March 2026 Volume XIV Issue 6

THE BRAVE BEAT

AROUND THE DISTRICT

Dear Community Members,

As we transition into spring, we are excited about the many activities and events ahead. With warmer weather and longer days upon us, we encourage our students to remain focused on their studies, stay current with their assignments, and finish the school year strong.

This summer, we will continue making meaningful upgrades to our facilities. At the high school, new ceilings and LED lighting will be installed in classrooms, along with new flooring in select areas. These improvements reflect our ongoing commitment to providing safe, modern, and high-quality learning environments for our students. Work is scheduled to begin at the end of May, and we fully anticipate completion prior to the start of the new school year.

Additionally, due to the HVAC improvements completed across the district in recent years, we will not need to implement early dismissal days at the start of the school year. Students will begin school on August 12 and will attend full, regular school days.

We would also like to extend our sincere congratulations and best wishes to Mrs. Lisa Spivey, Mrs. Gina Peterson, and Ms.Wendi Johns as they begin new chapters. We are grateful for their dedication and years of service to our students and community.

Looking ahead to the 2026–2027 school year, we are pleased to welcome Ms. Cameron Moe and Mrs. Sheila Arnold to our elementary staff. We are excited to have these talented educators join our team and look forward to the positive impact they will have on our students.

Finally, as spring planting season begins and our local farmers return to the fields, we encourage everyone to be mindful and share the roadways safely as they carry out their important work.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools. Wishing you all a safe and wonderful spring season.

Sincerely,

Jamie Bryan
Superintendent



From Mrs. Heitzler's Office

📚 Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR)

Students in **Grades 3–8** will participate in the **Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR)** on **April 8th–10th**. Students will complete two computerized assessments each day—one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Exact testing times will be shared soon.

Make-up testing will take place in the days following April 10th. Please avoid scheduling appointments during this window if possible. It is important for students to be present and ready to do their best!

- ✔ Get a good night's sleep
- ✔ Arrive on time
- ✔ Eat breakfast (a light breakfast will also be served at school)

5th and 8th grade students will take the **Illinois Science Assessment** on **April 21st–24th**.

🏐🏀 Junior High Athletics Update

Our Junior High Girls Volleyball teams are wrapping up their season. Thank you to coaches **Mrs. Peterson, Mrs. Huber, and Ms. Mackey** for your dedication!

Junior High Boys Basketball recently finished their season under the leadership of **Mr. Matt Huber and Mr. Jayse Heitzler**. Thank you for your time and commitment to our student-athletes.

A special thank you to **Ms. Clementz** for leading our cheerleaders this year!

We are so proud of all our students participating in extracurricular activities and appreciate the time our coaches invest in them.

🧠 Junior High Scholastic Bowl

Best of luck to our Junior High Scholastic Bowl team and coach **Mrs. DeMay**! The team began their season on February 10th against Central.

Thank you to the staff members helping with home meets. We look forward to cheering on our students this season!

🏃 Junior High Track – Coming Soon!

Track season is almost here! Coaches **Mr. Reakes, Miss Baele, and Mrs. Chapman** are preparing for the upcoming season.

Reminder: Any student who has not participated in athletics this school year must have an updated physical and signed waivers on file before practice begins. More information will be shared soon.

🎪 Reading Carnival – May 15th!

We have kicked off our **"Drop Everything and Read" (DEAR)** initiative this semester, leading up to our exciting **Reading Carnival on Friday, May 9th**!

Students will have the opportunity to earn rewards and participate in fun activities. More details will be shared by classroom teachers as we get closer to the event.

We can't wait to celebrate reading together!

---

5 Essentials Parent Survey

The Illinois 5 Essentials Survey provides valuable feedback from students, staff, and parents to help guide school improvement decisions.

Students and staff completed the survey February 23rd–27th. We are asking parents to participate as well.

Parent Survey Link:
http://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/survey/parent/

Your feedback is greatly appreciated!

Preschool Screenings

Preschool screenings will be held **March12th–17th** for children turning **3 years old by September 1st** who are interested in our preschool program.

