



Junior Blues News



February 2024

Principal's Letter	1
Counseling Office	2
Academic Assistance	3
International Baccalaureate	4
AF JROTC	5
Career and Technical Education	6
-WRHS Bank	10
-Common Grounds	12
-The Shack	13
Chimes Yearbook	14
-Attention Alumni	15
-Sponsors	16
STUCO - Winter Formal Information	17
Media Center	18
Drama Department	22
PTO Blues Backers	24
Art Department	28

Featured Story



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

Produced by: WRHS Business Communications
Sponsor: Brian McFall

From the Desk of Our Principal



Welcome back! I do hope that you had a memorable winter break. As you know, another semester is underway at WRHS and it is shaping up to be as eventful as the last! Winter sports and activities are in full swing and classes are going well!

A very important upcoming event that I would like to direct your attention to is Student Led-Conferences. They will occur on Wednesday and Thursday, February 7 and 8 respectively. Conference times are:

- Wednesday, February 7, 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Thursday, February 8, 7:30 - 11:00 a.m.
- Thursday, February 8, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- Thursday, February 8, 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

One of the most important things that you can do as a parent to help your child achieve is to not only establish regular and open communication with their teachers, but also become informed about what courses and programs your student most enjoys and the ways in which high school experiences and opportunities can and will relate to post-secondary success. Our Student-Led Conferences afford students and parents the opportunity for this very thing, alongside their Advisory Teacher. The primary focus for spring conferences will consist of students' reflections of the courses they've taken and the courses in which they are planning to take next school year. Students will talk to parents about their individualized 4-year Plan of Study, share their academic and personal goals, and provide parents with a comprehensive report that details potential career interests, post-secondary education options, colleges of interest and student transcripts. I would also encourage you to share any other information about your child that would assist us in better understanding their needs.

We plan to offer the same scheduling opportunities as we did in October through our scheduling platform, myconferencetime.com. Students will sign up during their advisory class for their Student-Led Conference during the week of January 22nd. Beginning January 29th, you will have the opportunity to schedule with as many of your student's other teachers as you need to. 15-minute appointments will be available and you'll have the opportunity to choose virtual or in-person meetings. Our Counseling and Administrative Staffs will also be listed on myconferencetime.com and available during conferences. Please do not hesitate to schedule with one of us.

As we move closer to the end of the third 9-weeks, we are aware that some students may be struggling. Tuesday/Thursday Interventions continue and are a great opportunity for students who need more time on campus to work. If your child is referred by our staff, we certainly hope you will support our efforts to ensure their success by encouraging attendance. It is our mission to ensure that every student learns to the best of their ability.

Please let us know how your student is doing. We hope to see you during conferences!

Best,

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

Ed Raines, Principal
rainedw@usd437.net

WRHS Counseling Office

[Counseling Website](#)

Twitter Updates: [@wrhsgo](#)

Crisis Hotline: 785-232-5005

Pre-enrollment

WRHS pre-enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year is currently taking place. Students should utilize the information sent via email and introduced during advisory. This includes information on graduation requirements, post-secondary planning, and pre-enrollment information. All presentations and course guides can be found on the counseling website under ACADEMIC PLANNING.

Counselors met/will meet with students in the auditorium to help with pre-enrollment on the following dates: February 5 (juniors), February 2, (sophomores), February 1 (freshmen). Pre-enrollment requests must be submitted to Naviance by February 27. When students have questions, they should email or see their [school counselor](#).

Program Highlights

Last year, we highlighted several WRHS programs in this newsletter including Washburn Institute of Technology, Dual Credit, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate. Those highlights can be found [HERE](#). If you or your children have questions, please contact your school counselor.

ACT on February 27

300 juniors are registered for the State ACT on February 27 and will take the test online. Juniors should check their email regularly for updates on testing details. Juniors were sent ACT [preparation resources](#) by email. The counseling website also has preparation resources. We encourage students to prepare for the test.

Scholarships

Many new scholarships have been added to the [Counseling Website](#). The list provides access to applications as well as information on eligibility requirements and deadlines. We encourage students to take advantage of these opportunities and apply!

College Visits

As you start to make summer plans, 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 at <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/find-colleges/campus-visit-guide>.

Stress Management and Teens

This article provides information on ways parents can help teens learn to manage their stress. A few tips are included below. We hope families find this information helpful. Click [HERE](#).

