



# WELLINGTON

EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

FEBRUARY 2024 | VOLUME 4 ISSUE 6

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## IMPORTANT DATES

Feb. 2: WW Stoller Fundraiser begins

Feb. 2: MMS Academic Awards  
8:30 a.m. Grades 4 & 5  
1:15 p.m. Grades 6, 7, 8

Feb. 6: BOE Work Session (WW)

Feb. 6: MMS Drama Club Auditions  
for Mary Poppins (schedule a time)

Feb. 8: ASVAB Aptitude Test (WHS)

Feb. 13: KKids Meeting (3 p.m. WW)

Feb. 15: WW Stoller Fundraiser ends

Feb. 16: No School (Staff PD Day)

Feb. 19: No School (President's Day)

Feb. 20: BOE Business Meeting  
(WHS)

Feb. 27: MMS/WHS Mid Winter  
Band Concert 7 p.m. @ Lindley

Feb. 29: MMS/WHS Mid Winter  
Choir Concert 7 p.m. @ Lindley

Mar. 1: Scholarship Applications  
Due

For a complete calendar, go to  
[wellingtonvillageschools.org](http://wellingtonvillageschools.org)

## MY LAST YEAR

### LETTER FROM EDWARD WEBER, SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Wellington School Families,

It is with much gratitude that I announce my retirement at the end of this school year, completing 36 years in public education. I began my career as a math teacher in the South Euclid - Lyndhurst City Schools for 12 years, followed by 16 years in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District as a high school principal, and these last 8 years as your superintendent.

I built a reputation in Cleveland as a turnaround specialist leading my high school to achieve excellent ratings. That led me to Wellington, when in 2016 our Wellington Schools were struggling with academic achievement and were in the Ohio Improvement Process for schools struggling. Since then, all of our schools have improved academically and no longer require state improvement plans. In fact, our most recent state scores ranks Westwood with "4.5 out of 5 Stars Exceeding State Standards", our high school ranks with "4.0 Stars Exceeds State Standards", and McCormick ranks with "3.0 Stars Meets State Standards".

In addition to improving our academic program, we now have a comprehensive social-emotional learning program that has been implemented to support the mental well-being of our students.

# MR. WEBER’S LETTER



In 2019 we began our Career Education program at McCormick and have continued to expand these programs which now include Computer Programming, "Project Lead the Way", STEM opportunities like Robotics, and soon to offer Agriculture programs expanded from our high school.

Speaking of our high school, it now offers a full range of AP "Advanced Placement" courses that you often only see at large high schools. We also have a grant funded college planning process which I encourage every student to take advantage of.

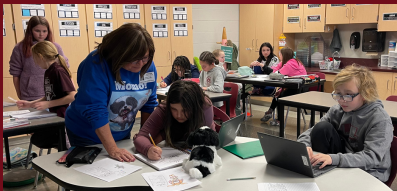
I have been blessed to see remarkable growth and positive change within our district during my time at Wellington. These accomplishments are a testament to the dedication and hard work of our outstanding staff, students, and parents.

So effective August 1, 2024, I will retire from Wellington. My career in education has truly been nothing short of wonderful and I will miss working with our students and staff.

Moving forward, the Board of Education is committed to maintaining and building upon the positive trajectory of the district by approaching the selection of the next Superintendent with a deliberate and thoughtful process. To ensure a comprehensive search, the Board has enlisted the expertise of the Ohio School Board Association. During this process, community members and staff will be invited to participate and provide valuable input.

I am confident the board will identify a candidate who shares our vision for continued improvement and will guide our district to even greater heights. I look forward to witnessing the ongoing success of our school district in the years to come as I too live in and call Wellington my home.

Sincerely,  
Edward Weber



DUKE PRIDE





## What is a Leap Year?

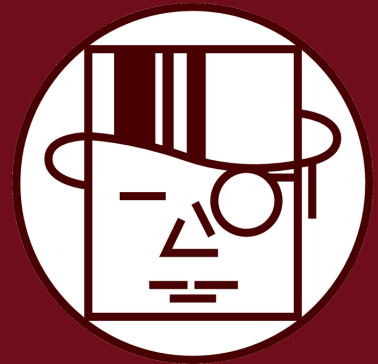
This calendar oddity occurs once every four years—and helps keep us in sync with the seasons.