⚲ Screenings will take place in the preschool classroom (east end of the building).
⃠ There will be no preschool classes on those days due to screenings.

Please contact the office if you would like to schedule a screening.

Spelling Bee Champion

Congratulations to **Adam Jones**, our school Spelling Bee winner!

Adam will advance to the Regional Spelling Bee at **Augustana College** on **March 1st, 2026 at 12:15**.

We are so proud of you and wish you the best of luck!

Thank you for your continued support of Annawan Grade School. It is a great day to be a Brave! ♡

Mrs. Heitzler



ANNAWAN LUNCH MENU

March				
M	**Tu**	**W**	**Th**	**F**
2 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Pancake on a Stick Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Hamburger/ Cheeseburger on Bun Oven Fries or Fresh Veggies Applesauce of Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	3 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Sausage & Egg Burrito Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Crispitos Corn or Fresh Veggies Peaches or Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	4 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Egg & Cheese Biscuit Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Hot Dog or Chili Dog on Bun Baked Beans or Fresh Veggies Pears or Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	5 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Waffles & Sausage Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Crispy Chicken or Spicey Chicken Patty on Bun Cooked Carrots or Fresh Veggies Mix Fruit or Fresh Veggies Choice of Milk	6 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Cinnamon Rolls Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Tony's Cheese Pizza Green Beans or Fresh Veggies Pineapple or Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk
9 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Pop Tarts Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Tenderloin on Bun Steamed Broccoli or Fresh Veggies Peaches of Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	10 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST French Toast & Sausage Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Maid Rite or Cheese Rite on Bun Smiley Potatoes Applesauce or Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	11 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Breakfast Pizza Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Corn Dog Baked Beans or Fresh Veggies Mix Fruit or Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	12 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Tornado Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Chicken Alfredo Broccoli or Fresh Veggies Pears of Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	13 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Mini Donuts Choice of Fruit Choice Of Milk LUNCH Bosco Cheese Stick Applesauce or Fresh Fruit Corn of Fresh Veggies Choice of Milk
16 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Waffles & Sausage Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Pepperoni Pizza Green Beans or Fresh Veggies Pears of Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	17 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Pancake on a Stick Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Grilled Ham & Cheese Sand. Chili or Tomato Soup or Fresh Veggie Mix Fruit or Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	18 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Breakfast Pizza Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes or Fresh Veggies Applesauce or Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	19 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Sausage & Egg Burrito Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH B.B.Q. Pork Nachos Corn or Fresh Veggies Peaches of Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	20 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Mini Cinni's Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH The Max Cheese Stick Baked Beans or Fresh Veggie Pineapple or Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk
23 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Uncrustable Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Chicken Quesadilla Refried Beans or Fresh Veggies Peaches or Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	24 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Sausage, Egg, & Cheese Biscuit Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Green Beans or Fresh Veggies Pears or Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	25 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Breakfast Pizza Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Crispy Chicken Wrap Broccoli or Fesh Veggies Applesauce or Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	26 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Biscuits & Gravy Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Taco Salad w/ Doritos Corn or Fresh Veggies Pineapple or Fresh Fruit Choice of Milk	27 **Breakfast:** BREAKFAST Cook's Choice Choice of Fruit Choice of Milk LUNCH Pizza Hut (Cheese) Cooked Carrots of Fresh Veggies Mix Fruit or Fresh Fruit Choice of MIlk
30	31	1	2	3

