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RTHWEST February 2021: Issue 70 Fiscally Responsible... Quality Academic Education

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Lunch Prices

High School/Middle School	. \$3	3.00
W.S. Stinson/NW Primary	. \$2	2.70
Milk	.\$.50



"Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?"

Established in 1947, the VFW Voice of Democracy audio-essay program provides high school students with the unique opportunity to express themselves in a democratic, patriotic themed essay. Each year, nearly 40,000 9-12 grade students from across the country enter to win their share of \$2.1 million in educational scholarships and incentives awarded through the program. This year's theme was "Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned." We are so proud of Northwest juniors Mary Paydock and Brady Aneshansel for their success!



Mary Paydock First in the District; Second in the State!

"Placing second at the VFW Voice of Democracy Audio Essay State level competition was a huge honor. I feel incredibly blessed to be surrounded and supported by my Speech and Debate coaches, teammates, and family. The VFW has a wonderful scholarship program, and I am very grateful to have been chosen to represent my local and district VFW. In my essay titled, "Is this the Country the Founder's Envisioned?" I spoke to what I felt was true and especially reflected on this past year. We are extremely fortunate to live in this beautiful nation that our servicemen and women protect, and that is something that we should never forget."

Brady Aneshansel

Third in the District!

"Every year I look forward to receiving the prompt from the VFW, and this year was no exception. I decided to approach it through the eyes of a historian, as many people at the VFW are incredibly and rightfully proud of their historical knowledge. I was ecstatic to hear that I had placed at the district level, signaling to me that the judges were appreciative of the fresh perspective I had taken on the issue. All the time and energy I put into my essay is my way of demonstrating how thankful I am for the veterans of this community and their continued support of the young people whom their service inspires."

A Message from the Superintendent

As you are all well aware, the second semester is underway. Our hope is that we will be able to complete the semester without having to go back to remote learning. We are excited about in-school instruction and learning. We are fortunate to serve a community that recognizes the value of a good education and a school district that cares about the well-being of all its students. We may not be perfect, but we will not quit trying.

Dennis P. Lambes Superintendent



Fiscally Responsible...Quality Academic Education

Board of Education



Committed to an Open & Transparent District

Jim Gindlesberger – gindlesberger.j@northwest.sparcc.org Victor Colaianni – colaianni.v@northwest.sparcc.org Julia Barkey – barkey.j@northwest.sparcc.org Rita Gearhart – gearhart.r@northwest.sparcc.org Bob Schilling – schilling.b@northwest.sparcc.org

From left: Vice-President Victor Colaianni, Julia Barkey, Board President Jim Gindlesberger, Rita Gearhart, Bob Schilling.

Gifted Identification

While all children have gifts and talents, not all children are considered "gifted." Northwest Local understands the need for educational opportunities for students who demonstrate exceptional cognitive and academic skills. Gifted identification begins as young as kindergarten.

Students who qualify for services in grades K-2 have access to enriched curriculum opportunities in reading and math in their general education classroom. Students in third, fourth and fifth grade who qualify for math services have access to our gifted math class, and those who qualify for reading services receive enriched curriculum opportunities in their general education classroom. Students in middle school and high school have access to enriched courses, AP courses, and College Credit Plus courses. All students in second through tenth grade participate in whole-grade academic screening. In addition, second and fifth grade students participate in whole-grade gifted screening in the area of superior cognitive abilities and creative thinking.

Parents may refer their child for gifted testing by requesting a referral form from their building administrator and returning the form by May 1, 2021. For additional information regarding gifted identification and screening, please contact Debora Clark, Gifted Coordinator, at (330) 854-2291 or clark.d@northwest.sparcc.org.

K-5 English Language Arts Textbook Adoption

During the current academic year, the district is reviewing K-5 English language arts materials with the intent of purchasing new materials for use in the upcoming school year. The materials being considered for adoption will be available in May at the Central Office for parents and community members who would like to review them. Please direct any questions or concerns to the Curriculum Department at the Central Office (330) 854-2291.

One Needs Assessment

In January 2020, the Ohio Department of Education implemented a comprehensive needs assessment tool that school districts will use to identify the priority needs of the district. Districts that receive federal funds are required to use the One Needs Assessment (ONA) to drive effective planning and funding applications. Northwest Local is in the first cohort of districts that will be completing the One Needs Assessment (ONA) and the district is developing a three-year comprehensive plan. As we move through the planning process, we will be requesting feedback from various stakeholder groups. Additional information will be provided in the coming weeks regarding the district's planning timeline, feedback surveys, and draft copies of the district ONA plan.