Leap days are important because they help our calendar match up with the same seasons every year. Human-made calendars generally have 365 days; the solar, or tropical, year that influences seasons is about 365.2422 days long. (A solar year is how long it takes the Earth to revolve around the sun.)

Even though .2422 of a day doesn't sound like much, ignoring that fraction means eventually our seasons won't fall in the same months every year. For instance, your school year might eventually start in the spring instead of late summer. And if the calendar didn't match up with the seasons, farmers would have a more difficult time growing crops, which could affect food supplies.

That's why, in the 16th century, the Gregorian calendar—the calendar most commonly used today—started adding leap days to match the calendar with the seasons. Because four .2422 days equals about one day, February 29 is now added to most years that are divisible by four, like 2020. Source: National Geographic Kids website

## DUKE PRIDE



## FEBRUARY 29: LEAP DAY! READ SOME FUN FACTS:

### 4 FUN FACTS ABOUT LEAP YEARS

- 4 MILLION** people in the world are leap day babies
- In Greece, it's sometimes considered bad luck to be married on a leap year
- Leap day babies are called leapers or leaplings
- The chances of having a leap year birthday are **1 IN 1,461**

## 2024 IS A LEAP YEAR!

It takes approximately 365.25 days for Earth to revolve around the Sun. We add one day to our calendar every four years to make up for the missing day.

Source: NASA Space Place

# TREASURER'S OFFICE UPDATE

It's the middle of winter and the Treasurer's Office is once again planning for additional facilities projects to improve safety, efficiency and the educational environment for staff and students. These projects can take a long time to plan and coordinate with multiple vendors so it is vital that we get started reviewing the needs and the potential costs prior to the Thanksgiving break so we can ensure a successful project.

This coming summer we are planning to install new parking lot lighting and security cameras in the main high school / middle school parking lot. The safety grant dollars are part of the funding for this project which should provide for a well-lit parking lot for evening events from seven (7) new light poles and provide much needed security camera coverage for the entire area.

We are also making plans to add an automatic gate for the bus bull-pen to improve the security of that area by keeping the gate closed more often. The bus drivers will be able to open the gate with a remote as they approach the entrance. Because we are running the electricity for the parking lot lights, we can include an additional circuit for the operation of the gate and we can include an additional light for the bus lot to help the bus driver with early morning and late night duties in the bullpen.

Due to an issue with poor fuel quality and some buses being taken out of service while their fuel systems were cleaned out; we have looked into a plan of installing a fuel island that will include fuel for all buses and trucks in the District. Up to now we have had to drive over to local providers. The new system will provide high quality diesel and gasoline at lower prices and better service due to the location for fuel will be on-site. Once again, we will take advantage of the electric being run by the bus lot and stub out electric power for the pumps at the same time.

There have been many safety projects from last summer and fall that are just wrapping up now. I'm sure many of you noticed additional door swipe readers, the new PA system and bell tones, and many new cameras around the buildings.

And finally we have another project in the main high school gym that will address the cracks in the gym wall. The engineers have indicated that there is no safety issue at the present time, however the Board has chosen address this issue now so it does not become a safety issue in the future. This project will start on May 20 and be completed by August 9 . The gym will be closed for that entire time and alternate plans will be made for gym time for our athletes. *Continued to the right...*

Mark Donnelly  
Treasurer  
(440) 647-7979  
mdonnelly@wellingtonvillage  
schools.org



**These projects and other smaller upgrades and repairs will be completed before the FY-'25 school year gets underway.**





# UPCOMING EVENTS

## MMS & WHS Mid-Winter Choir Concert



Thursday, February 29

Doors open 6:30 p.m. Concert starts at 7:00 p.m.

Grades 6 - 12 perform

Patricia Lindley Center



## MMS & WHS Mid-Winter Band Concert

Tuesday, February 27

Doors open 6:30 p.m. Concert starts at 7:00 p.m.

