



# Junior Blues News



May 2023

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## Featured Story



Washburn Rural High School provides a progressive environment of world-class academics, athletics, and activities to foster all students' desires to learn and achieve through open discussion and self-discovery. As educators in pursuit of student success, we continually enhance our skills and knowledge so we may offer the most relevant, effective curriculum in order to achieve our vision.

Produced by: WRHS Business Communications  
 Sponsor: Brian McFall

# From the Desk of Our Principal

Greetings!



Well, here we are at the end of the school year – and what a year it has been!

For those of you that have been following the life of our school, you know of our academic, athletic and extracurricular successes this year. We are the City Champs in Boys' Swim and Dive, Boys' Cross Country, Girls' Cross Country, and Girls' Golf; we are the Centennial League Champions in Boys' Soccer, Girls' Bowling, Boys' Bowling, Girls' Wrestling, Girls' Cross Country, Boys' Cross Country, Volleyball, and Boys' Golf; we are Regional or Sub-State Champions in Boys' Soccer, Girls' Tennis, Volleyball, Boys' Bowling, Girls' Basketball, and Girls' Wrestling; we are the State Champions in Volleyball, 4-Speaker Debate, Boys' Bowling, and Girls' Wrestling.

Brian Hensyel was named All-City Boys' Soccer Coach of the Year; Steve Buhler was named Shawnee County Football Co-Coach of the Year; Matt Swedlund was named City Cross Country Co-Coach of the Year; Kevin Bordewick was named Centennial League Volleyball Coach of the Year, and will also be inducted into the Shawnee County 2023 Sports Hall of Fame. In addition, we have two State Wrestling Champs, Easton Broxterman-Boys' 113 lb. weight division, and Landen Kocher-Munoz-Boys' 120 lb. weight division, and Brooklyn DeLeye was named Kansas Gatorade Volleyball Player of the Year for a second year in a row. We are hopeful for a strong finish to the spring season as well.

Our extra-curricular and co-curricular programs continue to flourish. Our AFJROTC unit has experienced another exciting year. They were awarded the AFJROTC "Silver Star" Community Service with Excellence Award for 2021-2022. This prestigious award recognizes the top 5% of all AFJROTC units based on community service in support of schools and local communities. They have exceeded their award-winning service by more than 400 hours and average nearly 31 hours of community service per cadet.

Our Theatre Program continues to flourish and was recently nominated for over 10 Jester Awards. These awards recognize excellence across a broad array of areas including technical theatre, acting, directing, costuming and program design. Our Band, Orchestra, and Choir are planning a 5-day trip to San Diego and Los Angeles, California next year in March where they will have the opportunity to perform at several events and enjoy some west coast sunshine! Additionally, they received "1" superior ratings at the recent KSHSAA Large Group Music Festival. The parents, staff, students and community which WRHS serves have much to be proud of. It has been a truly exciting year!

Of course, this time of year also brings a great sense of excitement and anticipation for the upcoming summer months. In the past, some of this excitement has been shown in ways that reflected poorly on our school – most notably the graffiti that occasionally appears on road signs, streets and the personal property of homeowners in the district. It is disheartening to receive calls from the community when this occurs – particularly from the elderly, many of whom are not physically able to remove the graffiti themselves. If we all communicate the impact that such behavior has on our community, I am sure we can collectively address this concern in a way that represents the best of our traditions!

On behalf of the staff at WRHS, I would like to wish you the best of summers! It has been an honor and pleasure working with you this year.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed Raines". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ed Raines, Principal  
[rainedw@usd437.net](mailto:rainedw@usd437.net)

# WRHS Counseling Office

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[Counseling Website](#)

Twitter Updates: [@wrhsgo](#)

Crisis Hotline: 785-232-5005 or 988

[Counseling Department Staff](#)

## **Metal Health Resources for Parents of Adolescents and Young Adults**

This [resource guide](#) links into several websites that have thorough information on a variety of teen mental health considerations and supports.

## **Senior Final Transcripts**

All seniors who plan to attend college need to request a final high school transcript. Without this document, students will not be able to enroll. Students should login to the account they created at [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com). Place the order and select HOLD FOR GRADES. When the final transcript is available in June, our registrar will send the document to the attending college.

## **Resources for Parents of College Students**

Senior parents may find the following resources useful as your children begin the transition beyond high school: [Transition to College: Separation and Change for Parents and Students and How to Successfully Parent Your College Student](#)

## **New FAFSA**

The Class of 2024 will see updates and changes to FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). The application will open in December instead of October. Also, both parents and the student will have to create a FSA ID. This can be done at <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>.

## **WRHS Counseling Website**

The WRHS Counseling Website at [bit.ly/wrhscounselors](http://bit.ly/wrhscounselors) includes a variety of useful resources. We encourage families to explore the site thoroughly. Topics include: academic planning, academic testing, career exploration, financial aid, NCAA/NAIA, post-secondary planning, scholarships, social emotional, study skills, Topeka community resources, and more.

## **College Visits**

As you start to make summer plans, we encourage families to visit college campuses including technical, community, and 4 year. This experience can help students set goals, make decisions, and understand the application process. Advice on planning a college visit can be found at <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/find-colleges/campus-visit-guide>. Questions to ask college representatives can be found at <https://www.road2college.com/insightful-questions-to-ask-an-admissions-officer/>.

## **Summer 2023 College Entrance Exams**

While many colleges will not require the SAT or ACT for admission for the Class of 2024, several will still award scholarships based on the results.

ACT Registration: [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

SAT Registration: [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

[Preparation materials](#)

## **Summer Programs and Volunteer Opportunities**

The WRHS counseling office publishes a [summer program](#) and [volunteer opportunity](#) resource document. We encourage families to take advantage of these opportunities.

## **Schedules for 2023-24**

Tentative schedules for the 2023-24 school year will be available on Infinite Campus in mid-July. Counselors will be available during walk-in registration to assist students with changes. Counselors are not available during the summer and therefore, all requests need to be made during walk in registration.

# ◆ WRHS Counseling Office

## Youth-led Community Projects

The Topeka Youth Commission will hand out \$10,000 to eight youth-led community projects this school year as part of its Stay785 initiative.

The annual grant program, supported with help from the Topeka Community Foundation since it started a few years ago, looks to fund youth-led and youth-designed projects that help them fulfill their vision of a better Topeka. Over the program's short history, Stay785 has funded projects related to public art, restoration, racial equity, beautification and attraction modernization.

Congratulations to Megan Wise, Sienna Hamilton, Naledi Mackenzie, Kiersten Harris, and Anshumann Zutshi who earned the Topeka Youth Grant! These students will receive funding to implement their student-led community service projects. We are proud of you!

\$1,055 to Megan Wise, Sienna Hamilton and Naledia Mackenzie, all of Washburn Rural High School, to fix and vibrantly paint various Bee the Blessing Boxes around Topeka.

