

Volume 2
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West Liberty-Salem District News



*“Tell me and I
forget. Teach me
and I remember.
Involve me and I
learn.”*

-Ben Franklin

West Liberty-Salem Local School Earns Risk Management Award



West Liberty-Salem Local School District was recently selected for the Ohio School Plan’s Proactive Risk Management Award. Ohio School Plan, the school’s insurance provider, works with their districts to ensure members are creating the safest environment possible in the delivery of all school services. Chelsea Baldwin, Treasurer, and Andy McGill, Assistant Principal, accepted the \$1000 check on behalf of WL-S presented by Wendy Jaqua, Risk Management, and Peter Stolly, Agent.

Wendy Jaqua describes the award, “The Ohio School Plan Best Practice Award was created to recognize OSP members who best demonstrate proactive risk management. Each year risk managers nominate schools from their territory and the nominees are presented to the OSP board for award consideration. Out of nearly 300 participating school districts, three were awarded the OSP Best Practice Award for 2019.”

WL-S was selected for the award based on the numerous safety updates made during construction, as well as proactive safety drill training provided to staff and students. Updates include correcting cracked sidewalks, purchasing rugs that absorb more water to prevent slips and falls, bullet resistant window coverings and installation of Night Locks to name a few. Mr. McGill works hard to ensure that we are meeting and exceeding all required trainings, including ALICE training, tornado and fire drills, and full scale safety drills, while Mrs. Baldwin leads communications with OSP. We are extremely appreciative to be recognized for the hard work our entire staff does to keep our students as safe as possible!

WL-S Memorial Construction Underway

If you have been on the WL-S campus lately, you may have noticed the beginning phase of construction on the Memorial Wall is almost complete. The project is a collaborative idea between Superintendent Kraig Hissong and the Board of Education. The Wall is funded by West Liberty-Salem Local School, however generous donations from families, WL-S classes, and the community have already contributed over \$3,000. The final cost for the wall is projected to be around \$13,000. Next steps include individual plaques listing the names of students, staff, children of staff, and WL-S alumni who died in active military service. Administration and the Board of Education are working hard to ensure that each name necessary finds a spot on our wall. Please feel free to contact awygal@wlstigers.org, if you’d like to make sure a particular name is included.



"Education is for improving the lives of other and for leaving your community and world better than you found it."

-Marian Wright Edelman

UPCOMING EVENTS:

2/5 WALK AT SCHOOL 7-7:30pm

2/5 Musical Parent Meeting 6-7

2/12 WL-S Athletic Assoc. Mtg. 6pm

2/14 No School

2/14 Empty Bowls Fundraiser 4:30-7:30

2/15 OMEA group contest

2/17 No School Holiday

2/18 WL-S Board Meeting

2/20 Breakfast of Champions



West Liberty-Salem hosts Middle School Spelling Bee

West Liberty-Salem held its middle school Spelling Bee on Tuesday, January 7th, 2020. Eight 6th graders, six 7th graders, and eight 8th graders were selected to participate after competing in classroom level competitions in December. Winners from individual classes include sixth

graders Elijah Christison and Naomi Cole, seventh grade Owen Barger and Caleb Hershberger, and eighth graders Grace Tomlin and Slade Merriman. Those students and other top performers from each class competed against each for the top spot. Those competitors include 6th graders Brevin Loudon, Dylan King, Mason Helms, Geneva Estep, Atticus Louderback, and Sadie Paul. Seventh graders were Aidon Koons, Edie Keller, Isabella Hardwick, and Ava Dixon. Eighth graders Grace Tomlin, Slayde Merriman, Zoey Kauffman, Maddie Cole, Sophia Hardwick, Abby Miller, Julia Wilson, and Addie McCauley competed as well. Curriculum Director Stacy Dunn was the moderator. Seventh grader Ava Dixon was this year's champion, and the winning word was equator. Atticus Loudonback, 6th grade, was runner up and Abby Miller, 8th grade, came in third. Ava Dixon, Spelling Bee Champion, will go on to compete in an online vocabulary and spelling test in March against other champions throughout Ohio. This test determines whether she will go on to compete in the state Spelling Bee in the spring. Congratulations to our winners and participants, and good luck in the next round, Ava!