Kindergarten Registration

To be eligible for kindergarten in the fall of 2021, your child must be five on or before August 1, 2021.

The <u>online registration</u> link will be available Monday, January 11, 2021 through Friday, April 9, 2021 on the district website.

A computer station will be available at the Central Office for those individuals who do not have online access in their homes.



Copies of the following documents <u>must</u> be brought to Central Office *by 5:00 p.m. on April 9, 2021* to complete the online registration process:

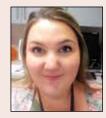
- **√** Birth certificate
- √ **Proof of residency** (2 forms required utility bill and a rental agreement or mortgage statement)
- Child's social security number
- √ Parent's Photo ID
- **√** Immunization record
- $\sqrt{}$ Custody papers (if applicable)

School Counselors: All In for All Students

In celebration of National School Counseling Week, February 1–5, Northwest Local Schools would like to recognize our school counselors in each of the buildings and share a little about who they are and what they do, (including Mrs. Shelton (Sette) Social Worker). The role of a school counselor has evolved from the day when they used to be known as "Guidance Counselors." School counselors are now trained to offer a wider variety of services in order to fulfill their various roles in the schools. They are no longer just tasked with scheduling students, but rather a part of the overall educational team that works



to help each child succeed. While the role of an elementary counselor is very different from that of a high school counselor, one thing remains the same: school counselors act as advocates for students' well-being and as valuable resources to help students academically, socially, and emotionally. School counselors take on an array of responsibilities to help improve the lives of students, both in and out of the classroom.



Mrs. Jennie Sette Shelton -**Northwest Primary**

As an alumnus of Northwest, it is my honor to give back to my school. In 2012, I graduated with my Masters in Social Work and became a licensed social worker with the state of Ohio. I started my career at a private school that helped students recover credits to earn their

high school diplomas. This is my fourth school year with Northwest. During this time, I have been recognized as the National Association of Social Workers' Emerging Leader of the Year (Region II) and a Superhero for Stark County Students and Families. In the evening, I work as an Associate Lecturer at The University of Akron in the School of Social Work. When I am not at work, you will find me with my family. I am newly married to my husband, Brennen Shelton, and together we have a puppy named Cooper. I also have a nephew and niece who are my world! I love that my students constantly remind me that little ones can do BIG things! Another great part of my job is my coworkers—teachers or staff members going above and beyond to not only teach our students, but to invest in their character. I am thankful to be a part of such a wonderful school district!



Mrs. Marcy McKendry -W. S. Stinson Elementary

This is my 14th year as a school counselor in Northwest Local Schools, all of which have been at Stinson Elementary. I came to NW in 2007 from Perry Local Schools where I taught special education for six years. I have three children, Clayton (15), Nolan (14), and

Madeline (11), who attend Green Local Schools. In the last three years, I have had the pleasure of being an adjunct faculty at Walsh University supervising school counseling interns and teaching a course for future school counselors. I am so appreciative of the community of Northwest Local and the support they have given to myself and all the counseling staff at NW. I feel very blessed to work in such a close community. I am so inspired by the students at Stinson, and it is a privilege to watch them grow and change in the years that they are here. Being able to be a part of that is a huge blessing.



Mrs. Jessica Cogar -**Northwest Middle School**

This is my 13th year as a school counselor and all of those years have been spent here at Northwest Middle School. I earned a bachelor's degree in Psychology from The Ohio State University in 2003, and then a master's

degree in School Counseling from Walsh University in 2007. I live in Canal Fulton with my husband, Shawn, and three kids Landon, Lyla, and

Emma. We also have a Miniature Dachshund named Milo. I am in charge of Student Council and enjoy planning events with those students and encouraging them to be leaders in the building. I think the best part of my job is being able to help students process through confusing thoughts that are so common at this age. I also really enjoy watching them mature from sixth graders to eighth graders. I like hearing their perspectives on things and sharing mine with them. Outside of school I enjoy spending time with family and friends, going for walks, swimming, and going to the beach as often as I can.