\$1,000 to Kiersten Harris, of Washburn Rural High School, to host health and self-defense classes for low-income women.

\$750.89 to Anshumann Zutshi, Eli Chapman, and Pierce Romine of Washburn Rural High School, to start chess clubs at Topeka-area elementary schools. They will use the funds to purchase chess boards and other related supplies to start up the clubs.

For more information regarding the Topeka Youth Commission click on the link below:

<https://news.yahoo.com/8-student-led-projects-topeka-130033910.html>

## 8 EXECUTIVE FUNCTION SKILLS NEEDED TO STAY ON TASK AT SCHOOL



### TASK INITIATION

- Begins the task without reminding
- Finishes task without procrastination

### EMOTIONAL CONTROL

- Can control emotions and feelings on their own or with self-regulation tools.

### SELF-MONITORING

- Child understands how to evaluate how they are doing as they go in school or at home.

### ORGANIZATION

- Keep things in order
- Keep track of things.



### FLEXIBLE THINKING

- Allows kids to adjust to the unexpected in the "real world."

### IMPULSE CONTROL

- Allows child to process information before acting.

### PLANNING & PRIORITIZATION

- Helps child set goals and know the actions to take to achieve those goals.

### WORKING MEMORY

- Helps kids store and keep information they can use anytime.

# ◆ International Baccalaureate

## Preparing For IB Final Exams

### When are IB final exams, and where will they be administered?

Exams begin on May 3rd and end on May 19th. All exams will be administered in the WRHS library or adjacent labs. Please see the schedule below for more details.

### Do students sit for final exams in every IB subject?

No. Students enrolled in Group 6: the arts courses do not sit for finals. Instead, they have already completed portfolios, exhibitions, and other projects that are assessed by IB examiners. All other courses conclude with two or three final exams.

### When will students receive their scores?

Students will be able to access their scores online on July 6th at 10:30am.

### How should students prepare for exams?

1. Eat and sleep well. Our bodies and brains perform better when we take care of them.
2. Use a space that is conducive to studying. It should be quiet, comfortable, and free of distractions.
3. Resist the temptation to procrastinate.
4. Make a plan and stick to it.
5. Know when you're sitting for certain exams, so you can prioritize subjects. Don't try to prepare for everything everyday.
6. Take breaks and reward yourself.
7. Form study groups and talk things out.
8. Prioritize your toughest subjects.
9. Know what to expect in the exam room. While students should be well aware of exam structures and topics at this point, they should not hesitate to reach out to Mr. Bowling or their teachers if they have questions.
10. Remember this: nothing that happens during final exams will make or break your life's fortunes. Relax and show off what you can do.



### 2023 WRHS IB Final Exam Schedule

Date	Exam	Location	Exam Time	Duration
Wednesday, May 3	Literature HL Paper 1	Library	12:00pm	2h 15m
Thursday, May 4	Literature HL Paper 2	Library	1:00pm	1h 45m
Friday, May 5	ESS Paper 1	Lab D	12:00pm	1h
Monday, May 8	ESS Paper 2	Lab D	8:30am	2h
Monday, May 8	Math AA HL Paper 1 Math AA SL Paper 1 Math AI SL Paper 1	Library	1:00pm	2h 1h 30m 1h 30m
Tuesday, May 9	Math AA HL Paper 2 Math AA SL Paper 2 Math AI SL Paper 2	Library	12:00pm	2h 1h 30m 1h 30m

# International Baccalaureate

Tuesday, May 9	Math AA HL Paper 3	Library	2:15pm	1h
Wednesday, May 10	History HL/SL Paper 1 History HL/SL Paper 2	Library	12:00pm	1h 1h 30m
Thursday, May 11	History HL Paper 3	Lab C	8:30am	2h 30m
Thursday May 11	Chemistry HL Paper 1 Chemistry SL Paper 1 Chemistry HL Paper 3 Chemistry SL Paper 3	Library	12:00pm	1h 45m 1h 15m 1h
Friday, May 12	French ab initio Paper 2 (listening)	Lab D	8:30am	45m
Friday, May 12	Chemistry HL Paper 2 Chemistry SL Paper 2	Library	12:00pm	2h 15m 1h 15m
Monday, May 15	French ab initio Paper 1 French ab initio Paper 2 (reading)	Lab D	8:30am	1h 1h
Tuesday, May 16	Spanish B HL Paper 1 Spanish SL Paper 1 Spanish ab initio Paper 1  Spanish B HL Paper 2 Spanish B SL Paper 2 Spanish ab initio Paper 2 (reading)	Library	8:30am	1h 30m 1h 15m 1h  1h 30m 1h 15m 1h
Wednesday, May 17	Spanish B HL Paper 2 Spanish B SL Paper 2 Spanish ab initio Paper 2 (listening)	Library Lab C Lab D	9:00am	1h 45m 45m
Wednesday, May 17	Biology HL Paper 1 Biology HL Paper 3	Lab D	12:00pm	1h 1h 15m
Thursday, May 18	Biology HL Paper 2	Lab D	8:30am	2h 15m
Thursday, May 18	Psychology SL Paper 1	Library	12:00pm	2h
Friday, May 19	Psychology SL Paper 2	Library	8:30am	1h

## IB Learner Profile

Inquirers–Caring–Thinkers–Communicators–Balanced–Principled–Risk  
Takers–Knowledgeable–Open-minded–Reflective

For more information on our diploma program, please visit the [WRHS IB website](#).



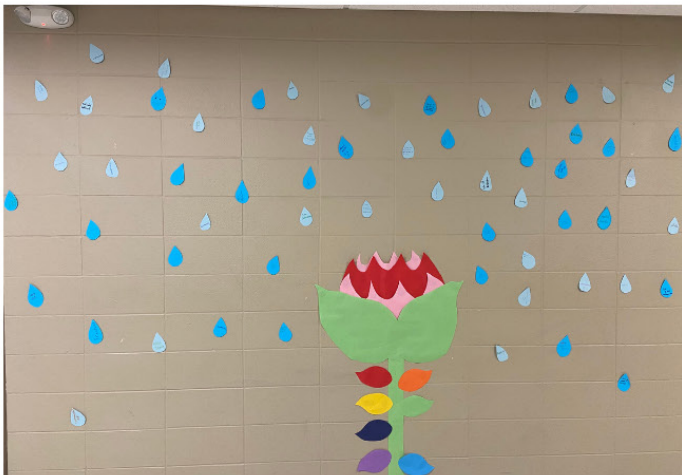
# SOURCES OF STRENGTH

## UPDATES

### BRACELET MAKING EVENT

#### Connecting to Positive Friends

Sources of Strength hosted our 2nd annual Friendship Bracelet Event. As one member of Sources described it, "A positive friend is someone who understands your past, believes in your future, and accepts you just the way you are." We gathered up our positive friends, headed down to the Library, made friendship bracelets, listened to music and created some memories.. After the event, students wrote a note to their positive friend and gifted them the bracelet.



### APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS

#### Connecting to Strength through Art

In life we face ups and downs; go through good times and hard times. The important thing is to grow and learn from all these experiences. Just as the flower needs the sunshine and the rain, we too need a variety of experiences to grow in strength. Credit to the Perez Fam on the flower wall.

# ◆ WRHS Art Department

The following WRHS students received recognition at this year's Highland Art Day event last week. There were 35 schools that competed and over 900 works of art on display in the juried art competition.

[\(YOU CAN ACCESS IMAGES OF THEIR AWARD WINNING WORK HERE\)](#)

## HONORABLE MENTION IN JURIED ART SHOW:

Maddie O'Brien  
Elijah Knoles  
Savanna Schmidt  
Kyleigh Chrisman  
Syd Laster  
Lee Wolgast (2)



Meredith Kucera

## ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE MEDAL IN JURIED ART SHOW:

Tyler Lemke  
Meredith Kucera  
Savanna Schmidt  
Ashton Dawley  
Sienna Hamilton (2)  
Taylor Bayless  
Andrea Saucedo  
Yecinta Ngure



Taylor Bayless

## FIRST PLACE IN SELF PORTRAIT COMPETITION:

Tyler Lemke

## SECOND PLACE IN TEAM ART HISTORY COMPETITION:

Lee Wolgast  
Arianna Smith  
Syd Laster  
Elli Brandt

## THIRD PLACE OVERALL IN JURIED ART SHOW COMPETITION:



FIRST PLACE IN SIDEWALK CHALK COMPETITION

In addition, senior Ashton Fields is a finalist in this year's ArtEffect art competition, an international art competition sponsored by the Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes.

Senior Meredith Kucera won the \$1000 Topeka Art Guild Scholarship and senior Lee Wolgast was runner up and the recipient of a \$500 scholarship from the Topeka Art Guild.



# ◆ Drama Department

WRHS Theatre receives multiple state-level nominations for the Music Theatre Wichita Jester Awards!

Each year, high schools across the state of Kansas participate in the Jester Awards program, which recognizes excellence in musical theatre. The state is divided into 5 regions, and each participating school is assigned a panel of judges to attend and score their production. Once a list of regional honors is announced, the 2 top scoring honorees from each region are nominated for state-level awards in 24 categories.

For this year's musical, 9 to 5, WRHS received regional honors in 16 categories, with 9 of those going on to be nominated at the state level as the top 10 from around the state, with the exception of Leading Performer with twice as many nominees. As a nominee for Outstanding Production, the cast will be performing a song from the show at the awards ceremony. As a Leading Performer nominee, Mackenzie Smith will also be performing a solo and participating in a group musical number with her fellow nominees.

WaRu Theatre is proud to continue providing meaningful, challenging, and exciting experiences for students on and off our stage, and we couldn't do it without the creative collaboration and talent of our music staff and students. We're thrilled to celebrate our achievements with other schools keeping the performing arts alive across the state of Kansas!



**Artistic Guest**  
2023 JESTER AWARDS NOMINEE



**Alex Castaneda**  
CHOREOGRAPHER



**Orchestra Direction**  
2023 JESTER AWARDS NOMINEE



**Melissa Lambotte**



**Program Design**  
2023 JESTER AWARDS NOMINEE



**Maeghan Bishop**  
DIRECTOR



**Design Guest**  
2023 JESTER AWARDS NOMINEE



**Linnea Hoyos**  
COSTUME DESIGN



## Stage Crew

2023 JESTER AWARDS NOMINEE



## Leading Performer

2023 JESTER AWARDS NOMINEE

**Mackenzie  
Smith**

DORALEE RHODES



## Lighting Design

2023 JESTER AWARDS NOMINEE

**Evan  
Davidson**



# ◆ Career and Technical Education

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School will be out for summer break in just a few short weeks. There are plenty of opportunities for high school students to explore their career interests or get a head start on their career path by taking college courses.

[Washburn Tech's Summer Camp](#) at 5724 SW Huntoon St., is for students entering the ninth and tenth grades. The session is June 12 – 15, and camp runs from 9am until 4pm daily; the cost is \$75 per student. Participants will be able to choose from programs in Auto Service Technician, Culinary Arts, Diesel Technology, Electrical Technology, Graphics Technology, Healthcare, HVAC – Climate and Energy, Information Systems Technology, Machine/Tool, Sterile Processing/Surgical Technology and Welding. The deadline for applications is May 5 or until sessions are full. Packets are available in the Washburn Tech Main Office or at [WashburnTech.edu](#). For more information, contact [tech.studentservices@washburn.edu](mailto:tech.studentservices@washburn.edu) or call (785) 670.2200.

[Excel in CTE](#) allows students entering their junior or senior year to take college courses. The students do not pay tuition but are responsible for any fees. In-person courses can be taken at Washburn Tech or online courses are available from any Kansas Technical or Community College. It's possible to graduate high school with an industry recognized credential prepared for work or post secondary education.

Students who are interested in gaining work experience can visit the Employment Opportunities page of the [CTE website](#).

## Work-based Learning WRHS

Why Work-Based Learning?

WBL provides rich educational experiences for students, local business/industry, schools and the community to gain, provide and/or support real-world skills and expand connectivity across all levels with a common goal of supporting the next generation of the American workforce. Part of WBL is Career and Technical Education (CTE) as the strategy for providing the career preparation component of the WBL continuum.

In a state-recognized CTE program, students transition to student learners. Their expanded rigor is identified as an expansion of WBL efforts. Let's explore the benefits of WBL and CTE for each partner.

Students will benefit through:

- Making connections between classroom learning and real-world scenarios.
- Practicing and enhancing personal employability skills.
- Observing exceptional professionals in action.
- Removing the fear of practicing something new.
- Understanding the need for post secondary education, training and/or credentialing to enhance success within a career of choice.
- Networking with future employers and/or community leaders.

In addition, the CTE student learner will benefit through:

- Refining authentic technical skills under the eye of a trained CTE teacher.
- Industry aligned safety training using equipment found on the job.
- Expanded personal growth and leadership development through CTE aligned CTSOs.
- Arranged post secondary articulation agreements which may provide free credit, entrance into juried programs, expansion of scholarships and recognition of CTE program completion while in high school.

# ◆ Career and Technical Education

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Local business and industry will benefit through:

- Expanding a pool of trained workers.
- Sharing education and training needed past high school graduation to enhance success in the field.
- Promoting the importance of employability skills that reflects the specific needs of the identified career field.
- Embracing the desire to give back to the community through school partnerships.

In addition, local business and industry will benefit from partnerships with CTE programs by:

- Having a voice in workforce training.
- Providing equipment and procedure processes to CTE programs so students can advance skill training before work experiences.
- Ensuring CTE student learners arrive with documented safety training and practices in place.
- Lowering retraining costs by ensuring foundational technical knowledge and skill experiences are aligned to the industry.

