

Volume 2
Issue 1
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West Liberty-Salem District News



It is not what you do for you children, but what you have taught them to do for themselves that will make them successful human beings.

-Ann Landers



Welcome Back from Superintendent Kraig Hissong.....

West Liberty-Salem completed its first full week of school after the Labor Day holiday, and we are off to a fantastic start. Kindergartners toured the building the first full week and were introduced to key staff members including our School Resource Officer, Assistant Principal and Principal. The WL-S PTO provided the kindergartners with Class of 2032 T-Shirts and took their first group class picture. Other elementary classes also did reminder tours of classes, offices, and went over schedules and procedures.



The building and grounds look great thanks to our maintenance and custodial staff's hard work all summer. They completed a number of projects that continue to improve safety for students. Some of those improvements include modern camera surveillance of the entire campus, remote access door control, a single secure entrance during the school day, new fire suppression controls and pumps, and a redesigned entrance, second drive, and traffic flow pattern on the school grounds. Parking spaces and cross walks received fresh paint. Over the course of the last several months, classrooms received new student and teacher desks, furniture

throughout the building, new playground equipment and our stadium received new lighting. Other improvements include fresh paint throughout parts of our building, new rugs in entry halls, and new playground mulch.

In addition to building safety improvements, our busses have new internal and external camera systems. Stop sign arm cameras were installed on each full-time bus, and are designed to photograph drivers who do not follow laws and safety precautions. The cameras are always rolling and have zoom capabilities to capture license plate, model and color of passing cars. When busses are stopped and bus drivers notice illegal passing, they can press a button to flag certain parts of a recording. Those videos that capture unsafe motorists will be turned over to the Logan County Sheriff Department and motorists will be subject to tickets and fines. On board, buses are now equipped with a six point camera system upgraded from four. These cameras allow more student/driver visibility and allow our drivers to spend more time concentrating on driver safety.



Technology improvements were made to enhance student and staff experience, and resources here at the school. New iPads were purchased for Middle School to support student use of technology in the classroom. The new iPads will support all current teaching apps available to staff and continue to support students as they transition to high-school where each student has their own iPad. We also added more iPads to the Elementary and most importantly, improved the overall network to help it function smoothly and with less drops during the school day.

*Change is the end
result of all true
learning.*

-Leo Buscaglia

Cont'd from Mr. Hissong.....

Over the summer, we launched several exciting developments that will give us a greater opportunity to communicate with our student families and community members, while making some parent processes easier. A new website redesign streamlined both website and mobile website capabilities. In conjunction with the website, we launched a new App that displays updated information, a live feed, news, events (that can be added directly to phone/outlook/Google calendars), school menus, and much more. It can be found in your phones App Store under West Liberty Salem Tigers. Our All-Call system is more advanced than ever and can tailor to entire student body, student groups, families, other groups, teams, and clubs as needed.



We are excited for the year ahead and hope that continued improvements and communication not only enhance our student experience but help facilitate lasting and supportive relationships with our community. If you'd like to see what's happening on our campus, head over to our website to see news and events!

Upcoming Events

9/27 Josten's Order Day

9/28 Graham Band
Festival

9/30-10/4 Homecoming
spirit week

10/1-10/4 4th grade field
trips

10/1 7th Grade Chicago
Parent Meeting

10/2 Walk at School

10/3 Homecoming
parade

10/4 Homecoming Game

10/5 Homecoming
Dance

10/9 1 Hour Delay

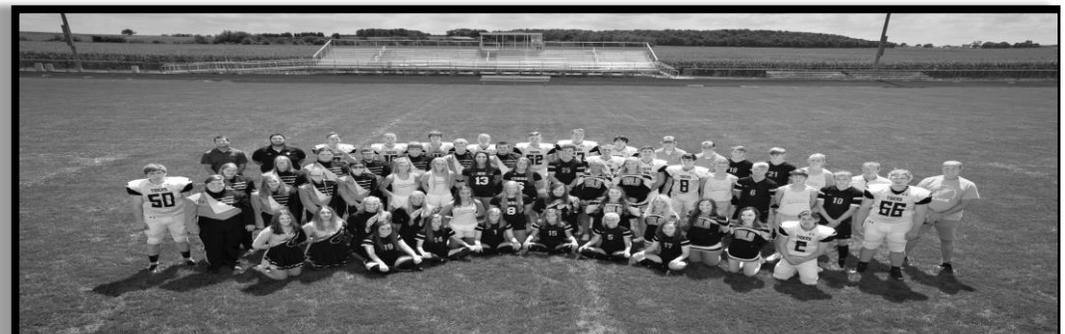
10/9 Elementary Fall
Picture Day

Welcome, Class of 2032!

West Liberty-Salem welcomed the entire class of 2032 on Friday, September 6th! This was the first day that all students reported to school together after the staggered start to the school year. It was a busy day learning all about gym, library, music class, where all of the offices are, the lunchroom and the playground! Lots of new friends were made and excited friends returned on Monday for their very first class picture. The Elementary PTO donated special 'Class of 2032 t-shirts for them to keep. We are excited to watch this group grow and learn together. Good luck to the class of 2032!



And good luck this season to our SENIOR Fall Athletes.....



"A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning."

