



# Wooster City School District

Inspiring World-Class Academic Achievement

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Empowering the heart, body and mind

The Wooster City School District offers many programs that promote social, emotional and physical well-being for students. The district has decided to incorporate all of these programs into a single initiative: The **Wooster Way**.

The **Wooster Way** empowers the whole person – heart, body and mind – by creating a culture that embraces diversity and promotes the development of the social, emotional and physical well-being of students and staff members.

To help develop areas of focus for the initiative, the **Wooster Way** committee conducted a survey to determine the social and emotional needs throughout the district.

The survey was completed by:

- 514 parents

- 293 staff members
- 1,765 Pre-K through seventh-grade students
- 553 eighth through 12th-grade students

Results that received a 75 percent or higher rating were considered positives. Anything that received a 65 percent or lower rating was considered negative. These areas will be the initial focus of the **Wooster Way** and include things such as teasing, rule enforcement and peer relationships.

"One variable we found that was overwhelmingly positive across the district is adult/student relationships," said Amanda Terakedis, **Wooster Way** committee member. "This is important because teachers and staff are the second most significant relationships a child can have. And sometimes they become the first in the absence of a reliable parent figure. We have an amazing, caring group of employees in the Wooster City Schools."

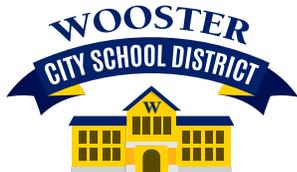
To implement the **Wooster Way** and address the results of the survey, the district is considering **The Leader in Me** program by Stephen Covey, which focuses on grades K-5. The committee is researching other options for the middle and high school levels.

The **Wooster Way**: Empowering the heart, body and mind.



# Wooster City School District

## School Tax Savings with May Permanent Improvement (PI) Levy



Investing in Our Buildings

During its January meeting, the Board of Education approved a resolution to place a five-year permanent improvement (PI) levy on the May 2, 2017, special election ballot. PI levy dollars are dedicated to maintaining

or updating school facilities and purchasing school buses.

**Taxes will not increase with the May 2 levy.**

- *The 25-year (1992) high school bond levy will expire in 2017 and currently costs \$162.30 per \$100,000 home valuation*
- *The proposed 5-year PI levy would cost \$61.25 per \$100,000 home valuation*

**Voting for the PI levy saves \$101.05 annually on school taxes.**

"This is a wonderful opportunity to present an incredibly, uncanny in fact, opportunity to raise funds to maintain our schools and have it liter-

feet of capital assets require roofing, HVAC, windows, paving and energy efficiency work," said Bill Gantz, board member and chairman to the

## Taxes will not increase with the May 2 levy.

ally not raise taxes," said Dr. Michael Knapic, board president.

"The school districts' 750,000 square

Properties Committee. "This levy will help to ensure that we are able to maintain our schools and educational investment."

## Wooster City School District Community Survey Results

The Wooster City School District recently conducted a statistically accurate community-wide phone poll to receive feedback from the community. The survey was conducted using a random sample of 332 registered voters within the city of Wooster and focused on the district's programs, services, facilities and other important areas.

In addition, the district launched a similar online survey to gather additional data and feedback from community members who did not have the opportunity to take the phone poll. While not statistically valid, the results provide additional direction for the district. One-hundred and seventy-four people responded to the online survey.

### Key Findings

#### Safety:

- *Phone Poll: A total of 95% perceive the Wooster City Schools to be safe, somewhat safe or extremely safe.*
- *Online Poll: A total of 93% perceive the Wooster City Schools to be safe, somewhat safe or extremely safe.*

#### Value of Education

- *Phone Poll: A total of 81% of individuals feel the value of education is a very good value for their tax dollars or good value for their tax dollars.*
- *Online Poll: A total of 75% of individuals feel the value of education is a very good value for their tax dollars or good value for their tax dollars.*

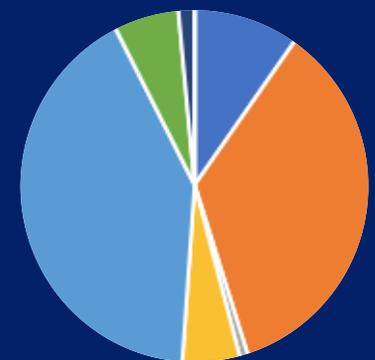
### What is the greatest strength at the Wooster City Schools?

