WCSD
Positive Happenings
Learning in Action
December

BWMS:

Several of our Beaty students recently took part in the Keystone Competition, a STEM hackathon where teams worked to solve real-world challenges. We are excited to announce that three of our Beaty students, Nina, Ty, and Jackson, were part of a team that won both the People's Choice Award and 1st place in the 7th/8th grade division!

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our families for contributing to our Veteran's Drive. Your kindness ensures our troops feel appreciated and supported. We truly couldn't do this without you!

Some of our 6th and 7th grade students had the exciting opportunity to meet with Regional PennDOT Maintenance Manager Ryan Wescoat as they prepare for their eCybermission STEM competition projects.

We are proud to recognize our November Students of the Month—each selected for consistently meeting our F.I.R.E. expectations: Fierceness, Integrity, Responsibility, and Excellence

Congratulations to Emma, Jase, Kaitlyn, and Caleb







EES:

The hallways are beautifully decorated and create a festive atmosphere for the holiday season. The Annual Santa Sale was another tremendous success. More than 20 Thanksgiving meals were provided to families in need.

Author **David Gorman**, writer of *The Long-Lost Locket*, visited EES as part of our One Book–One School initiative. Students were able to use their PBIS points to become VIPs, which included front-row seating and the opportunity to meet and take a photo with the author. Other students used their points to take photos with him, ask questions, have their books signed, and enjoy lunch with him.

Leading up to his visit, Ms. Walter organized daily chapter readings by adults, high school students, and even our KNIGHT mascot. She also posted Waldameer-themed trivia throughout the week, as David Gorman's books are based on Waldameer, which is owned by his parents.

A very special thank you to the PBIS Team, the PTC, and the following businesses for helping make this event possible:

Superior Tire
State Farm Insurance, Ed Loutzenhiser
Haines & Company
Lindell Farms
Calvert Pearson
Thrive
United Refinery

EMHS:

Sixth Grade Accountability Reward



Our sixth graders had a fantastic celebration this week, enjoying Donuts and Smoothies from Nutrition Inc. Students in Mrs. Rouse's and Mrs. Elms' classes demonstrated our PBIS pillars all month long.

The students pictured earned the Accountability Reward, recognizing their consistent positive choices and commitment to IKE PRIDE. Great job, sixth grade!

Eisenhower Boys Basketball Champions





Congratulations to the Eisenhower Boys Basketball Team for winning their season-opening CRS Tournament! The Knights secured impressive victories over Clarion-Limestone and Warren High to bring home the championship. Their teamwork, determination, and school pride were on full display—an outstanding start to the season!

Key Club Thanksgiving Service Project

Our Key Club once again made a powerful impact on the community by successfully filling 20 Thanksgiving holiday meal boxes for local families. Through a school-wide food drive, homerooms collected items to earn their "turkey feathers," creating a fun and meaningful challenge. Following the drive, each class shifted into the spirit of the season with school-wide Christmas hallway decorating, bringing joy and creativity to our building. We're proud of our students for their service, leadership, and heart

SAEMS:

Sheffield's Annual Food Drive



Ready for the Holidays







Middle School Olympics

Sheffield Middle School Students held their opening ceremony for our Middle School Olympics, part of SAEMS PBIS. The students will be participating in challenging Math, ELA, Science and Social Studies activities throughout the year.





VIRTUAL:

One of our recent highlights is the launch of a new pilot partnership with Subject, a virtual content provider offering flexible and accessible instructional content across core subjects. While not an ELL-specific platform, Subject allows students to access content into multiple languages, including Ukrainian. This feature is already proving valuable for several districts welcoming newly enrolled Ukrainian students, allowing them to access grade-level academic content while developing English proficiency. The flexibility of this platform strengthens our ability to support a growing and diverse virtual population.

In addition, we continue to keep our districts informed on key legislative updates. A major highlight is the recent passage of Pennsylvania's cyber charter reform legislation, which includes important provisions around funding fairness and accountability. One particularly relevant component for districts and virtual programs is the new guidance surrounding habitually truant students. The legislation clarifies that students who are habitually truant may not be transferred into a cyber charter school to avoid truancy enforcement. This reinforces the importance of early intervention, accurate attendance tracking, and strong district-level oversight—all areas VAS supports through detailed student reporting, time-on-task monitoring, and regular communication with partner districts.