-Brad Henry

WEST LIBERTY-SALEM
LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Sixth Graders Explore Outdoor Classroom Concept



Students in Mrs. Symmat's sixth grade science class took things outside last week and enjoyed what may be the last warm days of summer! They studied in what is considered and 'outdoor classroom', otherwise known as the West Liberty-Salem Land Lab. Outside learning has become a popular concept among teachers as studies continue to show its benefits on student behavior and engagement. Outside classrooms encourage an active lifestyle, create an appreciation for nature and the environment, encourage independent thinking and work ethic, increase student independence and improve behavior while learning to study in a variety of environments.

Mrs. Symmat studied the outdoor classroom concept in a class designed by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Ohio Department of Education. She then designed a program for

her students that allow them to work in the field as well as the classroom through an iPad program called iNaturalist. This app, a joint collaboration by California Academy of Science and the National Geographic Society, allows young scientists to upload their observations to people from across the world using the same program! Over 750,000 Scientists and Naturalists are online to help students learn more about plants, animals and non-living things. This pooled research concept also assists trained scientists in creating new and improved research data.

Our students collected a variety of living and non-living samples to observe, identify and classify. Rocks, water, Toads, samples of plants, and dirt were brought back to the inside classroom for iNaturalist studies. They were able to specify what each item is and classify them as living or non-living things. While they are classifying their discoveries, they are also helping real scientists in another part of the country understand how and why things grow and thrive in our specific environment. The students are really enjoying this collaborative style of research. This project was a fun way to get back in the groove of classroom instruction, but most of all it taught them how they can impact the environment.



Amani Grantham stands on the bridge overlooking the Mad River Watershed.

The Marching Tigers Kick Off Festival Season at Band Spectacular.....

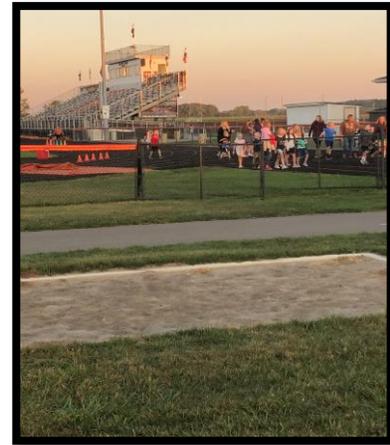
The West Liberty-Salem Marching Tiger Band participated in the annual Bellefontaine Band Spectacular on Saturday evening. The Spectacular is in its 40th year of inviting surrounding districts to the Bellefontaine AccuSport Stadium for a night of unique musical style and expression. Ella Fitzgerald once said, "Music is a universal language....it brings people closer together." And what started as a band competition, now provides students from a variety of musical backgrounds the opportunity to learn and work together. The Marching Tigers showcased a masterful medley based on "The King" of Rock and Roll, Elvis Presley! They also made their first festival appearance in brand new uniforms and looked great! The Marching Tigers will participate in the Graham Band Festival on September 28th, and hope to see all of our Tiger fans there!





Students, Families & Staff Kick Off ‘Walk at School’ Monthly Walks

Students, families, siblings, grandparents, teachers and other staff gathered on September 18th, for what was the year’s first ‘Walk at School’ morning. Over 70 walkers jump started their day with a 30 minute walk at the track. Walks are scheduled with weather in mind, and take place either at the track or inside during colder months. Walkers enjoyed the sunrise painting the sky and comfortable temperatures that made excellent conditions for some morning exercise! Physical Education teacher, Kim Hollar, began this program roughly 6 years ago, and the program continues to grow with each new school year. Our students love getting their day started with family at the track. They burn off some energy,



walk with friends and are able to see the Tiger community coming together. All are invited and encouraged to attend! Our next walk is scheduled for 7 a.m. on Wednesday, October 2nd at the track (weather permitting).

West Liberty-Salem Football Team Serves Community in Veteran Send Off

The West Liberty-Salem football team and cheerleaders gathered before sunrise to be part of the Logan County Vets to DC send off. Football players loaded luggage, wheelchairs, walkers, and anything else needed for around 50 veterans joining the Logan County Vets to D.C. Cheerleaders lined the streets in Bellefontaine with other community members who gathered together to thank our veterans for their service to our country.

The Logan County Vets to D.C. program escorts veterans on a fully funded trip to Washington D.C. through the support of generous community donations. They loaded busses at the Logan County Fairground on Friday morning around 7 am. A motorcycle and police escort led them out of town in an exciting parade through downtown Bellefontaine. It was humbling for our students to be a part of such a great morning. Head Football Coach Dan McGill said, “This was a great opportunity for our students to give back to those who have given so much.” If you’d like more information about the Logan County Vets to D.C., visit their website.



Little Tiger Cheerleaders Cheer Tigers to 56-8 Victory Over Madison-Plains

Little Tiger Cheerleaders concluded a three day camp experience under the lights Friday evening when they cheered the Tigers to a 56-8 victory over Madison Plains! Varsity Cheerleaders led three after school practices teaching sidelines cheers and a dance to 76 students in grades K-5. The Little Tigers were especially excited to show what they learned while cheering the whole first quarter of Friday night’s game. Great job to all of our Tiger cheerleaders for a great show this weekend!



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