



WASHBURN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL

JUNIOR BLUES NEWSLETTER



FEATURED STORY

FALL HIGHLIGHTS

Chorale performed for the Grammy-winning ensemble “Chanticleer” at Kansas State University on October 10th. The award-winning ensemble Chanticleer and five high school choirs from around the country were present for the third QuVee Mock Masterclass event! Students and directors learned from one of the most well-known professional choirs, as well as enjoyed performances from Chanticleer, the Kansas State University Concert Choir, and In-A-Chord A Cappella.

Chorale helped celebrate the retirement of popular choral lyricist Tony Silvestri with a combined performance with Washburn University and other local area high schools.

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From the Desk of Our Principal



Season's Greetings!

We hope this message finds you well as we head into the holiday season! The first semester will conclude on December 20, 2024. We are excited to offer a Finals Study Session again this year to help students prepare for exams. Faculty members from core subjects (Math, Science, and English) as well as select elective teachers will be available to assist students. The study session will take place in the Washburn Rural High School Cafeteria, and pizza will be provided for attendees. We strongly encourage all students to take advantage of this valuable opportunity!

Finals Study Night: Date: Monday, December 16, 2024 Time: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

The detailed exam schedule is as follows:

Day 1: Wednesday, December 18 (All classes meet – no early release)	Day 2: Thursday, December 19	Day 3, Friday, December 20
7:00 – 7:50: Zero Period FINAL 7:55 – 8:40: 1st Period 8:45 – 9:30: 2nd Period 9:35 – 10:20: 3rd Period 10:25 – 11:10: 4th Period 11:15 – 1:25: 5th Period FINAL Lunch Schedule: 11:10 – 11:43: 1st Lunch 12:07 – 12:40: 2nd Lunch 12:56 – 1:30: 3rd Lunch Afternoon Periods: 1:30 – 2:15: 6th Period 2:20 – 3:02: 7th Period	7:55 – 9:42: 1st Period FINAL 9:47 – 11:34: 3rd Period FINAL 11:39 – 1:10: 5th Period Lunch Schedule: 11:34 – 12:07: 1st Lunch 12:07 – 12:41: 2nd Lunch 12:41 – 1:15: 3rd Lunch Afternoon Periods: 1:15 – 3:02: 7th Period FINAL	7:55 – 9:42: 2nd Period FINAL 9:47 – 11:34: 4th Period FINAL 11:39 – 1:10: 5th Period Lunch Schedule: 11:34 – 12:07: 1st Lunch 12:07 – 12:41: 2nd Lunch 12:41 – 1:15: 3rd Lunch Afternoon Periods: 1:15 – 3:02: 6th Period FINAL

Winter Break:

- Dates: December 21, 2024 - January 5, 2025
The second semester will begin on January 6, 2025.

On behalf of the entire WRHS staff, we wish our extended Junior Blue Family a restful and memorable holiday season!

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed Raines". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Ed Raines, Principal
raineedw@usd437.net

WRHS Counseling Office

[Counseling Website](#)

Crisis Hotline: 785-232-5005

Twitter Updates: @wrhsgo

Crisis Hotline: 785-232-5005

[Counseling Department Staff](#)

Schedule Changes

Counselors are working with Grades 9-11 from November 11-December 13 to fill gaps and adjust second semester schedules. Please note that all schedules are tentative and therefore, students should view their schedule on Campus Portal the first day of second semester. Please note that counselors are not available during winter break. Once second semester begins, schedule changes are only approved for levels or being misplaced in a class (eg. English 10 to Honors English 10).

FAFSA

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will open in December. College-bound seniors and their families are encouraged to complete the FAFSA. This awards federal grants, low-interest loans, and work study. The [counseling website](#) has several resources available to support families in submitting their FAFSA. In addition, Washburn University will be hosting FAFSA completion nights. Every college has a different FAFSA priority date. The [Senior Letter](#) includes the KBOR college deadlines. Speak to your college's financial aid office for additional information.

Scholarships

Seniors and families should explore the [scholarship website](#) for school, local, and national scholarships. These [Fastweb](#) application tips can be helpful.

20 Study Strategies for Finals Week

As students prepare for finals week, these tips may be useful as they plan their study time. We encourage students to start early and feel confident that their hard work this semester will help them find success!
<https://www.fastweb.com/student-life/articles/the-20-study-tips-for-finals>

ACT Preparation

Over 300 juniors will take the ACT on February 25. Students are encouraged to spend time over the winter break preparing for the test. Free resources are available at www.act.org.

Washburn Tech Programs

Many WRHS junior and senior students attend Washburn Institute of Technology during high school. We encourage families to explore these opportunities. A representative visits WRHS every two weeks. To date, over 100 students have met with him to discuss opportunities. The information [HERE](#) reviews the steps to enroll and programs available.