As always, our focus remains on helping students succeed while empowering districts to retain and support their virtual learners within a high-quality, compliant, and locally controlled environment.

WAEC:

As we wrap up 2025 and head into the winter season, there is so much to celebrate at WAEC! Thank you to our students, staff, and community for continuing to make our school an incredible place to learn and grow.

How Cool is Your School (Erie News Now)

Mr. Neal, our music teacher, and our students did a wonderful job with this year's "How Cool Is Your School" initiative. Voting ended at the end of November, and WAEC came in second place earning the music program an iPad! Thank you to everyone in the school community for voting. The energy, creativity, and school pride have made "How Cool Is Your School?!" a highlight of the month.



Final vote totals

1. Erie High School - 6,423
2. Warren Area Elementary Center - 3,749
3. Fairview Middle School - 1,762
4. Cambridge Springs Jr./Sr. High School - 754

Here's the link to watch the full video:
https://www.erienewsnow.com/featured/contests/how-cool-is-your-school-the-power-of-music/article_89c8e0d6-8f2f-578b-abdb-4827de787d9c.html#/rounds/1/gallery/508892680

New WAEC 1st Grade Teacher – Brittany Alex!

We are thrilled to announce that our 1st grade position has officially been filled as of the board meeting on 12.04.2025. Welcome **Mrs. Brittany Alex**, who brings many years of 1st-grade teaching experience from a neighboring district.

Congratulations, Medina Reynolds!

A huge celebration is in order - Medina Reynolds, our literacy instructional coach, has been vetted to become an official ECRI trainer through PaTTAN! This is an incredible accomplishment and a reflection of her skill, dedication, and leadership.

Snow Day Bucket Fillers!

Many students at WAEC received bucket fillers from administration for spending time reading and/or thanking veterans for their service on the snow days this month.

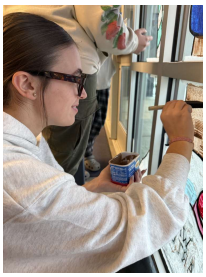
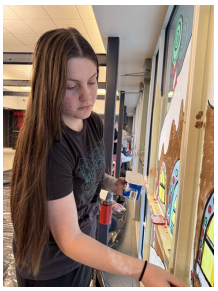

With Middle of the Year benchmark testing right around the corner, we are very excited to finish the year strong seeing the evidence of all of the hard work from our students!

WAHS:

Happy Holidays from WAHS!

Warren Area High School's Art Club designed and painted a winter theme on the windows to the Auditorium, adding a festive themed welcome to students, parents, and community members during the winter season and holiday concerts.




Financial Literacy 101



More than 170 juniors and seniors at Warren Area High School spent Nov. 20, 2025, learning real-world financial skills through a day-long Financial Literacy 101 program coordinated by the Warren County Chamber of Business & Industry and several local and national financial partners. Representatives from Northwest Bank, Kinzua Federal Credit Union and Experian Inc. led sessions covering essentials such as opening a bank account, the difference between credit and debit, how credit cards and credit scores work, and common scams that target teenagers. WCCBI staff and presenters rotated through the classrooms of teachers Shelly Mineweaser and Suzanne Hornick, spending the full day walking students through practical scenarios. Students practiced writing checks, using a check register, spotting scams, and navigating debit card use.

Excerpts and photos from this article were featured on Your Daily Local.

WAHS Student Council Donates to Warren General Hospital Cancer Care Center



Warren Area High School Student Council members have dedicated their efforts to support Warren General Hospital's Cancer Care Center and its patients. The group recently presented a generous donation of $500 to the Warren General Hospital Cancer Care Center, money raised through their service and dedicated fundraising efforts. The donation will directly support the Cancer Care Center in providing essential services, resources, and comfort items to local patients undergoing cancer treatment.

