

**WCSD**  
**Positive Happenings**  
**Learning in Action**  
**4/21/2025**

**Elementary**

**EES:**

**February – March**

Thankful for EES staff! Shoutout to Mrs. Lindell for helping to boost our school community with the Thankful Thursday table of goodies 😊



K-5 Students participated in Youth Art Month at the Warren Public Library.





Memorial Created in Memory of Mr. Pollard.

Special thank you to Tina Chase and Jen Morrison for putting in all the time and effort to organize the basket raffle 😊 They put in a lot of time after school taking pictures and getting the information out to families to help raise funds for our school!

## WAEC:

WAEC students had a great time at the K'Nex competition at the IU5 in Edinboro! WAEC teams were awarded two of the four awards presented at the competition. Second place was awarded to Team 3: Lincoln Betts, Joel Banuelos, Alex Haight and Camden Woods for their project called "Community Bots." Their design was a self-driving, rentable device that would clean up trash, collect and shred leaves, and mow and water lawns. The Most Creative Award was presented to Team 1: Aria Carlson, Bo Winkels, Draedon Gnage, and Grayson Zapel for their project called "Wheelchair Scooter." Their scooter would provide more accessibility for wheelchairs to be transported around in uneven city environments and rented for use from various points throughout

the urban settings. I'm posting a picture below this paragraph, but you can click the following link to access more photos. <https://photos.app.goo.gl/o96BBc6iRJo9Jq9p7>



The WAEC 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade students and teachers enjoyed their trip to WAHS to see The Addams Family and the Astralis Chamber Ensemble. The presentation from the Astralis Chamber Ensemble was an enlightening experience for the students and staff who attended. Most students have never experienced listening to such talented musicians before. Therefore, they gained this wonderful opportunity. Also, we were equally impressed with the question-and-answer portion at the end of their performance. The students had created genuine inquiries about the musical instruments that were presented. Many of the kids enjoyed being able to ask the performers questions about their instruments. The students seemed to really enjoy this opportunity, and a few did express interest in Summer Music School after the performance. The kids also enjoyed hearing about all of the places the musicians got to travel to.

Congratulations to Mrs. Stebbins' kindergarten class for winning the building-wide ST math competition, where students are challenged on grade level math skills through a variety of online math challenges. As a building, we saw a significant improvement of the amount of time students were actively engaged in solving these math puzzles, which has been proven to translate to positive math growth on standardized test scores.







On March 14, six of the Youngsville Elementary School 4th and 5th grade choir students attended the annual P.M.E.A. Elementary Choir Festival in North East, PA with our music teacher, Cecelia Peterson. Students attending included: Braelyn Kent, Gianna Mummulo, Peyton Mack, Elizabeth Benjamin, and Emma Hagg. Mrs. Peterson volunteers to sponsor a choir club after school on Tuesdays. These student participants had been preparing their music for the event since January. While at the festival, the students rehearsed with other singers from all over our northwest PA area, numbering about 120 students. The event ends with a banquet and then a concert. Executing this trip took some extra teamwork this year. Mrs. Peterson was also the Production Manager for the All-County Musical which was showing the same night as the Choir Festival concert. Fortunately, Eisenhower's Anna Bielawski offered to chaperone our students and WAEC's students since their teacher, Parker Neil, was also involved with the musical as the Musical Director. Through this team effort, these students had a great opportunity to participate in the 2025 Choir Festival.

## SAES: March – Early April

The month of March was full of fun and excitement as the weather began to break, and everyone eagerly prepared for our upcoming Spring activities!

The return of outdoor recess, weather permitting per guidelines, brought tremendous joy to both students and staff. School Resource Officer Deputy Quigley, a frequent presence during lunch, recess, and other classroom activities, even took some time to join in the fun:



Students in grades 3 - 5 enjoyed their trip to Warren Area High School on March 12<sup>th</sup> to see the “sneak peek preview” of the WCSD Jr. Musical “The Addams Family”. Students loved seeing their peers in action on the stage!

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students also enjoyed their opportunity to watch the **Astralis Chamber Ensemble** perform at Warren Area High School, which was an event sponsored by Romain and James Bron Barett Family Fund/Community Foundation. SAES is very appreciative of the many special opportunities provided for our students!

4<sup>th</sup> grade students in Mr. Mulligan’s class turned into inventors for the completion of their Language Arts “Eureka Inventors Unit” in late March. Students were challenged to create their own “invention”. After spending time diagraming and planning, students then created a pitch to present to their 4th grade classmates. Everyone had great creativity and thought on display as students shared their awesome inventions to solve everyday problems! Way to go 4th Grade Inventors!

On April 1<sup>st</sup>, SAES was well represented at the STEM design competition held in Edinboro, PA:

#### Knex STEM Design Competition

Sheffield Elementary school was well represented at the STEM Design Competition held in Edinboro on April 1, 2025. For this year's challenge, students were asked to focus on Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure by designing a prototype that addressed a real-world problem related to infrastructure, transportation, or urban development.



