

## **Superintendent Report for Meeting**

**Aaron Rex**

**10/26/21**

- Our new Reading and Phonics program is going well in all our buildings. I have asked the administrators to put together times for you to come and see it in action if you would like. Our teachers are doing an outstanding job, and our students are not only making progress, but enjoying the methods of instruction.
- I want to congratulate our band on a great marching season, and I heard that their performance in Columbus was excellent. Way to go, students and directors!
- Our 9<sup>th</sup> graders are currently making plans for their Washington DC trip. This trip will take place just before Thanksgiving Break, as they leave on November 19 and return November 23. Our 8<sup>th</sup> graders will then go in the spring.
- Mike Watt is working with Jim Smith to enclose the pond on the high school property. They have it mapped out and will get to work once we have approved the exact location and supplies arrive.
- We are continuing to do walkthroughs in all our school buildings. These are a great way to see our students and teachers in action.

# WAPAKONETA CITY SCHOOLS

## Monthly Activity Report-Mike Watt, Director of Operations

October 22, 2021

- The concrete work (Sidewalk restoration) at the high school has started and should be completed by 10-22-21. Weather permitting, the crew will move to the middle school and Cridersville next week.
- I am working with a couple of companies to provide a motorized protective curtain for the high school gym. This would be installed in front of the new videoboard to protect it from baseballs, softballs, etc, while not in use.
- Working on an employee issue. This employee is in the cafeteria and also serves as a bus driver.
- The softball field has had a great undertaking by Mr. Tom Hunter and Shane Helmstetter. They have done a tremendous job. Shane has started some of the same work at the baseball field. (Edging, prepping the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base warning tracks) There is a lot of manual work to be completed, and needs to be continuous to keep it up.
- The sound system for the gym has been ordered. Looking to have all the materials for the install by December 11. Install should take approximately three days.
- Safety grants have been submitted to the State. The district will not hear until late December if we are awarded any funding.
- Working on the upcoming asphalt bids. These will take place late December for the upcoming spring and summer. We normally do two buildings the first year and then the remaining two the following fiscal year. There is some "spiderwebbing" taking place at the east lot of the high school. There may need to be some grind and fill...
- I have worked with Brad to look at a new Soccer scoreboard. That board is about 16-17 years old. We have had trouble with it not working this year.
- Aaron should speak with you about hiring an extra custodian. Prior to construction in 2010 Mike Moore left the district with a medical condition. His position was not replaced during the cuts that were made. I would like to fill his spot and have one additional person at the high school. Billie put her two week notice in as the split shift person. Her last day will be next Friday. I would like to fill her spot just at the middle school.

Thanks,  
Mike

**Carrie Knoch**  
Director of Student Achievement  
Pre School Coordinator  
Gifted Coordinator  
Curriculum Coordinator  
Testing Coordinator



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10/26/2021

**-TESTING-**

The Third Grade OST went well in our buildings last week. There was a little hiccup that was out of our control on the first day. Everyone handled it with grace and patience.

**-CURRICULUM-**

Our students will participate in our 3rd Annual Writing Day on October 20. This is in coordination with Children's Hometown Holiday. The students will write a holiday-related poem. Then for the next month Elaine Poppe and Deb Zvez read all 3,000 entries and award a prize for each classroom. The featured works will also be displayed at the Children's Hometown Holiday.

The WHS Math department will be meeting with a rep for the online portion of their curriculum the first full week of November. Our original contract for the math series will be up at the end of the year. At this point the teachers are satisfied with what we have, but would like more information on the online section as there will be minor changes.

The newest shipment of reading materials have arrived and teachers are delving into them.

**-PRESCHOOL-**

Our sweet littles are LOVING preschool and we sure love them. Our classrooms are very full and the waiting list is long.

**-GIFTED-**

We are currently finishing up Gifted testing for the Fall. Lisa Slonecker has been an amazing help with this. She is invaluable to me for testing and is so patient and kind to the students.

**Wapakoneta High School**

1 West Redskin Trail

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419-739-5200

Douglas R. Selvey, Asst. Principal

419-739-5208

Bradley R. Rex, Ath. Administrator

419-739-5204

**Wapakoneta Virtual School Grades 8-12**

- We currently have 51 students enrolled into virtual school as of Tuesday October 19<sup>th</sup>.
- We currently have 29 students taking three or more classes on-line as of Tuesday October 19<sup>th</sup>.
- We currently have 24 Seniors, 12 Juniors, 6 Sophomores, 2 Freshman, 2 Eighth Graders and 5 Non-Grads enrolled into virtual school as of Tuesday October 19<sup>th</sup>.
- We currently have 178 classes scheduled at this time.
- We are currently serving 8 students on an IEP or 504 plan.
- We will continue to make communication a priority with our students. Every student will receive an email with a video attached explaining the expectations and how to navigate the program.
- We continue to contact parents to update them about their child's progress and grades. Parents have the ability to receive a weekly progress report if they provided us an email address.
- Our guidance department receives weekly progress updates on all virtual school students and has been active in communicating with families.