Mrs. Mary Nelson - Northwest High School

I live in Fairlawn, Ohio with my husband and two daughters, Annabelle (5), and Amelia (1), and my dog Harrah. I graduated from Copley High School, and then earned a bachelor's degree in Family and Consumer Science Education from Kent State University. I then earned a master's degree from the University of the

Cumberlands. I started at Northwest High School in 2011 as the Family Consumer Science teacher. I worked in that role until January 2017 when I transitioned to the role of school counselor. I have loved working for the Northwest school district in both a teaching role and as a counselor. I believe the support for bettering student social and emotional well-being is unlike any other district. Our administrators and staff have helped me to grow so much and really support incentives we have implemented at our school. Coming to work every day is such a blessing, especially when I work with the most amazing co-counselor and administrative assistant. I really could not do my job without them. I have found my home in Northwest and appreciate everything this school has done for me.



Mrs. Annie Schluep -**Northwest High School**

I attended The University of Mount Union for my undergraduate degree in Middle Childhood with a focus on Science and Social Studies. I taught fourth and sixth grade science and social studies at Clearmount Elementary School, and I also taught at North Canton

Middle School. My parents were both school counselors, and I loved seeing the difference they made in their students' lives. I earned my master's degree from The University of Akron. This is my third year at Northwest High School. My husband and I have two daughters, Anna and Evie. My dog, Ben, is a certified therapy dog that comes to work at the high school a few days a week. Ben is three years old and is a chocolate Labradoodle. He loves seeing the Northwest students and looks forward to the days that he can come to work with Mom. What I love the most about being a school counselor is the opportunity to work with our Northwest students. I feel very lucky to enjoy coming to work every day.

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WINTER



Varsity Boys Basketball Front Row: Nick Dinkins, Ethan Hyrne, Brady Schenz, Ethan Nickey; Back Row: Coach Mike Lower, Coach Dave Cooper, Nick Smith, Alex Goddard, Davin Harness, Aidan Barna, Isaac LaFay, Noah Harper, Coach Ryan Brotherton, Coach Mack Ferrell.



Junior Varsity Boys Basketball Front Row: Garrett Baughman, Austin Wright, Ray Stokes, Luke Metzger; Back Row: Coach Mack Ferrell, Tyler Dias, Carter Magyarics, Caden Beichler, Aidan Barna, Ian Ziegler, Coach Mike Lower.



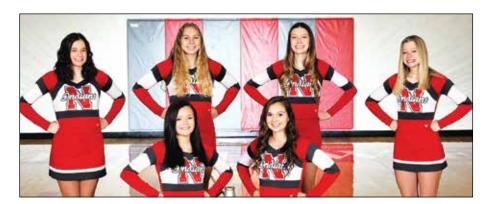
Freshman Boys Basketball Front Row: Carter Daly, Joshua Baker, Trevor Pitsch; Back Row: Morgan Kunkle, Coach Mike Lower, Jon Olien-Lewis, Ian Ziegler, Connor Satterfield, Coach Dave Cooper, Cody Tackett.



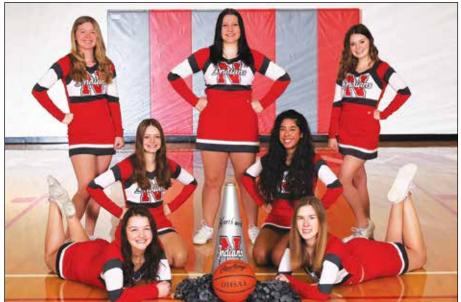
SPORTS



Lady Indians Basketball Front Row: Ashlyn Stark, Caroline Kuhn, Abby Ross, Gwen Lower, Kassidy Kimler; Back Row: Jordan Marecek, Coach Kevin Lower, Carly Spradling, Lilly Bottomley, Riley Cudnik, Coach Todd Barkan, Emily Stokes, Gianna Kuhn, Coach Natalie Sarbaugh, Ashley Cudnik.



Varsity Cheerleaders Front Row: Cassidy Young (Captain), Chloe Barcheck; Back Row: Mercedes Carnifax, Emma Barnes, Kylee Cottrill, Rileigh Schreffler.



JV Cheerleaders Front Row: Kaylee Turley, Katie Popovic (Co-Captains); Middle Row: Madison Zellers, Jayla Skelle; Back Row: Allison Spencer, Gracee Skelly, Faith Weiford. Not Pictured: Kaylynn Schaub.

