



WASHBURN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL

JUNIOR BLUES NEWSLETTER



FEATURED STORY

ENROLLMENT

Auburn-Washburn has created a way to make back-to-school time easier for parents. Parents can log in to their [Infinite Campus \(IC\)](#) portal account and begin the process. This is the same online tool that parents use to check grades, manage fees, etc. Parents of returning students who have not yet established an IC account can find instructions at the same link.

Parents of students new to the district can go through OLR without a portal account by using the link from the district home page (www.usd437.net). New students will need to provide immunization records, birth certificate, and proof of residency before they can be enrolled. These documents can be provided throughout the summer at the administrative office or during an enrollment session.

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From the Desk of Our Principal



Welcome Back!

On behalf of the staff and administration of Washburn Rural High School, I am excited to extend our best wishes for a productive and exciting new school year. Let me assure you that the educational opportunities available to students at WRHS are excellent, both by reputation and through the measured accomplishments of our students.

We enjoy one of the best reputations of any public high school in the state of Kansas! Last year, for example, we produced three National Merit Finalists or Semifinalists, and two National Merit Commended Scholars. Additionally, once again we were named one of the Best High Schools in America by U.S. News & World Report!

For those of you following the life of our school, you're likely aware of the incredible athletic and extracurricular success we experienced last year. We were City Champions in Boys' and Girls' Cross Country, Boys' and Girls' Swim and Dive, Boys' Golf, and Boys' Tennis. We also captured Centennial League Championships in Boys' Soccer, Volleyball, Boys' Cross Country, Girls' Bowling, Boys' Swim and Dive, Softball, Boys' Tennis, and Baseball. Our teams earned Regional or Sub-State Championships in Girls' Tennis, Volleyball, Boys' Soccer, Boys' Bowling, Baseball, Girls' Soccer, and Boys' Tennis. At the state level, WRHS proudly claimed 6A State Championships in Boys' Cross Country, Boys' Soccer, 4-Speaker Debate, and Baseball - the first baseball state championship since 1952! We also celebrated five individual state honors, including Boys' Wrestling champions Landen Kocher-Munoz at 144 lbs. and Jadyn Baum at 215 lbs.; Boys' Swim champion Daniel Allen in the 100-yard butterfly; Cody Spangler as the 6A State Boys' Bowling Champion; and Boys' Track champion Christian Hartman-Babb in the 100-meter dash. Dylan Willingham was named the Kansas Gatorade Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Coaching excellence was also recognized, with multiple coaches earning County or League Coach of the Year honors; Jay Mastin was named 6A State Coach of the Year, and Brian Hensyel was named the Federation of State High School Associations Section 5 Coach of the Year.

Our extra-curricular and co-curricular programs flourished throughout the year. Our vocal and instrumental music programs continue to grow. Both the Freshmen Mixed Ensemble and Chorale received I ratings at the KSHSAA State Large Group Music Festival. This distinction continues a tradition of excellence that Chorale has maintained for nearly four decades. Additionally, both the Symphony and Chamber Orchestras received I ratings as did Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble. Our AFJROTC program continues to rank among the finest in the nation and serves as the premier leadership development program at WRHS. The unit recently completed its annual inspection and earned recognition as one of the top AFJROTC units in the country, further demonstrating its tradition of excellence. We are especially proud to celebrate three outstanding cadets who received appointments to U.S. military service academies: Parker Chapman to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, River McCoy to the United States Military Academy at West Point, and Evan Garcia to the United States Air Force Academy. Their achievements reflect the exceptional character, leadership, and dedication fostered within our AFJROTC program.

The WaRu Theatre program continued to uphold a standard of excellence both on and off the stage throughout the year. Alongside a full season of outstanding performances, the program celebrated numerous accomplishments at both the district and state levels. Thespian Troupe #6193 was once again recognized as a Gold Honor Troupe, and at the Kansas Thespian Conference, 23 students competed in the Thespy competitions, with 14 earning Superior ratings and qualifying for international competition. In another tremendous achievement, our one-act production was selected as the top one-act in the state of Kansas. We are already looking forward to another exciting year ahead with our upcoming "Season of Dreams," featuring A Midsummer Night's Dream, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and Peter and the Starcatcher!

During the 2025-2026 season, our debate and forensics squads won over 400 awards at invitational tournaments across the state, including placing first in 4-speaker debate, fifth in 2-speaker debate, and second in forensics at the KSHSAA 6A state championship. We had 19 students qualify for the National Speech and Debate Tournament in Richmond, Virginia, in June, representing one of the five largest qualified contingents in the country. Our speech and debate programs are the reigning champions for the Bruno E. Jacobs Trophy, an award given by the National Speech and Debate Association to the top school in the nation. The parents, staff, students, and community served by WRHS have much to be proud of. It was a truly exciting year!

In the coming year, I invite you to become a partner with us in your child's education and, in doing so, learn more about their "home away from home" - Washburn Rural High School. Attend their athletic events. Go to their concerts. Ask them about their schoolwork. Talk with their teachers. Ask how you can volunteer in our building. By developing a deeper understanding of all that is available to your student at WRHS, you will help us unlock the extraordinary potential within each one of them.

We look forward to the upcoming year with great hope and an unwavering belief in the promise of our young people. We wish all of you the very best! If we can ever be of service to you, please do not hesitate to call.

Best,

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

Ed Raines, Principal
raineedw@usd437.net

WRHS Counseling Office

[Counseling Website](#)

Crisis Hotline: 785-232-5005 or 988

2026-2027 Student Schedules

Tentative student schedules will be viewable on Campus Portal in July. Counselors will be available during registration to make changes, fill gaps, etc. Counselors will not be making changes during the summer. During registration, counselors will be making **first semester changes only**. Second semester changes will be made in November and families should not stand in line during registration for a second semester request.

Shawnee County Suicide Prevention Resources

This [resource guide](#) was created for residents in Shawnee County; it includes phone numbers and organizations to support children, teens, and adults.

NCAA Division 1 and 2 Worksheet

Student athletes who are considering a D1 or D2 college need to ensure they have met the core curriculum NCAA requirements. This includes specific credits in core areas of English, math, science, social studies and world languages. This [WORKSHEET](#) provides details.

Transcript Requests

Seniors: If you plan to attend a college (technical, two year, four year), a final high school transcript is required to enroll. Transcript requests are made via Naviance until June 30. Transcripts requested after June 30 will incur a fee and must be submitted through www.parchment.com.

College Visits

This summer, we encourage families to visit college campuses. This experience can help students set goals, make decisions, and understand the application process. Advice on planning a college visit can be found [here](#).

Class of 2027 College Applications

Many colleges open applications in the summer. This can be a great way to get a head start on the process. A transcript can be downloaded from Campus Portal Documents. Eventually, the college will require an official transcript be sent; this process will be covered during advisory. If an essay is required for the application, we encourage students to wait until they can have it reviewed by a WRHS staff member in the fall.

ACT Exam

National ACT: Students in the Class of 2027 who plan to attend college may need to take or retake the ACT in July, September and/or October. Families are encouraged to review current admission and scholarship requirements to determine whether the ACT is necessary for a particular college. Students can register at www.act.org for the ACT or www.collegeboard.org for the SAT. For colleges that use standardized testing in their process, both the ACT and SAT are accepted.

PSAT and State ACT

The PSAT will be offered to the Class of 2028, 2029, and 2030 in October. The state-sponsored ACT will be offered to the Class of 2028 in March. Students will register for the PSAT and State ACT in August/September of 2026.

Summer Activities for High School Students

Not sure how to spend your summer? The counseling website includes a list of local volunteer opportunities. Interested in something besides volunteering? This [article](#) gives several ideas on ways to make the most of your summer.