Annawan Jr/Sr High School - March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2 TBA B V BB (Practice) TBA Cancelled G V BKB @ OPEN TBA G JH VB @ OPEN 3:30 PM B V BB (Practice) 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice) 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice)	3 TBA B V BKB @ OPEN TBA G JH VB @ OPEN 3:30 PM B V BB (Practice) 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice) 5:00 PM B V TR @ OPEN 5:00 PM G V TR @ OPEN	4 TBA B V BKB @ OPEN TBA G JH VB @ OPEN 3:30 PM B V BB (Practice) 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice) 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice)	5 TBA Cancelled G V BKB @ OPEN TBA G JH VB @ OPEN 3:30 PM B V BB (Practice) 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice) 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice) 4:00 PM C JH BWL @ ROWVA Jr/Sr High School	6 End of 3rd Quarter TBA B V BKB @ OPEN TBA Cancelled G V BKB @ OPEN 3:30 PM B V BB (Practice) 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice) 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice)	7 TBA Cancelled G V BKB @ OPEN TBA G JH VB @ OPEN 9:00 AM Cheer Clinic - Douglas
8	9 TBA B V BKB @ OPEN TBA G V SB OPEN 3:30 PM B V BB (Practice) 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice) 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice) 6:00 PM G JH VB OPEN	10 TBA G JH VB @ OPEN 3:30 PM B V BB (Practice) 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice) 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice)	11 TBA G JH VB @ OPEN 3:30 PM B V BB (Practice) 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice) 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice) 4:30 PM C JH BWL @ Mercer County Jr High 7:00 PM NHS Induction	12 TBA B V BKB @ OPEN TBA G JH VB @ OPEN 3:30 PM B V BB (Practice) 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice) 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice)	13 TBA B V BKB @ OPEN TBA G JH VB @ OPEN 3:30 PM B V BB (Practice) 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice) 3:00 PM B V TR @ OPEN 3:00 PM G V TR @ OPEN	14 TBA B V BKB @ OPEN TBA G JH VB @ OPEN
15	16 TBA B V BB OPEN TBA C JH TR (Practice) 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice) 4:30 PM B V BB @ CO-OP Erie/Prophetstown 4:30 PM B JV BB CO-OP Erie/Prophetstown 4:30 PM G V SB @ CO-OP Erie/Prophetstown 4:30 PM Cancelled G JV SB CO-OP Erie/Prophetstown 6:00 PM G JH VB OPEN	17 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice) 4:30 PM B V BB @ Fulton High School 4:30 PM G V SB @ Fulton High School 6:15 PM B JV BB @ Fulton High School	18 3:30 PM B V BB (Practice) 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice) 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice)	19 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice) 4:30 PM B V BB @ Rock Falls High School 4:30 PM G V SB @ Rock Falls High School 6:15 PM B JV BB @ Rock Falls High School	20 Anderson Enterprises Consignment Auction TBA G JH VB @ OPEN 3:00 PM B V BB @ Galesburg High School 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice) 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice) 5:00 PM B V BB @ Galesburg High School	21 Anderson Enterprises Consignment Auction TBA B V BB @ Galesburg High School TBA G JH VB @ OPEN 11:00 AM G V SB Alleman Catholic High School 8:30 AM G V TR @ OPEN 1:00 PM B V TR @ OPEN
22	23 3:30 PM B V BB (Practice) 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice) 4:30 PM G V SB Lewistown High School	24 3:30 PM B V BB (Practice) 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice) 4:30 PM G V SB @ Mendota High School 6:15 PM Cancelled G JV SB @ Mendota High School	25 3:30 PM C V TR (Practice) 4:30 PM B V BB Newman Central Catholic HS 4:30 PM B JV BB @ Newman Central Catholic HS 4:30 PM G V SB Newman Central Catholic HS	26 3:30 PM B V BB (Practice) 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice) 4:00 PM B V TR OPEN 4:00 PM G V TR OPEN 4:00 PM C JH BWL @ Alwood Middle-High School	27 TBA B V TR @ OPEN TBA G V TR @ OPEN 4:30 PM B V BB River Ridge HS-Hanover 4:30 PM G V SB River Ridge HS-Hanover	28 11:00 AM B V BB Putnam County High School 11:00 AM G V SB St. Bede Academy 1:00 PM B JV BB Putnam County High School
29	30 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice) 4:00 PM B V TR @ United Junior Senior High School 4:00 PM G V TR @ United Junior Senior High School	31 TBA NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK 3:30 PM G V SB (Practice)				