West Liberty-Salem Hosts Elementary Spelling Bee



West Liberty-Salem held its elementary Spelling Bee on Tuesday, January 7th, 2020. Eight 4th graders and eight 5th graders were selected to participate after competing in classroom level competition in December. Those 16 students, out of around 200, competed in front of their peers and families for an impressive 18 rounds. Curriculum Director Stacy Dunn moderated, while Mrs. Beres and Mrs. Jurich, both Intervention Specialists, and Mrs. Kale, 4th grade teacher judged the event. Fourth grader Brayden Hupp was this year's champion, spelling 'memorial' for the win. Drew Boyer, also fourth grade, was runner up. Elementary Principal Aaron Hollar congratulated all

sixteen students on a great competition noting the highlight for him, "was watching each and every contestant cheering each other on with a thumbs up or a high five." Hupp, Spelling Bee Champion, will go on to compete in an online vocabulary and spelling test in March against other champions throughout Ohio. This test will determine his eligibility for the State Spelling Bee this spring. Congratulations to our winners and participants, and good luck in the next round, Brayden!



AG ADMINISTRATOR APPRECIATION DINNER WAS A SUCCESS!

Reported by West Liberty-Salem FFA Reporter Alyssa Alford

WL-S FFA chapter along with the four other Champaign county schools hosted this year's Ag Administrator Dinner on October 7, 2019 at the Dragonfly Vineyard just north of Urbana. WL-S Middle/High School Principal Greg Johnson and treasurer Chelsea Baldwin both attended alongside FFA advisor Trista Havens and FFA officers Adalyn Caudill, Alyssa Alford and Camrin Rice. This event is to show our appreciation to our administrators for their support of our organization and to highlight the importance of agriculture to all of us. At the dinner, WL-S FFA president, Adalyn Caudill gave a speech on how FFA has positively impacted her life. Our guest speaker, Levi Woodruff who spoke about agriculture and agri-entrepreneurism.

Beyond its place in Official Dress, an FFA corduroy jacket is an article of faith, honor and pride.

West Liberty-Salem freshmen Kiersten Holtvoigt, Makenna Smith, Adam Stapleton and Travis Cropper all received their first FFA Jackets free thanks to BECK's Hybrids, a family-owned seed company that serves much of the midwest. The jacket unifies members in a long-standing tradition and reminds them that they are part of something larger than themselves. Nine first year FFA members from WL-S have received scholarships from BECK's hybrids in the past three years. These student are amongst thousands of students who apply every year for the scholarship. Congratulations to this year's recipients!



Submitted by FFA Reporter Alyssa Alford

FFA Participates in Public Speaking Contest

FFA members Adalyn Caudill, Marissa Bailey and Maddox Havens participated in the sub-district public speaking contest at Southeastern High School. Caudill placed second in Extemporaneous, Bailey placed third in Beginning Prepared, and Havens placed eighth in Creed Speaking. Well done by all!



7th Grade Science Class is featured for their work in the Feed the World Program

Mr. Cameron Spencer's 7th graders recently completed water quality tests from Feed the World as part of their water, air and space unit, and have been featured on The Ohio Corn Education Website! The class used chemical and biological tests to get accurate readings of the present water quality properties and over all health of the stream. You can check out the full article on OhioCornEducation.org.