Parents and families of student learners will benefit through:

- Expanded career awareness and exploration activities to enhance interest-based career selection before high school graduation.
- Gained confidence the educational experiences are aligned with careers needed today and in the future.
- Stronger engagement to offer student learner support without having to know about the selected career field personally.
- Applied experiences with foundational career training which has little or no cost to them.
- Enhanced skill development through CTSO experiences leading to expanded scholarship opportunities, network expansion to include adults already in the field outside of the local community and enhanced success skills through leadership and personal growth.

If you are interested in Work-based Learning at Washburn Rural please visit the CTE website at [wrhs.net/cte](http://wrhs.net/cte) or contact:

Teresa Golden  
[goldeter@usd437.net](mailto:goldeter@usd437.net)  
785-339-4250

## Pathway Updates



## Construction & Design

The National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) develops standardized construction and maintenance curriculum and assessments to help develop the workforce in the construction industry. Anyone who earns an NCCER credential is entered into NCCER's Registry

# ◆ Career and Technical Education

System. Organizations and companies can track the qualifications of their craft professionals or check the qualifications of possible new hires.

This month, teachers Dean Gerlach, Rick Grose, and Melissa Johson attended the NCCER Instructor Certification Training Program, sponsored by AGC of Kansas, to become certified to teach NCCER classes at WRHS. Beginning next school year, they will be able to assess and provide students with industry approved certifications.

NCCER also enhances career development and recruitment efforts for the industry through its Build Your Future initiative. Students will attend Build Your Future Kansas on April 26.

Pittsburg State University's School of Construction hosted its annual Construction Expo on April 12. The Expo allows students, instructors, and contractors to experience tools, equipment, and techniques currently used in the field. Attendees experienced live demonstrations, presentations, and interactive exhibits.

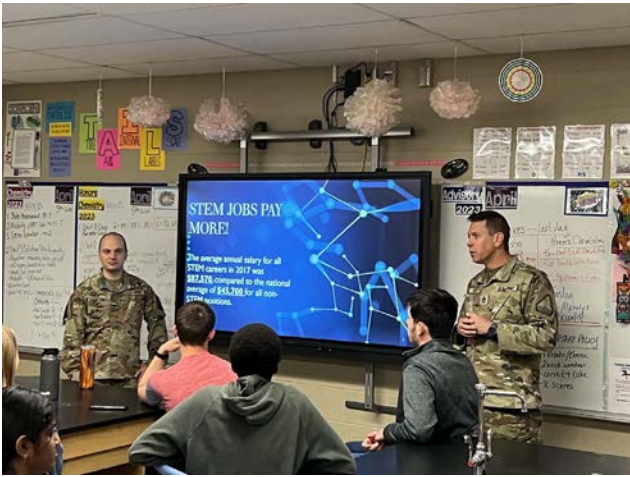
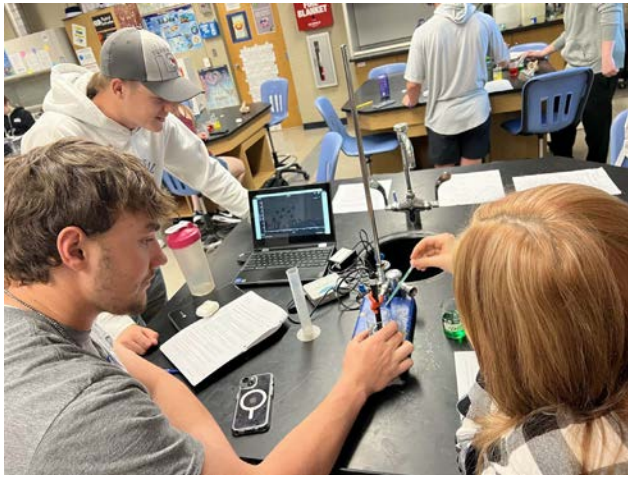


## Biochemistry & Biomedical



Carrie Ensley, Laboratory Manager and Renea Wilson, Emergency Department Manager, spoke to HOSA Club members about their careers at Stormont Vail Health.

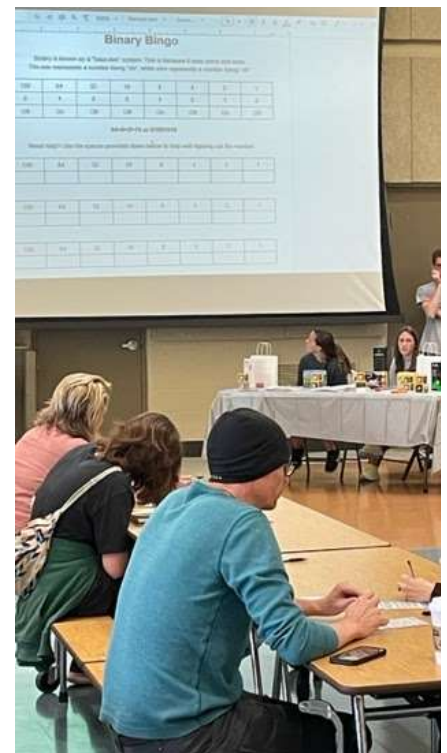
# ◆ Career and Technical Education



Students in Chemistry classes learned about STEM careers from Daniel Nye of the Army National Guard.

## Programming & Software Development

[Computer Science Honor Society \(CSHS\)](#) hosted Binary Bingo Night as a fundraiser. Participants learned to convert the binary numbers to the numbers to mark on a traditional bingo card for prizes. The club will use the money raised to host a Coding Carnival and other student events throughout the upcoming school year.



# WRHS GARDEN SHED

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This shed was built by Washburn Rural High School students in the Construction & Design Class.

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## Property Features:

- 10' x 12' with 8' walls
- 8" O.C. textured smart siding
- Floor system treated material
- Double door 60" x 80"
- Weather wood architecture shingle

**Price:**  
\$3400

**Delivery:**  
\$400  
plus \$1 per mile  
Shawnee County

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*To purchase or questions contact:  
Teresa Golden [goldeter@usd437.net](mailto:goldeter@usd437.net)*

**WRHS**

**COMPUTER SCIENCE HONOR SOCIETY PRESENTS**  
**SUMMER CODING CAMPS**

**GRADES K-2**  
**JUNE 12-15**  
**8:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

Students will learn the basics of computer science, participate in hands-on projects, use the Sphero Bolts and Edison Robots, discuss why technology is important, learn the difference between hardware and software, and more!

Early Registration - \$55 by April 30  
Registration Cost - \$65 after April 30

**GRADES 3-6**  
**JUNE 12-15**  
**1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

Students will be introduced to some basic computer science history, use block-based programming in Scratch to recreate popular games, learn how to use the Sphero Bolts to solve basic mazes, learn the Python programming basics, create their first coding project, and more!