Phone Poll



- Quality of education - 29%
- Trust - 4%
- Safety - 8%
- Quality of school employees - 24%
- Buildings/facilities - 14%
- State mandated testing - 5%
- Other - 10%

Online Poll



- Quality of education - 35%
- Trust - 1%
- Safety - 5%
- Quality of school employees - 41%
- Buildings/facilities - 6%
- State mandated testing - 2%
- Other - 0%

To view the full results, visit [www.woostercityschools.org](http://www.woostercityschools.org).

## Wooster Speech and Debate Team and Coaches are Nationally Recognized



The Wooster High School speech and debate team has had several notable successes this year, with two coaches receiving a Diamond Degree, one coach inducted into the Ohio High School Speech League (OHSSL) Coaches' Hall of Fame and the team ranking among the top four percent of schools nationwide.

Because of the team's ranking, it earned membership in the National Speech and Debate Association's (NSDA) prestigious Société de 300 for the 2015-2016 school year. Members earn points and degrees based on competitive and service-related activities, ranging from the Degree of Merit with 25 or more points to the Degree of Premier Distinction with 1,500 or more points.

The team currently has 268 degrees and is hoping to reach 300 by the end of the year, meaning it would again qualify for the Société de 300 for the 2016-2017 school year.

Additionally, two coaches received Diamond Degrees. The NSDA recognizes coaches who reach certain milestones of achievement with 'diamond accolades,' based upon the number of

points his or her team earns. For every 10 points the team earns, the coach will earn one.

To earn the first diamond, a coach must earn 1,500 points and have coached for at least five years. The second diamond comes after 3,000 points and at least five years after the first diamond. Coach Bill Franck earned his Second Diamond Degree this year, and Assistant Coach Phillip Klein earned his First Diamond Degree.

Assistant Coach Holly Custer will be inducted into the OHSSL Coaches' Hall of Fame this year at the OHSSL State Tournament. Being inducted into the Hall of Fame is one of the highest honors that a coach can receive. In order to be eligible, a coach has to have coached for at least 17 years, has to have provided leadership for the state by serving on district and/or state committees and has to have coached students to final rounds at the state tournament.

We look forward to another excellent year for Speech and Debate!

## The Principles of Practice

The Wooster City School district is implementing a new initiative: the **Principles of Practice**.

The **Principles of Practice** is a set of beliefs based on a proactive ap-

proach to knowing each individual student's background. The goal is to get to know students so well that teachers can proactively design programming that will ensure each child can obtain success.

### PRINCIPLES OF PRACTICE

The Wooster City School District Is Responsible for the **Prevention of Student Failure** and the **Growth of the Whole Child**



#### Teacher-based teams

co-plan and co-serve using proactive practices in curriculum, assessment and instruction for each and every student.



#### Initial core instruction

within a framework of student engagement, representation and expression, is differentiated to meet the needs of all students.



#### The Wooster Way

empowers the whole person, creating a culture that embraces diversity and promotes the development of social, emotional and physical well-being of students and staff members.



#### Instruction

is premised on a rigorous core curriculum across ALL grade levels and ALL student abilities.





# Wooster City School District

## Winter 2017 Calendar of Events

### Thursday, February 16

**Edgewood:** National Junior Honor Society Inductions - EWMS Gym, 7 p.m.

**Kean:** Domino's Dough Night, 5-8 p.m.

### Friday, February 17

**2-HOUR DELAY:** Teacher Inservice  
End of 2nd Trimester (Gr. K-4)

### Monday, February 20

**NO SCHOOL:** Presidents Day

### Wednesday, February 22

**WHS:** String Orchestra Concert - WHS Commons, 7:30 p.m.

### Thursday, February 23

**WHS:** Concert Band Festival - PAC, 6:30 p.m.

### Monday, February 27

**WHS:** Gr. 9-12 - Wayne County Festival of Choirs - Smithville Field House, 7:30 p.m.

**Kean:** Scholastic Book Fair

### Tuesday, February 28

**WHS:** Symphonic Band Concert - PAC, 7:30 p.m.

**Kean:** Scholastic Book Fair

### Wednesday, March 1

**Kean:** Scholastic Book Fair

### Thursday, March 2

**WHS/Edgewood:** Gr. 7-9 - Band Concert - WHS PAC, 7:30 p.m.

**Cornerstone:** Domino's Dough Night

**Kean:** Scholastic Book Fair

**Melrose:** Rock the House Night, 5:30-9 p.m.

### Friday, March 3

**NO SCHOOL**

### Thursday, March 9

**Edgewood:** Spring Picture Day

**Melrose:** Domino's Pizza Night

### Friday, March 10

**Kean:** Carnival - 5:30, 8 p.m.

End of 3rd Nine Weeks (Gr. 5-12)