Washburn University Concurrent Enrollment

WRHS offers several concurrent enrollment courses including US History, Freshman Composition 1, Freshman Composition 2, College Algebra, Public Speaking, Biology, College Accounting, and Consumer & Personal Finance. Students must have a minimum 3.0 GPA; the course fee is around \$500 per class. For College Algebra, students must also achieve a score of 22 or higher on the ACT Math or take a placement test at WRHS. Students enrolled in College Algebra were invited to a Google Classroom regarding the math exam information.

◆ Enrollment Information

New Families

Start the process at www.usd437.net. Look for the Registration Link. New families must complete the registration and enrollment process by contacting their school.

Returning Families

Log in to your [Campus Portal](#) account and go to the Inbox to get started.

Completing the Process

After registering online you will receive e-mails confirming:

1. Submission of Online Registration
2. Acceptance of Registration

This message will let you know what you need to do, if anything, to complete the process.

Any paper forms or documents required to complete your registration may be submitted during enrollment sessions or during the summer at the Auburn-Washburn district office Monday-Thursday between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM.

Free & Reduced meal applications can be downloaded online at www.usd437.net starting sometime in July.

Health forms and immunization requirements are available online at <https://usd437.net/about/health.html>.

Walk-in registration will be held July 29-30 between 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. at WRHS for ALL returning families to complete the process if needed and for all those who don't register online.

Paying Fees

Fees can be paid online through your [portal account](#) starting sometime during July using credit/debit card or bank account. Fees can also be paid during enrollment sessions.

Questions?

Assistance with Online Registration will be available throughout the summer by calling the OLR hot line at 339-4955 between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM.

Textbook Rental - \$125.00; Parking Permit - \$25.00

All fees are due at the time of enrollment. RETURNED CHECKS: Checks returned for any reason are sent directly to a collection agency-attorney for collection. A collection agency-attorney does add a service fee to the amount of the check. The total amount of the check and service fee may be electronically debited from your checking account by a collection agency-attorney.

Student Parking Information

Properly licensed student drivers entering ALL grades have the opportunity to pre-purchase their parking permits. Students can either click on this link, [2026-2027 WRHS Student Parking Permit Application](#) or scan the QR code shown below. Students who submit the Google form by July 28th may pick up their permit during walk-in registration on July 29th-30st. The form can also be completed at any time during the school year, once the student is properly licensed with a minimum of either a restricted license or a farm permit. For more information on the Kansas Graduated Driver's License program, click on this link. [KS Graduated Driver's License Program](#). Students must display a valid parking permit in their windshield at all times in order to park on campus during the regular school day.



◆ Enrollment Information

HEALTH INFORMATION FOR PARENTS 2026-2027

Our school nurse, located next to the east office, is available to students for confidential health counseling, illness and first aid emergencies. A student should obtain a pass from his/her teacher before coming to see the nurse, except in an emergency. During the school year the nurse and health staff will conduct vision and hearing screening as required by state law or upon request of the parent or teacher.

- **Illnesses:** Please do not send your child to school if he/she has been ill (vomiting, diarrhea, etc.) or has had a fever of over 100.4 degrees within the last 24 hours. When at school, students will be expected to participate in all areas, including physical education, unless we receive a written request from your child's physician. Please have the physician communicate with the school nurse if the inability to participate will be lengthy. NOTE: Missed physical education classes (even with a physician's excuse) will need to be made up in order to receive credit since the grade in physical education class is based mainly on participation.
- **Immunizations:** All students must have written proof (from a physician or health department) of the state required immunizations before enrolling for the school year. Failure to provide said proof will result in the student not being allowed to enroll and/or allowed to continue attending. The school nurse can provide further information on medical and religious exemption.
- **Medications:** Whenever possible, medication should be given outside school hours. Students in grades 9-12 may self-administer prescription and non-prescription medications. pursuant to board policy. If abuse of the self-administration policy is noted, parents will be notified and this privilege may be suspended. If assistance is requested for Health Room Personnel to administer medication, written permission from the parent and the physician will be needed. The prescription label will be considered permission from the physician. It will be the responsibility of the student to report to the Health Room when the medication dosage is due. Inhalers may remain in the student's possession, but there should be written authorization for independent administration on file in the Health Room.
- **Administration of Injectable Medication at School:** School personnel may administer injectable medicines on an emergency basis only after proper training is provided by the School Nurse. Any syringe used on school property will be disposed of in a Bio-Hazard receptacle located in the Health Room in accordance with the Auburn-Washburn District Blood-Borne Pathogen Policy. The appropriate documents must be completed and filed in the student's health folder.
- **Health Procedures:** Any student requiring finger sticks for glucose monitoring and/or insulin injections will be required to perform those procedures in the school Health Room under the supervision of the Health Room staff or their designate, unless otherwise directed.

◆ Enrollment Information

ACTIVITY FEES:

High School Participation Fees are listed below with per family maximum of \$200.00

ACTIVITY	STUDENT FEE	ACTIVITY	STUDENT FEE
Baseball	\$75.00	Boys Swimming	\$25.00
Boys Basketball	\$75.00	Boys Tennis	\$25.00
Football	\$75.00	Cheerleading	\$25.00
Girls Basketball	\$75.00	Cross Country	\$25.00
Softball	\$75.00	Girls Soccer	\$25.00
Bowling	\$50.00	Girls Swimming	\$25.00
Boys Golf	\$50.00	Girls Tennis	\$25.00
Drama	\$50.00	Model UN	\$25.00
Girls Golf	\$50.00	Dance Team	\$25.00
Volleyball	\$50.00	Quiz Bowl	\$25.00
Wrestling	\$50.00	Track	\$25.00
Boys Soccer	\$25.00		

FIRST-TIME KANSAS STUDENTS

Students age 9 and under attending a Kansas school for the first time must provide a written statement of health based on an assessment in the previous 12 months. Students will be granted a reasonable amount of time to obtain the statement or face possible exclusion from school and being reported to SRS for child neglect.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information on health requirements including immunizations, please contact the nurse at your child's school. In addition to the vision and hearing done in our schools, there will now be a free dental screening clinic provided for Auburn-Washburn students. In compliance with Kansas State Statute 72-5201, students will be screened unless the parent prefers to opt out of the screening.

Freshman and New Student Orientation Tuesday, August 11, 2026

8:00 – 9:00	Opening Session in Auditorium
9:00 – 9:45	Club Introduction
9:55 – 11:25	Advisory
11:30 – 12:10	Lunch
12:15 – 12:25	1st Hour
12:30 – 12:40	2nd Hour
12:45 – 12:55	3rd Hour
1:00 – 1:10	4th Hour
1:15 – 1:25	5th Hour
1:30 – 1:40	6th Hour
1:45 – 1:55	7th Hour
2:00 – 2:15	ADVISORY
2:30 – 2:55	Closing Session in Activity Center

ALL Freshman are required to attend and all NEW students are welcome to attend.

All Students- Full Day Wednesday, August 12, 2026

1st Hour	7:55 - 8:43
2nd Hour	8:48 - 9:36
3rd Hour	9:41 - 10:29
Advisory	10:33 - 11:00
4th Hour	11:05 - 11:53
5th Hour	11:58 - 1:16
1st Lunch	11:53 - 12:23
2nd Lunch	12:22 - 12:52
3rd Lunch	12:51 - 1:21
6th Hour	1:21 - 2:09
7th Hour	2:14 - 3:02

◆ Administrative Notes

Parents New to WRHS Meeting

There will be a meeting on Wednesday, August 19th at 5:30 P.M. in Auditorium for the parents of any student new to WRHS. This would include all 9th graders' parents and all other new 10th, 11th, and 12th graders' parents. A variety of items will be discussed and a significant amount of time to answer questions will be allocated.