Monitor if stress is affecting their teen's health, behavior, thoughts, or feelings

- Listen carefully to teens and watch for overloading
- Learn and model stress management skills
- Support involvement in sports and other pro-social activities

Free Academic Assistance

AFTER SCHOOL LABS

Library

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

Room E554

- **AF-JROTC**

Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:05-4:15pm

Need a ride home?

Sign-Up in the Main Office for Transportation

Before or during lunch

◆ International Baccalaureate

IB CAS Project: Students Help Feed Topeka

What is CAS?

CAS stands for Creativity-Activity-Service and is an essential component of the IB core curriculum. CAS requires that students stretch themselves and grow outside the boundaries of the classroom by asking them to become active, serve the community, and engage in creative activities.

What are some of our students doing for CAS?

Among other activities, each IB diploma candidate must create, develop, and reflect upon one project that incorporates at least two categories of CAS (e.g., creativity and service). They are required to collaborate with others in the community, and many of these projects are developed to support the people of Topeka in some way.



A few WRHS IB diploma candidates have been working hard to support the mission of one particular local organization: Bee the Blessing. According to the organization's [website](#), "Bee the Blessing, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit organization, operating for the sole purpose of coordinating food distribution to the Blessing Boxes in Topeka, Kansas. Through a network of dedicated volunteers and donors of food and money, we endeavor to have food in the Boxes on a regular basis."

Bee the Blessing has found at least three such volunteers in WRHS IB seniors Naledi Mackenzie, Sienna Hamilton, and Megan Weis, who have spent the past two years raising funds to repair and fill "Blessing Boxes" around the city. The trio began last year by checking the conditions of donation boxes before repairing and painting them as needed. They have also found the means to fill those boxes. Over the past two years, Megan, Sienna, and Naledi have been awarded nearly \$8,500 from the Stay785 Grant administered by the Topeka Youth Commission. With that money, they have filled and will continue to replenish boxes for the community.

"Bee the Blessing aligns perfectly with my values, and as I learned more about the help this organization provides to the Topeka community, I knew I wanted to be a part of that," said Sienna Hamilton of her motivation for helping the organization. She added, "When we share our time and resources with those in need, we not only help to alleviate hunger and discomfort, but we also build connections and foster a sense of community."

Megan and Naledi emphasized the importance of initiative and teamwork as they reflected on their experiences. "The teamwork involved is one of my favorite aspects of the project. I have learned how to effectively achieve a goal through working together," said Megan Weis on some of her biggest takeaways from working on the project. Her project partner, Naledi, agreed: "Though I have been fortunate enough to do this with my team, doing any type of project requires initiative from each individual. Initiative to get out your ideas, find ways to make it happen, and take the first step in achieving whatever the goal might be."

The students have already recruited others to join them in their efforts to support Bee the Blessing, and they hope to pass the torch to younger students when they graduate in May.

IB Learner Profile

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

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

◆ Air Force JROTC

During the months of November and December WRHS students competed in the Harvest Cup, which is a competition between the four high schools in Topeka with JROTC units. Our cadets competed well with Kelcie Schneider winning the female flexed arm hang, Jacob Litton winning the male pull-up competition, and Nicolette Jones won the female pie eating contest. Our team of Kenzie East, Nicole Finney, Satine Griffith and Mariah McDonald were victorious in the 4 person push-up competition.

The very next day they competed in the City Drill meet and won first place in Armed Regulation Drill and took second place in New Cadet Drill. Sophomore Aidyn Robinson earned second place out of 100 cadets in the Individual Drill Down.

The academic bowl team competed in the first round of the College Options Foundation Competition and qualified for the second round for the 10th straight year.

When the cadets weren't competing they conducted six stadium clean ups, a mattress sale and packed/moved boxes at Pauline Central elementary school to raise funds for our unit. They showed their desire to serve the community by conducting over 350 hours of community service supporting various veteran celebrations around Topeka.



◆ Career and Technical Education



Celebrate CTE Month!

Students and staff will come together to celebrate Career and Technical Education (CTE) at Washburn Rural High School. We have many outstanding programs along with our school-based enterprises and Career and Technical Student Organizations for students to participate and expand their knowledge in many career areas.