◆ WRHS Counseling Office

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[Counseling Department Staff](#)

Local Mental Health Services

 <p>Lilac Center</p>	<p>Lilac Center 3630 SW Burlingame Rd. Topeka, KS 66611</p>	<p>https://www.lilaccenter.org/</p> 	<p>785-337-0308</p>
 <p>FAMILY SERVICE & GUIDANCE CENTER</p>	<p>Family Service and Guidance Center 325 S.W. Frazier Ave. Topeka, KS 66606</p>	<p>https://www.fsgctopeka.com/</p> 	<p>FSGC Crisis Services 24 hours a day/7 days a week</p> <p>785-232-5005</p>
	<p>Stormont Vail Behavioral Health Outpatient Services 3707 SW 6th Ave, Topeka, KS 66606</p>	<p>https://www.stormontvail.org/ primary-care/behavioral-health- outpatient/</p> 	<p>785 270-4600</p>
	<p>Florence Crittenton 5423 SW 7th Street Topeka, KS 66606</p>	<p>https://flocritkansas.org/progr ams/outpatient-treatment/</p> 	<p>785-233-0516</p>
	<p>Washburn University Child & Adolescent Clinic 1700 SW College Ave. Topeka, KS 66621</p>	<p>https://www.washburn.edu/ac ademics/college-schools/arts-s ciences/psychology/psychologi cal-clinic/Clinic-Child.html</p> 	<p>785-670-1750</p>

Washburn Rural High School Care Closet

Your counselor can help with:



Coats,
Shoes,
Clothing



Hygiene Products
Like Deodorant,
Soap, Toothbrush,
Femine Products



Food Supplies
& Free/Reduced
Lunch Forms

WRHS
Counselors



SCAN ME

Reach out for items
included or any other
hardship you need help
navigating

Cost
for
exams
like
PSAT
or ACT



Free Academic Assistance

AFTER SCHOOL LABS

Library

- **English**
- **Math**
- **Science**
- **Social Studies**

Room E554

- **AF-JROTC**

Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:05-4:15pm

Need a ride home?

**Sign-Up in the Main Office for Transportation
Before or during lunch**

◆ Fall Highlights

Choir

Chorale performed for the Grammy-winning ensemble “Chanticleer” at Kansas State University on October 10th. The award-winning ensemble Chanticleer and five high school choirs from around the country were present for the third QuVee Mock Masterclass event! Students and directors learned from one of the most well-known professional choirs, as well as enjoyed performances from Chanticleer, the Kansas State University Concert Choir, and In-A-Chord A Cappella.

Chorale helped celebrate the retirement of popular choral lyricist Tony Silvestri with a combined performance with Washburn University and other local area high schools. Described as "the preeminent choral lyricist of our time," poet, author, composer, and speaker Charles Anthony Silvestri has worked with other artists from all over the world to create texts tailor-made for their commissions and specific artistic needs. He enjoys the challenge of solving these creative problems and has provided custom choral texts, opera libretti, program notes and other writing for composers including Eric Whitacre, Ola Gjeilo, Kim Arnesen, Christopher Tin, and Dan Forrest; and for ensembles ranging from high schools to the Houston Grand Opera, from the King’s Singers to the San Francisco Gay Men’s Chorus, from Westminster Choir College to Westminster Abbey. As a clinician, Silvestri speaks to choirs, classes, and concert audiences about his works, the creative process, the marriage of words and music, and about his collaborative relationships with composers. He is the author of three books, and teaches Ancient and Medieval History at Washburn University and lives in Lawrence, KS.

This Generation performed at White Concert Hall for the annual Stacey Beaver scholarship concert. The concert is a fundraiser for the Stacie Beavers Scholarship fund through the Civic Music Club of Topeka, given to a Washburn University music student. Stacie Beavers, a member of the Civic Music Club for many years, passed away in 1978. The concert, co-sponsored by Washburn University, was attended by friends and families of the high school students, along with community members and Washburn music students.



Fall Highlights

Band

The Marching Band received Superior Ratings and a Trophy of Distinction at the Capital City Marching Festival at Washburn University. The Washburn University Music and Theatre Department hosted the annual Capital City Marching Band Festival Monday, October 7 in Yager Stadium. The festival featured approximately 1,000 students and their directors from nine Kansas high schools: Hayden Catholic High School, Junction City High School, Leavenworth High School, Seaman High School, Shawnee Heights High School, Topeka High School, Topeka West High School, Washburn Rural High School and Wichita West High School.

The Marching Band also received Superior Ratings at the Central States Marching Festival at Kansas State University. The K-State Bands' Central States Marching Festival has grown into the premier marching band festival in the state of Kansas and the region where over 40 bands performed.

Overall, they ranked in the top 24 Marching Bands in the State at the Kansas Bandmasters Marching Band Championship at Emporia State University. Congratulations to Mr. Chaffee, Ms. Casey, and Mr. Exum on a great season!



Debate

Under the leadership of Tim Ellis, the Washburn Rural Debate team is off to a fast start, with team sweepstakes awards at multiple early season tournaments, and tournament championships in multiple divisions at Blue Valley Southwest, Blue Valley West, and Heritage Hall School in Oklahoma City. They have already qualified a team to the prestigious Tournament of Champions in Lexington, KY in June, and are continuing to prepare for the National Speech and Debate Association national qualifier in December and the KSHSAA state championship in January!



Fall Highlights

Girls Tennis

State:

Emerie Catlin & Izzy Haggard placed 9th in Doubles. Carolina Chedzoy and Julia Katzer were state qualifiers in Singles.

