



## **Wausau School District News**

### ***November 2021***

**Our Mission . . .To advance student learning, achievement, and success.**



## **Should We Close Schools to be More Efficient?**



# Community Conversation

**Monday, November 22 - 5pm to 6pm**

**John Muir Middle School Auditorium**

Please join us for our third community engagement session this Monday. Leading up to this point, we've presented, very high-level, what our current facility needs are and some possible solutions. Those possible solutions include, but are not limited to, making updates to things like windows and roofs (deferred maintenance), making entrances in our schools more secure and welcoming (safety & security), and merging elementary schools just to name a few.

While Monday night's session will be similar to the previous two, we will bring forth more specifics as it relates to costs and a possible scenario of what an elementary school merger might look like. We want to reiterate that this scenario is not a proposal. It's in response to requests from community members for more detail/specifics. The District remains in the listening process and there are no formal plans or proposals. We are starting from scratch in our efforts to find solutions to our facility needs. Please RSVP below.

If you cannot make it, please know this meeting will be live-streamed. You'll want to [click here](#) on Monday at 5 p.m. to access it. There you can also watch the meeting at a later time.

## Community Conversation RSVP

### LOCATION

John Muir Middle School, 1400 W. Stewart Avenue

### DATE AND TIME

11/22/21 5:00pm - 11/22/21 6:00pm US/Central

This event will be held in the school's auditorium.

I'll Be There!

Maybe

I Can't Make It

District Facility Needs and Feedback Form

## **NEW! District and School Report Cards Released**

Our mission at the Wausau School District is to advance student learning, achievement, and success. As a learning community, we are continually looking to improve. The district and school report cards, released by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), are one resource we use to reflect on our strengths and areas for improvement.

They are intended to help schools and districts use performance data to celebrate successes and improve their efforts to prepare students for their futures. These public report cards can be found [here](#).

The current school report card is primarily based on last year's performance during the 2020-21 school year. [Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, DPI encourages caution when interpreting scores and ratings on the 2020-21 report cards.](#)

At the foundation of the report cards are four priority areas. Schools and districts receive a score for each priority area:

- **Achievement** - proficiency in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics on the annual state assessments
- **Growth** - year-to-year progress in ELA and math achievement
- **Target Group Outcomes** - outcomes for students with the lowest test scores: the Target Group.
- **On-Track to Graduation** - reliable predictors of how successfully students are progressing toward completing their K-12 education.

The priority area scores are aggregated into an overall accountability score, from 0 to 100. This score is displayed on the front page of the school or district report cards. It is important to note that the 0 to 100 accountability score is not a "percent correct" measurement. Based on its score, a school or district receives one of five rating categories, from *Fails to Meet Expectations* to *Significantly Exceeds Expectations*, as well as corresponding one to five stars.

The Wausau School District's Overall Score is 68; Meeting Expectations. The Wausau School District is analyzing this data now; finding areas where we can improve, while at the same time, celebrating the fact that our students are supported; poised to graduate ready for college, career, and life.

To view the report cards, [click here](#).

## **John Muir Middle School Associate Principal Named Wisconsin Associate Principal of the Year!**



Matthew Raduechel, John Muir Middle School Associate Principal, has been named the 2022 Wisconsin Associate Principal of the Year by the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators (AWSA).

During Raduechel's 4.5 years at the school, he has focused on student safety and wellbeing. He helped create and build the school's BRIDGE behavioral intervention program, which helps students in moments when emotions and behaviors can disrupt their learning. He has also become a certified restorative practice trainer through the International Institute of Restorative Practices.

Raduechel, along with the John Muir staff, has also worked to ensure students receive an equitable and diverse educational experience.

He will be formally recognized at the Associate Principals Conference in January in Green Bay. He will also receive \$1,000 for use on a project of his choice at John Muir. Raduechel will also get to represent the state of Wisconsin at the National Principals Conference.

Congratulations, Mr. Raduechel! The District, our students, and their families are lucky to have you!

## **Thomas Jefferson: A U.S. News Best Elementary School**

Thomas Jefferson Elementary School has been placed among the top 30% of elementary

schools in the state of Wisconsin by U.S. News & World Report. That makes it a U.S. News Best Elementary School.