Varsity Wrestling (Pictured left) Front Row: Josh Faris, Owen Reinford, Bradyn Wolfe, Matthew VonBonin, Jake Followay, Mason Gonzalez; Back Row: Ben Schilling, Riley Plotner, Austin Donaldson, Adam Wenhart, Aiden Clark, Cody Logan, Cody Workinger.

Northwest High School

Holiday Spirit

With the move to remote learning prior to Winter Break, the traditional "Elf Squad" at the high school was revamped. Guidance counselors-turned-elves delivered holiday cheer to the teachers daily. The week ended with a special visit from Santa Mayor.











February 19-20 at 7:00 PM & 21 at 2:30 PM -Doors open 30 minutes before showtimes-

This year, the Northwest High School Drama department will bring Louisa May Alcott's beloved story of the adventures of the four March sisters in this vivid musical-*Little Women*-to Puffenberger Hall!

Little Women begins when the Civil War is in full swing, and the March sisters -- Meg, the oldest, a romantic, the spirited and tomboyish Jo, sweet and loving Beth, and irascible, playful Amy -- live in Concord, Massachusetts with their Marmee while their father is on the battlefield. Filled with adventure (both lived and imagined), heartbreak, and a deep sense of hope, the struggle of these "Little Women" to find their own voices mirrors the growing pains of a young America. With buoyant, joyful melodies, memorable characters, and a big-hearted message, Little Women reminds us that "sometimes when you dream, your dreams come true."

Ticket Pricing: 7\$ for students/ 10\$ for general admission **Ticket Information:** Pre-Sale Starts February 1 and can be done so through the main office at Northwest High School

Video On Demand: A recording of the musical will be available for Video On Demand, February 26 for \$15 per household

High School Dates to Remember

FEBRUARY

Waiver Day: No School
Presidents' Day: No School
Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences 2:30-7:30 PM

19-21 Musical: Little Women

MARCH

19 End of Third Nine Weeks 3/29-4/5 Spring Break: **No School**





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Northwest Students at R. G. Drage

Preparing for Careers and Continued Education

Since 1977, R.G. Drage Career Technical Center has continued to find innovative ways to connect education with the world of work. Students attending R.G. Drage Career Technical Center gain "real world" career training in addition to academics while graduating from their home school district.

Currently, 94 Northwest students are enrolled at R.G. Drage. Programs range from auto collision, machining, building, HVAC/refrigeration, welding, and engineering to sports medicine, health technologies, agriculture, animal science, sports turf & landscape management, graphic communications, and cosmetology. R.G. Drage also proudly houses a student-operated restaurant and a preschool.

Career & Technical students spend approximately half of the school day in their career program labs. Students then spend the remainder of the day completing academic and/or program-related coursework determined by the career program choice and their home school district. Many students are eligible for job placement during their senior year, often leading to full-time employment after graduation. Students can also take advantage of opportunities to earn college credit while attending R.G. Drage. By taking the necessary college prep courses, students are prepared and encouraged to further their education beyond high school.

FEATURED SENIORS



Macie Cargould - Bakery-Pastry

Baking since she was a little girl, Macie knew the Bakery program would be a fun and interesting career for her. She really likes the hands-on approach to learning in the labs and she has enjoyed meeting people from different schools. Macie is proud of her 4.0 GPA and completing her certification tests. She looks forward to continuing her education at Stark State College of Technology

or possibly Eastern Florida State.



Riley Meredith - Animal Science

Riley has many pets at home. Her love of animals and her passion to care for them easily led her to the Animal Science program. She enjoys her lab and the opportunity to meet new people, and she has fond memories of raising her cow "Frying Pan" her junior year. Riley is rightfully proud of her perfect attendance for the past seven years and being on the honor roll. She has earned early

placement and is currently employed at Orrville Pet Resort and Spa where she looks forward to going to work and playing and caring for the cats and dogs. After high school, Riley plans to attend Ross College to earn her degree as a veterinarian technician.



Haley Prager -**Early Childhood Education**

Haley chose the Early Childhood Education program because she wants to teach the future generation of children and make a difference in their lives. She loves the "real world" aspect of her education and feels confident about the programs of Drage preparing students for the work field. Haley has worked hard and is proud of her academic

accomplishments, including her 4.0 GPA. She plans to attend college and one day earn her master's degree in psychology and become a school counselor.