Visit our website for more information wrhs.net/cte

National Technical Honor Society Induction

On December 4th The Washburn Rural Chapter of National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) held its Induction Ceremony. The Co-Presidents Molly Didde and Addison Jones presided over the ceremony. The ceremony involves lighting of the candles that represent the seven attributes of NTHS, recognition of our officers and 2nd year members.

The National Technical Honor Society is an educational non-profit that exists to honor, recognize, and empower students and teachers in Career & Technical Education. As the honor society for Career & Technical Education, NTHS serves over 100,000 active members annually in both secondary and postsecondary chapters across the country. Since its founding in 1984, nearly 1 million students have become NTHS alumni. NTHS honors the achievements of top CTE students, provides close to \$300,000 in scholarships annually, and strives to help connect education and industry to build a highly skilled workforce.



The following students were inducted: Kyelie Arb, Regan Hughes, Kristen Rezac, Ashley Billups, Peter Johnston, Cora Sabel, Zoe Canfield, Shane Jueneman, Ashley Schwarz, Emerie Catlin, Brooklyn Koci, Daisy Shandler, Alyssa Christian, Megan Louderback, Thorsten Siegel, Logan Frydendall, Naledi Mackenzie, Allie Theis, Cora Genovese, Jack Miranda, Ainsley Wells, Maximillian Gutierrez, Isabelle Haggard, Jack Muir, William Powell, and Harley Wires. **Second Year Members:** Qays Abu-Hijleh, Molly Didde, Dylan Dodge, Jayden Grabauskas, Rebecca Hoopes, Jada Ingram, Gabby Jackson, Addison Jones, Hayden Keller, Abigail Sharshel, Madison Stout, and Georgia Zeller.

NTHS Officers: Molly Didde: Co-President, Addison Jones: Co-President, Cora Genovese: Secretary, and Alyssa Christian: Treasurer

For more information please contact NTHS Sponsor, Teresa Golden, at goldeter@usd437.net

◆ Career and Technical Education

Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security Pathway

Students in Criminal Justice I and II participated in a career seminar that included the following speakers: Students not only listened to the presentation but were able to ask questions and reflect on content they have been learning in class.

Thursday, Dec. 7th BNSF police officer, K9 Handler - Kyle Cochran

Friday, Dec. 8th U.S Probation Officers - Courtney Smith and Joel Cromwell

Monday, Dec. 11th Shawnee County DA -- Mike Kagay

Tuesday, Dec. 12th Director of the Shawnee County Dept of Corrections - Brian Cole

Wednesday, Dec. 13th Jason Geier - Shawnee County District Court Judge



US Probation Officers

Hospitality & Tourism - Restaurant & Event Management Pathway

ServSafe Exam

Twenty-one students in Ms Dible's Culinary Arts class earned their National Recognized ServSafe Certificate right before the Winter Break. Congratulations to those students! The ServSafe® program is a national certification program designed to teach safe handling practices to foodservice employees and others who handle and serve food to the public.

Guest speaker

Jay Tremblay, Assistant Director of Operations talked to students about Chick-fil-A's Personnel and Training. Students were able to learn about the soft skills necessary to become a good employee and ask questions about the day to day operations of Chick Fil A. What helped them to be so successful?



"I learned that before the owner of chick-fil-a started his chicken business he was actually cooking burgers. Chick-fil-a also has about 3,000- 4,000 customers each day! Lastly, you can possibly start working under the age of 16 if you show soft skills like responsibility, hard working, and social skills. If you do work under the age of 16 you can only work 3 hours during the week." Camrynn Ahrens

"I learned from Jay Tremblay that they serve over 3,000 people every day and they give out a meal every 18 seconds. You can be 14 years old to work there if they think you are a good employee at the interview. You start at \$9.00 an hour. They are very flexible with your schedule and the atmosphere is like a family. They will also give out scholarships." Taryn Jellison

◆ Career and Technical Education

Biomedical Pathway

HOSA Club (future health professionals) meets regularly on Club Days to listen to career presentations in the medical field. HOSA is a global student-led organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services and several federal and state agencies. HOSA's mission is to empower HOSA-Future Health Professionals to become leaders in the global health community, through education, collaboration, and experience. HOSA actively promotes career opportunities in the health industry and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people.