West Liberty-Salem Elementary Honor Highest Honor Roll Students at Breakfast of Champions



West Liberty-Salem Elementary honored 36 students in fourth and fifth grades during Breakfast of Champions this morning. Students were selected for the ceremony based on their first quarter grades that must include all A's and no more than one B. Each student and their families were served a delicious breakfast and listened to a message delivered by guest speaker Cade Clerico. Clerico, a senior at West Liberty-Salem, has been involved in a number of activities during his high school career. Cross Country, Key Club, Link Crew, Mock Trial, Quick Recall, Pages, and National Honor Society are a just a few items that will fill his college resume. He placed in the top 5% of students in the country who took the PSAT's,

and was named a Commended Student in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program. Principal Aaron Hollar introduced Clerico and challenged the Champions to really listen to his message and work hard to build the foundation for lifelong success.

Clerico recounted his first Breakfast of Champions and knew then he wanted to be a guest speaker someday! His speech was relatable and allowed students to understand the importance of goal setting. He emphasized how kindness, generosity, and passion are key characteristics of great people. With passion to work hard in good times and bad, generosity to help those around you through your gifts, and kindness to make someone's day better, Clerico said, "you open the door to opportunities in the future, improve other's lives and improve yours as well."

Many of our Breakfast of Champions recipients are already making choices to get involved at school and in their community. They are members of student council, 4H, athletes, volunteers, and Girl and Boy Scouts to name a few. WL-S is excited to watch each student grow and develop their academic path, and we hope to see many more students at our second quarter Breakfast of Champions!

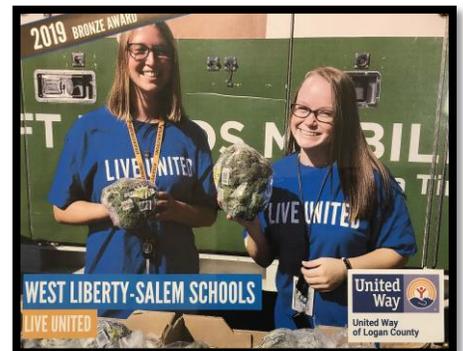


Zoology Students Share Dissection Experience with Elementary

High School Zoology students, taught by Mrs. Carrie Smith, dissected full grown Spiny Dogfish Sharks in class! The sharks are around two feet long and give students the experience of dissecting larger sharks as much of the anatomy is the same. They didn't keep this really cool experience to themselves, though! Students were able to really dive into their study by demonstrating dissections to our elementary students. Zoology students brought the sharks around to different classes, explained the importance of dissection and what scientists are able to learn from this process. Elementary students got to touch the shark if they wanted and got an up close look at shark anatomy. They saw the heart, the stomach, and in some cases, they were able to see the contents of the sharks stomach. Students were excited to learn about what the shark may have eaten (turns out it was a fish)! Kudos to our Zoology class for opening up your learning experience to a teaching moment for many more students to enjoy!

WL-S Earns Bronze Award from United Way

West Liberty-Salem Local School District was presented with the 2019 United Way: Living United Bronze Award for their philanthropic impact on Logan County. This award is presented to those businesses or non-profit organizations who not only participated but had at least 40% of their employees donate an average gift of \$100 or more. Pictured in the award are Cheyenne Gluckle and Kaylee LeVan volunteering at the Second Harvest Food Bank Mobile Pantry. The food pantry on wheels distributes groceries to outlying areas of Logan County honoring the United Way's commitment to supporting the health, education and financial stability of Logan County. Donations, like the ones from WL-S employees, make an annual contribution of over \$100,000 for the mobile pantry!



Students Complete Pages: Art & Writing Program Through Wexner Center for Creative Arts



WL-S students interested in creative writing and artistic expression completed the creative arts experience, Pages, provided by The Wexner Center for the Arts in Columbus, Ohio. Pages: Art & Writing is a multi-disciplinary program that supports literacy and writing skills through the exploration of contemporary art, film, and performing arts. This program is free for students and pairs educators and artists from the Wexner Center with high school teachers from across central Ohio in the planning of writing-based experiential learning opportunities.