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10-26-2021

### Wapakoneta High School Board Report

I would first like to recognize our marching band students and instructors. The half time show that they performed at the last home football game was fantastic. Mr. Wimmers, Mr. Headings, as well as the students, worked extremely hard throughout the fall to ensure that their execution was perfect. The following day the marching band performed at The Ohio State University where our students were able to perform the same show at the Horseshoe. When I talked with several members of the band this past week, they were so excited and proud of their performance.

I want to express my gratitude to our staff for their willingness to help cover each other when we do not have substitutes for staff absences. On a daily basis we are typically short 1 or 2 subs a day. This requires a lot of our teachers to cover classes in order for us to make it through the day. Not having enough substitutes is an issue throughout the state and we are always trying to recruit new additions to our substitute team.

The Principal Student Advisory Council continued its work this month with a dedication to the idea of respect. The students watched several videos that defined perspective, respect, and current trends regarding the acceptance of others. Throughout the presentation, students worked in groups to develop ideas of what respect looks like to their peers, staff, and school support staff. In reflecting, the students felt it was important to start delivering their message to fellow classmates and began brainstorming ideas that would allow them the opportunity and time to share their message. As we continue to work with this group, it is great to see them evolve into leaders that are eager to make an impact on their peers and the culture of Wapakoneta High School.

Scott Minnig

Principal



Will Snyder, Principal  
Kyle Cutnaw, Assistant Principal

# WAPAKONETA MIDDLE SCHOOL

400 W Harrison St Wapakoneta, OH 45895 419-739-5100

**Subject: Principal's Report**

**October 26, 2021**

## Updates:

Wapakoneta Middle School students and staff are excited to be in the ninth week of school already! High expectations have been established in our classrooms and teachers are working hard to facilitate student learning and achievement. One quick walk through the classrooms would prove that teachers are challenging every student in their classroom. As we finish the first nine weeks, here are some items that we have been working on.

**Reading Interventions:** This year, the WCS district began to implement our four year plan to improve reading. A major component of this process is to provide interventions. To do this we had to identify our struggling readers and their deficiencies, and provide them with explicit direct instruction. At WMS, we identified 128 students that tested below 30% on either last year's winter or this year's fall MAP assessment. Each of those students sat one-on-one with an adult and received a diagnostic assessment. This assessment identified which phonics skills the students are missing. Once the skill was identified, we grouped the students with either a reading tutor or a para for intervention. These groups work on the skill for three weeks and then are assessed. As of right now, we have 21 small groups meeting throughout the week.

**Band of Brothers:** We have officially started our small group for at-risk male students for a second year at WMS. Our schedule is different this year, so we will be meeting twice a month to play dodgeball and conduct character education lessons. The focus of the lessons this year will be The R Factor. The goal is to teach the boys how to intentionally hit pause and think things through before choosing how to respond.

**KRATOS:** Similar to Band of Brothers, Mrs. Harrod has started a small group for at-risk female students this year. The goal is to provide an opportunity to build relationships and teach important skills to these young ladies through activities and lessons. Mrs. Harrod has already held the first meeting and is excited about the direction the group is headed.

## **Field Trips**

- **7th Grade to Armstrong Air and Space Museum:** In their Language Arts class, seventh grade students are finishing reading the novel *Life as We Knew It*, a story of survival after the moon is hit with an asteroid. In science, students are finishing their unit on the lunar cycle, tides, and eclipses. As a culminating activity, students have been visiting the museum to learn about the history of our space program. They have a guided tour of the exhibits, watch a film about the Apollo 11 landing, and take part in a hands-on activity in the STEM lab.
- **5th Grade to Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm:** This year's fifth grade field trip to Aullwood Nature Center and Farm in Dayton, Ohio, was very successful. Science students are learning how energy enters the ecosystem as sunlight, which supports the life of organisms through photosynthesis. The field trip showed how nature is made up of producers, consumers, and decomposers and to encounter organisms in a variety of habitats. At the nature center, groups of students were shown examples of various organisms in a hands-on/visual way. They visited the Aullwood pond, meadow, creek, woods, and farm while guides provided details and information about the natural habitat of organisms. They encountered a variety of wildlife including snakes, turtles, fish, worms, salamanders, and squirrels. Wapakoneta City Schools has the distinction of being the first school to visit Aullwood in 19 months due to COVID concerns. The students enjoyed their day of learning outdoors.

## October 2021 Report to the Board of Education

Over the past four years, one area of focus in our building has been PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports).

For the first two years, we spent time learning how we can provide Tier 1 interventions for all our students. We created and shared Redskin Ready expectations with our staff and students. In addition, we learned how building relationships with our students can help to improve student behavior. We have found that these supports have been, and still are, very effective in our building.

Last year, we spent time learning more about Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions. We learned about the ABCs of behavior (antecedents, behaviors, and consequences), as well as the functions of behavior (sensory, escape, attention, and tangibles). We learned how important it is to identify the ABCs of behavior and the functions of the behavior when identifying which interventions to implement.