Fall Open House

The annual WRHS Fall Open House is also scheduled for Wednesday, August 19th. It will begin at 6:30 P.M. following the New Parent Meeting. We encourage all parents to attend this event and meet your student's teachers for the 2026-2027 school year. The evening will begin with an assembly of parents at 6:30 P.M. in the Auditorium, after which parents will follow their student's schedules. Students need not attend with their parents. Refreshments will be provided at the conclusion of the evening.

Parent Portal

Parents have the ability to access their student's grades and scores through a computer software "Parent Portal." The high school monthly newsletter and student directory are also available on this site. Parents new to the district will receive information and a password for Parent Portal at registration in August.

Telephone Messages - Emergencies Only

To avoid making unnecessary classroom interruptions, the High School's office staff has been instructed to deliver student messages from parents or guardians that are only of the utmost in importance. These would include, but not be limited to:

1. Any emergency
2. Doctor and dental appointments of which the student is unaware.

School Safety A Priority

The Highway Patrol has set up a state-wide telephone number for people to call in and anonymously report a threat to school safety. The number is 1-877-626-8203.

PLC - Professional Learning Communities

PLC - District Early Release dates.

FIRST SEMESTER	
September 16th	November 11th
October 21st	December 9th

SECOND SEMESTER	
January 27th	April 7th
February 24th	May 5th

Directory Information

The USD 437 board and administration have determined that the following data will be designated "directory information":

- a. student's name, address, telephone number, date of birth, and parent's name
- b. student's participation in officially recognized school activities and sports
- c. the weight, height and grade of members of athletic teams
- d. date of attendance
- e. scholarships and awards received
- f. the most recent previous school district attended by the student

This information is considered public information, which may be released by the school district without parent's prior consent. Patrons have until September 1, 2026 to inform the school district that any or all of the directory information about their student should not be released without parent's prior consent.

◆ Administrative Notes

Attendance News

Direct Line: 339-4150

A student's attendance record is a very important part of his/her permanent record. Students with regular attendance will be more successful in their classes. Students are expected to be present and punctual for all classes throughout the year. The responsibility of school attendance is with the student and his/her parents. In an effort to maintain precise attendance data, WRHS utilizes a digital scanning interface. Students are responsible for scanning their ID cards (digital credentials) upon arrival to avoid being marked unexcused or absent. When a student is absent it is the responsibility of the parents to call the Attendance Office (785-339-4150) or report the absence in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal (app can be downloaded from the app stores) on the day of absence. The call should be made before 9:30 AM. The Attendance Office is open at 7:00 AM for calls. Any work missed must be made up by the student in order to receive credit.

The SCHOOL will determine whether the absence is excused or unexcused. Board policy allows USD 437 to accept only the following as valid reasons for excusing an absence:

1. Illness- short or long-term illness (verified by notification from doctor).
2. Medical appointment- appointment for medical treatment (a doctor's note or appointment card must accompany the student upon return and be given to the attendance office).
3. Family crisis.
4. Extended absences- (i.e.: family vacation) when expressly requested by the parents or guardian and prior arrangements have been made in preparation for the absence as defined in the Student Handbook.
5. School approved activities. Obligatory religious observances. Other extraordinary circumstances may be excused at administrative discretion. Common examples of absences that will not be excused include; but not limited to:
 - Job Interviews
 - Haircuts
 - Senior pictures
 - DMV appointments
 - Oversleeping

Within a semester grading period, students must attend class, or a school-approved activity, a minimum of 90% of the periods the class meets to routinely receive credit. Failure to attend a minimum of 90% will not affect the grade given in any class but may result in no credit being granted - despite the grade. After the first ten minutes of class, whether an absence is excused or unexcused, students will be counted absent.

If attendance falls below 90% due to exceptional circumstances, a request can be made to determine whether or not credit will be granted. If a student or parent request an attendance review to gain credit for a class in which absences are excessive, they will have to account for ALL absences, excused and unexcused. There will be no differentiation between excused and unexcused absences when computing total absences in any class. Exemptions from the attendance policy may be granted on a case-by-case basis upon receipt of a medical doctor's attestation that the student's absences were medically necessary. Other unusual circumstances may also be considered at the discretion of administration.

Parents/guardians will be notified by the attendance office when the students have accumulated 50% and exceeded 100% of the allowed absences for each individual class/hour. Notification will be made as follows:

MAKE-UP WORK POLICY In case of illness where the student is absent for an unusually long period of time, special consideration will be given and a schedule for make-up work will be worked out in cooperation with the student, parent, and teacher. The student will initiate this request. Homework can be requested after the student's third consecutive absence.

Administrative Notes

Attendance News

Direct Line: 339-4150

EXTENDED ABSENCE POLICY (THREE OR MORE DAYS) Students who know they will be absent in advance for such things as family vacations and trips, **MUST CONTACT THEIR TEACHERS BEFORE THE ABSENCE** and make arrangements for assignments and tests. An extended absence form is available from the Attendance Secretary. This form must be completed and returned to the Attendance Secretary well in advance of the extended absence. The Extended Absence Form must be filled out or the absence will be unexcused. An extended absence is strongly discouraged during the academic year due to the loss of instructional time.

SHORT-TERM ABSENCE POLICY (LESS THAN THREE DAYS) When a student is absent due to a short-term illness, he or she will be expected to make up assignments and tests that were announced during the absence. The time allowed to make up the work will be proportional to the time allowed for the students that were present, up to a maximum of two class periods. In case of doctor appointments, field trips, activity trips, etc., where school is missed for all or part of a day, **STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE THEIR ASSIGNMENTS ON TIME THE SAME AS ALL OTHER STUDENTS IN CLASS.** It is the student's responsibility to get the assignments for the class from the teacher or other students. **IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO INITIATE MAKE-UP WORK ASSIGNMENTS.**

LONG-TERM ABSENCE RELATED TO ILLNESS Students desiring homebound instruction must have administrative approval and a physician's verification of the need for homebound instruction.

SENIOR SKIP DAYS Senior skip days are not condoned or supported by the school. Such absences will be marked as unexcused and discipline consequences will be assigned. If more than 25% of the senior class is gone, or leaves the building, during any given day throughout the year for non-school related events, Senior Week activities may be canceled entirely.

Athletics & Activities

Fall Athletic Activities

The first day of practice for fall sports is Monday, August 17, 2026. There will be a Fall Orientation Meeting at 1:00 p.m. in the auditorium. You need to have your sports physical and signed concussion form turned in to the Athletic Office prior to the first practice. You may turn your forms in at enrollment. STUDENTS WITHOUT A VALID KSHSAA SPORTS PHYSICAL DONE ON OR AFTER 4/1/26 WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PRACTICE AND TRYOUT UNTIL ONE IS TURNED IN.

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Head Coaches</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone#</u>
Cross Country	Matt Swedlund	swedlmat@usd437.net	785-221-2966
Football	Steve Buhler	buhleste@usd437.net	785-339-4191
Girls' Golf	Jared Goehring	goehrjar@usd437.net	785-339-4141
Boys' Soccer	Brian Hensyel	hensybri@usd437.net	785-339-4242
Girls' Tennis	Michelle Rose	rosemic@usd437.net	785-339-4286
Girls' Volleyball	Kevin Bordewick	bordekev@usd437.net	785-339-4169

2026-2027 Bell Schedules

WRHS Regular Schedule

<u>Period</u>	<u>Start-End</u>
1	7:55-8:43
2	8:48-9:36
3	9:41-10:29
Advisory/Club	10:33-11:00
4	11:05-11:53
5	11:58-1:16
	Lunch 1- 11:53-12:23
	Lunch 2- 12:22-12:52
	Lunch 3- 12:51-1:21
6	1:21-2:09
7	2:14-3:02

PLC Schedule (Early Release)

<u>Period</u>	<u>Start-End</u>
1	7:55-8:33
2	8:38-9:16
3	9:21-9:59
4	10:04-10:42
5	10:47-12:06
	Lunch 1- 10:42-11:12
	Lunch 2- 11:12-11:42
	Lunch 3- 11:41-12:11
6	12:11-12:49
7	12:54-1:32