*"I am so proud of what we do here at Thomas Jefferson. It is amazing what a hardworking bunch of passionate students, parents, and staff can do when we all work together. If the last two years have taught us anything it is that schools are vitally and impactfully connected to our communities. I hope that the work we do here at Thomas Jefferson has a positive ripple effect on our entire community and makes everyone proud to be a Jaguar," said Thomas Jefferson Principal Brent Johnson.*

According to U.S. News & World Report, Thomas Jefferson ranks #157 out of 1,030 elementary schools in the state of Wisconsin. Performance on state-required tests, graduation, and how well they prepare students for high school were all taken into account.

*"The Wausau School District congratulates Principal Mr. Brent Johnson, his staff, and most importantly the students and families of Thomas Jefferson Elementary School for this recognition. We know the staff is focused on doing what is best for students and they support each other through the collaborative use of best educational practices. We are proud of all of our schools' efforts and take this moment to celebrate all that is right with public education," said Wausau Superintendent of Schools Dr. Keith Hilts.*



# We're Hiring!

**Educating for the Future,  
One Child at a Time**

**Regular, substitute,  
and support employment  
opportunities available**

For more information about  
Wausau School District  
employment opportunities, please  
visit Human Resources at

**[www.wausauschools.org](http://www.wausauschools.org)  
or call 715-261-0500**



**@WausauSchDist**

**So many great things happening in the District!**

**LeaderinMe®**

All of the schools within the Wausau School District continue to implement the *Leader in Me* program into the classroom. The program is all about inspiring greatness in every student. There are 7 Habits within that program:

- Be Proactive
- Begin with the End in Mind
- Put First Things First
- Think Win-Win
- Seek First to Understand Then to be Understood

- Synergize
- Sharpen the Saw



As part of a *Leader in Me* lesson at Hewitt-Texas Elementary school, Wausau East High School Senior and winner of the 2021 Slinger Nationals Luke Fenhaus stopped by to visit with students. Luke answered questions, by students, about how he's proactive. They also got the chance to check out his race car and get his autograph!

Aside from winning the Slinger Nationals this year, Fenhaus also placed second in the Superstar Racing Experience in Slinger. While there, he raced with drivers like Tony Stewart, Bill Elliot, Bobby Labonte, and Helio Castroneves.



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**Celebrating our Partnerships**





### **Wausau West Girls Basketball Team Sells More Than 5,300 Egg Rolls for Fundraiser**

The Wausau West Girls Basketball Team raised more than \$4,000 for their team by selling more than 5,300 egg rolls! The girls spent Saturday, October 23 making them. This fundraiser wouldn't have been possible without the help of these donors:

- Busy Bees Honey of Wausau (Donated Ground Pork)
- Zillmans (Donated Ground Pork)
- Thrive Foodery (Donated 6 Cases of Chopped Cabbage and Carrots)
- Wausau World Market (Provided Generous Discount on Bulk Ingredients)
- Presto Specialty Products (Donated Ziplock Bags)
- Jon & Cathy Creisher (Donated the Oil for Frying and Volunteered their House for the Event)
- Center for the Visual Arts (Provided the Use of the Chest Freezer)





## Youth Apprenticeship Coordinators Visit Wausau Coated

Youth Apprenticeship (YA) Coordinators, including Wausau School District's own Jon Winter, visited Wausau Coated Products to learn about the variety of career opportunities at Wausau Coated. Students in YA earn school credit while being mentored on the job and completing specific job competencies in Manufacturing, Assembly and Packaging, Maintenance and Repair, and STEM.



We are so thankful to our local employers for helping to create opportunities like this for our students and programs!

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## Wausau West Food Pantry Receives Donations

The Wausau West High School Food Pantry is extremely grateful to have received two very generous donations this past week.

One was a very large donation of food from Peyton's Promise and the other was a \$1,080 check from Lamb's Fresh Market and their generous Rib Mountain customers!