Blake Weiser, Tristan Lord and Carson Lord made up team "Robot Ready" and their design was intended to make filling potholes more efficient by using a robot that would travel along city roads and as soon as the robot detected a pothole, it would immediately fill it.

Team PCCP (Project Chemical Clean-Up Pennsylvania) members Madilynn Leichtenberger, Jaxon Wotorson, Elliot Blymiller, and Kaydi Markey took on the problem of microplastics in drinking water. They designed a filtration system that could float on a city's water treatment system and remove microplastics so that the drinking water wasn't contaminated.

Their design earned them a 1<sup>st</sup> place finish in the regional competition, and a spot in the state competition which is held at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg on May 9<sup>th</sup>!



SAES is very proud of our "Little Wolverines"...keep showing that P.R.I.D.E.!

## **Middle/Secondary**

### **EMHS:**



Amolia Jackson, Cailee Williams, Kaitlyn Silvis and Elizabeth Waite placed 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 19 teams in the K'Nex STEM competition at IU5 on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.



On March 27<sup>th</sup> students stocked trout for the upcoming fishing season with Deputy Riche and Mrs. Gulnac.

### **BWMS:**

The Warren County Conservation District just announced their winners for their recent poster contest, "Home is Where the Habitat is" and we have some Beaty students to recognize! In the 5th and 6th grade division, Ariana Roman (5th Grade) took 1st place with her poster and Elsie Woldt (6th Grade) won the People's choice award. In the 7th through 12 grade division, Nina Woldt (7th Grade) took 1st place and People's choice for her poster.

The WPSU's Student Poetry Writing Contest just announced that 5th grader, Evan Wellner's poem was selected as one of the top 3 finalists with his poem titled "Nothing". His poem will be published on their website soon. Congratulations to Evan!



WQLN writing contest also announced their winners. This is the last year our 5th grade students could enter a story into this contest, and some have been entering a story since they were kindergarten! Two Beaty students placed with their story! Briauna Dougherty received 1st place for her story "In the Deep Oak Forest" and Reagan McClellan received 3rd place for her story "Capybara Gymnastics."

Eight Beaty teams participated in the K'nex STEM Design Challenge competition. Each team had to design a prototype that addresses a real-world problem related to infrastructure, transportation, or urban development. A special shout-out goes to two teams from Beaty. Team "Da' Bridge," earned the Most Creative Design award for their innovative approach. And team "Econeer," blew everyone away with their machine that cleans the air and produces water out of smog! Their remarkable design earned them First Place overall, and as a result, Team Econeer will now move on to compete at the State Level in Harrisburg on May 9th!



## SAMHS:

### Positive Happening – Exemplary Response at Sheffield Track Meet

At the start of a recent track meet hosted at Sheffield Area Middle Senior High School, a Johnsonburg track coach experienced a medical emergency that required immediate CPR. Thanks to the swift and heroic actions of Mike Barr, Rusty Barr, and Warren County School District athletic trainer Dane Renwick, the coach received critical care until emergency services arrived. In a moment that spoke volumes about the character of our student-athletes, Coach Mike Barr calmly directed members of the SAMHS varsity track team to form a circle around the coach, providing a respectful barrier during the emergency. Their poise and compassion made a lasting impact on all those present.

Gina Schreiber, Director of Athletics for Johnsonburg Area School District, later shared:

"Your students' simple gesture of surrounding him was so heart-touching... that meant so much to me, I'm sure to Seth, and to all those who were working with him. Much thanks goes out to you and your whole team—students and coaches. We are so thankful for everything!"

We are incredibly proud of how our students conducted themselves during such a tense moment, and we are deeply grateful for the calm leadership and expertise shown by Coach Barr, Rusty Barr, and Dane Renwick. Their actions undoubtedly made a difference.

We're pleased to share that the coach, Seth, was initially transported to Kane for monitoring and later transferred to Erie for additional cardiac testing. He is currently doing well, and we continue to wish him a full and speedy recovery.

This event served as a powerful reminder of the strength, unity, and compassion that define our school community. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all involved for their care, courage, and professionalism.

## VA – Outside:

This month, Virtual Academy Services (VAS) has been focused on preparation, collaboration, and planning ahead to ensure strong support for students, districts, and staff as we head into the testing season and next school year.