Excerpts and photos from this article were featured on Your Daily Local.

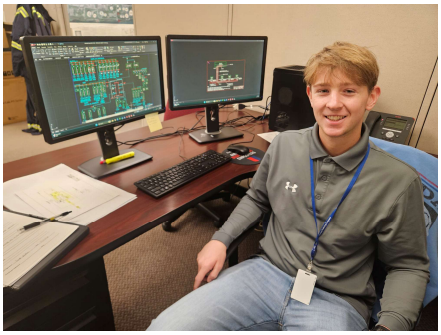
WCCC:



Students from the Pre-Engineering program teamed up with students from Tidioute Community Charter School to create Christmas ornaments that showcase various sites in Warren County. The idea for the project came from Lisa Card, Executive Director of the Warren County Visitors Bureau.

The story was shown on Erie News Now.

Special thanks go out to Cochran and Zandy Lumber for their donations of the wood.



Derek Guiher, a student from Power Equipment Technology, recently began his COOP experience at United Refinery. Derek was approved to be part of a Mechanical Engineering intern program.

YES:

The annual Youngsville National Junior Honor Society food drive received a big surprise this year! Former Youngsville resident, David Koontz and family, made a donation to the National Junior Honor Society, making the food drive the most successful to date.

Thanks to the generosity of the Koontz family (which now live in Altoona) and the Youngsville Elementary students, staff, and teachers, 20 families in town received a spiral cut ham and all of the fixings that round out a traditional Thanksgiving dinner along with other snacks and breakfast items.

Students left to right are Matt Shippee, Lilly Lucia, Lilly Tarr, and Allyson Peate



GIFTED:

Nineteen of our Warren County 7th–12th grade students recently participated in the Keystone Competition at the IU5 in Edinboro on Friday, November 21. There were 129 students in total from other schools in our region. This was a student-driven STEM Design Challenge where students had to solve a real-world problem facing our schools.

Divisions:

- 7th/8th grade division
- 9th–12th grade division

Competition Process

Students heard from a keynote speaker who introduced a real-world problem affecting schools. Teams then brainstormed, designed, and began building a prototype solution. The team's focus was on solving authentic issues within school environments, and their final presentations were delivered in a Shark Tank-style pitch, with each team given up to 3 minutes. After the presentations, judges asked follow-up questions for each team to answer.

Winning Team (7th/8th Grade Division)

Team members: Ty Bryan, Alice Sanford, Jackson Warner, Nina Woldt

The winning team won the People's Choice Award and 1st Place overall with their STEM design idea. The problem they identified was the long cafeteria lines in schools. The solution they developed was a conveyor-style system designed to speed up food distribution. Their clear, creative, and innovative pitch impressed both judges and the audience to earn them People's Choice award and 1st place overall in their division!

The team will also be submitting this project through to the 2025–2026 PA Invention Convention Competition. This is another competition that empowers students in grades K–12 to identify real-world problems and develop creative solutions through invention.

You can find full details, resources, and submission guidelines on the official website: www.pennsylvaniainventionconvention.com



Key Dates for Our IU Region:

- November 30
- February 4, 2026 – State finals at PETE&C in Hershey for teams that qualify

Student Quotes:

Alice - "I have to say Friday was the best gifted field trip I have been on since being enrolled. I found it very fun, especially the group I was in. The way we all worked together was great. I loved coming up with the idea of make lunch lines shorter and more efficient. I think the way we organized the presentation and the work ethic we put in motivated how we won. I am excited to move on to the next competition with my group. I also think with my group we will have a great time working on the next steps.

DISTRICT:

The Warren County School District is elated to continue our Arts in Education endeavors with Struthers Library Theater. Bright Star's performance of "Cherokee Tales" was especially dynamic in its connection with the audience. The laughs, cheers, and applause showed the students were excited about the content and its delivery. The relevancy of the experience will create a connection of background knowledge as the third through fifth graders have content in the ELA or Social Studies components of their curriculum related to Native Americans. Exploring related content through a theatrical adventure allows another layer where interacting with the arts supports and builds greater understanding through a different perspective.





