

We are *your* West Carrollton schools

State of
the District

END OF FIRST SEMESTER
2022 - 2023



A Message from *your* Superintendent



The school year started with some big changes in the district. Two new buildings were ready to welcome Pirates to the first day of school.

The new Early Childhood Center opened for preschool through first grade students and the new Intermediate School opened for fifth and sixth grade students. There is more about the building project on the back cover of this publication, and it includes information about Phase II and how we are continuing to build

for the future.

The district has changed to “grade banding,” which means students will be together throughout their academic career. Grade level teachers are housed together and can share data and work together to focus on academic success and areas that need improvement.

Inside, you can find stories about our students and how they are achieving through academics and athletics, as well as being good citizens in the community. I’m also happy to share a story about a recent

addition to the Intermediate School staff as we welcome a School Resource Officer to add another layer to school security.

We are building for the future, and we’re also working today for every child in the district. I am so proud of the students and their accomplishments so far this school year. I can’t wait to see what they do in the second half of the year!

PIRATE PROUD

Dr. Andrea Townsend

Academics

Reading is the foundation for learning. Preschool students have reading time every day in the classroom and have the opportunity to visit the school library and the bookmobile to check out books. Time for reading is available at every school!



Reading is a life-long skill, and it's never too early to begin! Free books are available for children from birth to age five at the Imagination Library.

Check out imaginationlibrary.com

iReady is a diagnostic tool that allows elementary level teachers to determine the academic progress of individual students as well as grade levels. The results of iReady tests also provide data for areas that need improvement. Tests were given in December, 2022, to measure the growth in reading and math for grades 2, 3 and 4 since the beginning of the school year. The grade level results show:

Grade 2 —

51% Improvement in Reading
33% Improvement in Math

Grade 3 —

46% Improvement in Reading
48% Improvement in Math

Grade 4 —

40% Improvement in Reading
45% Improvement in Math

Teachers can use the results to work with individual students or in small groups to focus on areas that need improvement.

Sixth grade students at the Intermediate School have STEM classes (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). Pictured is Mrs. Kincer helping a student working on computer coding. Her Design and Modeling class challenged students to create a shoe using specific design requirements. The students worked in teams and did a presentation about their design. The main objective was to create a shoe that would keep the foot flat on the floor when standing while also being comfortable and allowing movement.



Middle School students have been exploring careers by visiting the Miami Valley Career Technology Center to explore career paths they may wish to pursue in High School.

... story continues inside!



Pirate Stories



High School Juniors, Sarah Sari and Madilyn McCune, serve as student representatives to the Board of Education. Although they are not voting members, they get to sit with the School Board at meetings and observe actions taken by the School Board. Both are anxious to not only represent the students at the High School, but all students across the school district and bring ideas to Board meetings. Madilyn shared her experiences of being a student representative at the Ohio School Board Association conference in November. She joined other area student representatives and co-presented at a session for Board Members and administrators from across the state interested in creating a similar program in their district.

The Competition Cheer Team brought the Pirate spirit when they returned to competition this year! They also brought home the Miami Valley League Division Championship Trophy! The Middle School team competed and placed third out of eight Miami Valley League teams. Go Pirates!



The Pirate Patch Garden at the High School is operated by student and staff volunteers. Pictured is Judi Brooks who oversees the garden which was started using



grants from Katie's Krops and continues to receive grants and donations to keep the garden growing. There was over 1,000 pounds of produce raised in the garden during the summer, and the fresh vegetables were donated to the West Carrollton Food Pantry.

Pirate students and staff give back to the community.



West Carrollton High School Band students entertained veterans at the Dayton VA for Veterans Day.



First grade students grabbed their favorite crayon color to make holiday cards for nursing home residents.



Cameron Ekberg has been a life-long baseball fan and has been playing for about 13 years.

Although he played different positions while learning the game, being a left-handed pitcher is where he shines. Ekberg was pitching at 72 mph a few years ago when he met former Dayton Dragons player, Andrew McDonald. With McDonald's help, he increased his speed to 80 mph. He has continued to work with coaches, including West Carrollton Head Baseball Coach, Marc Hill, and is now pitching at 88 mph.

That hard work, along with his academics, have paid off. He signed to play baseball and continue his education at Heidelberg University following graduation. He plans to major in sports management and is considering doing a double major to include business. Continuing to play baseball is important to Ekberg and his future goals. He would love to eventually be a pitcher for his favorite team, the Cincinnati Reds. Long term, he wants to have his own baseball facility and summer team as well as be a leader in the sport and give back to others.

He credits his teachers and coaches with being like another family. Pictured are staff members who came to celebrate with him!

Hard work in sports and academics pays off!