◆ World Language



In April, German students in Honors Levels 3 and 4 and Spanish students in Honors Level 3 and 4; Accelerated 3 and 4; and IB Juniors took the AAPPL language proficiency exam in hopes of earning their Kansas Seal of Bilingual Proficiency. The Seal of Bilingual Proficiency requires a level of proficiency of Intermediate or Higher in both English and their second language. The Seal of Bilingual Proficiency is awarded to Seniors. We would like to congratulate the following World Language recipients of the Kansas Seal of Bilingual Proficiency:

Marion Alvarez Chedzoy
Ellen Austin
Madelynn Bauer
Lauren Bettis
Audrina Bruno
Anisha Dhir
Monserath Garcia
Evan Garcia

Brady Haag
Tanner Haddock
Ella Hirschi
Grayson Huey
Serenity Hulse
Ophelia Lackey
Evan Maldonado
Eric Navarrete

Mariah Nyanbegera
Warren O'Byrne
Anna-Eliza Peña
Eli Replogle - German
Jordy Schroeder
Madysen Sorensen
Lee Stimpfle



GLOBAL SEAL OF BILITERACY

We would also like to congratulate the following underclassmen who earned a Global Seal of Bilingual Proficiency in English and their second language. The seal requires an intermediate level of proficiency in each of the languages. The recipients of the Global Seal of Bilingual Proficiency of *Functional Fluency* in Spanish are:

Jaxon Adams
Marjorie Alvarez Chedzoy
Saylor Classi
Kieren Garcia
Julian Escobar

Manaswini Koduru
Mary Martinez
Jaslene
Moreno-Castillo
Landon Reihm

Caleb Schwartz
Delaney Williams
Axyl Zimmer

◆ Air Force Junior ROTC

Washburn Rural High School is celebrating a truly rare and remarkable accomplishment this year, as three seniors have earned appointments to three different United States Service Academies, an achievement few schools across the nation can claim.

Senior Evan Garcia has been accepted to the United States Air Force Academy, Parker Chapman has earned an appointment to the United States Naval Academy, and River McCoy will attend the United States Military Academy.



All three students are members of Washburn Rural's AFJROTC program, where they have spent the past four years developing leadership, discipline, teamwork, and a commitment to service. Through AFJROTC, these cadets have participated in community service projects, leadership labs, drill competitions, physical training, mentoring younger cadets, and numerous school and community events. Their involvement in the program helped prepare them for the intense and highly competitive service academy application process.

Admission into a service academy is an extremely demanding process. Acceptance rates are among the lowest in the nation, with approximately 14% accepted into the Air Force Academy, 10% into the Naval Academy, and 12% into West Point. In addition to outstanding academic achievement, candidates must complete rigorous physical fitness assessments, medical evaluations, leadership interviews, and secure a congressional nomination.

Each cadet has distinguished themselves both inside and outside the classroom. Their success reflects years of hard work, leadership development, and dedication to serving something greater than themselves. AFJROTC instructors noted that the three cadets consistently demonstrated the core values of integrity, service, and excellence throughout their time in the program.

Earning an appointment to even one service academy is considered a tremendous honor. Having three students accepted to all three major military academies in the same graduating class is exceptionally uncommon and speaks volumes about the strength of Washburn Rural's AFJROTC program and the caliber of its students. These future officers represent the very best of Washburn Rural High School, and their commitment to serving the country is an inspiration to the entire school community.



STUDENT SERVICES

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS AND UNIFIED SPORTS SUMMER EDITION

UNIFIED SOCCER

From the first whistle to the last, our Jr. Blues gave it everything they had each time they stepped onto the field. Through every challenge, exciting play, and hard-fought moment, they continued to encourage one another, work together, and demonstrate what true teamwork and sportsmanship look like. This team represented the spirit of Unified Sports in the best possible way, and we couldn't be more proud of our Jr. Blues!

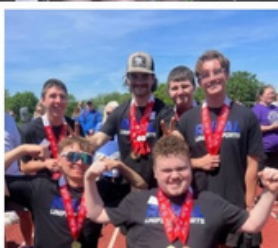
TRACK AND FIELD

Our Unified Track & Field meet in Lawrence was filled with incredible effort, determination, and unforgettable moments. From running events to field competitions, every participant gave their best effort and cheered on their teammates with great pride. Congratulations to our participants for finishing the year strong and creating memories that will last far beyond the finish line!

SENIOR SHOUTOUT

Class of 2026: Congratulations!

We extend a heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you who have participated in Unified Sports throughout your time as Jr. Blues. Your dedication, teamwork, and friendship have brought immense joy and made a lasting impact on everyone around you. Thank you for making a difference and showing the true spirit of unity—your contributions will be remembered for years to come!



EMAIL SIPPBRO@USD437.NET TO JOIN THE INCLUSION REVOLUTION!



Special Olympics
Unified Sports®



MLS WORKS™

YOU'RE *invited*



WASHBURN RURAL
JR. BLUES

TENTATIVE 2026 FALL DATES:

PARENT MEETING | WEDNESDAY | **AUGUST 26TH**
6:30 PM

 **FIRST PRACTICE** | SUNDAY | **AUGUST 30TH**
2:00-3:00 PM

BOWLING TRY OUTS | MONDAY | **SEPTEMBER 28TH**
3:30 PM



INTERESTED IN UNIFIED SPORTS?

CONTACT COACH BROOKLYN SIPP
AT SIPBRO@USD437.NET

◆ Career and Technical Education

For the 2026-27 school year, WRHS will be offering classes in the following Career Clusters and Pathways

- **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources:** Animal Science, Health and Related Industries, Diversified Agricultural Science, Natural Resources & Environmental Sustainability, and Plant Science & Industry Operations Pathways
- **Information Technology:** Media Design & Communications and Programming & Software Development Pathways
- **Business Finance:** Finance Pathway
- **Marketing:** Marketing Pathway
- **Manufacturing:** Manufacturing Pathway
- **Education & Training:** Teaching/Training Pathway
- **Health & BioSciences:** Biotechnology and Health Science Pathways
- **Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security:** Corrections, Security, Law & Law Enforcement Pathway
- **Architecture & Design:** Construction & Design Pathway
- **Hospitality & Tourism:** Restaurant & Event Management Pathway

Visit the CTE website for more information: WRHS.net/cte or WRHS counselor page: [WRHS Course Planning Guide](#)

Health & Biosciences

Congratulations to the ten students in Mr. Steinert's Biomedical Research Lab for successfully earning their BACE Certification. Their hard work and dedication paid off as they demonstrated strong knowledge and skills in biomedical science through the rigorous BACE exam.

Biotechnology is one of the fastest growing sectors in the life sciences, with applications across healthcare, agriculture, environmental science, and manufacturing. The Biotechnology Aptitude and Competency Exam (BACE) validates a candidate's readiness to enter this dynamic, regulated industry by confirming core competencies needed in academic and professional settings.

Developed with input from industry professionals and aligned to national standards, the BACE credential demonstrates that a candidate has the foundational knowledge, technical skills, and professional practices necessary to succeed in laboratory and production environments. It helps distinguish candidates in a competitive job market and supports advancement in roles requiring precision, safety, and regulatory awareness.

- Credential Highlights
- Validates core scientific and technical skills in biotechnology
- Confirms readiness for research, manufacturing, and quality control roles
- Supports both workforce entry and postsecondary pathways
- Recognized by employers, educators, and state agencies as a trusted workforce credential

Earning the BACE shows a candidate is serious about entering the life sciences field with confidence, credibility, and a strong foundation for growth.

Construction Pathways

CAS Constructors recently presented a \$1,000 donation to the WRHS Construction Pathway to help support student learning and offset expenses associated with the carpentry program. Jeff Piersol presented the donation to Kyle Fowler and several Residential Carpentry students during a special visit celebrating the students' hard work and hands-on learning opportunities.