### Saturday, March 11

**WHS:** SAT Testing

### Sunday, March 12

Daylight Saving Time Begins: set clocks forward one hour

### Tuesday, March 14

**Cornerstone:** Gr. K-1 - Grandparent's Day, 2 p.m.

### Wednesday, March 15

**Cornerstone:** Gr. 2-4 - Grandparent's Day, 2 p.m.

### Thursday, March 16

**Kean:** Domino's Dough Night, 5-8 p.m.

**Kean:** Gr. K-1 - Spring Concert, 7-8 p.m.

### Friday, March 17

**Cornerstone:** PTO Carnival, 5:30-8 p.m.

### Monday, March 20

**Kean:** Academic Challenge - Mid-Ohio ESC, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

### Tuesday, March 21

**WHS:** Jazz Night - PAC, 7:30 p.m.

### Friday, March 24

**Melrose:** PTO Carnival, 5-8 p.m.

### Tuesday, March 28

**Kindergarten Registration:** Central Office, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### Thursday, March 30

**Kean:** Nature Night, 6:30-8 p.m.

### Friday, March 31

**Edgewood:** Rock the House Carnival, 5:30-8 p.m.

### Saturday, April 1

Fine Arts Festival: WHS Commons, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

### Tuesday, April 4

**Kean:** Spring Picture Day

**All-City Band Concert:** WHS Gym, 7:30 p.m.

### Wednesday, April 5

**Kindergarten Registration:** Central Office, 12-7 p.m.

**Cornerstone:** Spring Picture Day

### Thursday, April 6

**Cornerstone:** Domino's Dough Night

**Melrose:** Domino's Pizza Night

### Friday, April 7

**Parkview:** Spring Picture Day

### Saturday, April 8

**WHS:** ACT Testing

### April 10 - April 14

**NO SCHOOL:** Spring Break

### Tuesday, April 18

**Melrose:** Spring Picture Day

### Wednesday, April 19

**WHS:** ACT Testing



# PANCAKE DAY

Benefiting the Children of our community through literacy, play & so much more!

## Saturday, April 8th

## 7:30am—3:00pm

Wooster High School Commons, 515 Oldman Rd., Wooster, OH

### \$5 pre-sale or \$6 at the door

### Kids 5 & under are FREE!



See any Wooster Kiwanis member for tickets or pay at the door!

Tickets are for ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES!

A topping bar is available for \$.50 per visit.

Visit us online @ [www.woosterkiwanis.org](http://www.woosterkiwanis.org) for more information!

# ALICE Training

On Friday, November 18, the Wooster City School District, the Wooster Police Department, the Wooster Fire Department and the City of Wooster participated in a full scale Safety Drill Simulation at Wooster High School. During a morning and an afternoon train-

ing exercise, all involved in the collaborative simulation had to put their protocols into place for an active shooter scenario.

The Wooster City School District implements the ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) Model for emergency

safety situations. During the drill on the November 18, the high school staff and students responded to the simulated threat using the ALICE model. All other buildings in the district were placed on lockdown, which would be the district's protocol in a real situation.

Communication during a real or simulated event is extremely important. During the simulation, the Wooster City School District deployed various types of communication tools to our families. The overwhelming majority of families received information about the drill on their cell phones. A post-drill survey conducted by the district displayed the following information:

- 91% of families felt the information distributed during the simulation was timely and informative



- 86% of families were satisfied with the frequency of the communication
- 89.9% of families were satisfied with the quality of the communication

We will continue to collaborate with the Wooster Police Department moving forward because our students' safety is our top priority.

## PLTW/STEMM programming at WHS on the rise

Wooster High School currently offers two courses in both the engineering pathway and the biomedical science pathway through Project Lead The Way (PLTW) as part of its STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, Medicine) curriculum. Plans are underway to add additional courses in both areas, including the following:

### **Coming soon to the Engineering Pathway:**

- Computer Integrated Manufacturing
- Digital Electronics

### **Coming soon to the Biomedical Science Pathway:**

- Medical Interventions
- Biomedical Innovation

If a student completes either the engineering or biomedical pathways (four courses in each path-



way), he or she may earn articulated college credit at many state universities in Ohio.

The curriculum for these courses is designed and developed by PLTW, a nonprofit organization that provides a transformative learning experience for K-12 students and teachers across the United States.

