citi-

zens from the local community were invited to enjoy the food, engage in lively conversation, and watch Treble chorus and Bells III perform.

The student council members worked hard to make the event memorable, ensuring everyone felt welcomed and appreciated, while also learning valuable lessons about respect, kindness, and community involvement.



SSP - Doing Great Things

By Ann Skufca

Toys for Tots Drive

Christmas is a truly special time for families, filled with joy as parents and loved ones watch their children unwrap gifts. This year, our Warren students came together across the district to host a toy drive, aiming to bring holiday cheer to children in need, ranging from 3 months to 13 years old. The drive ran for a month and filled four, 4-foot-tall donation boxes. On behalf of our community, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks for your generous support in making this holiday season brighter for our kids.

Staff & Teacher Appreciation

On December 20th, students from

the National Honor Society, Student Council, and Students Solving Problems at Warren High School came together to show appreciation for the teachers and staff by hosting a breakfast. Starting at 6 a.m., the students arrived early to prepare a variety of delicious breakfast dishes for everyone to enjoy. This gesture was a way for the students to express their gratitude for the hard work and dedication the staff and teachers show every day.

Celebrating our Bus Drivers

In the final week of school before Christmas break, the High School Students Solving Problems Club decided to show gratitude to our bus drivers for all their hard work. Each bus driver was given a small gift as a token of appreciation for everything they do.

We are doing great things!



FFA NEWS

By Emma Sutton

It was exciting to see students back for the second semester. Many FFA students took their Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE) to the next level to apply for state degrees. This year, we have a total of eleven state degrees, two American Degrees, seven proficiency awards, and one Star in Agribusiness being sent to the state level for evaluation.



Many students competed in Career Development Events over the past couple months. Grant Gilliland and Blaine Eskridge competed in the Agricultural Power and Diagnostics contest at district level, where they placed 1st in the State. Next, they will be competing at the University of Northern Ohio!

Five of our 8th grade members competed in the State Middle School

See FFA, page 14

WHS Counselor's Corner



Upcoming Important Dates

- Feb. 27:** Student Appreciation Day
- Feb. 28:** Discover Arts Day
- Mar. 4-7:** Student Scheduling
- Mar. 17-20:** 8th Grade Scheduling
- Apr. 3-4:** ELA2 End of Course Exams
- Apr. 23-24:** Gov't, Biology, Geometry End of Course Exams
- Apr. 30 - May 1:** Algebra & History End of Course Exams

8th Grade “Stitches” Class Visits Bolts and Quarters Quilt Shop for Community Service Project

By Sandra Vincent

Students in the 8th grade “Stitches” sewing class recently embarked on a meaningful field trip to Bolts and Quarters Quilt Shop. The trip was part of a community service project aimed at helping the Pasadena Humane Society, which had been overwhelmed with an influx of lost pets after the recent fires. The class’s goal was to create kennel mats to provide comfort and warmth to the displaced animals.



At the quilt shop, students learned the art of quilting, including the precise steps of cutting fabric to exact measurements. They practiced measuring, cutting, and assembling fabric pieces to create colorful, sturdy mats. Through hands-on experience, the



students discovered how geometry plays a key role in quilting—calculating angles and measurements to ensure that every piece fit together perfectly.

The students also had the chance to explore the various tools used in quilting, such as rotary cutters, rulers, and sewing machines. They received expert guidance from Brian McCoy, who shared tips on sewing techniques.

Beyond the technical skills, the students were deeply inspired by the community service aspect of the project. By creating these kennel mats, they knew their work was directly benefiting animals in need. It was a rewarding experience that connected them to a larger cause, showing the impact of using creativity and skills to help others.

Thanks to their hard work and dedication, the “Stitches” class was able to donate handmade mats

to the Pasadena Humane Society, offering both comfort and a sense of care to the animals waiting for new homes. The students not only learned valuable sewing techniques but also discovered the joy of giving back to the community.



A big shout out to Brian McCoy, owner of Bolts & Quarters, for not only donating the batting and fabric but also for giving up his day to teach our students new things and to the Seams Like Home Quilters for donating fabric, quilting rulers, cutting mats, notions and thread!