WE ARE WEST CARROLLTON PIRATES

Academics *continued from front cover*

Students also participated in Career Day to learn about careers in broadcasting, theater, music production, health fields, trades, engineering, athletic training, teaching and interior design. Career professionals came into the school to give students more information about jobs in these areas, answer questions and even provide some hands-on opportunities.

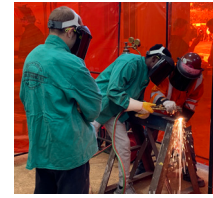


A group of Juniors and Seniors were able to take advantage of an opportunity to travel to the Ohio Operating Engineers Training Center to explore various career and appren-

ticeship programs available through the Construction Career Expo. Last year, high school students completed several aptitude brain games and an interest survey through a program called You Science. Students whose results in You Science identified strong aptitudes and/or interests in the various areas of construction careers were targeted for this unique opportunity. While attending the Expo, students were able to learn about the educational requirements, skills, salary and benefits the various career fields offer, along with Apprenticeship programs that students can take advantage of to become an experienced journeyman in that field.

Students were able to explore all of the following areas: *Laborers, Carpenters and Millwrights, Insulators, Iron Workers, Pipefitters, Painters, Electricians, Sheet Metal, Roofing, Cement Masons, Plasterers, Heavy Equipment and Operating Engineers.* A highlight for most students was the ability to participate in hands-on activities that included carpentry demo and the use of screw guns, snips and drills, mixing and pouring plaster molds, bending, framing and building tool box trays out of sheet metal, welding/iron work and operating heavy equipment.

Students were able to explore all of the following areas: *Laborers, Carpenters and Millwrights, Insulators, Iron Workers, Pipefitters, Painters, Electricians, Sheet Metal, Roofing, Cement Masons, Plasterers, Heavy Equipment and Operating Engineers.* A highlight for most students was the ability to participate in hands-on activities that included carpentry demo and the use of screw guns, snips and drills, mixing and pouring plaster molds, bending, framing and building tool box trays out of sheet metal, welding/iron work and operating heavy equipment.



The Middle School Food Drive collected over 4,500 food items donated to the local food pantry.

That equated to nearly 10 items per person that was donated!



West Carrollton Firefighters visited schools to present fire safety tips to students. Four students were selected to have breakfast with the firefighters, a personal tour of the firehouse and a ride to school in a fire truck!

Both West Carrollton and Moraine promote safety for students throughout the school year!

Moraine Police Officer, Chad Burgett, has been with the Moraine Police Department since 2007; however, his career in safety began in West Carrollton Schools! He remembers being part of the 6th grade safety patrol.



Officer Burgett will be returning to the school district in mid-January to begin a new phase of his career as he becomes the School Resource Officer for the Intermediate School. He is already familiar with the building and has visited several times while out on patrol. "It's a different side of law enforcement," he said, regarding his new role. Keeping students and staff safe will be his priority. He is also looking forward to building relationships with the students, families and staff.

School district welcomes School Resource Officer.

First grade students learned the value of friendship during a Friends Giving classroom feast!



Schnell students had a Veterans Day presentation and got to invite a Veteran to attend! The entire school attended the assembly and students spoke about what they had learned about Veterans Day.

West Carrollton City Schools

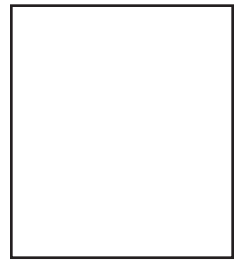
430 E. Pease Avenue

West Carrollton, OH 45449



westcarrolltonschools.com

937-859-5121



SAFE • RESPECTFUL • RESPONSIBLE



WE ARE PIRATE PROUD!

Local Postal Customer

On Time and On Budget!



Thanks to the community, a Building Bond Issue was passed in November, 2019 to allow the construction of four new buildings. Passage of the Building Bond Issue locked in the commitment from the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) to pay for 81% of the co-funded cost of construction with the community portion being 19% of the co-funded cost.

A two-phase construction plan began immediately after the Building Bond Issue was passed.

PHASE I

- A new Early Childhood Center for preschool through first grade

- An Intermediate School for grades five and six

It was about a year of meetings and planning before the ground-breaking ceremony in October, 2020. Both new buildings opened for the first day of school on August 24, 2022 on time and on budget!

PHASE II

- A new Elementary School for grades two through four
- A new Middle School/High School campus for grades seven through twelve

The new Elementary School will be built on the same property as the new Early Childhood Center and the

Campus will be built on the same property as the current High School.

Planning and construction for Phase II is anticipated to take longer due to the additional square footage of the combined buildings.

The Campus will be designed as one building with separate learning spaces to divide Middle School and High School students.

Vision meetings have happened that allowed staff to give input to the architects from Levin Porter regarding classroom needs. Although a date has not yet been set, a meeting for the community will be scheduled as planning continues. The meeting will be announced on the the district website at westcarrolltonschools.com and the district Facebook page at West Carrollton City Schools.