Edgewood Middle School also currently offers a PLTW computer science course to its seventh grade students

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# Wooster City School District

## Wooster City School District Profile

Each year, the Wooster City School District publishes a District Profile featuring important information about our schools. While the full profile can be found on the district's website ([www.woostercityschools.org](http://www.woostercityschools.org)), here are some of the highlights.



First, Wooster High School has again received a Silver Medal rating from U.S. News and World Report. Schools are ranked based on their performance on state-required tests and how well they prepare students for college, taking into account English and math proficiency,

along with AP participation. Wooster High School scored a 94 percent proficiency in English and a 92 percent proficiency in math. Thirty-four percent of students took AP exams, with a 64 percent passage rate.

This year, Wooster City Schools will educate 3,883 students:

- *Preschool: 96*
- *Elementary School K-4: 1,437*
- *Middle School 5-7: 823*
- *High School 8-12: 1,527*

Of those students:

- *0.1 percent are American Indian*
- *0.1 percent are Hawaiian/Pacific Highlander*
- *1.7 percent are Asian*
- *2.8 percent are Hispanic*
- *3.4 percent are Black*
- *6.2 percent are Multiracial*
- *85.7 percent are White*

The district's **graduation rate remains well above the state aver-**

**age at 94 percent**, giving the district an A on the state's report card. The state average is 82 percent.

Wooster City School District offers more than **50 clubs and 23 interscholastic sports teams**, the full list of which can be found in the online profile. In addition, Wooster High School offers multiple opportunities for students interested in fine arts and music, including marching band, concert band, jazz band, choir, majorettes, symphonic band, freshman band, orchestra, flag corps and art club.

The profile also highlights the Littlest Generals Preschool, AP offerings, the International Baccalaureate Programme and more. Please take a moment to review the full profile and learn about all of the great things the Wooster City School District has to offer.

## All Juniors Required to Take ACT

As part of new state graduation requirements, all high school juniors are required to take the ACT. There will be no fee for juniors taking the test to satisfy the requirement, as the program is funded by the state. Those who have already satisfied the requirement will have to pay the normal fee if they wish to take the test again.

Last year, Wooster High School's scores were above state averages. The high school had a composite score of 23 while the state of Ohio had a composite score of 22.

Wooster High School will administer the test on April 19, 2017. To help prepare for the test, juniors are encouraged to use the following resources:

- *Use prep questions and other study tools at [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)*
- *Use the study guides on [www.prepscholar.com/act/s/resources](http://www.prepscholar.com/act/s/resources)*
- *Read the FAQs on the official ACT website <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/help.html>*

For more information, visit <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing/State-Funded-ACT-Test>.

## 2017 Spring Assessment Calendar

Below are the test windows and general subject areas for spring testing. For additional information including detailing grade levels and subjects, please visit

[www.woostercityschools.org/district/content-page/assessment-calendar](http://www.woostercityschools.org/district/content-page/assessment-calendar)

**March 1-31** – Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment

**March 1-31** – AASSCD

**March 13-31** – English Language Arts (Grades 3-10)

**April 3-7** – AASSCD

**April 3-7** – English Language Arts (Grades 3-10)

**April 24-28** – Mathematics, Science and Social Studies (Grades 3-10)

**April 25** – ACT

**April 27-28** – IB Exams

**May 1-5** – CogAT Grade 2- Other grades by request

**May 1-12** – Mathematics, Science and Social Studies (Grades 3-10)

**May 1-12** – AP Exams

**May 1-19** – IB Exams

**May 8-19** – NWEA K-2 Only

## Reach Your Health Goals – Join the Gault Recreation Center!

### Membership:

**Senior rates begin at \$30/year**  
**Adult rates begin at \$75/year**  
**Family rates begin at \$150/year**

All memberships include use of the track, courts and L.I.F.T Zone equipment.

**For more information, call 330-345-4700 or visit [www.woostercityschools.org/gault](http://www.woostercityschools.org/gault).**

*“The Gault is a safe and convenient facility where one can exercise, engage in lively conversation and share joys and concerns,*

*all for the sake of fitness. The benefit of committing to the Gault membership is better overall health, including mobility, strength and cardio wellness, as well as forming new friendships and nurturing old ones. We have been faithful members for 15 years and would highly recommend the Gault to anyone, especially those who need an affordable, monitored, quality walking surface. It is a place where people truly care and connect with the added bonus of improving one’s health.”*