English Department teachers Mrs. Haney and Mrs. Arnold mentor 31 students Mythology class as well as other students who wanted to participate in the experience. They use their lunch and homeroom times attending workshops and working on their own creative projects. Students participated in a total of 3 workshops during the first half of the school year. Workshops included a visual arts, media arts, and performing arts experience.

Students were exposed to works by Ohio artists Jenny Holzer, Ann Hamilton and Maya Lin and worked with artist Michelle Sipes in the visual art workshop. April Sunami, a Columbus based mixed media artist worked with students during the Media Arts workshop. Sunami has been featured globally for her varied artistic works. Finally, they saw a performance by Sharon Udoh, Wexner Resident Artist and band member in Counterfeit Madison, while working with poet Scott Woods before and after that experience.

Students will wrap up their studies with an open mic night in April at the Wexner Center for the Arts and have the opportunity to have their work published in the Pages Anthology that will be released this May. This experience allows our students to explore their creativity outside of the typical class setting and work with national and globally recognized artists.

To see last year's published works, click the link to be directed to the 2019 Anthology.

[Pages Anthology](#)



Annual Inclusion Café Raises Money for Classmate's Funeral



Students in Mrs. Smith's MRDD class and Mrs. Hall's Family and Consumer Science Class joined forces to pull off the second annual Inclusion Café! Students took the lead on this project by creating invitations and menus, taking preorders, preparing and serving food, making deliveries, and collecting money. This event is a wonderful real-life experience for both classes each year. All profits made from this year's café were donated to Avianna Grantham's funeral expenses. Avianna was a student in Mrs. Smith's class, and students felt humbled to be able to contribute to their friend.

The Great Kindness Challenge Week was a Success!

Elementary Student Council members are taking The Kindness Challenge outside of school and helping a local downtown business! They worked hard this evening moving inventory from one store front to another. Kindness can be found in a simple



hello, a smile, or a random act of giving, but it's also being serving member of your community. Thank you to Mrs. Dallas for putting this together and our members who were able to attend! Other kindness activities included the Kind Acts checklist, a coloring contest, spirit week dress up days, kindness board including notes from students on how they've been kind or how someone was kind to them, and student council Smiles Welcome Committee just to name a few. The second graders made 0-5 addition flash cards for the whole kindergarten class, and Mrs. Dallas and Mrs. McNabb's class helped them with their math facts! It was a fun week making kindness count!



Thank you, Lions Club!

The West Liberty Lions Club presented our fifth graders with their own dictionaries in their annual event to promote literacy and education in our community. Lions Club President and WL-S Athletic Director Jake Vitt, Judy Legge, Elisha Lash, and Steve Godwin spoke with students and presented the dictionaries. Our students would like to extend a huge THANK YOU for their generosity and support of our school!



Social Media Tip of the Week.....

What parents need to know about SOCIAL PRESSURES LINKED TO 'APPEARANCE'

ONLINE APPEARANCE AND MENTAL HEALTH

AIRBRUSHING

APPS WHICH CHANGE APPEARANCE

FILTERS

MULTIPLE PHOTOS FOR THE PERFECT IMAGE

Safety Tips for Parents

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER BEFORE TALKING TO YOUR CHILD

DON'T GO COLD TURKEY

BE COMPLIMENTARY

DAILY APPRECIATION

CHANGE THE STORY

WHEN TO GET HELP

Meet our expert

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter: @nationalonlinesafety Facebook: /NationalOnlineSafety

the YMCA FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT® FOR HEALTHY LIVING FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Champaign Family YMCA has your Before and After school Care needs covered!

Weather you need help before your day begins, when it ends, or both, our YMCA trained staff are on-site to help children with homework, keep them safe and active with games, and encourage their creativity with our music, arts, and crafts programs!

Snacks are provided that encourage healthy eating choices!

LEARN, GROW, & THRIVE

Located in the cafeteria at West Liberty Schools Days until 6:00pm