Early Registration - \$55 by April 30  
Registration Cost - \$65 after April 30

**GRADES 7-9**  
**JUNE 19-22**  
**8:00 AM - 12:00 AM**

Students will discuss the basic needs to run and create programs, learn the basics of HTML, learn the basics of programming in Python and JavaScript, making projects and solving problems using code, understand and learn how to use IDEs, and more!

Early Registration - \$55 by April 30  
Registration Cost - \$65 after April 30



**REGISTER  
NOW**

**WRHS.NET/CSHS**

**EMAIL SCHMIHAL@USD437.NET IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS**



# ◆ Career and Technical Education



Sponsored by Silver Lake Bank

## Financial Literacy Month

The WRHS Bank celebrated April as Financial Literacy Month. Our sponsor bank, Silver Lake Bank, stopped by with balloons and cupcakes to kick off the month!



The business department also had a variety of speakers and activities this month!

Scott Hughes, Vice President, Loan Officer from Silver Lake Bank visited Mr. McFall's Consumer and Personal Finance class to educate students on credit, loans and details on his day to day duties. He also discussed the 3 parts to a credit application, 5c of credit and the focus of Silver Lake Bank on the community!

Diana Hall, Benefits Specialist, at Capital Federal also visited Mr. McFall's Consumer and Personal Finance class to educate students on her job duties, types of insurance, deductibles, health savings accounts, and all things health care!

Staff with the Kansas State Treasurer's office visited with College Accounting and Consumer and Personal Finance students on their savings programs, [Kansas Scholarship](#), and [Unclaimed Property](#)! The students enjoyed searching for scholarships as well as seeing if any family members had any unclaimed property!

On April 19th the WRHS Bank staff participated in the Stock Market Challenge at Washburn University hosted by Junior Achievement. Event highlights: 4-person teams, \$1 million to trade, 90 seconds between trades, each representing 2 weeks of the market, 2-hour event represents 3 years of the market, breaking news events that affect students' decisions on stocks, and on-floor traders.



Congratulations to our newest Jr. Blue Crew winners!

- \$10.00 Subway Gift Card - Jal Maru
- \$10.00 Sonic Gift Card - Caston Meier
- \$10.00 Common Grounds Gift Card - Aiden Bengel

# COMMON GROUNDS

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



## Brooklyn DeLeye

Planning to attend the University of Kentucky

Favorite Drink: Blue Raspberry Lemonade

"I've learned how to be flexible in a workplace setting."



## Shane Sexton

Planning to attend Ottawa University

Favorite Drink: Mango Smoothie

"I've learned that you don't have to have a lot of things in common with people to build a relationship with them."



## Megan Fawl

Planning to attend K-State

Favorite Drink: Caramel Latte

"Being a part of Common Grounds has taught me how to work as a part of a team. I've learned how to work with people through disagreements and drama, and have fun through it all."



## Elly Worley

Taking a gap year

Favorite Drink: Iced Dirty Chai

"I've learned how to work better with people who have different ideas to achieve a mutual end goal."

# COMMON GROUNDS

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



## Geo Peoples

Planning to attend Kansas University

Favorite Drink: Blue Raspberry  
Lemonade

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"I learned how to work effectively with others as part of a team, including how to collaborate and share ideas among us."



## Stephen Schulmeister

Planning to work full time

Favorite Drink: The Milky Way

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"I've learned how to market stuff better."



## Julian Spears

Planning to attend Central Carolina  
Technical College

Favorite Drink: The More Than Just a  
Color Drink

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"One thing I've learned through taking this course is that marketing is basically a mental game and since the average consumer is unaware of this they'll continue to fall for fundamentally simple plays."

# SPRING SALE

Up To  
**50%**  
OFF  
Clearance

## While supplies last!

Take advantage of our Spring Cleanup Sale! We're clearing out the old to prepare for our new fall merchandise! Stay tuned for new designs and garments to start your next school year!

# THE SHACK

For More Information Visit  
<https://ruralspirit.square.site/>

# 2023 WRHS YEARBOOK

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade:    9      10      11      12

Yearbook Prices: \$55.00

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# *Seniors!*

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**AUGUST  
2-3**

# Thank You

for supporting the

# 2023 Yearbook

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# Mrs. Finney's Monthly YA Book Recommendation

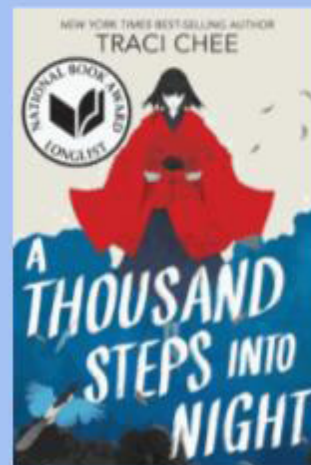
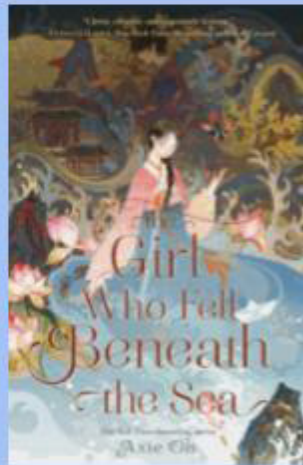
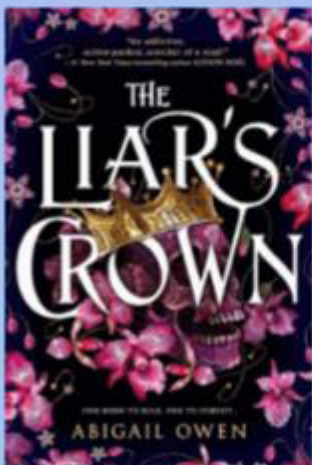
May 2023



*A Magic Stepped in Poison*  
By Judy I. Lin  
F LIN

After her mother dies and her sister is nearing death after both drinking a poisoned tea, Ning travels to the city of the empire to compete to be the next imperial Shennong-shi, a master of ancient magical tea-making, with hopes to finding the cure for her sister. While there she discovers the corrupt nature of court politics, and struggles to survive in the competition. This duology is a fresh read compared to the typical complex YA fantasy series.

*Similar Titles Include:*







Summer Reading Challenge

# Not just for Kids

Earn a prize



TOPEKA &  
SHAWNEE  
COUNTY  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

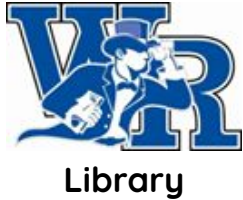
[tscpl.org/summer](http://tscpl.org/summer)

Be part of Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library's Summer Reading & Events June 1 – July 31! A trip to the library, bookmobile or [tscpl.org](http://tscpl.org) is a great way to keep brains active and entertained with an All Together Now themed activities. Learn more about the reading challenge, the gallery's art exhibit for kids and events full of games, crafts and fun at [tscpl.org/summer](http://tscpl.org/summer).

