



WASHBURN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL

JUNIOR BLUES NEWSLETTER



TABLE OF CONTENTS

FEATURED STORY

STATE WRESTLING

Outstanding seasons concluded with the Girls and Boys KSHSAA State Wrestling Tournament at the AdventHealth Sports Park last weekend! Congratulations to senior Easton Broxterman on capturing his third consecutive state title, and to senior Kristjan Marshall and junior Landen Kocher-Munoz for securing their second individual state championships

Both the boys' and girls' teams finished third overall. Click [HERE](#) to view the individual results!

- Principal's Letter
- Counseling Office
- Care Closet
- After School Labs
- International Baccalaureate
- Boys Swimming
- Wrestling
- World Language
- Unified Sports
- WRHS Theatre
- Career and Technical Education
- Common Grounds
- The Shack
- Coding Camp
- Winter Formal
- Yearbook
- Media Center
- Art Department
- Parent Teacher Organization

From the Desk of Our Principal



Greetings!

I'm sure that many of you will join me in wondering where the academic year has gone. It seems like only yesterday that we were starting school. Our students have accomplished some fantastic things so far this year. We are the City Champs in Boys' Cross Country, Girls' Cross Country, Girls' Golf, Boys' Swim, and Boys' Bowling; we are the Centennial League Champions in Boys' Soccer, Volleyball, Girls' Cross Country, Girls' Bowling, and Boys' Basketball; we are Regional or Sub-State Champions in Girls' Tennis, Volleyball, Boys' Soccer, Girls' Cross Country, Girls' Bowling, and Boys' Bowling. Kevin Bordewick-Volleyball, Matt Swedlund-Cross Country, and Brian Hensyel-Soccer, all were named Centennial League Coach of the Year. In addition, we have three State Boys' Wrestling Champs: Landen Kocher-Munoz 138 lb. weight class, Easton Broxterman 144 lb. weight

class, and Kristjan Marshall 157 lb. weight class. I have every confidence that we will finish the school year as strongly as it has unfolded. In keeping with that belief, I would again like to share some information with you that will assist in helping your child bring a successful conclusion to their academic year.

If your child is experiencing problems in any of their classes, our counselors are more than willing to provide assistance. A multitude of services exist at WRHS that the counselors can help coordinate with you and your child. If individual attention from the teacher and other interventions proves ineffective in solving your challenges, your child may be referred for further intervention through our Student Intervention Team (SIT). The SIT is a group of trained educational professionals, and you, of course, who will conduct a comprehensive analysis of your child's academic progress and habits. After the evaluation is complete, intervention may be recommended to address academic performance issues. Fortunately, most problems can be effectively resolved through this process. For those that aren't, our counselors will be happy to discuss more aggressive options with you. For your convenience, I have listed them below.

Leslie Fischer (785-339-4117): Responsible for students whose last names are A-D

Keith Wetzal (785-339-4116): Responsible for students whose last names are E-J

Emilio Chavez (785-339-4103): Responsible for students whose last names are K-O

Michelle Pegram-Caporusso (785-339-4911): Responsible for students whose last names are P-T

Marie Coates (785-339-4118): Student Services

Marcie Frederickson (785-339-4115): Responsible for students whose last names are U-Z

Riley Nelson (785-339-4119): Responsible for students in B-3 Alternative Education

Also on the horizon are a couple of school events that I want to bring your attention to.

One of the most anticipated evenings of the entire year is fast approaching for our juniors and seniors and their guests! Prom will be held in the Townsite Avenue Ballroom on Saturday, April 12 from 8:00-11:00 p.m. After prom activities, which are sponsored by the WRHS PTO Blues Backers, are currently scheduled to begin at 11:30 p.m. at WRHS. This is a very special time for our school and I hope you will join me in encouraging your students to make good decisions for themselves.

Graduation will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 18, 2025 at the Stormont Vail Events Center.

As always, if you have questions about any of these items, please feel free to call me.

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

Twitter Updates: @wrhsgo

Crisis Hotline: 785-232-5005

[Counseling Department Staff](#)

Pre-enrollment

Students completed pre-enrollment from January 14 until February 27. Students watched [pre-enrollment videos](#) in their advisory and met with counselors in the auditorium during English (juniors: Feb 6, sophomores: February 7, freshmen: February 10). Students were given information about graduation requirements, the importance of taking rigorous courses, the Kansas Scholars Curriculum, program opportunities, and specific details about choosing courses. Students selected 7 fall and 7 spring courses. This information will be used to determine how many sections of each course are needed. As families continue to discuss course planning, please contact your school counselor with questions. Schedules will be released in July and students can make adjustments during registration at the end of the summer.

Junior and Senior Planning Letter

Juniors, seniors and their families were sent the Spring [Junior Planning Letter](#) and [Senior January Letter](#) that included many resources and reminders. We encourage families to spend time reviewing the information.