Varsity City:

Emerie Catlin / Izzy Haggard - took 1st in #1 Doubles
Alizah Chedzoy/Haidyn McPike - 3rd in #2 Doubles
Carolina Chedzoy - 4th in #1 Singles
Julia Katzer - 3rd in #2 Singles

JV City:

Zippy Ross - 2nd in #1 Singles
Annie Henderson - 1st in #2 Singles
Cora Sabel / Lydia Wegele - 2nd in #1 Doubles
Meredith Clark / Halle Owen - 2nd in #2 Doubles

Varsity League:

Emerie Catlin / Izzy Haggard - 1st place
Alizah Chedzoy/Haidyn McPike - 5th place
Carolina Chedzoy - 6th place
Julia Katzer - 7th place

Varsity Regional:

Team Finish - 1st Place
Emerie Catlin / Izzy Haggard - 1st place
Carolina Chedzoy - 2nd place
Julia Katzer - 5th place

All-Centennial League:

Emerie Catlin
Izzy Haggard



JV League:

Annie Henderson - 3rd in #1 Singles
Zippy Ross - 1st in #2 Singles
Meredith Clark / Halle Owen - 1st in #1 Doubles
Ava Fritz / Callie Ingalsby - 1st in #2 Doubles

All-City:

Emerie Catlin
Izzy Haggard
Carolina Chedzoy

JV Season:

98 Wins.
25 Losses.
Won 5 Duals - Lost 1.

Girls Golf

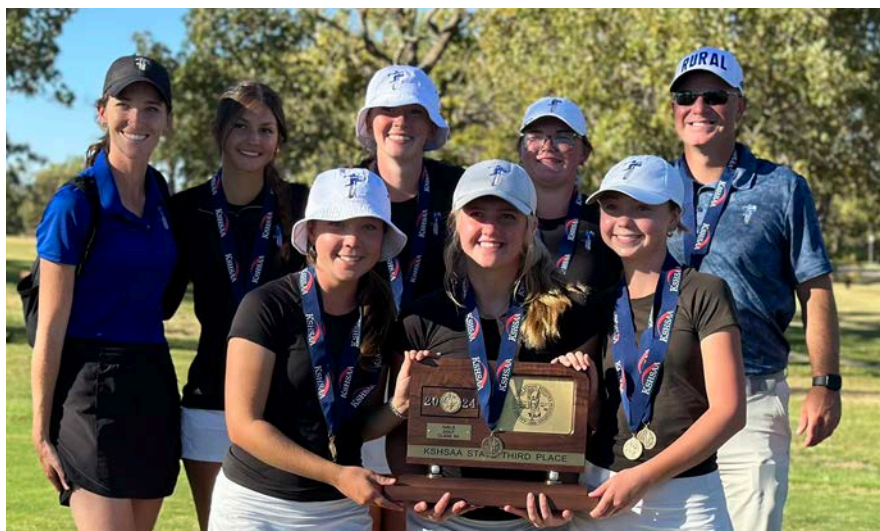
3rd place at 6A State Championship held at Carey Park in Garden City.

Top 20 medalists:

Reece Randall and Natalie Peterson

All-State Honorable Mention:

Reece Randall



◆ Fall Highlights

Cross Country

The Boys and Girls Cross Country teams recently finished out their seasons. The cross country teams brought home several championships this year. Both the Boys and Girls won City Titles and the Girls brought home a Centennial League title with Senior Rylee Ismert winning the individual title. The boys finished in 3rd place in both the League and Regional races qualifying the entire team to State. The Girls team won the Regional Meet and went on to take 2nd place at the State Meet.



Soccer

A huge congratulations to Coaches Hensyel, Chooncharoen and Bell, as well as our athletes! Our Boys Soccer team placed 3rd at the State Tournament with a win over Shawnee Mission West. This year marks the 17th Final Four appearance by WRHS in the school's history and the 30th consecutive Centennial League Championship! Final record 15-3-3.



◆ Fall Highlights

Volleyball

Finished with a record of 31-8

Won Centennial League for 4th year in a row, the 6th time in past 7 years

Won sub-state for 8th year in a row

Tied for 5th place at state

The team has gone to state 26 times in past 28 seasons. This year Layla Collins made the 6A state tournament team!



Football

The 2024 WRHS football team finished their season at 3-6. The season was highlighted with wins over city rivals Shawnee Heights and Topeka High. Individual awards like All League and All State selections will be announced in December following the state championship games.