◆ Career and Technical Education

The WRHS Construction Pathway gives students real-world construction experience through community-based projects. Students are currently building a home for MidWest Homes while also constructing a chicken coop for a local community member. These projects allow students to develop valuable carpentry, teamwork, and problem-solving skills while making a positive impact in the community.

The donation from CAS Constructors will help provide materials and resources that continue to strengthen the program and create meaningful learning experiences for students pursuing careers in the construction industry.



Community Official and partners visit WRHS Construction Program



Mayor Duncan and representatives from the Federal Home Loan Bank recently toured the WRHS Construction Pathway facilities to learn more about the program and discuss possible future partnerships that could benefit students and the community.

During the visit, program leaders shared how the WRHS Construction Pathway provides students with valuable hands-on experience through real-world construction projects. The group also discussed future opportunities to expand those experiences, including the possibility of students building tiny homes that could serve community needs while helping students develop practical skills in construction, teamwork, and project management.

The WRHS Construction Pathway is always looking for ways to increase first-hand learning opportunities for students and build partnerships that create meaningful experiences both inside and outside the classroom.

Construction Pathway

Residential Construction Students Receive Special AI-Created Gift from Instructor

Students in the Residential Construction program recently received a meaningful and creative gift from their instructor, Mr. Fowler. Using artificial intelligence technology, Mr. Fowler designed and created a custom logo plaque featuring the Ichabod mascot for each individual student.

◆ Career and Technical Education

The personalized plaques, known as “Junior Ichabods,” quickly became a source of pride for the students. Each piece highlighted the students’ connection to the program while recognizing their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

Students were excited to receive the unique keepsakes and appreciated the time and creativity Mr. Fowler invested in making each plaque special. The project also demonstrated how modern technology, including AI tools, can be used in creative and innovative ways within career and technical education programs.

The Junior Ichabod plaques will serve as lasting reminders of the students’ accomplishments and their experience in the Residential Construction program.



Construction & Manufacturing Pathways

Support Student Innovation While Giving Back to Career & Technical Education!

Next year, the Construction and Manufacturing pathways are teaming up to design, build, and produce student-made products that will be available for purchase during the fall and spring seasons. From handcrafted wood projects to creative custom-built items, each product reflects the talent, craftsmanship, and real-world skills students are developing in their programs.

Every purchase directly supports these pathways, with all proceeds going back into the programs to help fund materials, equipment, and future student learning opportunities. By supporting these student-created products, you are investing in hands-on education and helping prepare the next generation of skilled professionals.

Watch for upcoming product releases and sales throughout the 2026-27 school year. For more information, please contact Kim Sommers. sommekim@usd437.net or 785-339-4283.



◆ Career and Technical Education

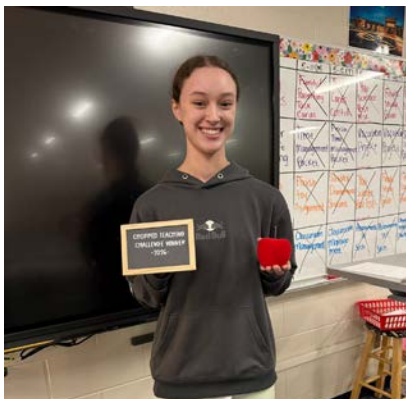
Robotics & Engineering

Students in Mr. Gerlach's Robotics & Engineering class recently put their creativity and engineering skills to the test by designing and building their own canoes. The hands-on project challenged students to think critically, collaborate with teammates, and apply real-world engineering concepts throughout the building process.

From planning and construction to testing their final products on the water, students gained valuable experience in problem-solving, teamwork, and design. The project provided a fun and memorable way for students to see engineering concepts come to life while answering the big question — will it float?



Teaching & Training Pathway



To wrap up a year of learning about the field of education, students in the Teaching As A Career class participated in the First Annual Chopped Teaching Challenge. Inspired by the popular cooking competition format, the activity challenged students to create engaging lesson plans using a unique set of assigned “ingredients.”

Each student was randomly given a grade level, content focus, special circumstance, and student accommodation to incorporate into their lesson plan. With only one class period to work, students were challenged to think creatively, adapt quickly, and design lessons that would be effective in a real classroom setting.

Students then presented their lesson pitches to a panel of teachers, who evaluated the projects based on classroom usability, creativity, attention to detail, and how successfully the assigned “ingredients” were incorporated into the lesson. Congratulations to junior Eva Ericson for being named the winner of this year's Chopped Teaching Challenge!

National Technical Honor Society

Congratulations to Jacob Tanner for being selected as the recipient of the Jon H. Poteat Scholarship. This scholarship recognizes students who have demonstrated outstanding dedication, leadership, and commitment to their education and future goals. Jacob's hard work, positive attitude, and achievements have made him truly deserving of this honor.

◆ Career and Technical Education



The 2026 DECA International Career Development Conference took place in Atlanta, GA on April 25-29! Over 26,000 DECA members, advisors and corporate partners have gathered in Orlando for the pinnacle event of the DECA year. Students got to spend the four days creating new connections, engaging in challenging new adventures and celebrating incredible achievements. DECA is an integral component of classroom instruction that helps members apply their learning and connect to business. This year, DECA encouraged students to *GO THE EXTRA* through this organization! Students participated in DECA's Chapter Campaigns, created innovative new products in the DECA Idea Challenge, attended career pathway conferences, earned Gold-Level Certification for School-based Enterprises, and conquered the competition to make it all the way to the international stage at #DECAICDC. Students also took advantage of every opportunity DECA offered over the week, such as meeting incredible corporate partners, colleges and universities, and vendors in the exhibit hall, and sharing experiences on social media using #DECAICDC.



SBE ACADEMY + COMPETITION

The SBE Academy is held annually at DECA's International Career Development Conference. The following students from our WRHS business programs (The Shack, WRHS Bank and Common Grounds) attended this year's conference: Nicholas He, Kate Muir, Kailyn Petersen, Kaci Hodgson, and Keegan Knudtson. Daniel Ginzburg, Jackson Savenko, and Brandon Jeon also competed as a group in the Independent Business Plan category. They placed 2nd place at the State Leadership Conference in March, which qualified them to attend the conference in Atlanta!

Dynamic academies are offered exclusively to Gold-Certified SBEs and featured guest speakers and workshop sessions related to all aspects of running an SBE. Students have the opportunity to engage with other SBE students and learn from each other through interactive activities and networking. The SBE competition requires students to give an oral presentation in front of judges focused on one of the 10 business standards featured in the written chapter certification project. The competition topic rotates each year to give students a more in-depth understanding of the performance indicators and concepts covered in the certification project.

◆ Career and Technical Education

DECA SBE PROGRAMS SUPPORT 21ST CENTURY SKILLS AND EMPLOYABILITY DEVELOPMENT

Experience working within a DECA SBE provides students the opportunity to learn skills that aren't necessarily learned in the classroom. DECA SBE provides students with the same valuable learning experience of any co-op or part-time job without requiring students to leave school. By working in a real business within the school, students are provided real-world experience vital to developing 21st century skills and preparing for future careers.

	Critical Thinking & Problem Solving	Collaboration & Teamwork	Communication	Creativity & Innovation
Chapter Certification	Reflect critically on learning experiences and processes.	Assume shared responsibility for collaborative work, and value the individual contributions made by each team member.	Use communication for a range of purposes (e.g., to inform, instruct, motivate and persuade).	Be open and responsive to new and diverse perspectives; incorporate group input and feedback into the work.
SBE Academy	Identify and ask significant questions that clarify various points of view and lead to better solutions.	Demonstrate ability to work effectively and respectfully with diverse teams.	Listen effectively to decipher meaning, including knowledge, values, attitudes and intentions.	Develop, implement and communicate new ideas to others effectively.
SBE Competition	Use various types of reasoning (inductive, deductive, etc.) as appropriate to the situation.	Exercise flexibility and willingness to be helpful in making necessary compromises to accomplish a common goal.	Articulate thoughts and ideas effectively using oral, written and nonverbal communication skills in a variety of forms and contexts.	Demonstrate originality and inventiveness in work and understand the real-world limits of adopting new ideas.