Grades 6 - 12 perform

Patricia Lindley Center



**WELLINGTON  
EXEMPTED  
VILLAGE SCHOOLS**



February 2, 2024  
The Patricia Lindley Center

## MCCORMICK MIDDLE SCHOOL ACADEMIC AWARDS

4th & 5th Grade: 8:30 a.m.  
6th, 7th & 8th Grade: 1:15 p.m.

## Parent/Guardian Series For the health of Wellington Students

Topics Covered:  
Drug awareness/education  
Attendance strategies  
Behavior Supports  
Mental health information



Third Tuesday of  
every month  
February 20, 2024  
March 19, 2024  
April 16, 2024



6:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
For parents/guardians of  
students in grades K-12

February Topic:  
Attendance/Truancy  
Resources presented by:  
Jennifer Kearns

**Emily Medves, MSW, LISW**

**School Social  
Worker/Moderator**

Google Meet  
2/20/24 from 6 - 7 p.m.  
[meet.google.com/vwoz-vahg-pry](https://meet.google.com/vwoz-vahg-pry)  
Join by phone  
(US) +1 415-347-9426  
PIN: 590673970



# NO SCHOOL:



**FEBRUARY 16 (PROF. DEVELOPMENT DAY)**  
**FEBRUARY 19 (PRESIDENT'S DAY)**



*Save the Date!*

# DUKE PRIDE CARNIVAL

Dozens of carnival games for children!

All funds are donated to the  
Summer Food Voucher Program  
(in partnership with Well-Help.)

**April 13, 2024**

We are proud of raising over  
\$179,500 over the past thirteen years!

**Free Breakfast: 8 - 11 a.m.**

**Carnival: 9 a.m. - Noon**

Wellington High School  
629 N. Main St.







## Welcome to Payschools Central!

Payschools Central makes it possible to fund meal accounts, view transaction history, and access free/reduced meal applications quickly.

### PaySchools Central Directions:



Visit our portal using your Internet browser at [www.payschoolscentral.com](http://www.payschoolscentral.com) or scan the QR code to download the PaySchools Mobile app.



Select the "Register" option from the menu. The portal will guide you through the steps you need to follow to establish your account and set up your students.



You will be prompted to enter your contact data and a payment method to activate your account.



Once all information is entered, you will receive an email from PaySchools Central with a link to confirm the registration and create your password. Once your password is saved, you can log in and begin using PaySchools Central as often as you'd like.



The first time you log in, you will need to indicate which student(s) to attach to your account using the "Add/View" student tab. Students are already loaded in the PaySchools Central system. PaySchools Central utilizes the same student ID number used for your lunch purchases. If you are unsure of your student's ID number, please contact your school/district registrar.

### QUESTIONS?

Contact the Wellington Nutrition Services Department at (440) 647-7415 or the Treasurer's Office at (440) 647-7979 for more information. Payschools Central helpline: 1 (877) 393-6628 or [psc\\_help@payschools.com](mailto:psc_help@payschools.com)

# Westwood Elementary

## IMPORTANT DATES

### February

- 2: Begin Stoller Fundraiser**
- 6: Parent Co-op Mtg (6pm WWE Library)**
- 13: K Kids Meeting (3pm WWE)**
- 15: End Stoller Fundraiser**
- 16: No School - Professional Development Day**
- 19: No School - Presidents' Day**
- 20: 24/25 Kindergarten Registration Opens**
- 21: Parent Partnership Meeting (5:15pm Online)**
- 26: Begin Yearbook Sales**

### March

- 5: Parent Co-op Mtg (6pm WWE Library)**
- 8: End of Yearbook Sales**
- 11: Kindergarten Screenings (LCCC Wellington)**
- 14: Kindergarten Screenings (LCCC Wellington)**
- 19: K Kids Meeting (3pm WWE)**
- 21: Field Trip**
- 21: Stoller Fundraiser Delivery**
- 22: End of Q3**
- 27: Parent/Teacher Conferences (3pm-6:30pm)**
- 29: No School - Good Friday**

### April

- 1-5: No School - Spring Break**
- 8: No School - Ohio Total Solar Eclipse**
- 9: School Resumes**
- 16 & 18: 3rd Grade ELA State Test**
- 17: Parent Partnership Mtg (5:15 Online)**
- 23: K Kids Meeting (3pm WWE)**
- 30 & May 2: 3rd Grade Math State Test**





## CONGRATULATIONS!



Soon after they learned to walk, you sent your child off to school and told them to graduate. It's amazing just how quickly time flies. In just a few short months, your son or daughter will march across the stage as they are awarded their diploma. Think of all the hard work, the early mornings, and the late nights that have all led to this special day. As a parent of a Senior, you must be proud of this once in a lifetime accomplishment.