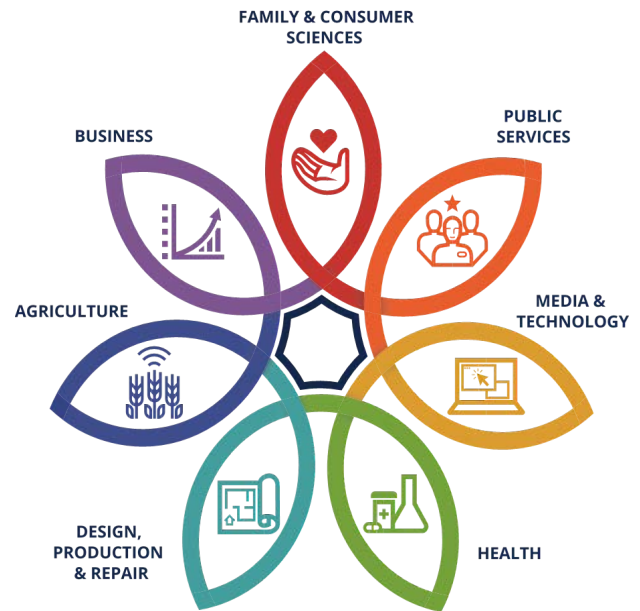
◆ Career and Technical Education

Career Clusters and Pathways at Washburn Rural

For the 2025-26 school year there will be a few changes in the Cluster/Pathways offered at WRHS. This information will be provided in the Course Planning Guide in January. The Kansas State Department of Education has completed the Cluster/Pathways reviews in order to align KS with the National Clusters and Pathways being offered.

<https://careertech.org/career-clusters/>

A Career Cluster is a grouping of occupations and broad industries based on commonalities. The Career Clusters organize academic and occupational knowledge and skills into a coherent course sequence and identify pathways from secondary schools to two and four year colleges, graduate schools, and the workplace. Students learn in school about what they can do in the future. This connection to future goals motivates students to work harder and enroll in more rigorous courses.



CAREER READY STANDARDS: Are taught in all CTE Course work they are embedded within the overall competencies taught in each CTE class.

Competencies for Career Ready Standards

- 1.1 Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
- 1.2 Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
- 1.3 Attend to personal health and financial well-being.
- 1.4 Communicate clearly, effectively and with reason.
- 1.5 Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
- 1.6 Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
- 1.7 Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
- 1.8 Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
- 1.9 Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
- 1.10 Plan education and career path aligned to personal goals.
- 1.11 Use technology to enhance productivity.
- 1.12 Work productively in teams while using cultural/global competence.

Featured Career Cluster Law, Public Safety, Correction and Security

Pathway: Corrections, Security, Law and Law Enforcement Services

Mission: To prepare students with the knowledge and skills necessary for continued education and, ultimately, a successful career in law, public safety, security, emergency services, police science, and/or fire science occupations.

The Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security Pathways of Study enable students:

- To obtain necessary skills through high quality classroom, laboratory, and field instruction
- To earn professional certifications required for employment
- To transition to postsecondary level institutions for additional education opportunities

◆ Career and Technical Education

This pathway collaborates within Business, Science and Social Studies Departments at WRHS and includes the following classes:

Introduction to LPSCS
Accounting 1
Business Communications

Business Law
Comprehensive Forensic
Science

Criminal Justice
Criminal Justice 2
LPSCS Workplace Experience

Washburn University School of Law

On November 1st, 60 students in our Criminal Justice 1 & 2 classes along with the Business Law students attended a seminar and tour at Washburn University School of Law. The students were able to hear from Alex Glashauser, Professor; Andrew Stewart, Visiting Assistant Professor and Director of Academic Enrichment and Bar Readiness and Thomas Sneed-professor and Director of Law Library. The professors presented information about their backgrounds and roles at the University. They also talked about their personal journeys to law school.

WRHS students participated in panel discussion with Washburn Law Student Ambassadors who represented various stages of earning their Law Degree. The student ambassadors talked about their journey to law school, what it takes to be a law student and what steps high school students should be taking now. WRHS students were also allowed an opportunity to ask questions and the panel took turns answering the questions. Students were then broken into groups and went on a tour of the law school with an ambassador.



Blake Surey, from Ms. Reno's Business Law class said, "It was a good experience, the building was very impressive. The classrooms and courtrooms were very nice and the ambassadors provided good insight to law school."

Business Presentation

On November 4, Kathy Reno's Business Law class got a kick start on their Property Law Unit in Business Law with a presentation from Kimberly and Josh Svaty. The Svaty's spoke to the class about many aspects of property law including intellectual property, easements, eminent domain, and energy property leasing.



Kimberly Svaty started Gencur Svaty Public Affairs in 2007 and her husband Josh joined the team in 2018 after serving many years in politics. They have vast experience in property law and specialize in energy related property issues.

Zach Inoles stated that, "I thought the presentation was very intriguing and they were very knowledgeable on all things property law."

Career and Technical Education

Career and College Preparation

Career Technical Education (CTE) is a valuable enhancement to traditional classroom learning. It allows students to gain knowledge and hands-on experience about specific career pathways. With an emphasis on helping students be prepared to be successful in high-wage, high-demand careers, Pathways are designed to move along a continuum of career awareness, career exploration, and career readiness. WRHS offers fifteen Career Pathways. Learn more at wrhs.net/cte

Work-based learning provides high school students with valuable hands-on experience and exposure to real-world work environments. By participating in job shadow experiences or internships, students have the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills they learn in the classroom to practical situations. This practical experience helps students develop a deeper understanding of a career field, gain valuable industry-specific skills, and build professional networks. Work-based learning prepares high school students by equipping them with the necessary skills, knowledge, and confidence to succeed in the workforce after graduation.