#### Prizes

Kids, teens and adults are welcome to take the Summer Reading Challenge! Kids birth to 12 years old earn a prize for every 2 hours of reading (up to 8 hours) in June and July. **Teens and adults will earn two great prizes for reading 6 books in June and July.**

# ◆ WRHS Media Center



Washburn Rural High School  
Summer Library Book Checkout Form 2023  
<http://library.usd437.net>

5900 SW 61st Street  
Topeka, KS 66619  
785-339-4197

Take advantage of your high school library!  
Check out books for summer.

- Visit the library website [<http://library.usd437.net>], select WRHS then login (upper right) to **Sign in with Google** and search for materials to place holds.
- Parental approval is needed for summer checkout. (Please review the information below.)
- Students may borrow up to 15 items for summer.
- Email a librarian if you have technical difficulties or would like holds to be placed for you.
- *Students not returning to WRHS, for whatever reason, are not to participate.*

CHECKOUT LIBRARY BOOKS for Summer: Wednesday, May 17 - Wednesday, May 24 before or after school, or during study period with a signed pass from your teacher.

- ❖ Students may exchange books for new titles during the summer. The library will be open **Tuesday, June 22nd** and **Thursday, July 20th** from **1 pm to 3 pm**.
- ❖ **All materials are due back during the first week of school in August.**

## All Together Now: Summer Reading Challenge from the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library.

Learn more: <https://tscpl.org/summer>  
June 1 - July 31

Tag us on social media @wrhslib with #warureads!



- Connect with us @wrhslib for:
- technology support
  - homework help
  - reading recommendations
  - area job openings
  - school activities and more



Text 4 Help: 785-260-0015  
Marcy Sandberg [sandbmar@usd437.net](mailto:sandbmar@usd437.net)  
Victoria Finney [finnevic@usd437.net](mailto:finnevic@usd437.net)

## WRHS Library Summer Checkout Responsibility Agreement - Parent/Guardian Signature Form

(Student Name) \_\_\_\_\_ has permission to borrow \_\_\_\_\_ (up to 15) books from the Washburn Rural High School Library for the summer. These books are to return to the WRHS Library during the first week of school, August 15-18, 2023.

Per the WRHS Student Handbook, when students check out library materials, it is the responsibility of the student to return them in the same condition as they received them. Library materials not returned or returned damaged will result in the student being assessed a charge for the lost or damaged materials.

Students not returning, for whatever reason, to WRHS in the fall should not participate.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

# ◆ WRHS Special Services

The Earth Day 2023 theme was "Invest In Our Planet". What will you do to invest in our planet?

All together now! This is the moment to change it all: the business climate, the political climate, and the way we take action on climate. In order to preserve and protect our health, families, and livelihoods, we need to courageously Invest in Our Planet now. A green future is a prosperous future!

Earth is the ONLY home we have; to make a change, all of us need to act boldly, innovate broadly, and implement equitably. Everyone is accountable to partner for the planet. There is still time to solve the climate crisis and choose both a prosperous and sustainable future, and restore nature. Time is short to build a healthy planet for future generations.

Invest In Our Planet:

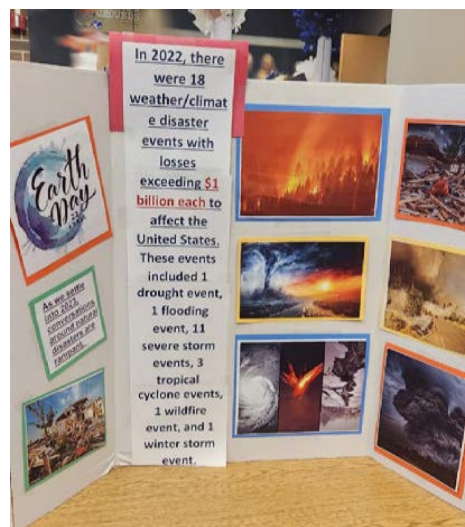
As individuals, we have the simple yet effective power to make our voices heard through our civic actions and personal interactions. This creates a huge ripple effect on our ecosystems!

Gen Z is providing inspiration, with 45% having stopped purchasing certain brands because of ethical or sustainability concerns. Through our practices and climate-friendly investments, we have the power to take active steps to protect and support our environment and fight against those who don't.

The Great Global Cleanup is a worldwide campaign to remove billions of pieces of trash from neighborhoods, beaches, rivers, lakes, trails, and parks - reducing waste and plastic pollution, improving habitats, and preventing harm to wildlife and humans. This program aims to continue clean-ups every day of the year for a brighter, greener, and cleaner planet. Where will you fit into the story of beautifying our world?

Earth Day Poster Fair: The special education department hosted an Earth day poster fair on April 20. They did a great job researching and presenting about the issues facing the environment Earth.

The Earth Day Poster Fair topics included: Earthling Company-Shampoo & Conditioner, Earth Breeze-Laundry & Dishwasher Detergent, Endangered Species, Plastic Pollution, The Canopy Project, Plastic Pollution, Rising Sea Level, Arts for the Earth, Dryer Sheets-Repurposed!, Fashion/Clothing, Changing Climate.





# PTO Blues Backers May 2023

## THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!

The Blues Backers were pleased to host Post Prom April 1-2. Cosmic Chaos was a huge success! We could never have pulled this event off without all of our donors, sponsors, and volunteers. Washburn Rural Seniors and Juniors who attended were treated to a night of free food, snacks, desserts, drinks, activities, and raffle tickets. They played Laser Tag, Poker, Ga Ga Ball, Blackjack, Corn Hole, Ping-pong and Dodgeball among other games. Enjoyed by many were the Escape Room, Face Painting, Karaoke, and the Money Booth - where the luckiest left with fistfuls of money and coupons. Be it luck or skill, students threw down and rose up in the Rock-Paper-Scissors Tournament. Following the championship round, many prizes from outdoor equipment, self care, and dorm supplies to activity passes, shopping cards and electronics were awarded in the Raffle Drawing to those steadfast enough to stay to the very end (as always some left early and their great prizes went to the next name drawn). By the end of the night most were pleasantly tired, but fun was had by all who sought it. We would like to thank everyone who supported the event in so many ways, whether great or small, your efforts and generosity made the difference.