College Visits

WRHS hosts many [college visits](#) throughout the school year. As summer approaches, 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>.

College Honors Programs

Many colleges offer honors programs. Every honors program is designed differently but can usually be characterized by smaller classes, mentorship, research opportunities, honors housing, honors designation on diplomas, and more. Many honors programs have application processes separate from the general admissions process. We encourage students to research whether an honors program would be a good fit! Check out some regional options [HERE](#).

State Sponsored ACT

Nearly 300 juniors sat the ACT on February 25 at WRHS. Students who would like to retake the test should register at www.act.org. While most colleges are not using the ACT for admission, many are still using it for scholarship consideration.

Scholarships

Need money for college? Many scholarships with March deadlines are available on the [WRHS Counseling Website](#). To access the scholarships, visit our website and click the scholarship tab. The list provides access to applications as well as information on eligibility requirements and deadlines. Students can also search Naviance for scholarship opportunities.

Senior Transcript Requests

Transcripts including grades from the Fall 2024 semester are available via Naviance. Seniors were sent a screencast with instructions on how to request a transcript. Information can be found on the [WRHS Counseling Website](#).

Time Management Tools for High School Students

This article explores 8 ways for teens to take control of their time:

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-started/inside-the-classroom/8-ways-to-take-control-of-your-time>

◆ WRHS Counseling Office

[Counseling Website](#)

Crisis Hotline: 785-232-5005

Twitter Updates: @wrhsgo

Crisis Hotline: 785-232-5005

[Counseling Department Staff](#)

Local Mental Health Services

 <p>Lilac Center</p>	<p>Lilac Center 3630 SW Burlingame Rd. Topeka, KS 66611</p>	<p>https://www.lilaccenter.org/</p> 	<p>785-337-0308</p>
 <p>FAMILY SERVICE & GUIDANCE CENTER</p>	<p>Family Service and Guidance Center 325 S.W. Frazier Ave. Topeka, KS 66606</p>	<p>https://www.fsgctopeka.com/</p> 	<p>FSGC Crisis Services 24 hours a day/7 days a week</p> <p>785-232-5005</p>
	<p>Stormont Vail Behavioral Health Outpatient Services 3707 SW 6th Ave, Topeka, KS 66606</p>	<p>https://www.stormontvail.org/ primary-care/behavioral-health h-outpatient/</p> 	<p>785 270-4600</p>
	<p>Florence Crittenton 5423 SW 7th Street Topeka, KS 66606</p>	<p>https://flocritkansas.org/progr ams/outpatient-treatment/</p> 	<p>785-233-0516</p>
 <p>WASHBURN UNIVERSITY</p>	<p>Washburn University Child & Adolescent Clinic 1700 SW College Ave. Topeka, KS 66621</p>	<p>https://www.washburn.edu/ac ademics/college-schools/arts-s ciences/psychology/psychologi cal-clinic/Clinic-Child.html</p> 	<p>785-670-1750</p>

Washburn Rural High School

Care Closet

Your counselor can help with:



Coats,
Shoes,
Clothing



Hygiene Products
Like Deodorant,
Soap, Toothbrush,
Femine Products



Food Supplies
& Free/Reduced
Lunch Forms

WRHS
Counselors



SCAN ME

Reach out for items
included or any other
hardship you need help
navigating

Cost
for
exams
like
PSAT
or ACT



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 Students Learn About Knowledge Itself

What is Theory of Knowledge?

ToK is a one-year course that prompts IB diploma candidates to explore how we construct knowledge, evaluate our own views of the world, and identify factors involved in shaping our perspectives. Students compare and contrast the methodologies of various disciplines to ascertain what is true or *possibly* true.



What are our students doing in ToK?

There are two major projects all IB students must complete in ToK: the exhibition and essay. The *exhibition* asks students to pull from real-life scenarios and experiences to answer a question about a ToK theme. Here are a few topics from this year's exhibitions:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), Israel/Palestine protests, and the French Verick microscope: How is current knowledge shaped by its historical development?
- Diogenes Laertius, anti-vaccination protest signs, and Spotify algorithm patents: In what ways do our values affect our acquisition of knowledge?
- Grading rubrics, "I'm Just Ken," and an Environmental Systems and Societies exam: Are some types of knowledge more useful than others?