This semester there are 17 WRHS students working in the community from the following pathways: Education, Agricultural, Finance, Marketing, and Health/BioMedical/BioChemistry. Workplace Experience is also offered “In-house” with our school businesses, Common Grounds, The Shack, WRHS Bank. Students are gaining real world experiences while operating the businesses here at school while working with our community partners.

WRHS offers Certificates and Industry Recognized Credentials in several pathways

[YouScience](#) is a valuable tool for classrooms that helps students explore their interests, skills, and potential career paths. It provides personalized assessments and career recommendations based on a student's aptitudes and interests. With YouScience, students can make more informed decisions about their future education and career choices, leading to greater engagement and success in the classroom.

[NCCER](#), or the National Center for Construction Education and Research, offers industry-recognized credentials for high school students in construction-related fields. By participating in NCCER programs, high school students can gain valuable skills and knowledge that prepare them for careers in construction and related industries. NCCER certifications provide students with a competitive edge in the job market and open doors to a wide range of opportunities in the construction industry. Students are eligible to participate this semester.

The Culinary Arts students take the [ServSafe](#) Food Handler and Manager exams in the culinary course. These exams verify that a manager or person-in-charge has sufficient food safety knowledge to protect the public from food borne illness, ensures proper personal hygiene, prevents cross-contamination, controls time and temperature when handling food, and proper cleaning and sanitizing.

[Paraeducator Certificate](#) This Program offers statewide standards-based training for all paraeducators, and supports a career growth ladder that prepares students for employment as a paraeducator or moving forward with their post secondary plans in Education.

[Excel in CTE](#) was launched in 2012 as a plan to enhance career technical education in Kansas and better prepare high school students for college and careers. Kansas high school students qualify for state-funded college tuition in approved technical courses offered by Kansas technical and community colleges. WRHS students have the opportunity to attend [Washburn Tech](#) as part of their regular school day, or they may elect to take online courses outside of school hours.

◆ Career and Technical Education

Resources

Naviance, [Pathful](#), and YouScience are resources available to all students and can help students explore career options, employment trends in those industries, and the training or education needed.

Community Partners

Advisory Committees assist in the development and operation of the CTE cluster/pathway by keeping instructors up to date on industry standards and trends. They also provide students the opportunity to build a professional network and may offer job shadow experiences or internships. Interested in serving on one of our Advisory Boards please contact Teresa Golden goldeter@usd437.net

For Sale!

[Dog houses](#) and a [garden shed](#) are for sale built by WRHS Construction and Design students.

Registration NOW OPEN for the January 30, 2025 Kansas Virtual Health Care Career Day!

Registration is live for the 2025 Virtual Health Care Career Day. The Kansas Hospital Association, Kansas State Department of Education, and Kansas Board of Regents have partnered again this year to organize this 2025 event.

[Click here to register for this free event.](#)

[Click here for the event flier with the agenda for the day.](#)

The Kansas Virtual Health Care Career Day takes students inside Kansas hospitals to learn about the many career opportunities available in health care and engage them in real world learning. Various health care providers will deliver insight into career fields including family practice medicine, critical care nursing, behavioral health, occupational therapy, health IT/cybersecurity, respiratory therapy, facilities management, and pharmacy. With February being Career and Technical Education Month, this event is a great way to kick off CTE month by providing students an opportunity to learn more about careers in a very in-demand industry! All education levels are invited to join this free event on **January 30, 2025, from 9:00am-12:30pm.**

College of Architecture Planning and Design at K-State Event in Manhattan

Join us to learn about Kansas State University's College of Architecture, Planning & Design, meet the Dean and faculty from APDesign, and hear from current K-State planning and design students. Tour Seaton/Regnier Complex and meet other students who are also interested in the design and planning professions. This event is free.

Saturday, January 25, 2025

Check-in at 9:00am

Presentation will begin at 9:30am

One student in attendance who enters the College of Architecture, Planning and Design in fall 2025 will receive a \$500 scholarship.

To Register : [Career Exploration Manhattan, KS](#)

To learn more about the College of Architecture, Planning and Design <https://apdesign.k-state.edu/>

WRHS

BANK

Get Started

It's never too early to start saving!




4.5%

INTEREST ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

*May be subject to change

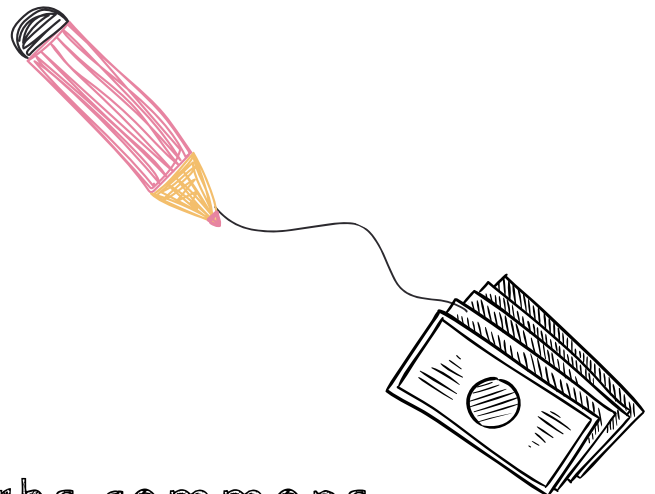
Stop living in the past, and start living in the future. Open an account today!