### WE WANT TO THANK THE FOLLOWING DONORS:

Angela Truelove- The Eye Doctors  
April Kelsey - Farm Bureau  
Insurance  
Ben Schreiner Construction  
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Bling!  
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T.H. Peterson Photography  
Topeka Blueprint  
Topeka McDonald's Corporate  
Office  
Topeka Zoo  
Zach Ahrens



# PTO Blues Backers May 2023

**THANK YOU POST-PROM VOLUNTEERS!!!**  
**COSMIC CHAOS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL WITHOUT YOU!**  
(WE ARE SURE WE ARE MISSING SOME PEOPLE ON THE LIST)

Chris Appuhn  
Jenny Armstrong  
Dani Austin  
Angie Bachelor  
Tanya Bayless  
Shane & Shannon Boleski  
Kelli Bradbury  
Robbie & Erinn Bradstreet  
Brice & Allison Bunck  
Darci Capo  
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Kyle & Jen Fowler  
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Kevin Grauberger  
Angie Hainline  
Rene Hart

Emily Hayes  
John & Jen Heim  
Angie Hemsley  
Jeni Herman  
Cyndi Hermocillo-Legg  
Kristin Hirschi  
Dakota Howard  
Jenni Howard  
Deanna Hutsen  
Shiloah Hutsen  
Dallas & Dana Johnson  
Diane Jones  
Michelle Jones  
Melissa Kasprzyk  
Wade & Karen Jueneman  
Stephanie Kemp  
Liesel Kirk-Fink  
Jenny Lang  
Tiffany Latham-Smoot  
Mike & Heather Martinez  
Jay & Jana Mastin  
Kirk Meier  
Tiana Mullins  
Charlie & Misty Nimz  
Dena O'Brien  
Emily Omit

Chris & Alicia Padilla  
Shelle Peek  
Mary Peter  
Lupe Ramos  
Ann Rausch  
Angie Rea  
Chad & Kim Redeker  
Ryan & Jenny Rohn  
Greg & Amanda Ross  
Kacia Ross  
Skip Russell  
Shanna Simpson  
Jess Southall-Hanson  
Waylon & Kristine Smith  
Casey & Carrie Stead  
Colbey Stead  
Liz Steckel  
Marcie Steflik  
Kevin & Cindy Stout  
Taylor Tarvin  
Kennen & Debbie Thompson  
Emma Tichenor  
Cheryl Tuckwin  
Andie VanDonge  
Jennifer Walker  
Shari Westfall



# PTO Blues Backers MAY 2023

## WE LOVE DONATIONS!

We continue to accept donations throughout the year for each year's post prom event. Venmo is now available for purchasing items, memberships, donations, etc...

@WashburnruralHSpto



## FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Clubs and sports teams continue to raise funds by working concession stands.

**Over \$7,500 was made during the winter season!!!**

We want to send a big thank you to all the organizations who have helped run a concession stand so far this year!

## FINAL BLUES BACKERS MEETING OF THE YEAR: WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

We have **SEVERAL** volunteer positions opening next year and need your help filling them. If you or you and a friend have any interest in helping in the following areas, PLEASE contact Ann Rausch:

- Concessions Stand Chair
- Concessions Stand Purchasing
- Concession Stand Drinks

If it weren't for the Blues Backers, we would not have concession stands at WRHS events nor a Post Prom party for our students. Please consider volunteering.

Meetings are typically held the 2nd Wednesday of each month. We would love to see you on May 10!



# PTO Blues Backers

## May 2023

### THANK YOU MEMBERS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!

#### Jr. Blue Level

April Kelsey- Farm Bureau  
Financial Services  
Jerrod & Katie Ainsley  
Chris & Erin Appuhn  
Angie Bachelor  
Anthony & Evie Blanco  
Erik & Chelsea Blankenship  
Jeff & Kelli Bradbury  
Johnna Brumley  
Brian & Danielle Casebeer  
Arif & Adeela Chaudhry  
John & Emily Collins  
Jennifer & John Creager  
Matt & Amanda Danielson  
Brooke Deister  
Jamie Didde  
Tara & Braden Dimick  
Rachel Ebert  
Matt & Krystal Frydendall  
Jamie & Mary Gingrich  
Sarah Good  
Pat & Jennifer Grogan  
Jennifer & Matt Harader  
Dustin & Carrie Hawks  
Jared Hedden  
John & Jennifer Heim  
Andi & Greg Heinen  
Tommy Hendrickson  
Tim & Karah Hight  
Amy Hill  
Kristin Hirschi  
Johnny and Amy Hoytal

Laura Ismert  
Diane Jones  
Kris & Melissa Kasprzyk  
Amanda Kiefer  
Amy & Eric Kincade  
Steve & Kim Lanterman  
Mark & Wendy Leenerts -  
Integrity Roofing  
Anya Leonard  
April & Chen Liang  
Jacqueline & Torey Lightcap  
Michelle & Matt Lucht  
Scott & Ashley Manrose  
Sara McIlvain  
Monka & Bill McSweeney  
Catherine Meier  
Nathan & Jessica Miles  
Brad & Amanda Miller  
Mike & Kathy Morse  
Dennis & Joyce Moser  
Scott & Gina Nellis  
Charlie & Misty Nimz  
Jason & Erin Nolte  
Morgan & Jason Padgett  
Chris & Alicia Padilla  
Ed & Carolyn Popkess  
Ed Raines  
Ryan & Lacy Randall  
Dennis & Ann Rausch  
Paul & Jennifer Recinos  
Brad & Lori Rupp  
Greg & Abby Schieber

Scott & Erin Schneider  
Stan & Amy Schroeder  
Tami Sherley  
Derrick & Sherriene Sontag  
Jennifer & Jeff Spencer  
Matt & Jeanette Spurgin  
David & Cat St. John  
Desiree & Chris Stivers  
Blake & Joan Sutton  
Kennen & Debbie Thompson  
Cheryl Tuckwin  
Thomas VanDerSluis  
Kurtis & Andie VanDonge  
Jeanne & Russ Vawter  
Kennen & Debbie Walker  
Scott & Lacie Walker  
Leanna Will  
Todd & Kathleen Williams  
Anne & Brian Wilson  
WRHS Student Businesses -  
Bank, Common Grounds, The  
Shack  
Scott and Noelle Resch

#### Blue Level

RJ Adair  
Melissa Aeschliman  
Alison  
Kelly & Andrew Banks  
Robbie & Erinn Bradstreet  
Tom Bruno  
Melanie & Richard Buckhalter  
Charlie Burton



# PTO Blues Backers May 2023

## THANK YOU MEMBERS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!

### Blue Level (Continued)

Daniel Byard  
David & Azure Chooncharoen  
Dirk & Amy Christian  
Michelle Colly  
Angela & Darin Conklin  
Vince & Lyndi Cox  
Brian & Jennifer Dodge  
Jolee Eckert  
Troy & Jennifer  
Monique Fortune  
Jared Goehring  
Pulkit Gupta  
Angie & Robert Haggard  
Jeni & John Herman  
Megan Hewitt  
Cory & Nicole  
Page Jones & Brian Littrell  
Chris & Karla Keys  
Charity King  
Hunter & Andrea Kirkwood  
Eric & Ronda Kozlowski  
Brooke Leahy  
Marc & Jennifer Luetje  
Hallie McCoy  
Summer & Mike McCoy  
Tyler & Kate McMaster  
Doug & Barb Moore  
Jen Nichols  
Annette Ogunnowo  
Rick & Melissa Peat  
Jeff & Mary Peter  
Eric & Michelle Quinn