To see the full story featured on WTAP, visit: <https://www.wtap.com/video/2025/01/19/warren-sewing-class-makes-kennel-quilts-pasadena/>

Teacher of the Month

Congratulations! Mrs. Hall has been chosen as the Ohio Lottery’s Teacher of the Month! She is an outstanding educator with a wealth of knowledge and experience in the classroom, coupled with an amazing “teacher presence.”

Mrs. Hall strikes the perfect balance between maintaining high standards and providing individualized attention to her students. Her strong sense of initiative



and responsibility in the classroom motivates her students to give their best every day. As a leader at Warren Middle School, Mrs. Hall heads the math department and is an active member of the building leadership team.

The Ohio Lottery Partners in Education Teacher of the Month award recognizes outstanding K-12 teachers for their excellence in the classroom, leadership, creativity and community involvement and dedication on behalf of Ohio students.

Food Drive

December 2024 - Thanks again to everyone for all of your help making our annual student council food drive another success. As a building, WMS collected a total of 1,305 cans/items that were donated to a local pantry.

Big thanks to the student council members for sorting, boxing and loading Mr. Taylor’s truck this morning. Thank you staff for allowing them to miss some class time this week as well.

Thank you

STEM Adventure

By Nerissa Hall

Our 5th graders had an exciting and educational adventure at Discovery World, a hands-on STEM museum that brought science, technology, engineering, and math to life! This was a reward trip for 5th grade students that had completed all 1st semester classroom assignments and had exhibited exemplary behavior.

From exploring the aquarium and ecosystems to experimenting with physics and engineering in interactive exhibits, students engaged in meaningful, hands-on learning experiences. The trip sparked curiosity, encouraged critical thinking, and reinforced classroom concepts in a fun and immersive way. It was an unforgettable day of discovery and inspiration, leaving our young students eager to learn more! Learning is so much fun!



Book Club

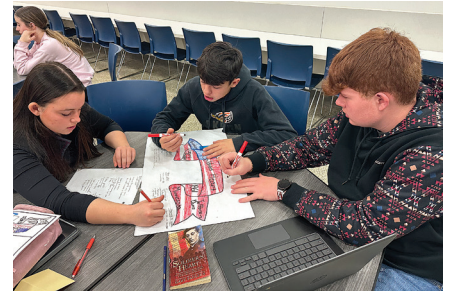


Mrs. Kiefer and Miss Garrett have been leading book clubs with the eighth-grade Core One and Core Two classes. Students were given the opportunity to choose from a selection of historical fiction books from various time periods. Throughout the book study, students collaborated to explore and analyze the connections between literature and history.

Academic Advisory Groups Spread Holiday Joy

Two of Warren Middle School's AA (Academic Advisory) groups visited Appletree Assisted Living in December to give gifts and encouragement. Mrs. Mayle's and Mrs. Turrill's groups also sang Christmas carols to the residents, showing what it means to give to and lift others' spirits.

Items presented included fuzzy throw blankets, games, puzzles, socks, arts and crafts, hard candy, and adult coloring books with coloring utensils. Thank you, students for reaching out to community members and sharing a bit of your time and effort in giving and caring for others!



Fun Learning





Mrs. Adams' 1st grade class made a gingerbread man in class, but when Mrs. Adams took it home to bake, he escaped and ran away! Now the class has been receiving postcards, letters and trinkets from all around the world

that our gingerbread man has sent during his adventures. In the pictures, students received snacks and koala bear toys from Australia. We also have a bulletin board to track where the gingerbread man has visited so far!

Lunch Bunch



Literacy Night Recap: A Winter Wonderland!

By Ashley Skinner

We had a fantastic time at Warren Elementary on Friday, January 31st, for our Literacy Night! The theme was "A Winter Wonderland," and it was a wonderful opportunity for students and families to engage in fun winter-themed activities.