◆ Career and Technical Education

DECA's School-based Enterprise (SBE) Program has a number of educational activities designed to connect classroom curriculum with hands-on learning experiences by working in the SBE learning lab. SBE programs are designed to:

- Establish greater understanding of selected career cluster knowledge statements and performance indicators.
- Allow students to earn recognition for their achievements.
- Provide experiences to develop 21st century skills including communication, critical thinking, collaboration, and creativity.
- Prepare students for higher learning and future careers. Utilizing the SBE programs available through DECA further enhances authentic, experience-based learning for your students and can provide a framework for developing relevant curriculum that strengthens the connection between the classroom and real-world work experience.

WHAT IS A SCHOOL-BASED ENTERPRISE?

A school-based enterprise (SBE) is an entrepreneurial operation in a school setting that provides goods/ services to meet the needs of the market. SBEs are managed and operated by students as hands-on learning laboratories that integrate National Curriculum Standards in marketing, finance, hospitality or management. SBEs provide realistic and practical learning experiences that reinforce classroom instruction. SBEs can sell to consumers through a permanent location, a mobile kiosk or through Internet marketing. Products may include spirit wear, food and beverage items, school supplies, signs and banners and more, while other SBEs provide services such as creative design, advertising sales and more.



CHAPTER CERTIFICATION

The chapter certification program reinforces the integration of National Curriculum Standards into the learning-lab environment of SBEs. Students reflect upon their work in the SBE through documentation of 10 key business standards (instructional areas) and performance indicators from the Business Administration Core, the Marketing Career Cluster, and the Merchandising Pathway of National Curriculum Standards including the following: 1. Financial Analysis 2. Operations 3. Marketing-Information Management 4. Market Planning 5. Product/Service Management 6. Pricing 7. Distribution/Channel Management 8. Promotion 9. Selling 10. Human Resources Management.

Chapters submit a written project online to DECA for evaluation by judges in an effort to earn the national distinction of a DECA Gold-Certified SBE. The process provides an opportunity to analyze your school-based business, determine your SBE's strengths and weaknesses, and showcase the learning outcomes of your students. Earning gold certification also opens the door to other opportunities available through DECA including the SBE Academy and competition at DECA's International Career Development Conference.

◆ Career and Technical Education



Sponsored by Silver Lake Bank

Jr. Blue Crew Gives Away \$500 Investment

On Friday, May 8th the WRHS Bank presented the \$500 investment grand prize. Students and staff as well as bank employees, gathered around the WRHS Bank in the commons to draw for the winner. Only the members of the Junior Blue Crew who deposited \$10.00 each month, from September to April, were eligible for this grand prize. This year we had a record amount of students and staff eligible for the giveaway! In addition to the grand prize giveaway we also reward members with gift cards each month.



The winner was Patyon Lawsen, a freshman at WRHS. Congratulations to all Jr. Blue Crew members who were eligible and keep saving - next year could be your year! Stop by the WRHS Bank to learn more.

Open your account at on the first day of school!
WRHS Bank and staff will be available to open accounts and process transactions. Students and staff are available every day during lunch. Students can create a bank account at WRHS for a variety of reasons:

1. Build a savings account and earn interest each month!
2. Cash and Deposit Checks.
3. Have money available during the school year for miscellaneous items and events that come up!
4. Be eligible for monthly prizes!
5. Deposit every month to be able to win a \$500 investment at the end of the year!

**Open a checking account and get your
free WRHS Jr. Blues Debit Card**

Skip the PIN and your school WINS!

Each debit card transaction
not requiring your PIN
provides \$.05 to the WRHS
scholarship fund.

*Support your WRHS Jr. Blues
and open an account today!*

www.silverlakebank.com



WRHSCOMMONGROUNDS.SQUARE.SITE

COMMON GROUNDS

ORDER ONLINE, PICKUP IN STORE!



HOURS

Monday-Friday

BEFORE SCHOOL: 7:00 - 7:45

DURING LUNCH: 11:27 - 1:11



NEW 2026-2027 INVENTORY

NEW INVENTORY FOR THE
26-27 SCHOOL YEAR IS
COMING SOON TO THE
WRHS SHACK!



SHOP NOW



Contact us for more information:
theshack@usd437.net
ruralspirit.square.site



◆ The Chimes Yearbook

2026 Yearbooks will be distributed at enrollment.

Purchase your 2027 yearbook at enrollment! Prices are at their lowest.

2026 Enrollment: \$60 or \$65 Personalized

Order Online: www.yearbookordercenter.com - school code: 33333

2026 SENIOR Yearbook Delivery: Graduates, you'll need to pick up your yearbooks at enrollment too. If you can't make it, you can have parents or siblings pick up your book during enrollment. Or you may call the high school (339-4100) and ask to have your book delivered to the main office. Please call 24 hours prior to pick up.

Mailing Yearbooks: If you would like your yearbook mailed, the cost is \$20, which covers postage and materials. Call (339-4100) or send payment (5900 SW 61st Street, Topeka, KS 66619) and your updated mailing address. Books are usually mailed in mid-August.

Yearbook Portraits: InterState Studios be mailing portrait package information to homes prior to enrollment. We encourage all students to get a portrait taken for school publication purposes. You are under no obligation to purchase these photos. If you want your student to be included in the Chimes yearbook, they must take a picture during enrollment or at one of the two retake days. *This is different than their ID photo. If a student does not take an Inter-State portrait, they will not be included in the people section of the yearbook.* Seniors may submit their own image.

Please plan to have your yearbook portrait taken at enrollment July 29-30.



Interstate Yearbook Pictures

ENROLLMENT

JULY 29 & 30

7AM-7PM

**FRESHMEN
&
FACULTY**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

**7:30 AM
- 1:00 PM**

RETAKES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

**10:30 AM
- 11:00 PM**

CLASS OF 2027
MAKE PLANS TO TAKE YOUR

SENIOR PORTRAITS



THE DEADLINE FOR PORTRAIT
SUBMISSION IS FRIDAY, DEC. 4TH

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. These images are placed in the PEOPLE section of the book in alphabetical order. Pictures are due to the yearbook staff on/before the **first Friday in December**.

OPTION #1: Inter-State Studios

Inter-State is the school portrait photographer.

This is at no cost to the student. The yearbook staff will have access to these images. Senior portraits can be taken during enrollment or during the retake date in the fall. Please see the WRHS school calendar for specific portrait dates.

Example:



OPTION #2: Select Your Photographer & Submit Your Image

Students/families do this option on their own.

We would prefer your image be sent electronically. Please send the ORIGINAL (non-cropped) file in JPEG format. Name it with the student's first and last name.

Example:



Send your portrait file to:

wrhsporraits@usd437.net

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

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

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.

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.

To order a salute:

(1) detach and fill out the form below. Sample layouts can be selected from the inside pages of this flyer.

(2) gather your pictures.

-baby photos can be mailed with order form. If you'd like photos returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

-additional senior portraits can be sent from you or your photographer

(3) prepare your message based on the word count listed with each layout. All word counts are approximate.