Aaron Shrock –Building-Construction

Aaron aspires to go into camp ministry to serve and to aid local churches. The Building-Construction program has given him hands-on training in skills he knows that he will use in his future. He is proud of the opportunity to attend this school and the work he has done there. In part, he credits the amazing teachers at Drage for his success.



Logan Wise - Welding

Logan has always loved to fix things and build things, so the Welding program was an obvious choice. At Drage, he appreciates the teaching staff: "I like how they treat us like adults going to make a career for ourselves, not just as kids going to high school." Through early placement, Logan is employed at Cramers' Inc., Custom Sheet Metal Fabricators. He is proud of his work ethic in the

classroom and on the job, gladly working eight-hour shifts. One day, Logan may own his own shop.



Cassidy Young - Cosmetology

Cassidy has always enjoyed doing hair and nails, so the cosmetology program is a perfect fit. In a year when so many classes are remote, Cassidy is thankful for the hands-on education she is receiving at Drage and the opportunity to meet new friends from different schools. She appreciates her teachers, especially her cosmetology instructors, and she is proud of her hard work and improving

grades. Cassidy plans to earn her license and to have a successful career in a hair salon.





















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Northwest Middle School

Students of the Month - Beginning the School Year Right!

November

Each month, the middle school staff honors trustworthy, hardworking students who accept responsibility and do their work promptly and efficiently. These students respect authority and respect their peers, demonstrating honesty and fairness. They are dependable and often do more than is required of them. Whether in person or online, these students get the job done! Congratulations to November Students of the Month!

Seventh Grade







Drew Tirbovich



Kendall Knott



Vance Vargas

Eighth Grade

Sixth Grade



Lola Bleakley



Jeremy Gibson



Middle School Dates to Remember

Parent/Teacher Conferences......2:40-8:40 PM 11

12 Waiver Day: No School

15 Presidents' Day: No School

22-26 Kindness Week

MARCH

End of Third Nine Weeks 3/29-4/5 Spring Break: No School



Power of the Pen

In Power of the Pen, students share and celebrate creative writing with coaches and peers. Power of the Pen writers not only receive individualized support from their school teams, but they also become part of a wider network of nearly 300 schools throughout the state that nurture and celebrate excellence in writing.

On Saturday, January 9th, seven young Northwest Middle School writers competed in the virtual Power of the Pen creative writing tournament against surrounding Stark County school districts. After weeks of practice, these

creative minds wrote stories for three different rounds of the tournament. These writers were given a prompt and required to write a short story with action, dialogue, and good character and plot development in just forty minutes per story. The results are pending, but they are looking forward to preparing for the Regional Tournament in March.

Our writers are seventh and eighth graders Lukas Snyder, Kayleigh Fetherolf, Marlena Carneal, Caiden Todaro, Candace Doubet, Brianna Wayts, and Riley Hollwager. Coaches Jessica Ventosa and Noelle Rice couldn't be happier with the team and more excited about all the growth in writing this year.

W.S. Stinson Elementary

Classroom Teacher Moves to the Art Room

Jenn Barnett has taught at Northwest for the past 25 years, the last 12 years teaching third grade at Stinson Elementary. When Sandy Block retired at the start of this school, we knew we had huge shoes to fill, as she always inspired the children to create such unique, individualized, beautiful works of art. We were fortunate when Mrs. Barnett shared her desire to move into the art position. Mrs.



Barnett had taught art for three years at the middle school, and it remained a focus throughout her teaching career. Art was often incorporated into many of her classroom lessons. Mrs. Barnett was excited about having the opportunity to teach the processes and create more in-depth art lessons to all Stinson students, so moving to the art room was a natural fit. Although



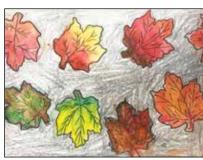
she has been challenged with teaching "art on a cart" this year due to COVID safety guidelines, she has moved into this new position seamlessly. The art projects she inspires the students to create always have the "wow" factor. It is truly impressive to see what amazing pieces of art young children can create with proper instruction and enthusiasm. It's always exciting to see what they'll create next!

















Stinson teachers connect with students remotely after winter break.