The TOK *essay* is a 1,600-word exploration of a complex question about perspectives, worldviews, and systems of understanding. Here are a few sample prompts and main ideas from the Class of 2025:

- "Is our most revered knowledge more fragile than we assume it to be? Discuss with reference to the arts and one other area of knowledge." I wrote about the arts and the natural sciences, referencing the oversimplification of universal "truths" taught to younger audiences, shown through the three (in reality, four) states of matter; the idea that we must mistrust what we already know in order to solidify these "truths," shown through Johannes Kepler's Laws of Planetary Motion and the breaking of "what makes good music" within the most renowned choral pieces and Dadaism; then finally, how we often choose the least factually solid knowledge to trust, shown through the Rutherford Model of an atom and maps that often inaccurately portray the world.
- "Do the ever-improving tools of an area of knowledge always result in improved knowledge? Discuss with reference to two areas of knowledge." Ever-improving technologies do not always result in improved knowledge. Although they do provide a wide range of perspectives and new features for medicine, the information being presented is not always accurate, which inhibits learning what is needed. In addition, conservation technologies do not always result in improved knowledge and can sometimes do more harm than good.
- "Is our most revered knowledge more fragile than we assume it to be?" Revered knowledge in the arts and natural sciences can be fragile in that it fails to apply to different cultures, but in many situations, revered knowledge can be flexible - not fragile - in that it changes to adapt to modern ideas.

IB seniors on ToK:

"I think Theory of Knowledge should be a required class for everyone, not just IB students. In short, it is a critical thinking class that truly makes you think, especially about topics regarding everyday life and events going on in the present, and Mr. Raugewitz makes it really fun to where you look forward to going to class and the Current Events Quiz on Fridays. In addition, the TOK Essay and Exhibition are both very personal to you and can make it enjoyable to you, even though you write with a specific question or prompt." - Katelynn

"In TOK we are shown the world, and instead of being pushed one way or the other, we are able to make our own choices. In making our own decisions, we actually get to know who we are even if we are surprised by these choices." - Dillyn

"TOK helps challenge what we know and really makes us think about how we verify information and form our own beliefs. Not only is the course engaging and fun, but you never meet a topic you understand in the way you'll approach it in TOK. It really was one of my favorite IB courses." -Mack

IB Learner Profile

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

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

◆ Boys Swimming

Congrats to Coach Burdick, Coach Bombardier and our swimmers! They recently took 2nd at the Centennial League Meet with the following honors:

1st Team All League

Luke Lemke
Andres Morao-Jaspe
Thomas Appuhn
Alex Lanterman
Castle Wallace

2nd Team All League

Joe Jensen
Zain Chaudhry
Sourish Sinha
Alex Jeffries

Honorable Mention All League

Davin Potts



Alex Lanterman - 100 Fly - Topsports News



Castle Wallace - 100 Breaststroke - Topsports News



Andres Morao-Jaspe - 500 Free - Topsports News

◆ Wrestling

Outstanding seasons concluded with the Girls and Boys KSHSAA State Wrestling Tournament at the AdventHealth Sports Park last weekend! Congratulations to senior Easton Broxterman on capturing his third consecutive state title, and to senior Kristjan Marshall and junior Landen Kocher-Munoz for securing their second individual state championships. Both the boys' and girls' teams finished third overall. Individual results are below!

Boys Individual Results

- Easton Broxterman (144 lbs) – 3-time state champion
- Landen Kocher-Munoz (138 lbs) – 2-time state champion
- Kristjan Marshall (157 lbs) – 2-time state champion
- Cooper Stivers (132 lbs) – Third Place
- Jady Baum (190 lbs) – Third Place
- Brodye Kocher-Munoz (150 lbs) – Fourth Place
- Kaiden Marshall (215 lbs) – Fourth Place
- Ryder Harrison (120 lbs) – Sixth Place

Girls Individual Results

- Molly Spader (105 lbs) – Runner-up
- Emmerson Blanco (140 lbs) – Third Place
- Elia Smith (170 lbs) – Third Place
- Maddy Blow (115 lbs) – Fourth Place
- Lacey Middleton (120 lbs) – Fourth Place
- Madison Blanco (135 lbs) – Fourth Place
- Ashley Schwarz (155 lbs) – Fourth Place
- Justice McBurney (235 lbs) – Sixth Place



◆ World Language

On Saturday, March 1st Frau Barber took 15 German students to a state-wide conference at KU. Students performed and competed in a variety of events and activities.

Level 4 German:

Zipora Morgan - Culture Quiz 3rd Place

Level 3 German:

Alex Jeffries - Sticker Design Winner, Culture Quiz 3rd Place

Farrlynn Denny - Sticker Design Honorable Mention

Eli Replogle - Prose Distinguished Award, Culture Quiz 3rd Place

Level 2 German:

Dawson Wilber - Poetry Distinguished Award, Culture Quiz 1st place

Dylan Weigel - Culture Quiz 2nd place

Level 1 German:

Amelia Moses - Culture Quiz 1st place, Breakout Room 2nd Place

Luke Weber - Culture Quiz 1st place

Landyn Martin - Culture Quiz 1st place

Giavanna Ferrizzi - Breakout Room 2nd Place

Kieran Dillon - Poetry Distinguished Award

Jacoby Brown (8th grader) - Poetry Distinguished Award



WRHS UNIFIED SPORTS

March
Edition

DON'T STAND BY
STAND UP

📅 Mark Your Calendars:
Spread the Word Campaign
March 5th - During all 3 lunches!