Interested in starting your career today? Visit the PPT presentation below for more information

- Barb Carranza - Admin Director of Nursing
- Amy Kincade - Vice President at Stormont Vail
- Morgan Ray, MAOM
Career Counselor
Human Resources

 HS Exploring Healthcare Nursing Careers ppt_w barb edits (002).pptx

Information Technology Pathways



WRHS hosted a STEAM Carnival on December 7th for elementary and middle school students from across the district. Participants rotated through a variety of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics activities during the STEAM Carnival! Among the many stations were airplane racing, cubelet coding, snap circuits, and Sphero bowling. The event was hosted by the Washburn Rural High School Computer Science Honor Society (CSHS) in celebration of Computer Science Education Week. Approximately 205 registered and 150 students

participated. Special thanks to the middle school and high school teachers along with their students for hosting the night of fun!

Watch the local news coverage of the event!

<https://www.ksnt.com/news/spotted/washburn-rural-high-school-hosts-steam-carnival/>

For more information please contact Haley Schmitz at schmihal@usd437.net

Construction & Design Pathway

Congratulations to WRHS students for becoming NCCER Certified. These three boys are the first of many to become NCCER certified. NCCER is recognized by the construction industry as the training, assessment, certification and career development standard for the construction and maintenance craft professional.



Augustus Barngrover, Grayson Adams, and Tyler Edmiston

◆ Career and Technical Education

The National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) is the leading provider of construction education for industry and career and technical education programs. With flexible workforce development and learning solutions, NCCER's programs provide consistency and quality to ensure craft professionals and learners receive industry-recognized certifications and credentials. With training and assessments in over 40 crafts and multiple construction disciplines, no matter your specialty, NCCER has you covered. Again, congratulations to these students and Mr. Grose!

CTE Opportunities

Virtual Health Care Career Day - February 1, 2024 - 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The Kansas Hospital Associations will be sponsoring this virtual event again this year on February 1, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information and to register, check out this [DOCUMENT](#).

Career Preparation

Career Technical Education (CTE) is a valuable enhancement to traditional classroom learning. It allows students to gain knowledge and hands-on experience about specific career pathways. With an emphasis on helping students be prepared to be successful in high-wage, high-demand careers. Pathways are designed to move along a continuum of career awareness, career exploration, and career readiness. WRHS offers fifteen Career Pathways. Learn more at wrhs.net/cte Please contact Teresa Golden at goldeter@usd437.net.

WRHS Enrollment for 2024-25 School Year

As your student begins the enrollment process you might consider Career & Technical Education classes. CTE provides students with not only career and academic skills, but soft skills that are needed for the modern workplace, such as: critical thinking; communication; team work; citizenship, integrity, and ethical leadership; research tools; creativity; and innovation. Explore course offerings in the [course planning guide](#).

The four main components of a CTE that engage high school students in their learning endeavors:

- Classroom Instruction. Integration of academic and technical skills to support core academic knowledge needs.
- Laboratory Learning. Hands-on learning to develop technical skills to support core knowledge needs.
- Work-based Learning. (Workplace Experience) The goal is to increase individualization as students connect their interests, skills, and goals with career possibilities.
- Student Leadership. Develop a sense of confidence, integrity and belief in themselves and their ideas.



Fun Facts...

How many career pathways are there in CTE?

- 58 career pathways organized around 15 industry sectors.

What is the most commonly taught course in CTE?

- Business education courses are among the most common in CTE because of their versatility. A background in business prepares CTE students to work in almost every career path or industry, especially management.

◆ Career and Technical Education



Sponsored by Silver Lake Bank

On December 5th banking and finance / investing students from the WRHS Bank participated in a shadow day at Capitol Federal. The purpose of the day was an opportunity to introduce high school students to the banking industry.

The morning started off hearing from Billy J. Skrobacz Jr., Executive Vice President, Retail Operations! Students then got to tour the home office. Next the students got an introduction to banking and looking at the big picture. The students then got to take a tour of the Home Office on Kansas Avenue. After a highlight from each banking department students had the opportunity to shadow employees from different departments: Marketing: Lisa Fulbright, Fraud: Stephanie Flood, Financial Reporting: David Packard, Retail Banking: Mark Rosen, Loan Servicing: Perry Plummer, and IT: Dana Revels.