- **PSSA Preparation & PVAAS Alignment:** We are working closely with all of our partner districts to prepare students for the upcoming PSSA assessments. This includes ensuring every student is accurately loaded into the system for PVAAS reporting. We've been collaborating with districts to determine each student's instructional time within VAS versus their home district—a critical step in maintaining accurate data and accountability.
- **Vendor Collaboration for Continued Improvement:** We've also been meeting with all of our current vendors to review course offerings and instructional supports. These conversations help us identify areas for growth, ensure content alignment with standards, and explore additional tools that can support both students and teachers more effectively in a virtual setting.
- **Planning Ahead for 2025–2026:** In addition to supporting this year's instruction and testing, we are in the process of finalizing contracts for next year's services. These efforts ensure that we're well-prepared to continue offering high-quality virtual instruction and maintain strong partnerships with all 17 of our participating districts.

## WAHS:

### Cupcake Cabana Takes the win at Warren Area High Schools 4th Annual Food Truck Faceoff

Warren's 4th Annual Food Truck Faceoff served up creativity, flavor, and flair—culminating in a sweet victory for Cupcake Cabana, who took top honors in this year's competition.

As the grand finale of a semester-long Family and Consumer Science course, students in Mrs. Lewann Alexander's class transformed the cafeteria into a culinary showcase. Each student team designed and built their own food truck concept, complete with a themed menu and decorated truck facade. Their final challenge? Pitch their concept and dish to a panel of local food connoisseurs.

“This is a culminating project that allows students to demonstrate what they've learned in a creative and fun way,” said Mrs. Alexander. “They start with an idea, build on it, and end up with something they’re really proud of.”

Twenty-one teams participated, each offering one signature dish from their carefully curated menus. Featured items ranged from spinach chicken wraps, pasta to iced coffees, loaded baked potatoes, and passion fruit cupcakes. Some teams even paired drinks or added ambiance with music and lights, making their presentations as vibrant as their flavors.

Judges Marcy Stanton, Scott Alexander, Jessica Rex, and Kellie Goldthwaite evaluated each truck using a rubric that equally weighed theme, design, creativity, effort, presentation, visual appeal, and—of course—taste.

“The level of effort was truly impressive,” one judge noted. “These students put so much thought into the details, and the results were outstanding.”

In a closely scored competition, the top four trucks emerged:

1st Place: Cupcake Cabana-created by Noel Alexander, Maddie Nelson, Trentin Anthony, and Ava Nelson

2nd Place: Fresh Finds

3rd Place: Malasada Mobile

4th Place: Spud Studs

From concept to cuisine, the students proved they have a recipe for success—and a whole lot of talent.





[https://wcsdpaorg-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/alexandernoa\\_wcsdpa\\_org/EcA-b7fj9BZBsIVSkIQgkQMBvaGPdvdL8ort7ofh9I3VDA?e=snMZ9T&referrer=Outlook.Web&referrerScenario=email-linkwithembed](https://wcsdpaorg-my.sharepoint.com/:v:/g/personal/alexandernoa_wcsdpa_org/EcA-b7fj9BZBsIVSkIQgkQMBvaGPdvdL8ort7ofh9I3VDA?e=snMZ9T&referrer=Outlook.Web&referrerScenario=email-linkwithembed)

## **WAHS Students Share the Joy of Reading with WAEC Students**

Students in the Warren Area High School (WAHS) Child Development class recently visited Warren Area Elementary Center (WAEC) to read books tailored to the younger students' interests. This collaboration, supported by the WAHS library, also taught the high schoolers how to select and request books from other libraries.

Before the visit, the elementary students completed interest inventories and exchanged letters with their high school partners, sharing their favorite topics. Using this information, the high schoolers carefully chose engaging books that aligned with their younger peers' interests.

During the visit, both groups enjoyed reading together and discussing their letters. The experience fostered connections between the students, making reading an exciting and interactive activity. Plans are in place for another reading session later in the year, ensuring the partnership continues to inspire a love of literacy.





## WAHS Student Participates at State PMEA Choir Festival

Jadenne Fofana, Senior at Warren Area High School, qualified and participated in the 2025 PMEA All-State Choir Festival under the direction of Dr. Rollo Dillworth of Temple University at Kalahari Resort in Poconos, PA. Jadenne attended and qualified at both the District and Region Level of Festival Choirs, chairing in the top 3 at both festivals. 240 Choir students were in attendance just for the All-State Choir.

PMEA All-State Festivals comprised of 663 Music Students from across the State from over 270+ High Schools participating in Choir, Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Orchestra, Jazz Band, and Contemporary A Cappella.

This was a huge accomplishment for Jadenne. She will be attending Houghton University in the Fall to be major in Music Education. The experiences she had at this festival will undoubtedly assist her in future endeavors.



## WCCC:

The FBLA Network design team of Jesse Horning and TJ McAuley are most recent STATE CHAMPIONS. The two will be competing later this spring/early summer in California.

The WCCC is heavily involved in annual NOCTI testing. Seniors who have been enrolled in a program for at least 2 years take an end of program assessment – NOCTI (except for Machine Technology). The test is broken down into 2 parts – Written and Performance. The performance test is proctored by an outside expert in the field.

Gifted: [MP3 Newsletter](#)