UNIFIED BOCCE BALL RECAP

We had FOUR incredible bocce teams competing with us this year! The 2025 tournaments took place at Washburn Rural High School and Lawrence High School! Our teams worked hard and had a great time competing!

- Team 1 - Silver Medal
- Team 2 - Bronze Medal
- Team 3 - Gold Medal
- Team 4 - Gold Medal



Team 1



Team 2



Team 3



Team 4

Everyone's A Junior Blue Night

This year our annual event took place on Tuesday, February 11th! This event offers students of all abilities the chance to shine on their home court! There was an exciting Unified basketball exhibition game, along with performances by dancers and cheerleaders.

We're so thankful to the students, staff, and spectators who help make these event memorable each year!

SOCCER SEASON LOADING.....

Our final unified sport of the year is soccer! Practices will be on Sundays from 2-3 starting on March 2nd. If you are interested in joining us, please scan the QR code!!



unified Questions? Contact sippbro@usd437.net OR hartmj@usd437.net



WRHS Theatre Presents:

SENSE & SENSIBILITY

BY KATE HAMILL
BASED OFF NOVEL BY JANE AUSTEN

April 3-5 @ 7:00 P.M

*Tickets:
\$9 GA
\$7 Students*



WARU
THEATRE

SPRING
CABARET

FREE ADMISSION
ACCEPTING DONATIONS

MARCH 25 AT 7 PM

◆ Career and Technical Education



For the 2025-26 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
- **Information Technology:** Media Design & Communications and Programming & Software Development
- **Business Finance:** Finance
- **Marketing:** Marketing
- **Manufacturing:** Manufacturing
- **Education & Training:** Teaching/Training
- **Health & BioSciences:** Biotechnology and Health Science
- **Law, Public Safety Corrections & Security:** Corrections, Security, Law & Law Enforcement
- **Architecture & Design:** Construction & Design
- **Hospitality & Tourism:** Restaurant & Event Management

Visit the CTE website for more information: WRHS.net/cte

WRHS Students completing Real World Applications in the classroom

A video to highlight the Career Pathways at WRHS. Click [here](#) to watch the video.

Women in Finance Day



On February 4th, five finance and accounting students got an opportunity to hear from women working in finance, network with professionals and college students, and do case studies in small groups. At the conference, two of our seniors, Cora Genovese and Olivia Ellis, each received a \$1,000 scholarship toward tuition at K-State.

Pictured left to right: Mina Alrawi, Oliva Ellis, Cora Genovese, Faith Buchan, and Kaitlyn Cansino.



Pictured left to right: Oliva Ellis and Cora Genovese.



◆ Career and Technical Education

K-State Explore Accounting Experience



On February 21st, six Accounting students had the opportunity to learn more about majoring in Accounting and what career options are available. They heard from Andrea Unruh, CFO, of Flint Hills Resources who provided detailed information on her career path to CFO to all of the different paths an accounting major can give future students. They also heard from the Director of the Herbel School of Accounting, Barry Wilkinson, who gave a passionate and very engaging talk on “sage advice” for the accounting journey. Tim Gaines said, “this gave me a new perspective on majoring in accounting”.

Pictured:

Front row 2nd from left: Hannah Rodgers
Second Row: 1st from left: Nick He, 3rd from left teacher Kathy Reno, 3rd row 3rd from left Tim Gaines
4th Row: 4th from left Ben Tryhuss
6th Row 1st and 2nd from left Kate Muir and Rylee Ismert



Agriscience Students in Mrs. Criner’s classes

Students in our Agriscience class recently got a hands-on (and delicious) lesson in soil science. Using pudding, chocolate/peanut butter chips, graham crackers, and oreos, they built edible models of soil layers while learning about the composition, texture, and importance of each layer.



◆ Career and Technical Education

As they layered the ingredients, students explored how soil texture impacts the ability to retain water, support plant growth, and even affect construction projects. The graham crackers and chocolate/peanut butter represented the bedrock and parent material layers, pudding representing the sub-soil layers, and crushed oreo cookies representing the organic matter rich topsoil layer. To represent the living organisms found on soil students topped the experience off with gummy worms.

This engaging activity helped students grasp key concepts about soil quality and its impact on many aspects of daily life, even how soil types can play a role in cracking foundations and road infrastructure. Although the student's favorite part was getting to eat their models at the end.

This activity will continue to be referenced as students continue to work their way throughout the soil unit as students engage in more labs and gain knowledge. Great job to our Agriscience students for creating some amazing models!

Mr. Gerlach's Drafting - Guest Speaker

Oryana Kitchen is a Washburn Rural graduate that is currently in her 2nd year at Kansas State's architecture program. She has been passionate about architecture since elementary school and is closing in on her ultimate goal of becoming an architect.