**Celebrate Graduation...**  
It's the biggest day in their life...So far!

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What parents need. What students want. What your school requires for graduation.

**25 Choice of Announcement**  
(25 of each) with matching:

- Choice of Envelope Seals
- Choice of Return Address Labels
- 1 Box Choice of Thank You Notes

**1 CHOICE of Hoodie\***  
Pullover Mocha Crew Full Zip  
(Choose size) S M L XL 2XL 3XL

**1 T-Shirt 2-Pack\*** (1 Black Tee & 1 Gray Tee)  
(Choose size) S M L XL 2XL 3XL 4XL

**1 Senior Bag\***  
**1 2024 Key Ring\***

Classes: Official School Announcement OR Mascot Announcement

• Foil Border Name Cards

Classes: Mascot Regular

Classes: Mascot Regular

Circle Size: Mascot Foil Senior Stationery (Circle Color) Indigo Green Yellow Orange

**1 Cap & Gown Unit** (fill in height & weight in "Student Information" below)  
With Choice of Tassel Choose Status Stacked Mascot

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## Class of 2024 Parents!

Please check your email and go to our Google Form to upload photos and information about your 2024 graduate!

They can be featured in a "Senior Spotlight" on the school's Facebook page and in the Senior Slideshow.  
Click here to fill out the form.

Scholarships applications are due March 1,  
see Mrs. Wyman in the WHS office with questions.



# IMPORTANT SENIOR INFORMATION

Class of  
2024



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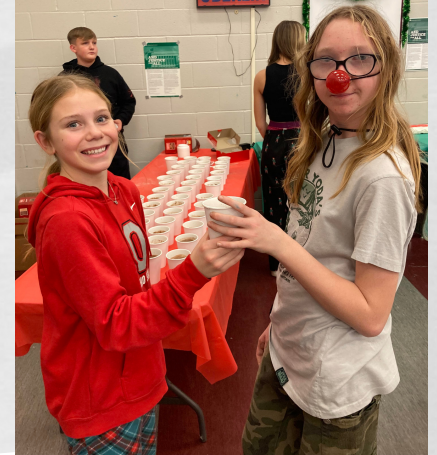
# KINDLAND UPDATE



## H.I.K.E. Club Serves Cheer

McCormick's H.I.K.E. (Helping Include Kids Everywhere) Club made sure the holiday season was full of warmth, extending their kindness to fellow students and throughout the Village of Wellington.

During McCormick lunch hours just before the winter break, the H.I.K.E. club members served cups of welcome hot chocolate to order. Toppings included sprinkles, marshmallows and the works. Teamwork among the members was evident as they rotated filling the cups with the cocoa powder, poured hot water, and served hot chocolate to classmates, plain or with the delectable toppings.



The hot chocolate was half of the H.I.K.E Club's delicious giving spirit. Later in the day, club members and other McCormick students filled covered trays with cookies. MMS students decorated cookies and custom-made Kindland cookies (generously provided by Wellington's Blowing Oak Bakes bakery) were included in the delivered cookie trays.

These edible gifts were delivered to stops throughout Wellington where the inhabitants were scarcely naughty but oh, so nice. Stops included an area nursing home, Main Street Wellington office and the EMS, Fire, and Police Stations. Each recipient accepted the cookie trays with wide smiles and thanked the H.I.K.E Club for their thoughtfulness and timely Holiday cheer.