Lori & Quint Reelfs  
Jenny & Ryan Rohn  
Hugo & Lina Romero-Canon  
Adam & Haley Schmitz  
Brady & Shanna Simpson  
Brain and Michelle Soderberg  
Casey & Carrie Stead  
Matthew Stone  
Kevin & Cindy Stout  
John & Angie Stupka  
Vincent Tran  
Richard & Sheli VanWogoner  
Jamie & Jeanne Winter  
Jamie Garcia  
Keith & Amy Newberry

### White Level

Clare & Debbie Blakeslee  
Bob & Judy Conklin  
Harmonee Daniels  
Tanisha Domann  
Tracy Duran  
Danielle Eilert  
Natasha Fulton  
Sarah Funk  
Teresa Golden  
Crystal Gonzalez  
Sarah Hammel  
Kristina Hanson  
Ben Holcomb  
Alexis Howell  
John & Ann Janca

Sarah & Justin Jeffers  
Tamela Lake  
Meyvinia Liong  
David Lopez  
Bill & Debbie Lutes  
Brandon & Stancy Macha  
Kimberly Markham  
Natasha McLean  
Michele Moore  
Kirsten & Kyle Nelson  
Tara Nyquist  
Tammy Poynter  
Edna Raub  
Ryan & Jill Ritchey  
Marcy Warren-Sandberg  
Kerstin & Kevin Smith  
Jess Southhall  
Courtney Sullivan  
Mark Swafford

## FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!



@WRHSBluesBackers





# PTO Blues Backers May 2023

## 2022-2023 PTO CONTACT INFORMATION

### PRESIDENT:

Ann Rausch      rauscann@usd437.net

### VICE PRESIDENT:

Jenny Lang      jenlang4@gmail.com

### SECRETARY:

Carrie Stead      steadcar@usd437.net

### TREASURER:

Angie Bachelor      bachelorang@cox.net

### ASSISTANT TREASURER:

Jen VandeVelde      vandy4012@gmail.com

### ACTIVITIES/ATHLETICS:

Charlie Nimz      nimzcha@usd437.net

### CONCESSIONS FALL CHAIR:

Ann Rausch      rauscann@usd437.net

### CONCESSIONS WINTER CHAIR:

Ann Rausch      rauscann@usd437.net

### CONCESSIONS SPRING CHAIR:

TBA

### CONCESSIONS PURCHASING:

Angie Rea      a.rea1@cox.net  
Angela Truelove      atruelove@theeyedoctors.net

### CONCESSIONS DRINKS:

Ann Rausch      rauscann@usd437.net

### CONCESSIONS FINANCE:

Jen VandeVelde      vandy4012@gmail.com

### CONCESSIONS SCHEDULING:

Deanna Hutsen      deanna.hutsen@gmail.com

### HOSPITALITY:

Angie Conklin      acdcconklin@gmail.com

### POST PROM:

Ronda Kozlowski      rondakoz@gmail.com

### PRINT/SOCIAL MEDIA:

Carrie Stead      steadcar@usd437.net

### MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:

Jenny Lang      jenlang4@gmail.com

### STAFF APPRECIATION:

Angie Conklin      acdcconklin@gmail.com

# ◆ May Student Calendar

---

## May 1st

8:30am - V Boys Tennis @ League (Hayden host)  
1:00pm - V Boys Golf @ League (TH host)  
4:00pm - C Baseball vs Hayden  
4:30pm - JV/V Girls Soccer vs Shawnee Heights

## May 2nd

7:00am - NHS Meeting  
8:30am - JV Boys Tennis @ League (Hayden host)  
9:00am - JV Boys Golf @ City (Seaman host)  
10:30am - Senior Meeting  
1:30pm - V Girls Dive/Swim @ Topeka High  
4:00pm - JV Baseball @ Shawnee Heights  
4:30pm - JV/V Girls Soccer vs Emporia  
5:00pm - V Baseball @ Bettis Sports Complex

## May 3rd

3:30pm - JV Track @ League Meet  
5:00pm - Girls Soccer Team Dinner  
7:00pm - Vocal Music Pops Concert

## May 4th

3:00pm - V Boys Golf @ Junction City Invite  
3:30pm - C Baseball @ Olathe West  
4:00pm - V Baseball vs Shawnee Mission South  
4:30pm - JV/V Girls Soccer @ Wichita Northwest  
7:00pm - Orchestra Concert

## May 5th

9:00am - V Boys Tennis @ Regional Tournament  
1:30pm - V Girls Dive/Swim City (TW host)  
3:30pm - V Track @ Joe Schrag Invite (TW host)  
4:00pm - JV/V Softball vs Nemaha Central  
4:30pm - C Baseball Quad

## May 6th

7:00am - 4A State Speech Festival  
7:00am - 6A State Speech Festival  
8:00am - Unified Soccer Tournament @ Shawnee Mission North  
10:00am - V Boys Tennis @ Regional Tournaments

## May 8th

1:00pm - JV/V Boys Golf @ Emporia Invitational  
4:30pm - JV/V Girls Soccer @ Topeka High

## May 9th

6:00pm - Spring Bands Festival and BBQ

## May 10th

District Early Release  
3:00pm - JV/V Baseball @ Hays

## May 11th

8:30am - Mental Health Assembly  
12:00pm - V Girls Dive/Swim League (TH host)  
3:30pm - V Track @ League  
4:30pm - JV/V Girls Soccer vs Seaman  
7:00pm - Senior-Directed One-Acts

## May 12th

8:30am - Mental Health Assembly  
11:00am - V Boys Tennis @ State  
7:00pm - Senior-Directed One-Acts  
9:00am - V Boys Tennis @ State

## May 15th

8:30am - V Boys Golf @ Regionals

## May 16th

12:00pm - V Baseball @ Regional Tournament  
12:00pm - V Softball Regional Tourn  
4:00pm - Regional SB  
6:00pm - V Girls Soccer Regional Round-1

## May 17th

6:00pm - Finals Study Night

## May 18th

12:00pm - V Girls Dive State Prelims  
6:00pm - V Girls Soccer Regional Rd - 2  
6:00pm - Curtain Call Celebration

## May 19th

12:00pm - V Girls Dive State Semi-Finals  
12:00pm - V Girls Swim State Prelims  
3:30pm - V Track @ Regional Meet

## May 20th

12:00pm - V Girls Dive/Swim State Finals

## May 21st

5:00pm - Class of 2023 Graduation

## May 22nd

9:00am - V Boys Golf @ State (Newton host)

## May 23rd

9:00am - V Boys Golf @ State (Newton host)  
6:00pm - V Girls Soccer State Quarterfinals

## May 24th

Last Day of School (Half Day)

## May 25th

12:00pm - V Baseball @ State Tournament  
12:00pm - V Softball State Tournament

## May 26th

8:00am - V Track @ State Meet  
12:00pm - V Baseball @ State Tournament  
12:00pm - V Softball State Tournament  
5:00pm - V Girls Soccer State Semi-Finals

## May 27th

8:00am - V Track @ State  
12:00pm - V Girls Soccer State Finals