Thursday, February 6th she visited WR as a guest speaker to Mr. Gerlach's 1st/2nd hour drafting students. She gave the students insight about her experiences at KSU. Students were shown a powerpoint that represented projects and drawings students will complete during their first two years in the program. Along with knowledge of the program she talked about making connections both in and outside of the classroom. She talked about living in the dorms, getting her own apartment and learning how to manage friends, work and school. Students were given the opportunity to ask questions and see the models up close after she was done presenting. Oryana is looking forward to coming back each year to present as she makes her way through the architecture program and starts her career as an architect!



◆ Career and Technical Education



Workplace Experience/Work Based Learning and WRHS Pathways

CTE Pathways provide students the opportunity to expand their knowledge of a field in which they wish to explore career options. Classes offered in a Career Pathway include Introduction, Technical and Application level courses.

Work Based Learning courses are designed for those students who have completed two or three courses in the Pathway and are ready to gain hands-on experience under the supervision of an employer. The CTE Coordinator will work with the employer to design a planned set of activities that will give the student a broad overview of a business or occupational field (short or long-term; usually paid).

If you are interested in enrolling in Workplace Experience for the 2022-2023 school year, contact your counselor or Mrs. Golden goldeter@usd437.net for more information.

UpComing Events:

Washburn University

We have an exciting event coming up for any of your students who might be interested in the biology programs at Washburn University!

March 12 from 5-6:30PM, students and parents are welcome to come to campus and meet faculty, current students, take a tour of labs and classrooms, chat about different career paths, talk with admissions, enjoy some food, and enter into a scholarship drawing! This is a come-and-go event, so they do not need to attend the entire event.

Anyone can contact Mrs. Golden with questions about the event, or to pre-register for the event. Students who pre-register will receive a swag bag! Click [here](#) for more information.

HME, INC

WRHS CTE Welding students will be participating in classes and tours with HME. For nearly 30 years, HME has been a leader in structural steel design, fabrication, and erection for projects across America. With over 600 employees across six HME Group Companies and five offices in three states, we are continuously expanding our team, capabilities, and investing in state-of-the-art equipment.

If any other students are interested please contact Teresa Golden goldeter@usd437.net Click [here](#) for more information!

Career and Technical Education

Washburn Rural High School DECA recognized for outstanding School-based Enterprise

Common Grounds Coffee Shop, The Shack School Store, and the WRHS Bank, the school-based enterprise at Washburn Rural High School were among 851 school-based enterprises achieving Gold Level Certification for the 2024-2025 school year and will be recognized during DECA's International Career Development Conference this April 26-29, 2025, in Orlando, Florida.

A school-based enterprise (SBE) is an entrepreneurial operation in a school setting that provides goods and 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 and management. DECA advisors have utilized this effective educational tool for over four decades to provide their students with realistic and practical learning experiences that reinforce classroom instruction, enhance 21st Century skill development, and prepare students for college and careers.

The WRHS DECA members who contributed to the certification were Marianne Christensen, Cora Genovese, Nicholas He, Keegan Knudtson, and Kailyn Petersen with the assistance of their DECA chapter advisor, Brian McFall. The SBE's at WRHS have operated for 10 years and are to be commended for this achievement.

"DECA's School-based Enterprise Certification Program is a rigorous process designed to help DECA members demonstrate their classroom learning in a practical, learning laboratory, and then translate that into meaningful outcomes," said Christopher Young, CAE, Chief Program Officer at DECA Inc. "These DECA members are practicing important workplace readiness skills while preparing for college and careers."

DECA's School-based Enterprise Certification Program provides recognition for outstanding achievement by school-based enterprises and motivates SBEs to strive for excellence and growth. SBEs can be certified at three levels: bronze, silver or gold. In order to apply for the certification, SBEs must submit extensive documentation that explains how the SBE demonstrates the practice of various marketing and retail standards. A review committee evaluates the documentation to determine which level of certification has been achieved. DECA's School-based Enterprise program is sponsored by Otis Spunkmeyer Inc.

About DECA Inc.

DECA is a career and technical student organization that prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs with a career interest in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management. DECA enhances the preparation for college and careers by providing co-curricular programs that integrate into classroom instruction, apply learning, connect to business and promote competition. DECA student members leverage their DECA experience to become academically prepared, community oriented, professionally responsible, experienced leaders. DECA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with over 287,000 members in more than 4,000 high school and college chapters in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and Germany. For more information about DECA, visit www.deca.org.

2025 Silver Lake Bank Scholarships

Silver Lake Bank is pleased to offer three \$1,000 Scholarships to the WRHS Class of '25

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.
- Financial need

How to apply

- Submit a cover letter and resume' in PDF format to scholarships@silverlakebank.com by **March 31, 2025**.
- The cover letter and resume' should address criteria outlined above and include current school, post-secondary plans, demonstrated financial need and why the candidate deserves the scholarship.