 785-339-4131

wrhsbank@usd437.net

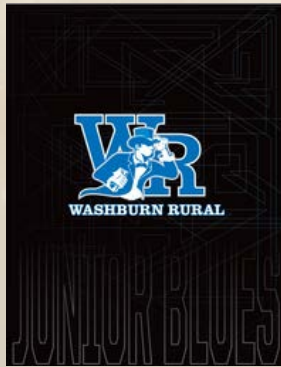
 open during 5th Hour - wrhs commons

Click here for more information or to ask a question!



Happy Holidays

Check out The Shack for all your Holiday needs!



WR Blanket
60x80



<https://ruralspirit.square.site/>

Basketball Apparel



Purchase your spirit
wear from The Shack

[https://ruralspirit.square
e.site/rural-hoops](https://ruralspirit.square.site/rural-hoops)



COMMON GROUND

12 DAYS OF HOT CHOCOLATE

\$2.25

DECEMBER

<i>2nd</i> CANDY CANE	<i>3rd</i> CHOCOLATE WAFER	<i>4th</i> TUXEDO
<i>5th</i> CINNAMON ROLL	<i>6th</i> CG ORIGINAL	<i>9th</i> S'MORES
<i>10th</i> RASPBERRY TUXEDO	<i>11th</i> WHITE CHOCOLATE	<i>12th</i> CHRISTMAS SUGAR COOKIE
<i>13th</i> CHOCOLATE CARAMEL	<i>16th</i> PEPPERMINT BARK	<i>17th</i> SNOWFLAKE (COTTON CANDY)

WRHS Computer Science

STEAM Carnival

Washburn Rural High School's Computer Science Honor Society (CSHS) is celebrating Computer Science Education Week by offering a FREE event to USD 437's elementary students!

This event is catered to students grades K-6 in the Auburn-Washburn School District, but open to students through grade 8. There is no prior coding experience required for students to enter. Students will have an array of activities and carnival games available for them to rotate through over the course of the evening. Parents are invited to go to the stations with students as they explore STEAM activities. There will be some small prizes or learning information for students to take with them at each carnival game and a couple larger prizes that will be raffled off.

Our Socials!

 @wrhs_cshs

 Coming soon!

 Coming soon!



Sign up!

Get in touch!

- Mrs. Haley Schmitz - CSHS Chapter Leader
 - schmihal@usd437.net
- Max Kuhlmann - Co-President
 - kuhlmax@usd437.net
- Parker Williams - Co-President
 - willipar@usd437.net
- Grayson Huey - Newsletter Manager
 - hueygra@usd437.net

Keeping Up With

WRHS UNIFIED SPORTS



Board Meeting Highlight

In November, our Unified Programs were invited to share what it means to be a 2024 nationally recognized Unified Champion School with Banner status. Schools that receive this recognition are required to meet a unique set of ten standards and questions pertaining to Special Olympics Unified Sports, Inclusive Youth Leadership, Whole-School Engagement, and Sustainability.

We are honored to receive this recognition and we look forward to reaching more students, creating more opportunities, and fostering an even more inclusive culture with each Unified Sport and Circle of Friends Club event. We are incredibly proud of the students who help make these programs so successful. Thank you to the coaches, staff, and families who continue to support us each year!

Basketball

This year our basketball teams participated in two tournaments! The first tournament took place at Topeka West and the second at Gardner-Edgerton High School where our students competed against teams from Topeka, Lawrence, and the surrounding Kansas City metro area. Our three teams had a great time and brought home some hardware:

- Black Team - First Place**
- Blue Team - First Place**
- White Team - Second Place**



WHAT'S NEXT?

WE STILL HAVE BOCCE BALL, SOCCER, AND THE POLAR PLUNGE TO LOOK FORWARD TO THIS YEAR!

Scan the QR code to receive updates and season information:



Bowling

Our 2024 Unified Bowlers have had a spectacular season! We participated in four competitions in Topeka and Lawrence. Of these four competitions, we have had at least one team place in the Top 5 each time.

Our Jr. Blues placed 3rd at Regionals with a score of 762, punching their ticket to State!

WRHS is the proud host of the 2024 KSHSAA State Unified Bowling Championships on November 19th at 1:10.





BUY YOUR YEARBOOK LIKE, NOW

**YEARBOOKS ON SALE
ORDER TODAY**

YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM

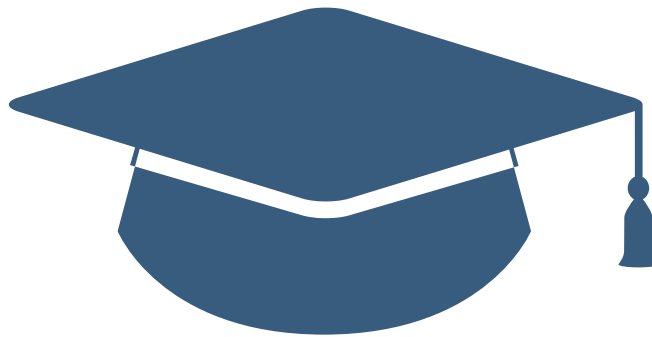
Keep your order number handy when you log on.