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 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

wrhssalutes@usd437.net

wrhssalutes@usd437.net

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 Deadline:
first Friday in Dec.**

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

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 Layout Options

Examples are smaller than actual size

1/8 Page Options

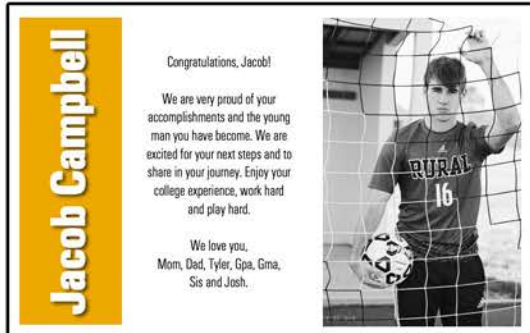
Salute A: Two Vertical Photos; No Words



Salute B: One Horizontal Photo; No Words



Salute C: One Vertical Photo; 50 Words or Less



Salute D: Two Horizontal Photos; 50 Words or Less

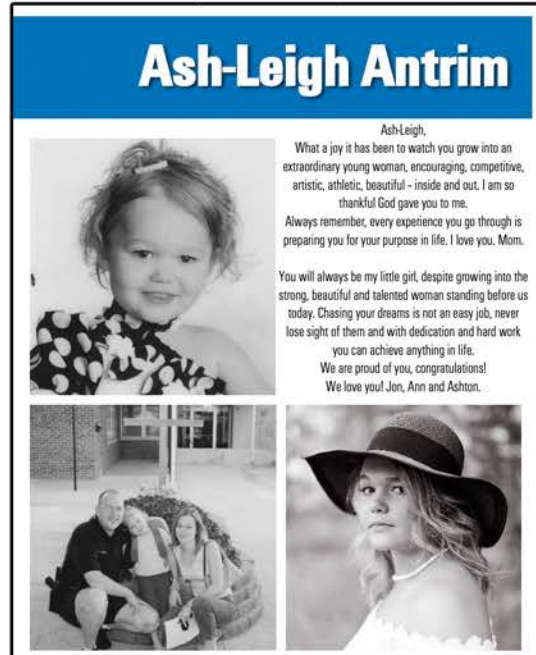


1/4 Page Options

Salute E: Two Vertical Photos; 100 Words or Less



Salute F: Three Square Photos; 100 Words or Less

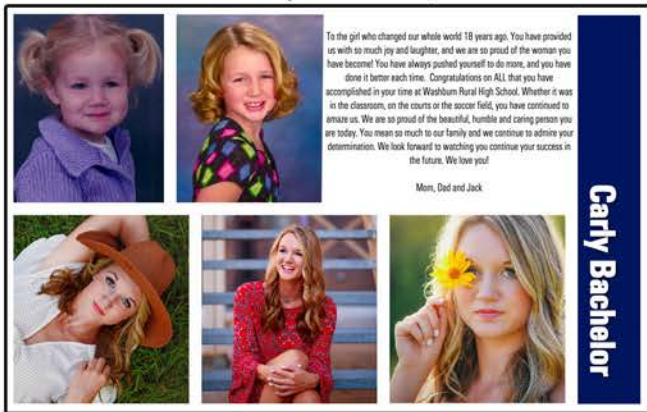


Salute Layout Options

Examples are smaller than actual size

1/2 Page Options

Salute G: 2 Vertical & 3 Square Photos; 150 Words or Less

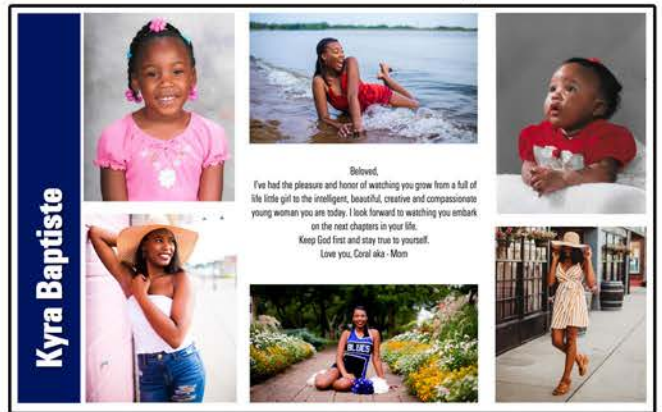


To the girl who changed our whole world 18 years ago, you have provided us with so much joy and laughter, and we are so proud of the woman you have become! You have always pushed yourself to do more, and you have done it better each time. Congratulations on ALL that you have accomplished in your time at Washburn Rural High School. Whether it was in the classroom, on the courts or the soccer field, you have continued to amaze us. We are so proud of the beautiful, humble and caring person you are today. You mean so much to our family and we continue to admire your determination. We look forward to watching you continue your success in the future. We love you!

Mom, Dad and Jack

Carly Bachelor

Salute H: 4 Vertical & 2 Horizontal Photos; 50 Words or Less



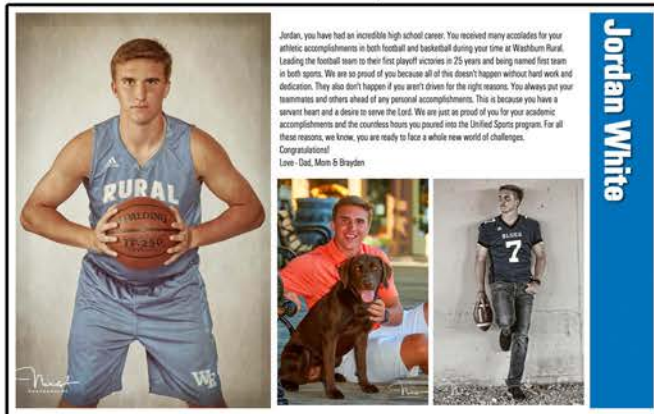
Beloved,

I've had the pleasure and honor of watching you grow from a full of life little girl to the intelligent, beautiful, creative and compassionate young woman you are today. I look forward to watching you embark on the next chapters in your life. Keep God first and stay true to yourself.

Love you, Coral aka - Mum

Kyra Baptiste

Salute I: 3 Vertical Photos; 150 Words or Less



Jordan, you have had an incredible high school career. You received many accolades for your athletic accomplishments in both football and basketball during your time at Washburn Rural. Leading the football team to their first playoff victories in 25 years and being named first team in both sports. We are so proud of you because all of this doesn't happen without hard work and dedication. They also don't happen if you aren't driven for the right reasons. You always see your teammates and others ahead of any personal accomplishments. This is because you have a servant heart and a desire to serve the Lord. We are just as proud of you for your academic accomplishments and the countless hours you poured into the Unified Sports program. For all these reasons, we know, you are ready to face a whole new world of challenges. Congratulations!

Love- Dad, Mom & Bryden

Jordan White

Salute J: 4 Vertical & 1 Horizontal Photos; 100 Words or Less



Dear Alessia,

You have come of age with our young nation. The way is clear for you to blow us all away. Someday, someday, Yeah, you'll blow us all away.

Congratulations, Alessia! I am very proud of the strong young woman you have become. Every day I'm amazed by your smile, your love, your talents, your aspirations and your goofy sense of humor. Don't ever lose your sense of adventure. There is a whole world out there waiting for you, and you should strive to see all of it. Explore, Dream, Discover. Take with you these two important lessons. There are never too many tapes and don't forget your hulk hands.


I love you so much more than any words can say.

Mum

Alex Williams

Full Page Options

Salute K: 9 Vertical & 6 Horizontal Photos; 100 Words or Less



Justin and Jesus, what can we say about you two or where to start? You were goofy and fun loving kids who have grown up to fine young men. We are so proud of you and all that you have accomplished over these last 12 years of school and life. We all wish you had the best of luck in what's to come. Congratulations on finishing school and getting your diplomas.