This time allowed the students to discuss the following with the student: overview of a “typical” day, what they love about their work, their career path – any degrees/certifications required, company/industry growth potential, things they wished a seasoned professional had told them as a student, and introduce the student to coworkers and colleagues and explain how they and their colleagues collaborate. The shadow time opportunities focused on the following areas: Human Resources/Training, Marketing, Branch Management, Accounting, Audit, Information Technology, Financial Intelligence Unit, Lending/Underwriting, IRA/Regulatory Reporting Department, Banking Operations, Compliance & Risk Management, Cybersecurity, Transaction Account Services, and Deposit Services.

The day ended with a question/answer panel with lunch and prizes! A big thank you to Liz Walker (Human Resources) for planning this day for us at Capitol Federal. If you are interested in an internship or employment at Capitol Federal please visit their website at: <https://www.capfed.com/>



“Spending the day at Capitol Federal allowed me to understand what steps it takes to get jobs in the different business fields, what all of the jobs within a bank entail, as well as allow me to better build preferences for my professional future.” Senior Molly Didde

◆ Career and Technical Education



Sponsored by Silver Lake Bank

2024 Silver Lake Bank Scholarships

Silver Lake Bank is pleased to offer three \$1,000 Scholarships to the WRHS Class of '24

Silver Lake Bank is committed to giving back to our community and is proud to support the graduates of Washburn Rural High School as they pursue post-secondary opportunities. We wish all graduates success in their future endeavors!

Scholarship Criteria

- Demonstrated academic and cognitive preparation.
(must have maintained a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale)
- Demonstrated employability skills: communication skills, strategic thinking, emotional intelligence, and problem solving.
- Demonstrated technical skills.
- Demonstrated civic engagement.

How to apply

- Submit a cover letter and resume' in PDF format to scholarships@silverlakebank.com by **March 15, 2024**.
- The cover letter and resume' should address criteria outlined above and include current school, post-secondary plans, and why the candidate is deserving of the scholarship.

Additional Information

- Scholarship recipients will be notified by mail in April 2024.
- Scholarships are non-renewable.

Washburn Rural Junior Blues School Spirit Loyalty Card



The scholarships are funded by the Silver Lake Bank Washburn Rural Junior Blues School Spirit Loyalty Cards. The bank provides \$.05 to the WRHS Scholarship Fund for each debit card transaction that does not require your PIN.

Don't have a card? Show your WRHS colors and open an account to get your card today! Call Silver Lake Bank at 785.232.0102 or email slbank@silverlakebank.com.

COMMON GROUNDS

BOGO FREE
Lover's
LEMONADE

Feb 14th



Rural Heart Shirts are back for Valentine's day!

**Pre-Order from The Shack
at ruralspirit.square.site
or scan below!**



**Supplies are limited!
Visit The Shack
website to see our
new selection of
colors for long sleeve
shirts and crew
necks!**



2024 WRHS YEARBOOK

Name: _____

Grade: 9 10 11 12

Yearbook Prices: \$55.00

\$75 for available extra copies at 2025 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**

WRHS Yearbook Presents

YEARBOOK SALE

Up To
50%
Off

Attention Alumni!

Missing a yearbook from your time in high school? WRHS Yearbook currently has several issues still available for purchase! Please contact Yearbook Sponsor by email listed below.

JENNIFER LUETJE

Email: luetjen@usd437.net

Current Yearbooks Available:

1990's -2020

Thank You

for supporting the

2024 Yearbook

GOLD LEVEL SUPPORTERS:

Advisors Excel

Devader's Pools and Spas

Midwest Coating, Inc.

Pepe Miranda Team, Genesis LLC, Realtors

Plato's Closet

SERVPRO of West Topeka

Taj MaDog Pet Boarding

The Dance Factory

Ultimate Bounce

BLUE LEVEL SUPPORTERS:

Brad Noller - American Family Insurance

Birthright of Topeka, Inc.

Cassidy Orthodontics

Community Insurance Solutions, LLC

Kansas Chamber

Keystone Mental Health

KFMC Health Improvement Partners

McElroy's, Inc.

Platinum Realty, Patrick Anderson

Pinapple Dream

Smith Law Firm

Torgeson Trenching

NORTHERN LIGHTS

Washburn Rural High School

WINTER FORMAL 2024

DANCE INFORMATION:

WHEN: FEBRUARY 10TH FROM 8:00PM-11:00PM

WHERE: SUNFLOWER BALLROOM - 1717 SW TOPEKA BLV

TICKETS: TICKETS ARE \$10 EACH.