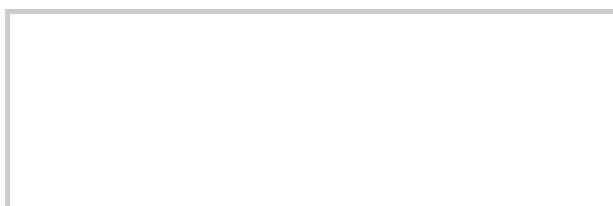
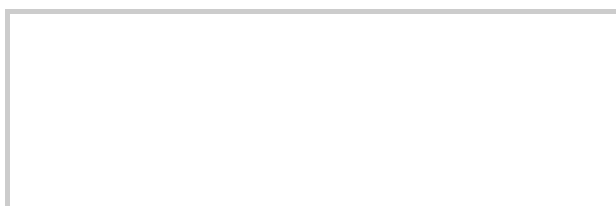


## Calling all Volunteers!

O.N.E. (Our Network for Education) is the Wausau School District's Volunteer Program!

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

## Wausau School District Students Honored







The National Merit® Scholarship Program is an annual academic competition among high school students for recognition and college scholarships.

Wausau East is proud to honor Elroy Phillips who is listed as a National Merit® Semifinalist. Elroy is considered one of the highest-scoring entrants in the state of Wisconsin and is still eligible for Finalist standing.



Wausau East is also proud to honor Chloe Maier who is listed as a Commended Student in the National Merit® Scholarship Program.



Wausau East is also proud to honor Katherine Rauscher who is also listed as a Commended Student in the National Merit® Scholarship Program.



Wausau East is also proud to honor Eleanor Sewall who is also listed as a Commended Student in the National Merit® Scholarship Program.





Wausau West is proud to honor Luke Brown for being named a National Merit® Commended Scholar.

Wausau West is also proud to honor Andrew Tischer for being named a National Merit® Commended Scholar.



## WSMA State Honors Music Project



Congratulations to Wausau East's Katherine Rauscher and Wausau West's Emma Senanayake! They participated in the Wisconsin School Music Association's (WSMA) State Honors Music Project on October 28th at the Overture Center in Madison.

The State Honors Music Project gives musically-talented youth, from all across the state, the chance to rehearse and perform with nationally-recognized conductors.

Katherine Rauscher: Soloist, Soprano I, Mixed Choir  
Emma Senanayake (pictured right): Soprano II, Treble Choir

## **Wausau East Student Crowned "Miss Snowflake"**

Wausau East Junior Alishya "AJ" Kreager is Wisconsin's "Miss Snowflake." She was crowned at the Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs (AWSC) Annual Fall Workshop in October.

As Miss Snowflake, she will serve as the spokesperson for AWSC for the upcoming snowmobile season; traveling the state of Wisconsin promoting snowmobiling at dozens of events.



## **Athletes/Coaches Honored**

### **Wausau East Swimming Coach and Student Swimmer Recognized**

Wausau East's Chloe Kremnitzer is named 2021 Wisconsin Valley Conference Swimmer of the Year! She's pictured with Coach Derek Steinke who was named Wisconsin Valley Conference Coach of the Year!



## Wausau East's Assistant Coach Mark Ekiss named Packers Coach of the Week

The Green Bay Packers organization says he is the "perfect illustration of the type of coach who impacts and inspires student athletes both on and off the field, as well as the community as a whole."



Wausau West Warrior

# ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT

**Daveon Gillespie**  
DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Valley Football Association - unanimous selection





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## Academic All-State Honors



The Golf Coaches Association of Wisconsin (GCAW) is pleased to announce that Ayla Trollop and Ella Lambrecht, both from Wausau West High School, have been recognized as Academic All-State honorees for the recently concluded fall 2021 girls' golf season.

Ella and Ayla are student-athletes who serve as great examples to others, proving that academic and athletic successes are not mutually exclusive.

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## Chief Finance & Business Services Officer Receives Award

Congratulations to the Wausau School District's Chief Finance and Business Services Officer Bob Tess for receiving the 2021 Mike Roshar Shining Star Award at the Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials, Inc. and Foundation (WASBO) 2021 Fall Conference!

The purpose of the Mike Roshar Shining Star Award is to recognize, celebrate, and

encourage outstanding contributions to WASBO through member participation in committees, regional leadership, and/or program development.