Much love from all of us parents and everyone else rooting for you. XOXOXOXO

Justin Estudillo & Jesus Gutierrez

Salute J: 10 Vertical, 3 Horizontal & 2 Square Photos; 150 Words or Less



Eve, You are very ready to move out and start your independence because you have taken that first step in your life and you have shown you into your own apartment. You are a very kind and fun, strong, athletic, and smart! Your friends will love you well in the family road trip, journaling, and making exciting plans, visiting places and photo shoots. We believe, God, looking back, I hope, like, dressing up, Lucy & Shelly, SS Club, hope for away, and things that we don't know about? I love that our girls. Remember the fun times. You have numerous opportunities to pursue your interests and passions. Move a great time of life and I'm very proud of who you are. Your father would also be very proud. Work hard and you will accomplish all your goals.

Love, Maggie (Mummy)

Eve Schifman

2027 WRHS YEARBOOK

Name: _____

Grade: 9 10 11 12

Yearbook Prices: \$60.00

\$75 for available extra copies at 2028 enrollment

Name to appear on the cover (optional): \$5.00

Total \$ _____

Make checks payable to WRHS YEARBOOK

Check # _____

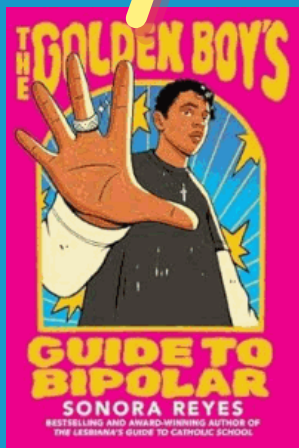
Paid Date _____

**Mail Order form & Payment to: WRHS Yearbook
5900 SW 61st Street, Topeka, KS 66619**

OR ORDER ONLINE!

**www.yearbookordercenter.com
school code: 33333**

Mrs. Finney's Hot Picks for Summer Reads!



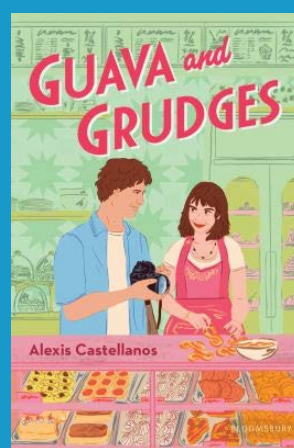
Realistic/Mental Health: Cesar doesn't want to go to Hell, and he doesn't want to be mind controlled by his mental health meds. They couldn't possibly help him, could they?



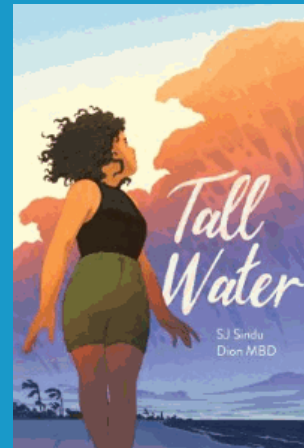
Horror: Something is wrong on Ollie's Island home. People are getting sick but no one is talking about it... That is until the tourists start turning into zombies made of coral.



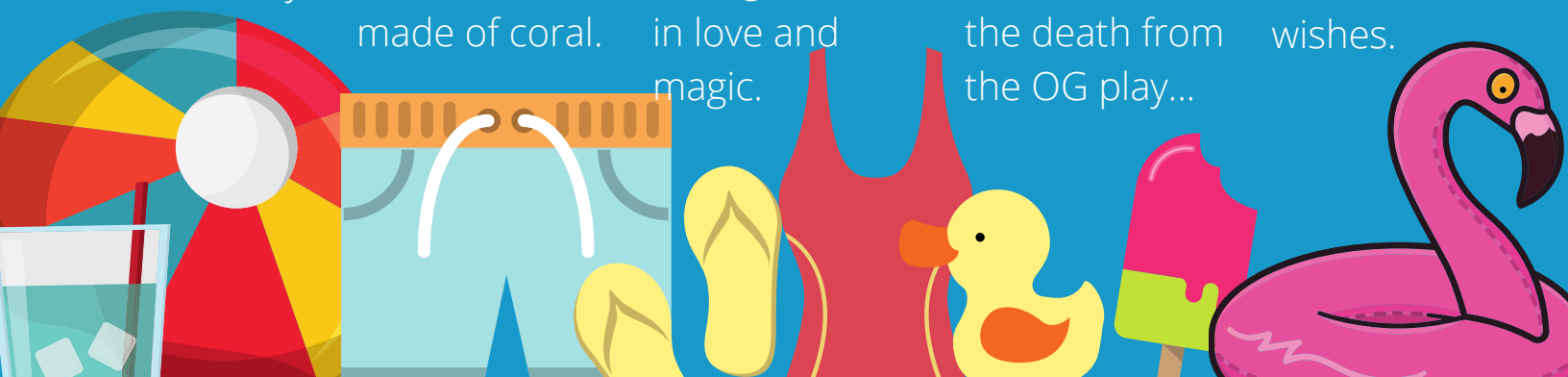
Fantasy: A modern, Cuban-American take on Practical Magic, alternating between the 1980s and today, following siblings cursed in love and magic.



Romance: Romeo & Juliet, meets Cuban-American cuisine, set in the Pacific Northwest, add crave worthy doughnuts, and all without the death from the OG play...



Graphic Novel: Nimmi wants nothing more than to see her mother, so when an opportunity to travel to Sri Lanka arrives, she takes it, against her father's wishes.





WRHS Library 2026 Summer Reading Bingo



Bingo

A book that's been sitting on your shelf for over 1 year	A book with food on the cover	Any author's debut book	A book with a diverse lead character	A book set in the 1970s or 80s
A book from the WRHS Library	A book with a title starts with the letter "F"	A Non-Fiction book	A book related to Kansas in some way	A book with a map
A book selected for you by the staff at Round Table	An Epistolary Novel	Free Space	A book you read in one day	A book with more than one author
A book with a number in the title	A book rated over 4 Stars on Goodreads	A book with 400+ Pages	A book set in the summer	A book with pirates
A book club pick (any club of your choosing)	A book from TSCPL	A book you picked based only on the cover	A book with sprayed edges	Published in 2026



Connect with us @wrhslib for:

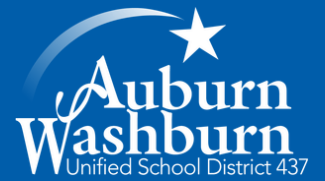
- technology support
- homework help
- reading recommendations
- area job openings
- school activities and more



Read any 5 to get a prize!

Text 4 Help: 785-260-0015
Marcy Sandberg sandbmar@usd437.net
Victoria Finney finnevic@usd437.net

Auburn-Washburn 2026-2027 Student Calendar



2026

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	1/8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

2027

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	1/8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

- School in Session
- Snow Make-Up Day (if needed)
- End of Grading Period

- Early Release Day
 - Elementary School Dismissal: 2:15 pm
 - Middle School Dismissal: 1:20 pm
 - High School Dismissal: 1:32 pm
 - No School for Early Childhood Education

August

- 11 School Begins
-Grades 1-6, 9, New 10-12
- 12 School Begins
-Grades 7-8 & 10-12
- 13 School Begins
-Preschool & Kindergarten

September

- 7 No School - Labor Day

October

- 8 End of First Grading Period
- 9 No School - Staff Work Day
- 14 Evening P/T Conferences
- 15 No School - P/T Conferences
- 16 No School

November

- 23-24 No School - Staff Professional Learning Days
- 25-27 No School - Thanksgiving

December

- 18 End of Second Grading Period
- 21-31 No School - Winter Break

January

- 1 No School - Winter Break
- 4 No School - Staff Work Day
- 15 No School - Staff Professional Learning Day
- 18 No School - MLK Day

February

- 17 Evening P/T Conferences
- 18 No School - P/T Conferences
- 19 No School

March

- 11 End of Third Grading Period
- 12 No School - Staff Work Day
- 15-19 Spring Break

April

- 16 No School - Staff Professional Learning Day
- 19 Snow Make-Up Day (if needed)

May

- 21 Last Day of School - 1/2 Day

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