Here's a quick overview of the exciting events that took place: During Literacy Night, students had the chance



to meet Elsa and measure their own hot chocolate packets—what a delicious activity! Students enjoyed "ice fishing" for letters, making learning fun and interactive! Other activities included creating bookmarks, practicing snowy synonyms, and participating in a STEM marshmallow challenge. Lastly, learners also found polar animals and created beautiful crystal writing.

In addition to all the winter fun, parents attended a session titled "Protect Young Eyes: Fabulous and Fragile," which focused on understanding how

technology affects student mental health.

A big thank you goes out to the Warren Elementary Academic Boosters for sponsoring free food for everyone! We also want to express our gratitude to the Warren High School Student Council and National Honor Society for providing childcare during the event.

And finally, thank you to everyone who participated and made Literacy Night a memorable experience! We can't wait for the next event!



Do you want to build a snowman?

By Amelia Tolliver

With all of the snow that January provided, students at the elementary school were encouraged to get outside and build a snowman. Adding to the fun, students could submit a picture of their snowman to be included in a contest. School Board members looked at over 45 entries to determine their overall favorite snowman. The grand prize would be a pizza party with Superintendent Newton for the winner's entire class.

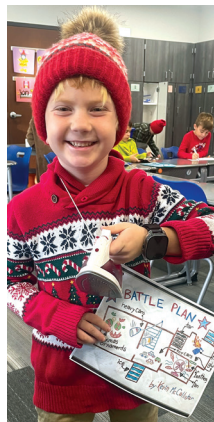
The winner was Emma Schaad from Miss Miskimins' kindergarten class. Board member, Mr.



Crum, provided pizza for class. He and Mr. Newton helped serve pizza and enjoyed the fun with students.

A great big thank-you goes out to all of the students and their families for participating in the fun. It is not that often that we get enough snow to build a snowman!

Also, the staff and students at the elementary school would like to thank our School Board members for voting, Mr. Crum for providing the pizza, and Superintendent Newton for joining everyone to celebrate!



NIGHT to Shine

SPONSORED BY THE TIM TEBOW FOUNDATION

By Katie Wells

February 7 - Warren Local Schools partnered with Porterfield Baptist Church to host Mid-Ohio Valley Night to Shine sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. On this night, we joined 821 other sites in all 50 states and 62 countries around the world to celebrate individuals with disabilities.

With assistance from St. Ambrose Church and the Belpre Church of Christ, we were able to host over 160 individuals and their care takers to a night of joy! An event of this size could not take place without the help of approximately 400 volunteers (including many Warren students, teachers, coaches, and administrators) along with a community of individuals and businesses willing to donate money, time, talents, and services to this awesome event!

We look forward to hosting the Night to Shine again in February 2026!



FFA

From page 9.

contest. Great job representing Warren! The following team members placed 4th in the State for the Agricultural Quiz Bowl: Noah Ross, Zayden Valentine, Raelynn Baker, and Claire Giffin; Danica Gates competed in the Career Conversation Competition.

ter, with the biggest being the annual clothing drive. Students were asked to bring in gently used clothes to be donated to local area food pantries. Our members sorted the clothes and set up a clothing store at the high school. Students were able to anonymously shop for clothes and take them home. The remaining clothes were donated to a local food pantry.

Members also completed the annual tie blanket making project for the EVE's Women Shelter. Over 30 blankets were hand-made by our students and delivered to the Women's Shelter.



WHS senior, Emma Rogers will be joining the US Navy's Nuclear Power Program, an achievement recently featured on WTAP News – This is Home.

Pictured above: WHS teacher and military reservist Dakota McDaniels administering the oath. **Emma is a Warrior!**

See the news feature on the WTAP website: <https://www.wtap.com/2025/02/14/this-is-home-emma-rogers-swears-into-navy-nuclear-power-program/>.



Congratulations to our students for taking their skills to the next level by competing in the District Job Interview Contest. Members competing were: Trindee McKenzie, McKensie Mason, Ryace Boyer, and Hunter Powell.



We are looking forward to another busy spring as we wrap up our Spring Sale Fundraiser and begin planning new events.

Our degree ceremony was held on January 31, where 112 students received degrees. We celebrated National FFA Week in February, and our annual Parent/Member Banquet will be held on March 15 at 6:00 pm.