– Betty & Ed Rider

*“The Gault is an affordable, clean and safe place to work out and socialize. While we prefer to be outside in the summer, it is wonderful to have somewhere to run during the cold, snowy winter. We have been members for many years and enjoy using the facility.”*

– The Balas Family

*“We are healthier and in better shape since joining the Gault two-and-a-half years ago. It is conveniently located, has a very friendly staff, a great track and equipment and free WiFi. We would*

*definitely recommend the Gault, and we have done so to several friends.”*

– The Klett Family



## Wooster Boys & Girls Club Marks Official Opening with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

On Friday, January 13, the Wooster Boys & Girls Club officially opened its new space with a ribbon cutting. In attendance were Attorney General Mike DeWine, Boys & Girls Club Executive Director Christine Montelione and Wooster City School District Superintendent Dr. Michael Tefs.

The new addition will allow the Wooster Boys & Girls Club to serve more students who want to join and to expand its programming options.

The construction was funded by a grant through the Ohio Attorney General’s office. Part of the construction included creating a large group area and purchasing some new technology, which was funded by a different grant.

The Wooster Boys & Girls Club is open for morning programs at 7 a.m. and is open after school until 7 p.m. There is also an eight-week summer program open to students in fifth through eighth grade. When the new club is finished, the summer program will be open to students in third through eighth grade.

“We are very pleased to almost be finished with the construction of the new Wooster Boys & Girls Club,” said Superintendent Dr. Michael Tefs. “It is going to be a great facility for our students and will provide them with additional programming and activities they can use to build academic and social skills.”

The Wooster Boys & Girls Club

serves more than 200 students during the school year, as well as providing meals and transportation after school. The program provides teacher-led homework assistance and enrichment programs including music club, leadership clubs and teen-specific programming.



## WHS is home to IB Academy

Wooster High School is home to the Tri-County Educational Service Center’s International Baccalaureate (IB) Academy. The IB Academy is one of only 21 IB diploma programme schools in the state of Ohio.

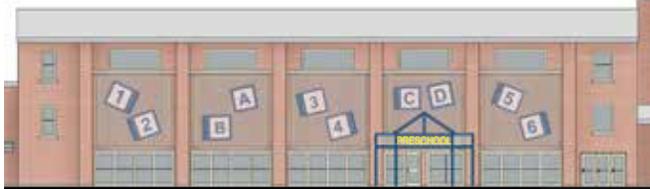
IB is a very intensive college prep program that takes place

during a student’s junior and senior year of high school. The application deadline for the 2017-2018 school year is Feb. 24, 2017. For more information and complete admission guidelines, please go to the Tri-County International Academy website at [www.youresc.k12.oh.us](http://www.youresc.k12.oh.us)



# Wooster City School District

## Cornerstone Elementary Early Childhood Center Construction Updates



The Wooster City School District Board of Education approved the Early Childhood Education Center project at its work session on November 21, 2016. The project, taking place at Cornerstone Elementary School, will allow the Early Childhood Program to expand services and transform the space into a fun, creative and educational center for young children. The project will include the reno-

vation of existing classrooms, lighting, heating, cooling, power, technology and smoke, fire and security systems to all spaces.

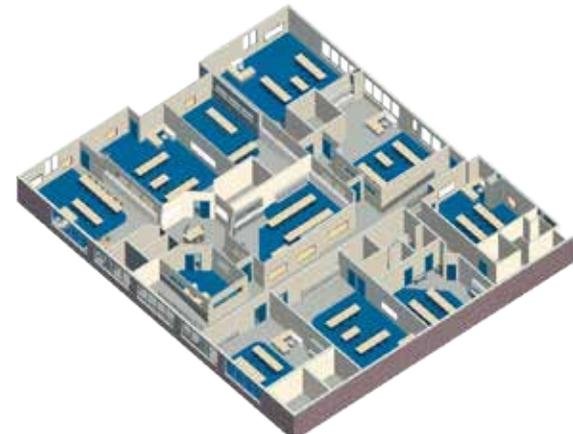
In addition to the upgrades, the project implements the creation of five new, approximately 1,000 square foot classrooms with adjacent restrooms, a common area to be used as an extended learning area, a distinct new entrance with lighting, security and handicap ac-

cessibility and nine state-of-the-art standard classrooms under the current gymnasium at Cornerstone.

Bidding to select a contractor opened on January 6, 2017, re-

sulting in the selection of Simonson Construction Services of Ashland for this project.

Official construction on the Early Childhood Education Center began February 4.



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[HowardHanna.com/Wooster](http://HowardHanna.com/Wooster)



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