- Tickets go on sale at the Bank starting JANUARY 31st through February 7th.
- Outside dates must be signed up through the bank by February 6th. No exceptions.
- Tickets may be purchased at the door on the day of the event, but only by WRHS students with a valid ID.

Mrs. Finney's Monthly YA Book Recommendation

February 2024



Fat Chance, Charlie Vega
By Crystal Maldonado
F MAL

Charlie has always felt overlooked and underappreciated, and always worried that she would never find love. So when Charlie gets asked to the dance by her ultimate crush, she could not be happier. That all changes the moment Charlie finds out he only asked her so she would bring her hot best friend along too. Charlie is devastated. Will she ever be enough? Will she ever get her first kiss?

Similar Titles Include:



Connect with us @wrhslib for:

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



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

Visit the WRHS Library to place a hold on or check out one of these amazing books today!

STATE LIBRARY OF KANSAS

LEARNING EXPRESS

<https://bit.ly/3EG3fqQ>



ACT, AP, ACUPLACER, ASVAB,
CLEP, PRAXIS, EMT,
Firefighter, Nursing, Surgical
Technician, etc.

1

TESTS

TUTORIALS

2

Keyboarding, Algebra,
Grammar, Writing,
Geometry, Reading, etc.

short interactive math and
reading lessons, under 10
minutes

3

MICROLESSONS

EBOOKS



4

downloadable free ebooks
for skill building
<https://bit.ly/47lQyNu>

finance and computer skill
video tutorials

5

VIDEOS

ARTICLES

6

information for academic and personal skill building

Pharmacy Tech, EMT, Social Studies, Biology, Science, Math, GED, etc.

7

FLASHCARDS

CAREER DASHBOARD

8

resume, cover letters, career interests, occupation matches

region, type of school, major, cost, enrollment, community, affiliation, athletics

9

SCHOOL FINDER

SCHOLARSHIP FINDER

10

add GPA, test scores and other information to explore educational scholarship offerings

APP for EBSCO LEARNING EXPRESS

11

GOOGLE PLAY

MAC APP



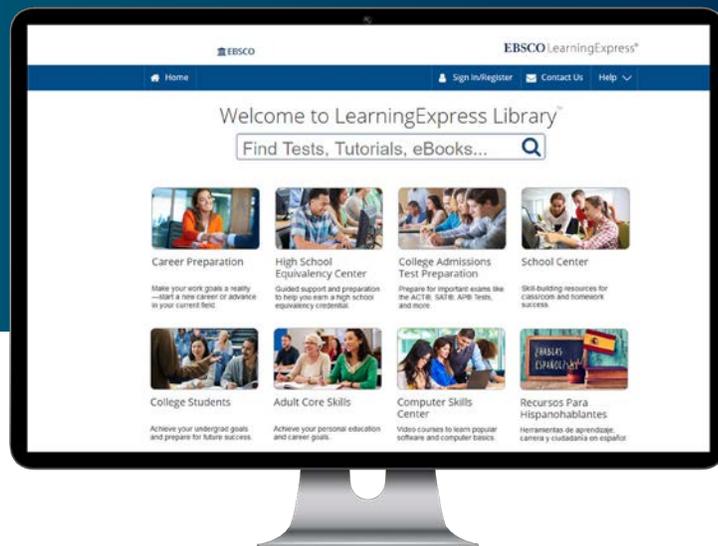
STATE LIBRARY OF KANSAS

12

<http://kslib.info>

Improve your academic skills.
Prepare for high-stakes tests.
Become career-ready.

LearningExpress Library offers targeted learning centers — each with a collection of practice tests, tutorials, e-books, articles and flashcards — to help you achieve your goals.



Career Preparation

Explore potential careers (including military service), build workplace skills, and prepare for the ACT® WorkKeys® Assessments, the ASVAB test, the TOEIC® test and career licensure exams.

High School Equivalency Center

Build your reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary and math skills; prepare for the GED® and HiSET® tests.

Grades 4-8 Educator Resources

Supplement elementary and middle school instruction with curriculum-aligned materials in math, reading, writing and social studies.

High School Students

Find resources to help you build classroom and homework skills in math, English language arts, social studies, science and technology.