Thank you for supporting the Warren FFA and Agricultural Education! We are Warriors!



Many community service projects were completed throughout the win-



National Honor Society News

By Ian Layman, Historian



Warren High School's NHS chapter has been busy providing services and fundraisers to our community. To start the school year, members of NHS helped staff the high school's open house which helped new students get familiar with the school. Serving as greeters and passing out schedules, they certainly made the event run smoothly. Members from NHS then swiftly started thinking of ways to raise money for the year and decided to sell baked goods at our local tailgate event. With their service, our local NHS chapter certainly left their mark.

To go along with these fantastic fundraisers, NHS has also been working tirelessly to organize recycling services at Warren High

School in an effort to cut down the school's waste. This effort has been spearheaded by Mason O'Donnell who established a schedule with help from our school's environmental club to deliver recycling to the nearby fire station every Friday. This is possible due to the efforts of each member of the NHS and has become an even smoother process thanks to the help of our new inductees who will be mentioned further in this report.

NHS has also focused on helping Warren's students academically by providing tutors each week to help students in any class. That same committee helped some of our seniors with their college application process to make sure that nobody was left behind. Additionally, 2 NHS alumni, Allison Glover and Laney Tullius, returned to offer a college freshman perspective.

Turning back to more community-oriented services, NHS helped stage a memorial walk for our district's beloved James Roberts.

Many current members of NHS were his students, so it hit close to home for many members of our community to have a time to remember his lasting legacy.

NHS also recently inducted 15 new members. These students, most of whom are pictured below, have shown remarkable ability when it comes to school as well as engaging in their community. The existing members of NHS helped organize and staff the event, giving speeches and welcoming our new members. Current members also provided refreshments and helped our custodians clean up afterward. It was a special night for everyone involved.

As for current events, the members of NHS are currently running a Valentine gram fundraiser to help raise money as well as help our fellow students get something special for their special someone. Due to policy changes, in lieu of candy, NHS has chosen to sell keychains and other trinkets. So, knowing high school students, we would like to apologize in advance to our school's faculty for the mess. Our members have decided to use some of our funds to help a needy family and other funds will help with the upcoming Academic Banquet.

NHS will continue to provide services and manage fundraisers for our community so be sure to keep an eye out for any events in which you may be able to participate.



Warren Local Schools
220 Sweetapple Road
Vincent, OH 45784
740-678-2366

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Looking for up-to-date Warren Local School District news and information? Check out the new features on our website: www.warrenlocal.org.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the levy on the ballot in the May primary?

The emergency levy on the ballot is a renewal levy for operating expenses in the amount of 4.17 mills. This levy, if approved, **will not increase** property taxes to a property owner within Warren Local School District as it is a renewal.

Why is the levy called an "emergency levy"?

HB 44 in 1979 allowed for an emergency levy if "revenue... is insufficient to provide for the emergency requirements of the school district OR to avoid an operating deficit". The Dis-

trict's current certified five year forecast shows the District operating in an operating deficit without the current emergency levy. An "emergency levy" is a fixed sum levy, meaning it will always raise the same amount of dollars from year to year. This fixed sum levy allows the District to eliminate the deficit.

Is the levy on the ballot new or a renewal?

The emergency levy on the May 6, 2025, ballot is a renewal of a levy originally passed in 1995. It has been renewed 4 times since and was last renewed in 2014.

What has this levy been used to fund?

This levy has been used to fund **day-to-day operational** expenses such as utility costs,

transportation fuel and supplies, textbooks, classroom supplies, etc. This levy has not been used to pay for salaries, benefits, or capital expenses.

How much money does this levy raise for the District?

This millage rate for this levy is set to collect \$1,755,600 each calendar year. This dollar amount has remained the same since 1995 with no inflationary growth.

Is Warren the only District with a current "Emergency Levy"?

No, numerous School District's throughout Ohio utilize this type of levy. More specifically, locally, Belpre City Schools, Marietta City Schools, and Wolf Creek currently have at least one emergency levy.