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Visit [wausauschools.org](http://wausauschools.org)

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## 2021-2022 Wausau School District Calendar

Board approved: 2-22-2021

July 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	
	5	6	7	8	9	
	12	13	14	15	16	
	19	20	21	22	23	
	26	27	28	29	30	

August 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	2	3	4	5	6	
	9	10	11	12	13	
	16	17	18	19	20	
	23	24	25	26	27	
	30	31				

Aug 26, 30-31: Professional Learning  
Aug 27: No Classes - Non-Contract Days

September 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	
	6	7	8	9	10	
	13	14	15	16	17	
	20	21	22	23	24	
	27	28	29	30		

Sept 1: First Day of School  
Sept 6: No Classes - Labor Day

October 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	
	4	5	6	7	8	
	11	12	13	14	15	
	18	19	20	21	22	
	25	26	27	28	29	

Oct 27: No Elementary Classes  
No AM/PM Pre-K Classes  
No PM Secondary Classes  
Oct 27: 1st Quarter Ends (40)  
Oct 28-29: No Classes - PL

November 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	
	8	9	10	11	12	
	15	16	17	18	19	
	22	23	24	25	26	
	29	30				

Nov 24: No Classes - Non-Contract Day  
Nov 25-26: No Classes-Thanksgiving Break

December 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	
	6	7	8	9	10	
	13	14	15	16	17	
	20	21	22	23	24	
	27	28	29	30	31	

Dec 23-31: No Classes - Winter Break

January 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	3	4	5	6	7	
	10	11	12	13	14	
	17	18	19	20	21	
	24	25	26	27	28	
	31					

Jan 14: No PM Elementary Classes -  
Recordkeeping  
No AM/PM Pre-K Classes  
Jan 14: 2nd Quarter Ends (46)  
Jan 17: No Classes - PL

February 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	
	7	8	9	10	11	
	14	15	16	17	18	
	21	22	23	24	25	
	28					

Feb 18: No Classes - PL

March 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	
	7	8	9	10	11	
	14	15	16	17	18	
	21	22	23	24	25	
	28	29	30	31		

March 18: No PM Elementary Classes -  
Recordkeeping  
No AM/PM Pre-K Classes  
March 18: 3rd Quarter Ends (43)  
March 21- 25: No Classes - Spring Break

April 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	
	4	5	6	7	8	
	11	12	13	14	15	
	18	19	20	21	22	
	25	26	27	28	29	

April 15: No Classes

May 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	2	3	4	5	6	
	9	10	11	12	13	
	16	17	18	19	20	
	23	24	25	26	27	
	30	31				

May 27: No Classes - PL  
May 30: No Classes - Memorial Day

June 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2		
	6	7	8	9	10	
	13	14	15	16	17	
	20	21	22	23	24	
	27	28	29	30		

June 3: No PM Classes - All  
Elementary Recordkeeping  
No AM/PM Pre-K Classes  
June 3: Students' Last Day  
June 3: 4th Quarter Ends (46)  
June 6: Teachers' Last Day

No Classes

Students' first and last days of school

No Classes - Professional Learning (PL)

No Pre-K or Elementary Classes / No PM Secondary Classes / Recordkeeping AM (Elem) and Parent/Teacher Conferences PM

2022 High School Graduation: May 23 - West; May 24 - WAVE; May 25 - East; May 26 - EEA

Quarter Ends (1st - 40) (2nd - 46) (3rd - 43) (4th - 46) = 175

Teachers' last day of school

No PM Elem Classes-Recordkeeping. No AM/PM Pre-K Classes

### Upcoming Board of Education Meetings:

- November 22 at 6 p.m., following the Community Engagement Session at 5 p.m.
- December 13 at 5 p.m.

## Get to Know the Wausau School Foundation

For two decades, the Wausau School Foundation has helped thousands of students and teachers within the Wausau School District. As a nonprofit public-private partnership, the Foundation creates and supports programs to improve student and teacher opportunities by raising funds for grants, District programs, and teacher recognition.



*The Wausau School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, sex, (including transgender status, change of sex or gender identity), or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability ("Protected Classes").*



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