



Ralph E. Waite Elementary School

November 2020 Newsletter

November 6, 2020

Hello Waite Families,

It's hard to believe we are already into the month of November! November is the month to remind us to be thankful for the many positive things happening in our life. We are so grateful for everyone's good health, our students to be in school, and also the many silver linings that are happening each and every day. Now that we have been back in person for almost six weeks, we are all in the "groove" of school, and the changes we once worried about are all going great thanks to the work of our amazing staff and students. Some highlights to share:

- **Arrival and dismissal** are the best they've ever been! Staggered bus release, staggered classroom release in the hallways, and extra spacing of students during the dismissal carline are all protocols that allow for a quiet and calm start and end to the day, and ones we reflected that should remain in place for good :) Thank you, bus drivers and parents, for your help to make this such a success!
- **Lunch in the classroom** is going great! The students actually reported that most of them like it better as it's less noisy than the cafeteria and they have more time to eat and talk with their classmates. Special thanks to our amazing cafeteria staff for the extra efforts of packing and delivering individual lunches each day to the classroom and our amazing paraprofessionals who have been monitoring our students during lunch time!
- **Mask wearing and mask breaks** are now a normal part of our day. Thank you, teachers, for your creative efforts to combine enjoying the beautiful fall days with opportunities to go outside to enjoy a mask break and the sunshine. We are so blessed to be surrounded by the walking trails, the front hill, the park, etc. that our classes have been utilizing daily :)
- **Encore in the classrooms** is going great! A special shout out to our amazing Encore teachers who have embraced this change with many new creative ways to enjoy art, music, media (now called TREC *Think, Read, Explore, Create!*) and P.E. in safe and creative ways of learning!
- Thank you to our teachers and the support of our counselor, Ms. Copley, for their efforts to **build a strong classroom community and increased opportunities to support the students' social-emotional needs** throughout this unusual time in our world. Morning meetings, community circles, mindfulness lessons, daily feeling check ins, walking/talking at recess, etc. are just a few examples of how we're checking in with support.
- A big shout out to our amazing teachers who are **embracing new and exciting resources and instructional strategies!** Whole grade level google meet read alouds, cross grade level google meet reading groups, online interaction with classmates to play math games, first graders using Flipgrid to share their projects, etc. are just a few of the many great things that are happening every day! We also have enjoyed all school Google Meets on Fridays with a fun game of Kahoot between classrooms to keep our school community connected!
- **Thank you, families, for your continued support.** It "takes a village", and we are all so grateful for the amazing "Waite Elementary" village that we all share.

Have a safe and healthy November, and a Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

Cindy Grice, Principal



Leaders of the Month!

Congratulations to the following Leaders of the Month!

Kindergarten: Austin Scheetz and Jace Chavez

1st Grade: Ryan Toth, Clare Gaydosh, Darrah Beavers and Anna Wollmann

2nd Grade: Kylee Crain, Natalie Schachinger and Dylan Sturm

3rd Grade: Hannah Jules, Fizza Malik, Shawn Kosakowski, Eliana Kurt and Lydia Tighe

4th Grade: Emma Kotick, Alexa Donze and Cody Cunningham

5th Grade: Kate Cassidy, Samantha Aller, Colton Kartisek and Trenten Zeager



Fifth Grade Student Election!



Our fifth grade students took part in their own presidential election as they learned about our government! Congratulations to our newly elected Class President, Kellen Gordon, and Vice President, Colton Kartisek! Congratulations also to our Waite 5th Grade Supreme Court Justices: Kate Cassidy, Miranda Schramm, Austin Gyorok, Joey Anello, Madison Fox, Aurora Banner, Avery Deeringer, Blake Stepsis and Owen Sturm.



Online Book Fair!

The Waite Elementary Scholastic Online Book Fair is Now!

November 2nd - 15th!

[CLICK HERE](#) to start shopping! Support your child's reading while supporting your school!

Share with in or out-of-town family and friends! Over 6,000 choices!! After the fair ends, Scholastic ships the books right to your door! Great Christmas gifts as well! Help us meet our school goal of 700 new books in our kids', family's and friends' hands!



Update your child's important information!

Back-to- School Updates are due NOW!



All families are required to complete the Back to School (BTS) update every school year. Please go to the link [here](#) to update important information for your child (emergency contacts, medical information etc). To login, use your child's student ID number (lunch code) and date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)- including slash marks.

Please complete by Sunday, November 8th. Thank you!

Thank you, Waite PTO!

Thank you, Waite PTO, for your continued support of our staff and students!

- PTO provided individual dinners for teachers during conferences!
- PTO provided the students with special bags of individual snacks, glow stick, and a craft on Halloween!
- PTO are providing funds to support teacher grants to promote innovative ideas and learning in the classroom!



Waite and Medina Spirit Wear!



Show your Waite Elementary and Medina Spirit with some new spirit wear! Just click on the links below to order online, and the items will be shipped right to your house! These make great gifts! Happy shopping!

[Waite Elementary Spirit Wear](#)

[Medina Bees Spirit Wear](#)



We need substitute teachers!



We need your help! If you are interested or are aware of anyone interested in being a substitute in the District, please see the information below!

Substitutes must possess a Bachelor's Degree, complete FBI and BCI fingerprinting, and apply to the Ohio Department of Education for a substitute license. Once the license is received, an application can be completed for a substitute position through the Medina Educational Service Center.

Medina City Schools contracts with the Medina County Schools Educational Service Center for all of our substitute teachers. Following is the link to the substitute teaching process page of their website - <http://www.medina-esc.org/SubstituteTeachingProcess.aspx>. Any additional questions about subbing in Medina City Schools can be directed to Medina City Schools Human Resources Department. Thank you for your support and help!

We'll miss you, Mrs. Lynes!



It's with a heavy heart to announce that Mrs. Lynes, our amazing Waite secretary, is moving to the Pittsburgh area later this month due to her husband's job placement. It goes without saying that this is a huge loss to our school as Mrs. Lynes has made such a positive impact on the lives of so many students, staff, and families in the last 11 years that she has been at Waite. She is the first smile to greet everyone as they enter the office, the kind voice on the phone to help a parent, or the first one to help, comfort, or bring joy to a student throughout the day. Mrs. Lynes has volunteered her time to go above and beyond her secretarial duties to bring a smile to kiddos in their day as our former chess club advisor, drama or cheer club advisor, student mentor, rock painting or crafting lunch group advisor,... just to name a few! Mrs. Lynes has without a doubt **made a difference**, and she will forever be a special member of the Waite Elementary family.

My Great-Grandparents



Kindergarten student, Averie Waite, sharing with her classmates about her amazing great-grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph and Helen Waite.

Amazing Waite Artists At Work!



Waite Has Spirit!