Students Thank the Board of Education

School board members are ordinary people who have extraordinary dedication to our public schools. January was School Board Recognition Month, so join Stinson in thanking a school board member today! They devote hours of their time each week to provide leadership for our school district. We thank **Jim Gindlesberger**, **Victor Colaianni**, **Julie Barkey**, **Rita Gearhart**, and **Bob Schilling** for their untiring efforts.

It's Not Too Late to Join Beginning Band!

Beginning band started on Monday February 1, 2021. It's not too late to join! The band staff will help you select the instrument that is most suited to you. Band is a great activity that you can enjoy for the rest of your life. In band,



you develop lasting friendships and learn to express yourself through music. This is the link to the online sign up www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0845ADA728A4FD0-northwest2, although students may join by contacting any of the band directors. Monica Meffan (Stinson) meffan.m@northwest. sparcc.org, Kimberly Good (NMS) good.k@northwest.sparcc.org, or Michelle Rennick (NHS) rennick.m@northwest.sparcc.org.

Stinson Dates to Remember

FEBRUARY

- 12 Waiver Day: **No School**
- 15 Presidents' Day: No School

MARCH

19 End of Third Nine Weeks 3/29-4/5 Spring Break: **No School**

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Northwest Primary

From Grinch Day to Snowman Day to Polar Express Day, holiday spirit filled the halls of Northwest Primary. Teachers created themes and activities to celebrate the season in a different way each day the week before winter break.













Small School, Big World

Even though this year's virtual Multicultural Day was different than in the past, presenters found a way to share their cultures with Northwest Primary students. In interactive virtual lessons, they visited with presenters from Germany, Antarctica, Africa, and Asia.

They sang songs about the continents, colored flags and pictures, made personal hand-made drums, and practiced saying "hello" in different languages. By the end of the day, students had learned a great deal about the seven continents, increasing their awareness of the rich cultures in the world and understanding the importance of respecting diversity.













Northwest Primary Dates to Remember

FEBRUARY

Waiver Day: No School

15 Presidents' Day: No School

22-26 Kindness Week

Virtual Family Science Fair Week

25 Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:45-5:45PM

MARCH

Parent/Teacher Conferences...... 3:45-5:45PM

19 End of Third Nine Weeks 3/29-4/5 Spring Break: **No School**

Fiscally Responsible...Quality Academic Education

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Northwest Local Schools Calendar 2021-22

August	
16	Teacher Day - No School
17	First Student Day
<u>Septem</u>	
3	Bldg In-service No School
6	Labor Day
October	
11	Teacher Inservice On Your
	Own Day - No School
22	End of 9 weeks (47 days)
Noveml	
24-26 29	Thanksgiving Break
	No School
Decemb 20-31	
	Christmas Break
January 7	End of 9 weeks (42 days)
7	End of semester (89 days)
17	Martin Luther King Day
Februa	- ·
18	Waiver Day – No School
21	Presidents Day
March	r residents Day
11	End of 9 weeks (43 days)
28-31	Spring Break
	No School
April	
1	Spring Break - No School
15	No School
18	No School
\mathbf{May}	
27	Last Student Day
27	End of 9 weeks (48 days)
27	End of semester (51days)
31	Teacher Day - No School
	Day Make-Up Schedule: May 31 , 2022 – consecutive
	as needed
Т	eacher Day - No School for Student
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Fi	rst & Last Student Day
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February 2022							
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Child Find

In an effort to serve young people with disabilities, Northwest Local is continually in the process of locating and evaluating children from 3 to 21 years of age who are suspected as having a disability. Disabilities may include developmental delays, health impairments, autism, and traumatic brain injury. Individuals may contact the building Principals or Director of Special Services about children suspected as having a disability that may qualify for special education services. Information is available about special education policies and procedures in each building by contacting the building Principal. Northwest has a child identification process that includes the location, identification and evaluation of a child suspected of having a disability within and outside of district buildings. The Department of Special Services coordinates the child identification process. The Northwest evaluation staff uses a variety of community resources and systematic activities in order to identify children requiring special services. Included in this effort is consultation with appropriate representatives of private school students attending private schools located within the boundaries of the Northwest Local District to carry out this process. Northwest ensures that this process for students attending private or religious schools located in the Northwest Local District is comparable to activities undertaken for students with disabilities served in the public school setting. If you have questions about the process, please call Scott Burnett, Director of Special Services, at 330-854-2292.

Teacher Exchange Day – No School

Student Days 180 Teacher Days 184