Funded by the Mental Health, Addiction and Recovery Services of Lorain County (MHARS), H.I.K.E.'s goal is to encourage middle school students to take a leadership role in creating a school climate where every student is made to feel that he or she belongs. As the school year continues, look for H.I.K.E. to find more creative ways to express the spirit of Kindland by demonstrating how members value each McCormick student.





## WELLINGTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS



MEET HIGH SCHOOL  
CLEANER



# Cody Soboslai

**What excites you the most about the job you will be doing?**

Doing my best!!

**What was your favorite subject as a student?**

History

**What are you most looking forward to this school year?**

Working with a great staff.

**What made you want to work in Wellington Schools?**

I've been in the schools all my life, and I know the area.

**What sort of activities or hobbies do you have outside of your career?**

I enjoy personal training, hanging out with family and continuing my education.

**What inspires you?**

My family inspires me every day.

**What wisdom would you share with future students?**

Do a great job, be honest and love life!

**What would be your superpower, and why?**

To possess super strength and to always protect good people.

**What are three things on your bucket list that you want to achieve?**

I want to earn my welding certification, further my education and have financial security.

**What animal do you believe most closely represents your personality?**

A bison!





## WELLINGTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS



MEET CONSULTANT OF ATHLETIC  
WELLNESS & CONDITIONING



# Aaron Davison

### **What excites you the most about the job you will be doing?**

Getting to help out the coaches and athletes in our schools.

### **What was your favorite subject as a student?**

Science

### **What are you most looking forward to this school year?**

Getting to know everyone.

### **What made you want to work in Wellington Schools?**

We recently moved back, and my four boys will attend Wellington Schools.

### **What sort of activities or hobbies do you have outside of your career?**

Youth sports, outdoor activities, board games, card games and cooking.

### **What would students be surprised to learn about you?**

I grew up in Wellington, lived in California and wanted to move back!

### **What inspires you?**

Learning new things.

### **What wisdom would you share with your future students?**

Nothing replaces hard work.

### **What is one thing you learned recently or something you are learning now?**

Helping young people achieve their potential is not straightforward or easy.

### **What would be your superpower, and why?**

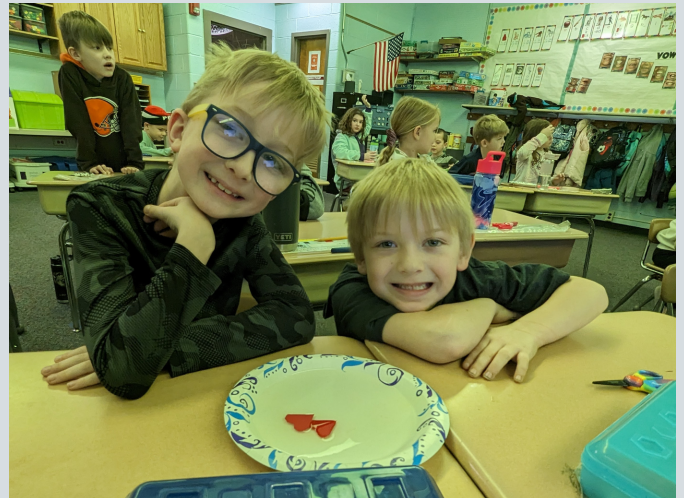
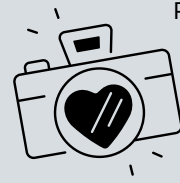
Teleportation. I love to travel, and that would have a very low carbon footprint.

### **What are three things on your bucket list that you want to achieve?**

I'd like to take a trip to Scotland, turn my house into a wellness spa, and be able to do pull-ups for the rest of my life.

### **What animal do you believe most closely represents your personality?**

A snapping turtle!



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Wellington Exempted Village Schools

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McCormick Middle School

Wellington High School



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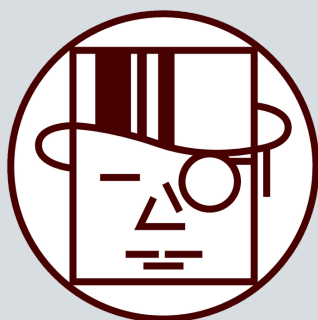
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Kiwanis Builder's Club MMS Talent Show

















Photos by Christen Lewis