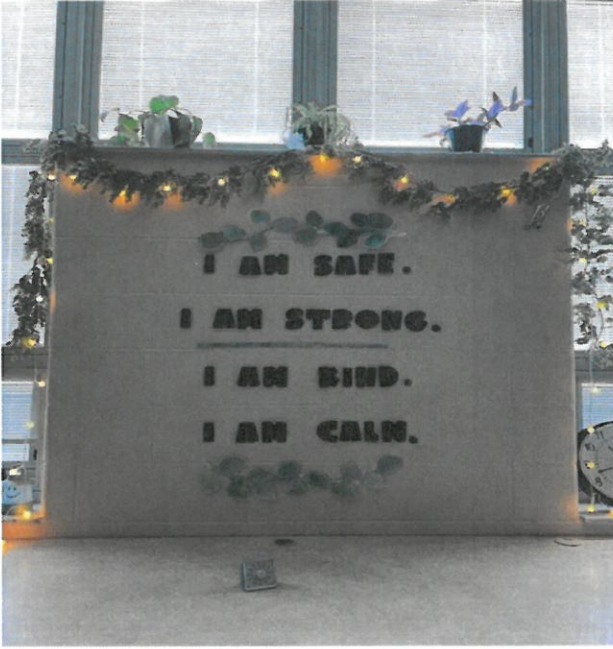
This year, we are continuing our focus on Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions. We are providing the following supports to our staff and to our students:

- Professional development on de-escalation and student trauma
- Processes in which staff can collaborate with our school counselor and our behavior interventionist to provide individualized supports for our students
- Documentation which is shared amongst staff who work with a particular student when a behavioral referral has been made and an intervention has been implemented
- Sensory stations across the building for students who need specific types of sensory inputs
- A Calm Room, which is a designated space in our building for many of these behavioral interventions (Check in/Check out, scheduled and as-needed breaks, etc.)

As with anything new, we continue to evaluate these new processes that we are using to support our students who need Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions. We meet biweekly as a team to discuss the Calm Room. We also invite our BLT members to give feedback about these new processes, interventions, and professional development sessions.

We feel that these changes have been well received by our staff, and we look forward to continuing to *#bebetter* at supporting our students' individual needs at Wapakoneta Elementary School!

## Pictures of the Calm Room





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Cridersville Elementary Board Report 10-26-2021

Mr. Sean Heights, Mrs. Aundrea Brown along with the Cridersville Historical Society, had spearheaded a new youth program at Cridersville Elementary called CES Junior Historian Club. Started and led by Mr. Heights, the goal is to teach students about our local history. This is being done through text, craft-making, and actual visits to local sites. On Monday, October 18, students visited the Blackhoof Memorial and gravesite. Students and attending adults were intrigued to learn that this place existed. Thank you to all involved for making this learning opportunity available.

I would like to extend a large thank you to the Cridersville PTO for setting up the fundraiser and the Wapak City Schools community for supporting it. By far, this was the largest grossing fundraiser that has been completed in my six years as administrator. Pick-up of items was held on Tuesday, the 19<sup>th</sup>, and everything went very well. Limo rides for students selling more than 25 items have been scheduled for early December.

Guys in Ties is up and running. After visiting the memorial site of Chief Blackhoof, it was clear to me what our first project of the year was going to be. While visiting the cemetery, I found a large number of veterans' headstone American flags were laying on the grass. With support from Mr. Rex and the board, I would like to take a group of boys and work with grounds and maintenance to re-set these heroes' markers. I would like to get this started in Wapakoneta and each visit we are able to make, choose a new location to help. There is much to be proud of in this country, and to pay our respects to past heroes is not only a right but a privilege.

Red Ribbon Week is underway. Thank you to Mrs. Jill Stubbs for directing us in the mission to live a drug-free life. Activities can be found on the website for the district. We are looking forward to spreading the message that "DRUG FREE LOOKS LIKE ME."

Third grade students began and finished AIR assessments last week, but it was not without a regional internet failure. A big thank you to the third grade teachers for keeping themselves and the students calm, and to Nick Shrider and Carrie Knoch for digging into the problem and doing everything in their power to find a solution. Carrie has spoken to the state to assist in completing the tests without losing students' progress.

Upcoming events at CES for October:

- October 25 - Halloween Parade – CES will be participating
- October 28 - Trick or Treat
- October 29 - Harvest Parties
- November 8-12 - Book Fair

**ATHLETICS**  
**10/26/21**

- W- The volleyball team is the sectional champions and will play Monday at Hopewell-Loudon in the district semi-final vs. Perrysburg.
- W- The football team is in position to make the playoffs and at least host the first round of playoffs starting Oct. 29. We will play on Friday nights throughout the playoffs.
- W- Winter sports start over the next couple of weeks with girls basketball starting Oct. 22; boys basketball, bowling, and swimming starting Oct. 29, and wrestling starting Nov. 5.