Additional Information

- Scholarships recipients will be notified by mail in by in early May 2025.
- 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.



SHAMROCK SHAKE IS BACK!

\$3.00
**AT COMMON
GROUNDS!**



DONATE

to the Muscular Dystrophy Association

BENEFITING



Muscular
Dystrophy
Association

Common Grounds is
accepting donations!
Donate in the morning
or during lunchtime!

COMMON GROUNDS SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Destiny Higgs

College attending:
Washburn University

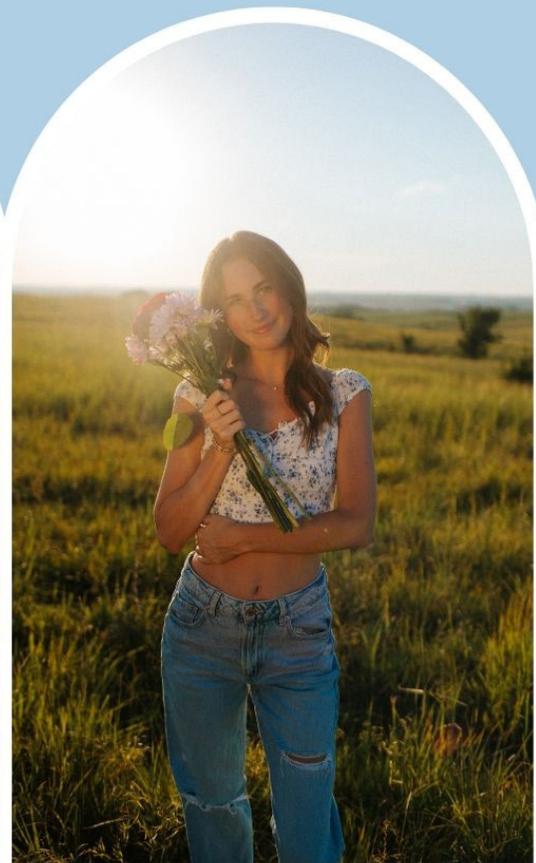
Intended major:
Nursing



Ashley Schwarz

College attending:
University of Mount
Olive

Intended major:
Aviation



Bailey Herman

College attending:
Fort Hays State
University

Intended major:
Health and Human
Performance

The Shack

SPRING SPORTS APPAREL

Support your favorite team by purchasing new spirit wear garments from our WRHS selection!



Don't see your sport? Visit
our website for more!
Including made to order
items.

 <https://ruralspirit.square.site/>

THE SHACK

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



ALLIE THEISS

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE: 2

INTENDED MAJOR: BUSINESS

ANALYTICS

COLLEGE ATTENDING: AUBURN

UNIVERSITY

ISABELLE HAGGARD

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE: 3

INTENDED MAJOR: BIOLOGY

WITH A MINOR IN BUSINESS

COLLEGE ATTENDING:

UNIVERSITY OF INDIANAPOLIS

AINSLEY WELLS

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE: 3

INTENDED MAJOR: NURSING

COLLEGE ATTENDING:

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-

LINCOLN

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE SHACK?

The Shack is a student run business at WRHS. Students taking this course are given the opportunity to gain real world experience in customer service, networking, marketing, and business management as they work one-on-one with both the customer and the vendors. Students work with vendors to produce high quality screen print or embroidery designs.

WRHS

COMPUTER SCIENCE HONOR SOCIETY PRESENTS
SUMMER CODING CAMPS

GRADES K-3
JUNE 2ND - 5TH
8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

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

Early Registration - \$60 by April 4
Registration Cost - \$75 after April 4

GRADES 4-6
JUNE 2ND - 5TH
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Students will be introduced to block-based programming in Scratch to recreate popular games, learn how to use the Sphero Bolts, RVR+ Robots, and other robots to solve basic mazes, learn the Python programming basics, create their first coding project, and more!

Early Registration - \$60 by April 4
Registration Cost - \$75 after April 4

GRADES 7-9
JUNE 2ND - 5TH
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

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

Early Registration - \$60 by April 4
Registration Cost - \$75 after April 4

REGISTER NOW



WRHS.NET/CSHS
(EVENTS TAB > CAMP)

EMAIL SCHMIHAL@USD437.NET IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS



MEET ME AT MIDNIGHT

WINTER FORMAL 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



KING & QUEEN OF COURTS

Congratulations to
Conner Ahrens and Rylee
Ismert, our 2025 Winter
Court King and Queen!