College Students

Brush up on your reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, math and science skills. Prepare for ACCUPLACER® and ASSET® college placement tests, CLEP® exams, and graduate school admissions exams such as the DAT®, GMAT®, GRE®, LSAT®, MCAT® and PCAT®.

College Admissions Test Preparation

Get help with writing college admissions essays and prepare for important tests such as the AP®, ACT®, SAT® and more.

Adult Core Skills

Build your math, reading, writing, grammar and public speaking skills. You'll also find resources in English and Spanish to help you prepare for the U.S. citizenship exam.

Computer Skills

Learn the basics of using a computer, navigating the internet, and using popular Microsoft Office software programs such as Access, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint and Word.

Recursos Para Hispanohablantes

Find Spanish-language resources to help you improve your academic skills and prepare for the GED® test.

Ask a librarian for more information.

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◆ Drama Department



Book by Joseph Stein

Music by Jerry Bock

Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick

Original Production Directed and Choreographed by Jerome Robbins

Produced by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI)

One of the most popular musicals in American musical theatre, *Fiddler on the Roof* has successfully appealed to cultures all over the world for generations with songs such as "Sunrise, Sunset" and "Tradition." Tevye, a poor dairy farmer in a small Russian village, has raised his five daughters with his wife according to Jewish tradition. But one by one, his three oldest daughters resist tradition by marrying the men they choose rather than those designated by a matchmaker. Meanwhile, the Tsar's increasing persecution of Russian Jews leads to the violent disruption of the villagers' lives.

Through laughter and tears, joy and sorrow, this musical will speak to families of all races, ages, and backgrounds, as Tevye and his resilient family experience the daily ups and downs any human can identify with, and the kind of oppression we all must ultimately acknowledge.

Production Staff

DIRECTED BY: Maeghan Bishop

SCENE DESIGN AND TECHNICAL DIRECTION: Nick Beasley

VOCAL MUSIC DIRECTION: Ben Holcomb

PIT ORCHESTRA CONDUCTOR: Melissa Sauls

CHOREOGRAPHER: Alex Castaneda

COSTUME SUPERVISOR: Linnea Hoyos

STAGE MANAGER: Emma May

ASSISTANT SM: Kylie Kirk

For more information or to purchase tickets please visit <https://warutheatre.org/winter-musical>

◆ Drama Department

WaRu Theatre at State and National Events

WRHS was represented by 47 students at the Kansas Thespian Festival in Wichita January 4-6.



Our fall play cast got to perform Frankenstein for nearly 2,000 students and teachers from around the state as one of 3 featured mainstage shows!



We also had 4 students receive unanimous Superior scores in their competitive performance and technical Thespy events, qualifying for competition at the national level.

Owen Tremblay: Sound Design, Tillie McIlvain: Musical Solo, and Miriam Smith & Josie Mitchell: Duet Acting

You can support WaRu Theatre students as they grow their skills and represent our district at state and national levels by donating through the Auburn-Washburn Foundation here:

https://www.paypal.com/donate?campaign_id=LP2RWLSNA4KTG



PTO Blues Backers February 2024

WHO WE ARE

Blues Backers is the parent-teacher organization (PTO) at Washburn Rural High School. Our purpose is to work closely with the administration at the school to support the students as well as show appreciation for the hard work of the teachers and staff. This is accomplished through volunteer time and financial support in various ways.

Blues Backers are responsible for organizing and executing a number of events and activities:

- Organizing & Hosting post-prom each year
- Fulfilling funding requests from extra-curricular activities (sports, clubs, activities)
- Providing concessions at events
- Providing hospitality lounge at school-hosted events
- Student achievement recognition
- Hosting teacher appreciation events
- Volunteering at school dances/events

FUNDRAISING

We want to help your organization fundraise! Please check with your organization's school or parent representative to see what dates are still available to work concession stands. Working concession stands are a great way for students to use real world skills and support their club or sport all while making money for their organization.

JOIN THE WRHS PTO/BLUES BACKERS



Deanna Hutsen, President,
Deanna.hutsen@gmail.com

Ronda Kozlowski, Vice President,
rondakoz@gmail.com

<https://usd437.net/schools/wrhs/pto/>



PTO Blues Backers February 2024

FOLLOW US ON
FACEBOOK!



@WRHSBluesBackers

WE LOVE DONATIONS!