Washburn Rural High School

33333

**CLASS OF 2025
MAKE PLANS TO TAKE YOUR**

*Senior
Portraits*



**THE DEADLINE FOR PORTRAIT
SUBMISSION IS FRIDAY, DEC. 6TH**

Questions? Call WRHS Journalism @ 339-4252
See the next page for more details

SENIOR PORTRAITS

Senior Portrait Specifications for Yearbook

The WRHS Yearbook staff encourages every senior to submit a senior portrait for the "People Section" of the yearbook. Portraits are due on/before the **first Friday in December**.

OPTION #1: Inter-State Studios

Inter-State is the school's portrait photographer. During enrollment & on retake dates seniors may take a senior portrait at no charge to the student. The yearbook staff will have access to these images.

OPTION #2: Select Your Photographer & Submit Your Image

Seniors complete this option on their own.

All images are sent electronically.

Please send the ORIGINAL (uncropped) file in JPEG format.

Email Subject: Student's first & last name.

Send your portrait file to:

wrhsporraits@usd437.net

(Important: send Senior Salute images in a separate email to wrhssalutes@usd437.net)

While most major photography studios in the area already have these specifications, please have your photographer send a digital file that matches the following:

- Head-and-shoulders shots are preferred.
- Attire must follow school handbook.
- Plain backgrounds preferred.
- No studio imprint (I.D.)/watermark on portrait.
- Photos must be vertical (or they will be cropped to fit a vertical space).

- *Special note to photographers:*

Digital images must be 300 dpi. They can be submitted on CD or emailed to us at:

wrhsporraits@usd437.net

Please note: We will post a list of seniors who HAVE turned in portraits after the deadline. The list will be posted outside the Counseling Office and announcements will be made. **Seniors are responsible** for checking the list to make sure portraits have been delivered and received by the yearbook staff.

We cannot be responsible if we do not receive your photo.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the WRHS Journalism Department at 339-4252.

Don't forget the December Deadline! (first Friday)
Questions? Call WRHS Journalism 339-4252 or email: **wrhsporraits@usd437.net**

WRHS Yearbook

Senior Salutes

It's Your Child's Senior Year!

Here's your opportunity to purchase senior salute space in the yearbook.

Senior salutes are spaces for parents, grandparents and friends to congratulate, honor and recognize their senior with photo(s) and text.

Salute sizes range from 1/8 of a page to a full page and are available in color or black & white. Custom designs can be submitted (as a JPEG), or you may choose from one of the prepared layouts on the attached pages.

To order a salute: (1) detach and fill out the form below.

(2) gather your pictures.

*Do not cut photos.

*Do not submit wallet-sized senior pictures: (these often have a texture on them which makes them difficult to scan) please contact your photographer and have senior salute portraits emailed to:

wrhssalutes@usd437.net

(3) Based on your layout selection, write the appropriate amount of text you'd like to appear in the salute space. (Please limit any quoted text to 4 lines or 10% of original material. No song lyrics will be printed.)

Two Ways to Send: (Option 1): Mail these items to WRHS Journalism Department, Attention: Senior Salutes, 5900 SW 61st Street, Topeka, KS 66619. **If you'd like the pictures returned, simply include a self-addressed and stamped envelope, and we'll send your photos when the salute is complete.**

(Option 2): If all of your content (photos & text) is digital, email content + order form to wrhssalutes@usd437.net

*Photos MUST be high resolution scans: 300 dpi - if not, mail original images.

Payments must be mailed or delivered to WRHS prior to the deadline.

Hurry, space is limited!
Salutes and/or payments submitted after the deadline may not be published.
Salute deadline: first Friday in December

Yearbook Salute Order Form

Purchase Information - (Salutes will not be printed until payment is received.)

Buyer's Name: _____

Senior's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ (in case we have questions)

Buyer's E-mail: _____

(so we can send you a salute proof when completed.)

Payment Type: Cash or Check # _____ (to WRHS Yearbook)

Salute Size & Color

(check size & circle layout letter - sample layouts included)

Black & White Salute Space

____ 1/8 Page \$50 Layout: A B C D (circle)

____ 1/4 Page \$100 Layout: E F

____ Half Page \$200 Layout: G H I J

____ Full Page \$300 Layout: K L

Color Salute Space

____ 1/8 Page \$100 Layout: A B C D (circle)

____ 1/4 Page \$200 Layout: E F

____ Half Page \$300 Layout: G H I J

____ Full Page \$400 Layout: K L

**Salute Deadline:
first Friday in Dec.**

Questions? Please call 339.4252
or email: wrhssalutes@usd437.net

Thank You

for supporting the

2025 Yearbook

GOLD LEVEL SUPPORTERS:

Chocolately Software

Laird Noller Ford

Platinum Realty

Plato's Closet

The Dance Factory

BLUE LEVEL SUPPORTERS:

Brad Noller - American Family Insurance

Chick-fil-A

Community Insurance Solutions, LLC

Eco Fresh Line Striping

Kansas Chamber

Keystone Mental Health

Midwest Health

Topeka Elite Cheer

Mrs. Finney's Monthly YA Book Recommendation

December 2024

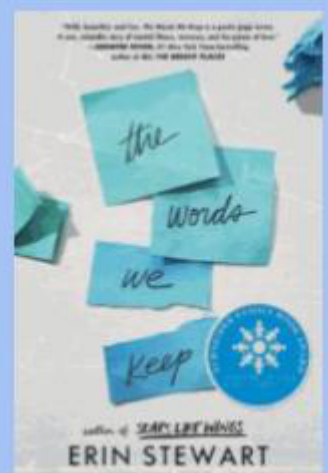


The Surprising Power of a Good Dumpling

By JWai Chim
B CHI

Anna is tired. Tired of living up to unrealistic expectations set by her school counselors, tired of taking care of her siblings, and tired of her mom not getting out of bed. When Anna has the opportunity to spend her time off school helping at the family restaurant, she jumps at the chance, but as her mother's condition worsens, Anna must try to figure out what is her responsibility, and what isn't.

Similar Titles Include:



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Text 4 Help: 785-260-0015
Marcy Sandberg sandbmar@usd437.net
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Message a WRHS Librarian with any questions!

Marcy Sandberg
sandbmar@usd437.net

Victoria Finney
finnevic@usd437.net

Text 4 Help: 785-260-0015

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videos, documentaries and music. Whether you're looking for a box office hit or a classic, there is sure to be something you'll enjoy again and again.

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AFJROTC

November was Veterans month and AFJROTC staff and students celebrated our nation's heroes by hosting an event in the WRHS Activity Center for our entire student population and over 100 veterans. The ceremony was broadcast over YouTube where the combined efforts of our AFJROTC, band and choir were showcased. We marched downtown in the Topeka Veterans Day parade with cadets Micheal Leonard and Aidyn Robinson taking part in a joint color guard featuring cadets from all four Topeka JROTCs. We also performed color guards for events at multiple elementary schools and performed honor guard duty at the Gage Park Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

November also marked the beginning of marching drill competition season with The City Drill Meet. This year the meet was hosted by Topeka West high school. Our cadets performed admirably with our new cadet drill team taking second place overall. We also took four of the top ten Individual Drill awards with Evan Garcia finishing 2nd, Kelcie Schneider 4th, Mariah McDonald 7th and Aidyn Robinson in 8th place.

And finally, our marksmanship team which began the season 0-2 has since rallied, winning all four of our matches this month. Moving forward, we will have our unity inspection on December 4th and we will participate in Topeka West's first ever drill meet as they host 15 teams from Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri.



WRHS STUCO PRESENTS

Adopt-A-Family

Scan our personalized QR code to give a monetary donation towards the program and make a family's holiday season merry & bright!

Donations accepted through December 20th!



You can also purchase gifts for families directly from this Amazon Registry:

Items will be shipped directly to Student Council.

The Amazon registry closes on December 5th.



Environmental Club

Environmental Club Creates Monarch Waystation

The Environmental Club repurposed a neglected landscaping bed at the west staff entrance to create a native plant garden. The garden is now an official monarch waystation, part of an international program to support the endangered monarch butterfly. The garden includes plants like swamp milkweed, coreopsis, and native grasses that provide food and shelter for monarchs during their migration. This fall, the garden hosted approximately 20 monarch caterpillars and one chrysalis. The garden will be expanded further in the spring.



The project was made possible by a generous donation from the Topeka Zoo, which supplied all plants and mulch for free. Club members cleared out weeds and dying plants to prepare the bed and installed the new plants together.

The Monarch Waystation Program started at the University of Kansas, the program has grown to include almost 50,000 waystations across the country, and there are also some international sites. These waystations provide crucial habitats for migrating monarchs.

Monarch populations have decreased by 85% in the last 20 years due to habitat loss, pesticide use, and climate change. Waystations like the one at WRHS are vital in protecting and restoring monarch habitats. The Environmental Club will continue expanding the garden in the spring, supporting monarchs and other pollinators further.

The Environmental Club meets in room E342 on club days (Mrs. Raugewitz's room - sponsor). Future plans include expanding the monarch garden, clearing invasive species from the cross country trail, and collaborating with KAY Club on a houseplant program. We welcome participation by anyone who would like to join in our efforts to make WRHS a more environmentally sustainable campus.



Blues Backers

WASHBURN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL
PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

Discover your place
in our journey



Our Mission Objectives:

To help WRHS establish and maintain a proud image by supporting staff and students' extracurricular activities.

The PTO contributes volunteer time and money to Washburn Rural High School as requested and approved by the Board.

The PTO offers WRHS teams, clubs, and activity groups additional opportunities to generate funds through the concession stands.



WRHS-PTO

*Interested in
connecting
with us?*
Reach out!

Or scan QR code
to sign up here:

Email

bluesbackers@gmail.com

Facebook

Washburn Rural Blues Backers

Website

<https://bluesbackers.my.canva.site/wrhs-pto-website>





Ready to JOIN?
Scan here to jump ahead



... OR ...

Scan here to make a quick
monetary donation



Afraid to sign up?
Quick Gift instead!

Scan this QR code



or
simply text
QUICK
to **53555**