SPIRIT WEEK



Also a huge congratulations to
Student council sponsors Kaylee
Barber and Jessica Luse were also
recognized with ✨All-Star Awards✨

Winter Formal would not have been
possible without them & all they do
for our school :)





BUY YOUR YEARBOOK LIKE, NOW

YEARBOOKS ON SALE
ORDER TODAY

YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM

Keep your order number handy when you log on.

Washburn Rural High School

33333

Thank You

for supporting the

2025 Yearbook

GOLD LEVEL SUPPORTERS:

Chocolately Software

Laird Noller Ford

Platinum Realty

Plato's Closet

The Dance Factory

BLUE LEVEL SUPPORTERS:

Brad Noller - American Family Insurance

Chick-fil-A

Community Insurance Solutions, LLC

Eco Fresh Line Striping

Kansas Chamber

Keystone Mental Health

Midwest Health

Topeka Elite Cheer

Mrs. Finney's Monthly YA Book Recommendation

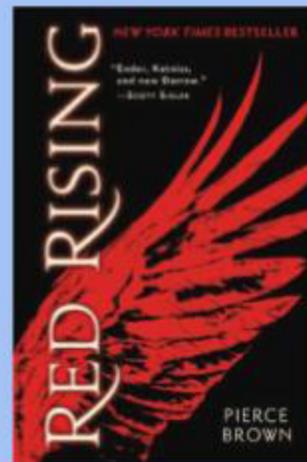
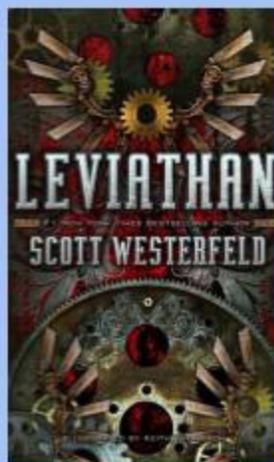
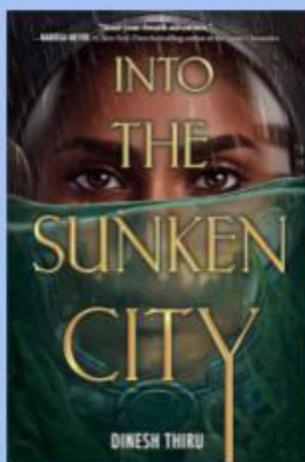
March 2025



Sky's End
By AMarc J Gregson
F GRE

First in a new Fantasy-Sci Fi-Dystopian trilogy, *Sky's End* tells the story of Conrad. After being kicked from opulent his life as a “high” to spend his early teen years starving and fighting in duels to save his ailing mother as a “low,” Conrad enters the trades to become a Hunter. In the Hunter training quadrant, Conrad must be strategic enough to survive and rise to power, while realizing he must also retain his humanity and kindness to build alliances and friendships.

Similar Titles Include:



Connect with us @wrhslib for:

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



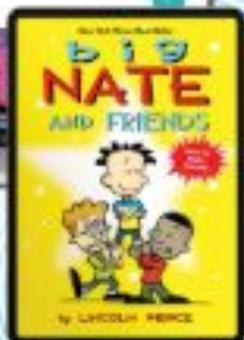
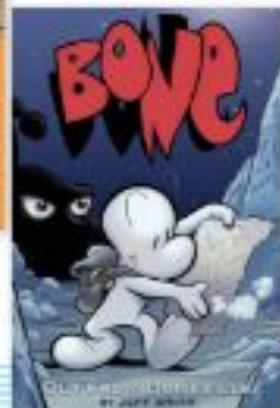
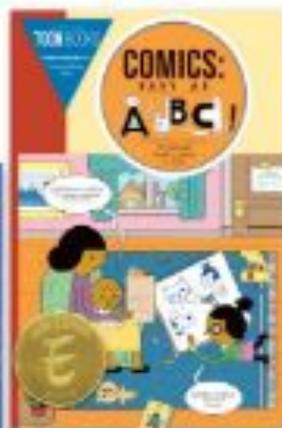
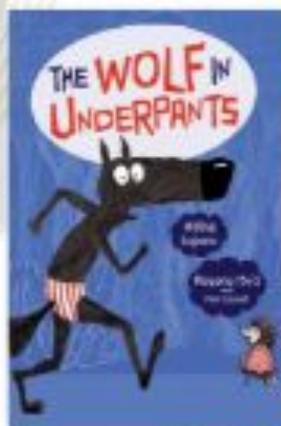
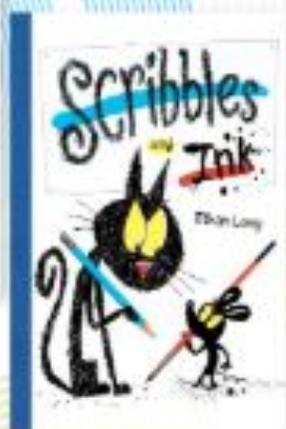
Text 4 Help: 785-260-0015
Marcy Sandberg sandbmar@usd437.net
Victoria Finney finnevic@usd437.net

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

READ ALL
THE COMICS!