We continue to accept donations throughout the year for each year's post prom event.

NEXT UP: POST PROM
PLEASE EMAIL:

wrpostprom@gmail.com

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING
US PLAN IT.

GET INVOLVED!

We would love your help!!!

- Help with concessions, staff appreciation, and post-prom
- Fill board positions: Shadow a current board member and see if the position could be right for you.
- Attend PTO Meetings: We are always seeking new ideas!

Post-prom and concession stands cannot run without more help! Please strongly consider helping your board members out!

Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month. You are welcome to bring friends!

NEXT MEETING:

♥ Wednesday, February 14 ♥

In the WRHS Library



PTO Blues Backers January 2024

LET'S GET READY FOR A SPECTACULAR POST PROM!



Washburn Rural High School's Blues Backers annual Post Prom event is quickly approaching.

For the 37th year, we will offer a safe, substance-free, unifying late-night experience. Our theme for 2024 is A Night at the Circus!

We host this celebration after the WRHS Prom has ended but it is also open to our students who do not attend Prom. **Prom and Post Prom are separate events.** This casual-clothes event is at the high school. Students enjoy food, drinks, games, activities, and prizes that are all FREE with their \$10 admission. Each WRHS senior, junior, and their guests that attend can have a fun time without the drama of risky situations.

This event continues to be a success each year thanks to generous donations from community businesses, local families, and parent volunteers. Gifts, such as merchandise, gift cards, or monetary donations fill vital roles as prizes, foods, or activities. Donors are listed on the website, in newsletters, and on posters.

We also offer \$200 sponsorships that allow your business/family/friends to sponsor a game and have your name(s) prominently posted on the game site. This is a fantastic way to show support for the 2024 Post Prom party! (As the PTO is a 501c3 nonprofit organization your donation may be deductible, consult your tax advisor for details.)

Please consider how you will help make this 37th annual event one to remember!

Please email: wrpostprom@gmail.com for more information.



Credit Cards, Debit Cards,
Google Pay, Paypal, Venmo all
accepted here:

<https://givebutter.com/WaRuPostProm>





PTO Blues Backers February 2024

2023-2024 PTO CONTACT INFORMATION

PRESIDENT:

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VICE PRESIDENT:

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TREASURER:

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ASSISTANT TREASURER:

Jen VandeVelde vandy4012@gmail.com

ACTIVITIES/ATHLETICS:

Charlie Nimz nimzcha@usd437.net

CONCESSIONS FALL CHAIR:

Deanna Hutsen deanna.hutsen@gmail.com

CONCESSIONS WINTER CHAIR:

TBA

CONCESSIONS SPRING CHAIR:

TBA

CONCESSIONS PURCHASING:

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CONCESSIONS DRINKS:

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CONCESSIONS FINANCE:

Jen VandeVelde vandy4012@gmail.com

CONCESSIONS SCHEDULING:

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HOSPITALITY:

Charity King charityklux@yahoo.com

POST PROM:

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PRINT/SOCIAL MEDIA:

Shanna Simpson shannabanana0519@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:

Ronda Kozlowski rondakoz@gmail.com

STAFF APPRECIATION:

Charity King charityklux@yahoo.com

◆ Art Department

15 students in the WRHS Art Department traveled to Fort Hays State University on Wednesday, January 24 for a campus visit and to tour the new FHSU Art and Design facilities. Participants were welcomed by their faculty and had an opportunity to visit with admissions.



Congratulations to the six students who were awarded \$1000 scholarships for their portfolios.



From left to right: Ellie Brandt, Meagan Sanderson, Ashton Dawley, Micah Ward, Gabrielle Arellano and Aytumn Sanchez.

Congratulations to freshman Brooklyn Bowling who won first place in the grade 9-10 category of the 2024 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. art competition for her work titled, "Color of Love." Brooklyn received recognition at the New Mount Zion Baptist Church on January 15, 2024 along with a Target gift card and certificate.



◆ Art Department

Students in IB Visual Art and Advanced Painting produced mixed media monotypes for children at Home of Hope, an orphanage located just outside of Dhaka in Bangladesh. This is part of an ongoing partnership made possible by Elaine Pardee, a former Biology teacher at WRHS who in retirement, spends several months each year as a director at the orphanage.



Yecinta Ngre



Ava Fowler