NO HOLDS. NO WAIT LISTS. NO LIMITS.

Enjoy unlimited access to thousands of age-appropriate digital graphic novels, manga, and picture books — *24 hours a day, 7 days a week!*



COMICSPLUS #ReadAllTheComics

HOW TO ACCESS COMICS PLUS:

VISIT: library.ks.gov/ComicsPlusHS

Contact a WRHS Librarian for a free account.
Text 785-260-0015
sandbmar@usd437.net
finnevic@usd437.net

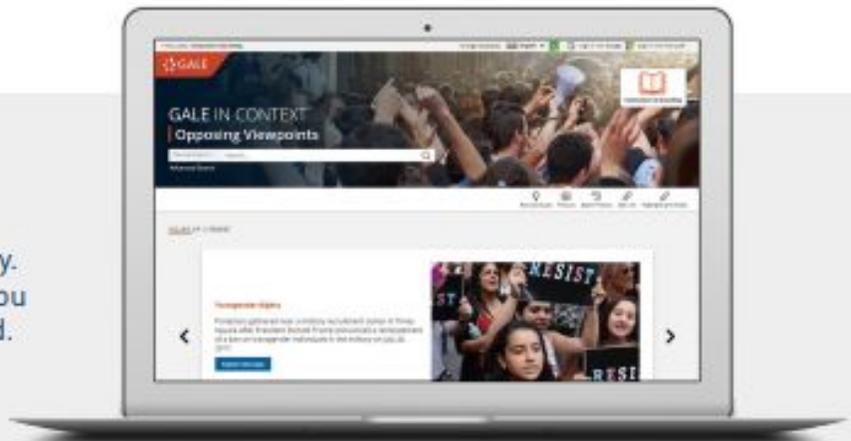


GALE IN CONTEXT: OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR BOTH SIDES OF THE DEBATE

Is global warming real? Should the minimum wage be raised? Is junk food really hurting us? Find credible sources on these and hundreds of other social and political issues with *Gale In Context: Opposing Viewpoints*. Unlike websites, this database simplifies your search by bringing together articles, videos, and stats you can trust and cite.

Why wait?
Access *Gale In Context: Opposing Viewpoints* today. Talk to your librarian if you need help getting started.



Product screen capture as of July 2019. Actual interface may vary.

Scan the QR Code OR VISIT: is.gd/GEFmpU

Text 4 Help if needed 785-260-0015



◆ Art Department

March is YOUTH ART MONTH. Work from several USD 437 students will be on exhibition at the Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library from February 25 - March 29 for the Kansas Youth Art Month Exhibit. The WRHS Art Department had two seniors receive \$500 Harry Hart Scholarships for their portfolios at this year's show:

Senior Luke Lemke received a \$500 Harry Hart Scholarship for [his portfolio](#) of work at this year's KAEA Youth Art Month show.

Senior Annah Brighton received a \$500 Harry Hart Scholarship for [her portfolio](#) of work at this year's KAEA Youth Art Month show.

16 students in our high school advanced art classes embarked on a journey painting at this year's annual Late Night Art Lock-in held at the Stephen Smith Gallery on February 8.



This year's lock-in gave the students great freedom to interpret and execute their works while finding inspiration from this year's guest artist and instructor, Jen Unekis. Jen shared techniques and wisdom about engaging the art world on a professional level through her

◆ Art Department

work and demonstration. The students experienced a wonderful 7 hour event expanding their vision to create. Their work was on display at Stephen Smith Gallery during the month of March with a First Friday Art Walk opening from 11 am - 7:30 pm



Images of the completed paintings can be found [here](#).

Images from the 2025 Art Lock-in can be found [here](#).

Make plans to attend this year's BluePrint Art Show. The BluePrint is WRHS's annual end of the year art show which will be held this year in the new CTE commons area. This year's show will be up from April 16 - 23, 2025. The show can be viewed during school hours from 7:30 am - 3:30 pm. Guests must check in at the front desk.

The community is also welcome to join us for an evening open house to view the show on Tuesday, April 22 from 5 - 7 pm.

Blues Backers

WASHBURN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL
PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

Discover your place
in our journey



Our Mission Objectives:

To help WRHS establish and maintain a proud image by supporting staff and students' extracurricular activities.

The PTO contributes volunteer time and money to Washburn Rural High School as requested and approved by the Board.

The PTO offers WRHS teams, clubs, and activity groups additional opportunities to generate funds through the concession stands.



WRHS-PTO

*Interested in
connecting
with us?*
Reach out!

Or scan QR code
to sign up here:

Email

bluesbackers@gmail.com

Facebook

Washburn Rural Blues Backers

Website

<https://bluesbackers.my.canva.site/wrhs-pto-website>

